



## Project HERD

### “Raising Research Capacity of Georgian HEIs through Developing R&D Units”

*Nº598207-EPP-1-2018-1-GE-EPPKA2-CBHE-SP (2018-2578 / 001 – 001)*

Project HERD - “Raising Research Capacity of Georgian HEIs through Developing R&D Units” – aims to respond to major objectives of Georgian R&D strategy defined by the government’s four-point development plan including education reform and creation of knowledge-based society; to strategic development plan of the Ministry of Education and Science [MES] on quality enhancement of education, research, raising innovation potential, capacity building on tech-transfer via strengthening university-industry relations, and internationalization; and to new standards of National Center for Education Quality Enhancement demanding the evidence-based policy for R&D and strategic development plans for research at HEIs.

#### **Wider Objective:**

- The proposed project aims to upgrade the research capacity of Georgian universities through developing the R&D units within the target universities.

#### **Specific Objectives:**

- Establish a joint research platform that would facilitate the planning, implementation and evaluation of research activities in the target universities. For this purpose, a special software will be purchased that will assist the universities in grant management, project management, research development, track key performance indicators, such as publications, patents, conferences, etc.
- Create an Online Georgian Research Portal that will display the state-of-the-art information on the activities, human resources and infrastructure of the academic institutions in Georgia. This will support the inter- and intra- university collaboration and the utilization of scarce human and infrastructural resources in the country. The portal will serve nationally and internationally as a channel for latest research news, accumulating all public information on R&D institutions, research projects, people active in science, enabling search for a publication by the authors’ name, search word, publication type, projects person is included in, authors’ CV, connected to R&D institutions and dissemination of operative information on R&D in Georgia.
- Upgrade the research management and data analysis skills of university administrative personnel for producing high quality research management, analyzing institutional research data and providing ground for further forecasting and strategic planning. This will be achieved through



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series of trainings (R&D Seasonal School and site visits) provided by the representatives of the EU partner universities. The trainings will also include the utilization and usage of the research management software mentioned under the first objective.

- Enhance the capacity of the target universities in respect to research transfer and university-industry collaboration. This objective will be achieved through series of workshops and trainings (Tech Transfer Seminar and site visits) for the university personnel concerning the research transfer, establishment of R&I spin-offs and carve-outs at the target HEIs.

**Duration:** 2 years – 15.01.2019 – 14.01.2021

#### **HERD Consortium:**

Project consortium consists of 17 full and 3 associated partners, among them are 12 higher educational institutions of Georgia, 5 government agencies and 3 European universities from France and Germany.

#### **Project Coordinator**



P1

[Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University – TSU \(Georgia\)](#)

#### **Project Partner Institutions**



P2

[Technische Universitaet Dresden – TUD \(Germany\)](#)



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[Université Clermont Auvergne – UCA \(France\)](#)



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P4  University of Nice Sophia Antipolis – UNS (France)

P5  Ilia State University – ISU (Georgia)

P6  Georgian Technical University- GTU (Georgia)

P7  Tbilisi State Medical University - TSMU (Georgia)

P8  Akaki Tsereteli State University – ATSU (Georgia)

P9  Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University (BSU) – (Georgia)

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P14  [International Black Sea University – IBSU \(Georgia\)](#)



P15  [Georgian Institute of Public Affairs - GIPA \(Georgia\)](#)



P16  [Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia - MESCS \(Georgia\)](#)



P17  [National Center for Education Quality Enhancement – NCEQE \(Georgia\)](#)



P18  [Georgian Innovation and Technology Agency - GITA \(Georgia\)](#)



P19  [The National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti \(Georgia\)](#)

## Expected Impacts

The HERD project will have impact on various stakeholders, including:

### On Individual Level:

Through introducing the research management online platform, the HERD project will have impact



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on university academic personnel willing to undertake the research projects. The platform will help them on all stages of the project implementation, starting from proposal development through actual project management and reporting.

Through different modules incorporated in the system, the individual researchers will be able to monitor the major milestones and benchmarks of their projects, financial management of projects, and draft interim and final reports for their donors.

In addition, the RM platform will have a special module displaying the individual profiles of the scholars with the possibility to upload all the necessary information, such as list of publications, patents, conferences, and citation indices, as the platform will generate the latter from the international databases.

#### **On Institutional Level:**

The HERD participant universities will get an online platform fully equipped to help them plan and monitor the research projects, overview the activities of their research staff, manage the project financially and provide reporting. In addition, the universities will be able to track their key performance indicators and draft strategic development plans based on the institutional data analysis.

The workshops organized within the project will train the university staff to work with the platform, analyse data and use them for forecasting and strategic planning. As a result of the project, the R&D units within the Georgian HERD partner universities will be upgraded and in overall, their research capacity will be largely raised.

In addition, the university personnel will be trained in how to introduce R&I spin-offs at the university level and have stronger links with the industry, provide market with innovative products and generate income based on this collaboration.

#### **On National Level:**

Since the HERD consortium covers the major state and private universities located in Tbilisi and the regions of Georgia, the project will largely contribute to their close collaboration with each other.



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The joint research management platform will enhance the future collaboration of the HERD partners in respect to research funded by EU and other international and local donors.

In addition, online Georgian research portal that will be also created within the project will display the state-of-the-art information on infrastructural and human capacity of all higher education institutions in Georgia that will support the inter- and intra- university collaboration.

**On International/European Level:**

The project will also have an impact on international level through the online Georgian research portal, as the information on the portal will help international HEIs to easily identify potential Georgian partners, map the infrastructure and the capacity of the universities and create grounds for future collaboration.

More detail information about Project HERD and its activities is available on [HERD official website](#).



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