

“Strengthening the development potential
of the EU Mobility Partnership in Georgia through targeted
circular migration and diaspora mobilisation”

Project Newsletter

Issue N1.

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Welcome to the first Migration-Georgia Newsletter!

Through this newsletter we will share recent developments within the framework of the project and inform you about upcoming activities.

This newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis in the frame of the project - “Strengthening the development potential of the EU mobility partnership in Georgia through targeted circular migration and diaspora mobilization”.

For more information about the project please visit our website: www.migration-georgia.alumniportal.com

○ Key Project Activities

In the frame of Georgia’s mobility partnership with the EU, the Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM) is supporting Georgia in implementing a pilot project to leverage migration for sustainable development.

The project follows three approaches: [Return migration from Germany to Georgia](#), [Migration from Georgia to Germany and back](#) and [Migration Policy Advice](#).

More information about the project components can be found here: [project components](#)



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Migration between Germany and Georgia

The development and testing of a pilot circular migration scheme (PCMS) is a core component of the project. Purpose of this pilot circular migration scheme is to generate evidence for the future development-oriented management of labour migration.

Basic assumption is that such mobility of people between countries can have a triple win outcome: equally benefiting migrants (1), countries of origin (2) and of destination (3), including the respective societies and individuals.

The pilot circular migration scheme will thus provide 40 Georgian professionals of the health-care and hospitality sector with employment/continued education opportunities in Germany. Having gained professional skills and status in Germany, the participants of the scheme will be offered reintegration support promoting their successful return to Georgia.

- **Adjustment of Pilot Circular Migration Scheme (PCMS) to Georgian context**

In order to determine the overall scope and vision of the pilot circular migration scheme within the framework of the project, in the inception phase the PCMS was adjusted to the Georgian context.

In preparation of the design of the pilot circular migration scheme a competence and matching analysis was carried out (October, 2013), which identified suitable occupational profiles in the health-care and hospitality sector. In this vein, the analysis identified the differences in nursing and tourism professions, as well as qualification needs and employability in Germany and in Georgia.

- **Presentations & discussions of the EU-project in Georgia**

The project and the underlying concept (pilot circular migration scheme – PCMS in particular) has been presented to and discussed with Georgian and international stakeholders at several occasions. Aim was to ensuring the respective institution's involvement from the outset, and feeding results back into concept and planning of the project. Presentations and discussions were held at four occasions, adding to a number of bilateral meetings, such as with the State minister for diaspora issues - Konstantine Surguladze, first deputy state minister - Zaal Sarajishvili, head of the department of economic cooperation and development at the embassy of Germany to Georgia (March 2014) or with the Deputy Minister for Labour, Health and Social Affairs, Mariam Jashi (July 2014).



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In addition, the project has been presented and discussed at several occasions at migration-related international conferences, involving the relevant Georgian Ministries as well as International and Georgian Non-Governmental Organisations. Inter alia:

October	2013	Project introductory meeting: International Organizations and local NGOs;
October	2013	Workshop on Migration and Development, Prague Process Targeted Initiative;
November	2013	International conference “Skills Dimension of The EU’s Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM)” organised by the European Training Foundation (ETF) under the framework of the Lithuanian Presidency of the EU Council (July-December 2013), in cooperation with the Targeted Initiative Georgia (TIG);
December	2013	Round Table on circular migration organized by GIZ Armenia in the frame of the Targeted Initiative Armenia (TIA)
April	2014	Enhancing Georgia’s Migration Management (ENIGMMA) International Conference ‘One Year of Migration Strategy in Georgia: Progress and Way Forward’.

- **Presentation of the EU-project in Germany**

The project was presented at the workshop in the frame of IQ –Congress: [“Come to stay – on the Future of Integration in Germany”](#) which took place on 4-5 February, 2014 in Berlin (Germany).

The workshop focused on challenges in the course of implementing the “Global Approach to Migration and Mobility” (GAMM), introduced by the European Commission in November 2011 in order to regulate migration and visa policies. Moreover, Mobility Partnerships, as important instruments for cooperation within the framework of the GAMM, were discussed taking EU Mobility Partnership with Georgia as an example.

Benjamin Woesten, Coordinator of the project “Strengthening the development potential of the EU mobility partnership in Georgia through targeted circular migration and diaspora mobilization”, presented the project highlighting as well as its core objectives, activities and instruments. Furthermore, options of fostering positive impacts of circular migration, based on the elaboration and development of a pilot circular migration scheme within the framework of the project were presented. Inputs in the frame of then workshop were provided by other speakers: Jeppe Winkel, European Commission, DG Home Affairs and Tornike Nozadze, State Chancellery of the Government of Georgia, analyzing current challenges and future prospects of the EU-Georgia Mobility Partnership.

More information about the workshop you can find [here](#)



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Mobilizing Diaspora for return

o Start-Up Seminar in March, 2014



Participants and Organizers of the Seminar in Frankfurt in March 2014

A Start-up Seminar was held in March 2014 in Frankfurt. 14 Georgians, interested to develop and start-up their business ideas for Georgia attended the seminar. The participants were provided the relevant information as well as practical tips for starting-up business in Georgia. The seminar was interactive and facilitated by the two experienced Georgian referents, Valerian Kereselidze, entrepreneur (Founder of catering and event-service: Café Goethe in Tbilisi, Georgia) and Kakha Kokhreidze, expert (President of the “Georgian Small and Medium Enterprises Association” (GSMEA)). Moreover, Consul General of Georgia in Frankfurt, Germany, Mr. Ioseb Chkhikvishvili also attended the seminar and welcomed the participants. Hearing the case studies from successful business owners from Georgia, the participants gained lots of practical useful tools for developing and executing their own ideas in real life.

For more information about the program, please visit the CIM website: [Geschäftsideen für die Entwicklung](http://www.geschaeftsideen.de)

o CIM Returning experts – case examples – Georgia

Two cases of returning experts program have been mediated recently in Georgia:

Alexander Gogaladze completed the Master’s degree program – Evolutionary Genomics, Ecology und Systematik (EES) in Germany. He is a CIM Returning



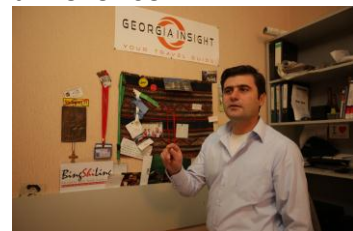
CIM Returning Experts Program. More information about the program you can find [here](#)

Best Case Examples



Marine Gvianidze manages the only existing modern sewage plant in Batumi. The water quality in the region has improved significantly with positive impacts on people's health, nature and the economy. Read more on Marine's case [here](#)

One Person can make difference



Giorgi Tevdorashvili, entrepreneur, founder of the tourism agency in Georgia – “Georgia Insight”. See the video-slides of this case [here](#)



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Expert in Georgia. Since February 2014, he works as a senior-specialist at the “Center for Environmental Information and Education” hosted by the Ministry of

Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia. Main topic of his work is focused on Environment and climate. The Center is responsible for the awareness-raising of Georgian society about the Environment and for fostering environmental sustainability through the environmental education.

Revaz Geradze has gained master’s degree in “International Economics and Finance” in Germany. He is a participant of the CIM Returning Experts program. After return to Georgia, since March 2014, he works as a coordinator for data collection and research analysis, of the department for Planning and Development at the Georgian National Tourism Administration. Main topic of his work is focused on sustainable economic development. The mission of the National Tourism Administration, legal entity of the Ministry of the Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, is to ensure sustainable tourism development in Georgia, to develop yearly strategy for tourism sector and to introduce quality standards and take appropriate measures for their maintenance.

○ **Meeting with the state minister for Diaspora issues of Georgia**



On March 12, 2014 the meeting was held at the office of the state minister of Georgia for diaspora issues. State minister for diaspora issues - Konstantine Surguladze, first deputy state minister - Zaal Sarajishvili, head of the department of economic cooperation and development at the embassy of Germany to Georgia - Katherina Derkorn, project coordinator Benjamin Woesten and senior advisor GIZ/CIM on diaspora and migration issues - Irma Tsereteli, attended the meeting. Among other topics, the Project “Strengthening the development potential of the EU mobility partnership in Georgia through targeted circular migration and diaspora mobilization” was presented at the meeting. More information about the meeting you can find [here](#).



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○ **Official visit from BMZ and CIM in Moldova and Georgia**



From May 25 to 31, the visit from a German delegation and expert group to CIM related services and projects in the Republic of Moldova and in Georgia took place. Among the prominent group were the representative of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Mr. Johannes Dopffel, the Director of the Centre for International Migration and Development, Ms. Isabel Mattes-Kücükali, the head of the division migration and development at CIM, Dr. Ralf Sanftenberg, the head of programme Thematic Flexible Measures with Integrated Experts at CIM, Dr. Konstantin Kotsas, the Teamleader of the International Placement Services, ZAV migration and development division at CIM, Mr. Bernhard Schattner and CIM junior program coordinator, Mr. Benjamin Woesten. The visit did not just include meetings with the representatives of the GIZ offices and of the German embassies in Moldova and Georgia but also with institutions and ministries cooperating with CIM such as the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry for Diaspora in Georgia. Furthermore, the delegation got the opportunity to meet returned and integrated experts thus the central actors of CIM’s programs and to get an impression of their projects and their work in both countries.

Another highlight of the visit was the presentation of the EC co-financed pilot project ‘Strengthening the development potential of the EU Mobility Partnership in Georgia through targeted circular migration and diaspora mobilisation’, lead by CIM at the Public Service Development Agency (PSDA) in Tbilisi, on May 30. After the warm welcoming by Mr. Gocha Lortkipanidze, Deputy Minister of Justice, Ms. Keti Gomelauri, Director of Strategic Projects and Reforms Department/Deputy Chairperson at PSDA and Mr. George Jashi, Executive Secretary, Secretariat to the State Commission for Migration Issues (SCMI), presented the respective activity areas of both institutions. Afterwards Ms. Anna Goos, integrated expert at Secretariat of the SCMI, and Benjamin Woesten, Project coordinator at CIM, presented the different components of the project and explained the purposes, basic assumptions and current outcomes of the pilot circular migration scheme. Following the presentation – that was attended inter alia by Mr. Ioseb Baghaturia, Chairman at PSDA, Mr. Martin Homola, GIZ country Director regional Office south Caucasus, Ms. Katharina Derkorn, representative of BMZ at the German Embassy in Tbilisi and Dr. Irma Tsereteli, CIM advisor in Georgia, questions that came up were discussed.



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The different meetings in Moldova and in Georgia were characterized by a harmonious and productive atmosphere. Thus, at the end Ms. Mattes-Kücükali summed up the tour in a very positive way: ‘As a result of the visit we could not just identify the very good synergies between the different instruments and the programs from CIM, but also the very good cooperation with our national partners, the employers of the integrated and returned experts, the German embassies and the GIZ offices.’ Moreover, Ms. Mattes-Kücükali emphasized the engagement of the integrated as well as of returned experts in Georgia and in Moldova. Surely, the visit and the fruitful exchange in Georgia and Moldova will also contribute to a successful cooperation between CIM, BMZ and their partners in Georgia and Moldova in the future.

○ **Business Networking in Frankfurt in May**



On 24th of May, the Center for International Migration and Development (CIM) organised together with Kompass, Center for Company Start-ups, the first networking day in Frankfurt for Georgians interested in founding a start-up enterprise in Georgia. The 16 participants with business ideas inter alia from the areas of education, health and tourism participated during the day at different ‘matching rounds’. They got to know new business ideas and could build among themselves first business connections. An important aspect of the seminar was to think together about promising branches and business ideas for Georgia. The participants’ contributions showed that – whether in the food production, in trade, in the service sector or in agriculture – there exist a lot of potential for new business ideas in Georgia. Furthermore, the future entrepreneurs discussed strategies, how to implement the own business idea and the next steps to take. The participants’ positive feedback illustrated the success of the networking day. Possibly, sooner as thought, we might hear of the promising projects and new enterprises in Georgia.



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- **Information Seminar for Georgian students and graduates in Cologne**



From 20th to 22th of June 2014, the seminar “To return or to stay”, directed at students, graduates and PhD students from Georgia concerned with the possibility of return, took place in Cologne.

The questions if a person, after living, studying or working several years in Germany, wants to return to his or her home country and which place offers the best career options to the person are generally not easy to respond. For Georgians living in Germany and concerned with the question of returning or staying, the seminar, organised by the Center for international Migration and Development (CIM) in Cologne provided relevant insights. The 25 selected participants – inter alia students and graduates from the areas business studies, law and German studies – learnt about CIM’s specific promotion programs for Georgians who want to support their country of origin – such as through the support of development oriented projects of migrant organisations, the promotion of business ideas as well as through mediating persons in development relevant branches in Georgia. Furthermore, the participants received information about the career start and residence laws in Germany. Another important part of the seminar was the presentation of employment possibilities in Georgia through Ms. Dr Irma Tsereteli, CIM advisor from Tbilisi. Tsereteli, CIM advisor Ms. Lieselotte Heckmann and program coordinator Benjamin Wösten were available for all the participants’ questions. Besides informing and advising, the three-day event offered also a great opportunity for an exchange between the Georgian students and graduates.

For more information please visit: www.returns-experts.de

- **More than 30 Georgian professionals selected for a pilot circular migration project**

The call for applications for **qualified nurses**, as well as the **for restaurant affairs specialists, hotel affairs specialists and cooks** sought for temporary employment in Germany has been announced within the framework of the project.



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As a result, 32 Georgian professionals have been selected for a pilot circular migration project. The recruitment has been carried out by the Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM).

Selected candidates from Georgia will enhance their qualification profile and employability for the Georgian labour market by means of job placement through the German federal placement office, temporary employment and training in Germany.

For this, they will receive language and professional trainings in a preparatory phase before departing to Germany. Candidates will be supported with individual career planning measures while in Germany. Moreover, the candidates will be supported to return and to engage in the Georgian labour market – be this as qualified employees, returning experts or as entrepreneurs.

From September onwards, the selected participants will start their preparation phase by entering German language courses offered by the Goethe institute in Tbilisi.

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