

MONITORING MANUAL

For the Implementation of the “**Harmonization Plan**” on
Eurostat NUTS classification of Regional Statistics in Georgia

(Unofficial Translation)

Special Interagency
Working Group
(MRDI & GEOSTAT)

2023

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	1
Introduction.....	2
Role of Monitoring.....	2
Subject of monitoring.....	3
Monitoring system.....	3
Harmonization plan implementation status for each data group.....	4
Implementation status of the Integrated Harmonization Plan for all databases of NUTS regional statistics.....	12
Performance status of specific components.....	18
Additional information and concluding comments.....	19
Final assessments, challenges and recommendations.....	19

Introduction

On the basis of the **summary document of the 2018 EU-Georgia high-level meeting**¹ and subsequently, taking into account the thematic obligations stipulated by the **2021-2027 Association Agenda with the European Union**² and the **RM4EU**, various complex works were implemented, in coordination with the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia (MRDI) and the National Statistics Office of Georgia (Geostat).

At the first stage, a basic study was prepared - "**on the application of the EU NUTS methodology in Georgia and its practical implications**". The purpose of the mentioned report was to prepare scenarios for the possible use of Eurostat's Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS³) classification and offer it to the Government of Georgia. In accordance with the recommendations integrated in the report and the indicative action plan, a **special inter-agency working group** was created, which engaged the representatives of the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, Geostat and invited experts, as well as an ad hoc member nominated by Eurostat upon request. Within its framework, the scenarios of dividing the country into statistical regions were discussed and reconciled. Also, an initial indicative action plan for the introduction of NUTS in Georgia was prepared, and approved by the interagency working group. All stages of the implementation of NUTS in Georgia and, accordingly, all activities were determined in accordance with this plan.

Based on the action plan and further expert work, a preliminary "**Harmonization Plan**" of the statistical system of Georgia with the European system was developed and reconciled. A list of primary priority databases for the NUTS levels for which the data inventory and evaluation was carried out was compiled. At the same time, the information and activities on the evaluation of the perspectives of using the NUTS methodology and their gradual introduction were reflected in the 2020-2023 Strategy for the Development of the National System of Official Statistics of Georgia. The development of the "Harmonization Plan" itself was supervised by a special inter-agency working group, in which not only representatives of the Geostat and the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia were involved, but also representatives of other agencies (administrative sources).

In total, Eurostat's regional statistics for NUTS levels include 16 databases and around 300 indicators. At the initial stage, **5 databases** were selected and evaluated⁴ for NUTS levels for Georgia, and in November 2022, the second stage of work on the "Harmonization Plan" was completed, which included the evaluation of **additional 11 databases**⁵ (including individual indicators necessary for "Smart Specialization"(S3) for effective management of future S3 strategic planning processes).

The combined results of the accessibility assessment of all 16 database indicators of the analyzed NUTS statistics classification are presented in the table below.

Number of indicators	Available	Partially available	Not available
291	89	91	111

In order to prepare the databases provided for by the "Harmonization Plan", the full implementation of relevant activities is planned gradually, until 2027.

Role of Monitoring

One of the important components of the gradual implementation of the "Harmonization Plan" is its supervision, regular monitoring process.

As a rule, the monitoring process starts in parallel with the implementation of measures provided by the policy and plan. Along with the implementation, the responsible agencies collect and sort the information and evidence about the activities they perform. Therefore, monitoring is also an important part of the implementation process.

Monitoring, on the one hand, ensures increased accountability of activities, and on the other hand, determination of performance and efficiency indicators of activities to be implemented by responsible agencies. The mentioned also provides the type of data on the basis of which possible challenges and additional needs are determined.

¹ <https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2018-12/ec-georgia-high-level-meeting-agreed-outcomes.pdf>

² **Section 5.6 - "Statistics", and Section 7.5 - "Regional Development and Cooperation at the Regional Level"**

<https://mfa.gov.ge/getattachment/3ba81b82-36f8-4c7c-8ec3-53ddc292df1f/2021-2027-EU-Georgia-Association-Agenda-KA.pdf.aspx>

³ NUTS is used in the European Union as a tool for organizing a common socio-economic statistical data system and policy making (including in the context of the **EU Cohesion Policy**), as well as a tool for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of these processes. The NUTS classification combines data at the level of territorial units in each EU member state.

⁴ Regional education statistics; science and technology statistics; transport statistics; labor market statistics; environmental and energy statistics at regional level.

⁵ Agriculture statistics; structural business statistics; business demography (business register); tourism statistics; labor cost statistics; demographic statistics; economic accounts; health statistics; digital economy and information and communication technologies; poverty and social exclusion statistics; crime statistics at regional level.

Thus, its general objective is to improve timely performance and quality of action. In addition, if necessary, the prepared reports should allow decisions to be made to implement preventive or corrective actions to achieve the final results provided for in the plan.

Subject of monitoring

The subject of monitoring is the promotion of implementation of the tasks and actions stipulated by the "Harmonization Plan", informing about their effectiveness and compliance within the specified time frames.

Monitoring system

Monitoring of the implementation of the "Harmonization Plan" and relevant reporting will be conducted regularly, **twice a year**.⁶

1. **6-month report:** to be prepared at the end of the second quarter (no later than June 30),
2. **Annual report:** to be prepared at the end of the 4th quarter (no later than December 30).

Accordingly, the completed monitoring report is presented by the **institution responsible** for the implementation of the tasks and actions provided for by the "Harmonization Plan" (mainly Geostat, as well as other relevant agencies, as indicated in the tables below) to **the special inter-agency working group**.

The consolidated monitoring report is to be submitted to the management of Geostat (the main implementing institution) and to the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia (Coordinator of the special inter-agency working group) for information and/or possible further feedback.

Below are the **working tables** with the right column to be filled in by the responsible institution, both for each data group separately and combined. It includes only **14 data groups**, as for the other 2 data groups (business demography / business register and crime statistics at regional level) all indicators are already available.

⁶ **As an exception, in 2023 reporting is provided 3 times.** The first (exceptionally) reporting - no later than March 31, mainly for the purpose of informing about the performance status of individual activities in 2022.

Harmonization plan implementation status for each data group

Reporting period	
The responsible institution	
Receipt of the report by the coordinating institution & interagency working group	

Regional education statistics

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Actualization of private preschool educational institutions	Conducting actualization study	Geostat	2025	85000 GEL	
Actualization of private preschool educational institutions	Implementation and completion of the authorization process	Ministry of Education and Science	2025	-----	
Inclusion of private preschool educational institutions in the survey	Collection of information on private preschool educational institutions by local self-government bodies	Local self-government bodies	2026	-----	
Strengthening the capacity of Geostat staff to produce education statistics at regional level, including studying the ISCED-F 2013 classification	Formation of a working group to study the classification	Geostat, Ministry of Education and Science	2024	It will depend on the volume of work	
Cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science in terms of including private preschool educational institutions in statistical survey	Formation of working group	Ministry of Education and Science, Geostat	2024	-----	

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
A pilot survey in business statistics to determine expenditure and employment on research and development in the relevant active sector	Conducting survey	Geostat	2024	100,000 GEL for the pilot and annually thereafter	
Updating the statistical survey of non-commercial and non-profit organizations to determine R&D related expenditures and employment in this sector	Increasing sampling of non-commercial, non-profit organizations in statistical survey	Geostat	2024	10,000 GEL annually	
Building the capacity of Geostat employees for better understanding the methodology for identifying R&D spending and employment, including in the field of Research and Development classification (FORD 2007)	Formation of working group to study methodology and classification; communication with Eurostat	Geostat	2023	It will depend on the volume of work	
In order to get acquainted with the methodology of identifying research and development costs and employment, building the capabilities of the employees of Geostat and the Ministry of Finance, including studying the classification of Nomenclature for the analysis and comparison of scientific programs and budgets (NABS 2007)	Formation of working group to study methodology and classification; communication with Eurostat	Geostat Ministry of Finances	2023	It will depend on the volume of work	
Building the capacity of Geostat employees to familiarize themselves with the survey methodology for employment in the technological and scientific sectors	Formation of working group to study methodology and classification; communication with Eurostat	Geostat	2023	It will depend on the volume of work	
Cooperation with the Ministry of Finance to determine spending and employment in research and development	Formation of working group	Geostat, Ministry of Finances	2023	-----	
Cooperation with Sakpatenti to agree on a format for receiving data on updated patent applications.	Formation of working group	Geostat, Sakpatenti	2023	-----	

⁷ The indicators of this group are related to the indicators of the new European platform for development planning to be implemented in Georgia - "smart specialization" (S3), on which the necessary resources have already been assessed. Work on both the other primary components of the Harmonization Plan, as well as the indicators for "smart specialization" among them, should be carried out jointly, and starting work on them is a priority of the first stage.

 **Regional labor market statistics⁸**

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Production of labor statistics with NUTS classification	Production of indicators, available at the regional level	Geostat	2024	Update on the Labor Force Survey	
Development of a plan for improving production of labor statistics by NUTS classification	Developing a plan for the production of additional labor market indicators, taking into account the sample size and resources of existing surveys	Geostat	2025	Update on the Labor Force Survey	

 **Regional transport statistics**

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
A pilot survey to obtain data on the annual turnover of road transport	Conducting survey	Geostat	2025	230,000 GEL for the pilot	
Processing of revenue service data to obtain data on the annual turnover of road transport	Database processing	Geostat	2025	50,000 GEL for the pilot	
Building the capacity of Geostat employees to familiarize them with the methodology of road transport statistical survey, including the Standard Goods Classification for Transport Statistics/Revised (NST/R) classification	Formation of working group to study methodology and classification; communication with Eurostat	Geostat	2024	It will depend on the volume of work	
Cooperation with the Civil Aviation Agency of the State of Ukraine in order to receive air transport passenger and cargo turnover data	Formation of working group	Geostat, LEPL Civil Aviation Agency	2023	-----	
Cooperation with Georgian Railways LLC and GR Borjomi-Bakuriani LLC in order to	Formation of working group	Geostat, Georgian Railways Ltd	2023	-----	

⁸ The indicators of this group are related to the indicators of the new European platform for development planning to be implemented in Georgia - "smart specialization" (S3), on which the necessary resources have already been assessed. The work on both the other primary components of the harmonization plan, as well as on the indicators of "smart specialization" among them, should be carried out jointly, and starting work on them is a priority of the first stage.

receive data on passenger transportation and cargo turnover by railway					
Developing an updated ticketing system	Project implementation and completion	Georgian Railways Ltd	2023	-----	
Perfection of accounting of the volume of received and sent cargoes	Software Development	Georgian Railways Ltd	2023	10 000 GEL	

Regional environmental statistics

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Cooperation with the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture in order to produce an indicator of freshwater resources of the river basin	Formation of working group	Geostat, Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture	2027	-----	
Acquisition of logistical resources (eg: field vehicles, water measuring instruments, travel expenses, etc.) necessary for conducting observations in river basins and calculating the indicator.	Technical provision of river basins	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture	2027	3 000 000 GEL	

Regional agriculture statistics

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Labor force: the number of people employed in the farm and the amount of work performed (man-day) by gender - production of the indicator by the year of obtaining soil erosion data	Data analysis and indicator calculation	Geostat	2023	-----	
Obtaining soil erosion by water data	Communication with the Scientific Research Center of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture regarding the preparation of an action plan	Scientific Research Center of Agriculture of the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture	2023	-----	

Methodological study of the main indicators of agricultural holdings, land use, employed workforce and farm management, livestock and agricultural production group indicators	Hiring expert	Geostat, donors	2025	15 000 GEL	
Assessment of resources needed for the register of farmers	Formation of working group	Geostat, Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture	2025	-----	
Mobilization of human resources required for the production of key indicators of agricultural holdings, land use, labor force and farm management, livestock and agricultural production group indicators	Discussing the need for hiring new employees	Geostat, donors	2026	65,000 and thereafter annually (in case it becomes necessary to recruit new employees)	
Work on indicators of agricultural economic reports	Elaboration of the scenario and evaluation methodology for obtaining the information needed for the indicators based on the agricultural survey data	Geostat	2025	-----	

 **Regional structural business statistics**

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Determination of the number of local units	Analysis of the results obtained by processing the business register	Geostat	2025	-----	
Definition of local units	Preparation of the necessary resources and action plan for the purpose of specifying and evaluating information sources	Geostat	2025	-----	

✚ Regional tourism statistics

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Update of the statistical survey of hotels and hotel-type facilities	Updating the survey questionnaire to obtain hotel rooms and beds occupancy data	Geostat	2027	-----	
Improving the scope of the statistical survey of hotels and hotel-type facilities	Completion of the general set of statistical surveys of hotels and hotel-type facilities (will be possible in case of mandatory registration of accommodation facilities)	Geostat	2027	40,000 GEL additionally and thereafter annually	

✚ Regional labor costs statistics

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Obtaining the necessary data for labor cost statistics indicators from the survey of enterprises and organizations	Testing the questionnaire on the example of several selected enterprises to provide individual data on the total hours worked by employees	Geostat	2026	-----	
Obtaining the necessary data for labor cost statistics indicators from the survey of enterprises and organizations	Based on the results obtained from the questionnaire testing, planning further actions	Geostat	2027	It will depend on the planned actions	

Regional demographic statistics

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Determining the number of the population by age groups and by regions	Introduction of a new model of demographic statistics	Geostat	2026	-----	
Raising the knowledge of employees, studying various demographic analysis and forecasting programs and gaining experience from other countries. Development of a methodology for the production of population forecasts by regions and municipalities with the involvement of experts	Preparation of work plan	Geostat, donors	2025	-----	
Starting work on population register	Formation of working group	Geostat, donors	2026	-----	


Regional economic accounts

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Calculation of GDP by purchasing power parity standard	Preparation of the necessary resources and action plan, with the involvement of experts and using the experience of other countries, in order to develop the methodology	Geostat, donors	2024	-----	
Assessment of existing practice of regional GDP calculation and production of price statistics	Preparation of the necessary resources and action plan, with the involvement of experts and using the experience of other countries, in order to develop the methodology	Geostat, donors	2024	-----	


A study of the methodology of the European System of Accounts (ESA 2010).	Preparation of the necessary resources and action plan, with the involvement of experts and using the experience of other countries, in order to develop the methodology	Geostat, donors	2027	-----	
---	--	-----------------	------	-------	--

 **Regional health statistics**

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Study of the classification of hospital beds	Preparation of the request for expert assistance	National Center for Disease Control and Public Health, Geostat	2024	-----	

 **Regional digital economy and society**

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Production of additional indicators on the use of information and communication technologies in households, at NUTS 2 level	Increasing the sample size	Geostat	2026	30,000 GEL initially and annually for increasing sample size	

 **Regional poverty and social exclusion statistics**

Objective	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Study of EU SILC research methodology	List of needs and preparation of work plan in order to receive technical assistance	Geostat, donors	2027	-----	

Implementation status of the Integrated Harmonization Plan for all databases of NUTS regional statistics ⁹

Objective	NUTS data set	Action	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Cost	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Collaborate with the Ministry of Finances to determine spending and employment in research and development	Regional Science and Technology Statistics	Formation of working group	Geostat, Ministry of Finances	2023	-----	
Cooperation with Sakpatenti to agree on a format for receiving data on updated patent applications	Regional Science and Technology Statistics	Formation of working group	Geostat, Sakpatenti	2023	-----	
Building the capacity of Geostat employees to familiarize them with the methodology for identifying R&D spending and employment, including studying the field of Research and Development classification (FORD 2007)	Regional Science and Technology Statistics	Formation of working group to study methodology and classification; communication with Eurostat	Geostat	2023	It will depend on the volume of work	
Building the capacity of Geostat employees to familiarize them with the methodology for identifying R&D spending and employment, including studying the field of Research and Development classification (NUBS 2007)	Regional Science and Technology Statistics	Formation of working group to study methodology and classification; communication with Eurostat	Geostat Ministry of Finances	2023	It will depend on the volume of work	
Building the capacity of Geostat employees to familiarize them with the methodology of employment survey in the technological and scientific sectors	Regional Science and Technology Statistics	Formation of working group to study methodology and classification; communication with Eurostat	Geostat	2023	It will depend on the volume of work	
Cooperation with the LEPL Civil Aviation Authority of Georgia in order to receive data on passenger and cargo flows at the airports of Georgia	Regional Transport Statistics	Formation of working group	Geostat, LEPL Civil Aviation Agency	2023	-----	
Cooperation with Georgian Railways LLC and GR Borjomi-Bakuriani LLC in order to receive data on passenger transportation and cargo turnover by railway	Regional Transport Statistics	Formation of working group	Geostat, Ltd Georgian Railway	2023	-----	

⁹ In the action plans prepared at the initial stage, the deadlines for the implementation of individual tasks were revised

Creating an updated ticketing system	Regional Transport Statistics	Project implementation and completion	Georgian Railway	2023	-----	
Perfection of accounting of the volume of received and sent cargoes	Regional Transport Statistics	Software development	Georgian Railway	2023	10 000 GEL	
Labor force: the number of people employed in the farm and the amount of work performed (man-day) by gender - production of the indicator	Regional Agriculture Statistics	Data analysis and indicator calculation	Geostat	2023	-----	
Obtaining soil erosion data by year	Regional Agriculture Statistics	Communication with the Scientific-Research center of Agriculture regarding drawing up an action plan	Scientific Research Center of the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture	2023	-----	
Building the capacity of Geostat staff to produce regional education statistics, including studying the ISCED-F 2013 classification	Regional Education Statistics	Formation of working group in order to study the classification	Geostat, Ministry of Education and Science	2024	It will depend on the volume of work	
Cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science in terms of including private preschool educational institutions in statistical survey	Regional Education Statistics	Formation of working group	Ministry of Education and Science, Geostat	2024	-----	
A pilot study in business statistics to determine expenditure and employment on research and development in the relevant active sector	Regional Science and Technology Statistics	Conducting survey	Geostat	2024	100,000 GEL for the pilot and annually thereafter	
Updating the statistical survey of non-commercial and non-profit organizations to determine R&D related expenditures and employment in this sector	Regional Science and Technology Statistics	Increasing sample of non-profit and non-profit organizations statistical survey	Geostat	2024	10,000 GEL annually	
Production of labor statistics with NUTS classification	Regional Labor Market Statistics	Production of indicators available at the regional level	Geostat	2024	Update on the Labor Force Survey	
Building the capacity of Geostat employees to familiarize them with the methodology of road transport statistical survey, including the study of the Standard Goods Classification for Transport Statistics/Revised (NST/R) classification	Regional Transport Statistics	Formation of working group to study methodology and classification; communication with Eurostat	Geostat	2024	It will depend on the volume of work	
Calculation of GDP by purchasing power parity standard	Regional Economic Accounts	Preparation of the necessary resources and action plan, with the involvement of experts and using	Geostat	2024	-----	

		the experience of other countries, in order to develop the methodology				
Assessment of existing practice of regional GDP calculation and production of price statistics	Regional Economic Accounts	Preparation of the necessary resources and action plan, with the involvement of experts and using the experience of other countries, in order to develop the methodology	Geostat	2024	-----	
ESA 2010 Methodology Study	Regional Economic Accounts	Preparation of the list of needs and work plan in order to receive technical assistance	Geostat, donors	2027	-----	
A study of the classification of hospital beds	Regional Health Statistics	Preparation of request for expert assistance	National Center for Disease Control, Geostat	2024	-----	
Development of a plan for improving production of labor statistics with NUTS classification	Regional Labor Market Statistics	Development of a plan for the production of additional labor market indicators, taking into account the sample size and resources of existing surveys	Geostat	2025	Update on the Labor Force Survey	
Actualization of private preschool educational institutions	Regional Education Statistics	Conducting actualization survey	Geostat	2025	85000 GEL	
Authorization of private preschool educational institutions	Regional Education Statistics	Implementation and completion of the authorization process	Ministry of Education and Science	2025	-----	
Inclusion in the survey of private preschool educational institutions	Regional Education Statistics	Collection of information on private preschool educational institutions by local self-government bodies	Local self-government bodies	2025	-----	

A pilot study to obtain data on the annual turnover of road transport	Regional Transport Statistics	Conducting survey	Geostat	2025	230,000 GEL for the pilot	
Processing of revenue service data to obtain data on the annual turnover of road transport	Regional Transport Statistics	Database processing	Geostat	2025	50 000 for the pilot	
Methodological study of the main indicators of agricultural holdings, land use, employed workforce and farm management, livestock and agricultural production group indicators	Regional Agriculture Statistics	Hiring expert	Geostat, donors	2025	15 000 GEL	
Assessment of resources needed for the register of farmers	Regional Agriculture Statistics	Formation of working group	Geostat, Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture	2025	-----	
Work on indicator of agricultural economic reports	Regional Agriculture Statistics	Elaboration of the scenario of obtaining the information needed for the indicator and the corresponding evaluation methodology based on the agricultural survey data	Geostat	2025	-----	
Determination of the number of local units	Regional Structural Business Statistics	Analysis of the results obtained by processing the business register	Geostat	2025	-----	
Definition of local units	Regional Structural Business Statistics	Preparation of the necessary resources and action plan for the purpose of specifying and evaluating information sources	Geostat	2025	-----	
Raising the knowledge of employees, studying various demographic analysis and forecasting programs and gaining experience from other countries. Development of a methodology for the production of population forecasts by	Regional Demographic Statistics	Preparation of the action plan	Geostat, donors	2026	-----	

regions and municipalities with the involvement of experts						
Determining the number of the population by age groups for the regions	Regional Education statistics, Regional Demographic statistics, Regional Health Statistics	Introduction of a new model of demographic statistics	Geostat	2026	-----	
Start of work on the development of the population register	Regional Demographic Statistics	Formation of working group	Geostat, donors	2026	-----	
Mobilization of human resources required for the production of key indicators of agricultural holdings, land use, labor force and farm management, livestock and agricultural production	Regional Agriculture Statistics	Discussing the need to hire new employees	Geostat, donors	2026	65,000 and thereafter annually (in case it becomes necessary to recruit new employees)	
Obtaining the necessary data for labor cost statistics indicators from the survey of enterprises and organizations	Regional Labor Cost Statistics	Questionnaire testing on the example of several selected enterprises to provide individual data on the total hours worked by employees	Geostat	2026	-----	
Producing additional indicators on the use of information and communication technologies in households, at NUTS 2 level	Regional Digital Economy and Society	Increasing the sample size	Geostat	2026	30,000 GEL initially and annually with increasing sample size	
Cooperation with the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture in order to produce an indicator of freshwater resources of the river basin	Regional Environmental Statistics	Formation of working group	Geostat, Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture	2027	-----	
Procurement of logistical resources (e.g., field vehicles, water measuring instruments, travel expenses, etc.) required for conducting observations in river basins and calculating the indicator	Regional Environmental Statistics	Technical provision of river basins	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture	2027	3 000 000 GEL	
Updating the statistical survey of hotels and hotel-type facilities	Regional Tourism Statistics	Updating the survey questionnaire to obtain hotel room and beds occupancy data	Geostat	2027	-----	

Improving the scope of survey of hotels and hotel-type facilities	Regional Tourism Statistics	Completion of the general set of statistical survey of hotel-type facilities (will be possible in case of mandatory registration of accommodation facilities)	Geostat	2027	40,000 GEL additionally and thereafter annually	
Obtaining the necessary data for labor cost statistics indicators from the survey of enterprises and organizations	Regional Labor Cost Statistics	Planning further actions based on the results obtained from the questionnaire testing	Geostat	2027	It will depend on the planned actions	
Study of EU SILC research methodology	Regional Poverty and Social Exclusion Statistics	Preparation of the list of needs and work plan in order to receive technical assistance	Geostat, donors	2027	-----	

Performance status of specific components

„Individual priority indicators related to the "Smart Specialization" (S3) platform

Indicator	Sector (according to classification)	Responsible agency	Implementation deadline	Performance status (a. Completed, b. partially completed c. not completed/not started. with comments as needed)
Economic, innovative and scientific-technological indicators¹⁰				
1. Number of companies ¹¹	NACE Rev. 2 ¹² , minimum 3 digits	Geostat	2022	
2. Volume of sales (services, goods), turnover	NACE Rev. 2, minimum 3 digits	Geostat	2023	
3. Number of employees	NACE Rev. 2, minimum 3 digits	Geostat	2023	
4. Salaries	NACE Rev. 2, minimum 3 digits	Geostat	2023	
5. Export	SITC 4-digits ¹³	Geostat	2023	
6. Import	SITC 4 digits	Geostat	2023	
7. Number and share of companies that have: - Innovative product - Innovative processes - At least one of the above 2 types of innovation	NACE Rev. 2, minimum 2 digits	Geostat	2027	
8. Share of companies investing in: - internal research and development, - external research and development, - machinery, equipment and software, - education and personnel training, - other types of innovations.	NACE Rev. 2, minimum 2 digits ¹⁴	Geostat	2027	
9. Number of scientific publications		Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, Tectiform, Geostat ¹⁵	2022	
10. Number of patent applications		Sakpatenti	2023	

¹⁰ 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the mentioned 10 indicators are not covered directly within the framework of this Harmonization Plan, as they do not represent an exact matching part of the NUTS system at this stage. However, taking into account their close interrelationship with other indicators, which only together makes possible an effective planning of the European platform for "Smart Specialization" (provided also by the EU-Georgia Association Agenda and other documents), Geostat will coordinate with other agencies and implement relevant works within the specified timeframe.

¹¹ Data for this indicator are available on the Geostat website, in the Business Register section, from where, according to the "Harmonization Plan", it is possible to obtain information about registered companies according to the company's activity, organizational-legal form and legal address of registration.

Classification "Types of economic activities - (NACE Rev. 2).

¹² Classification "Types of economic activity - Sec (NACE Rev. 2).

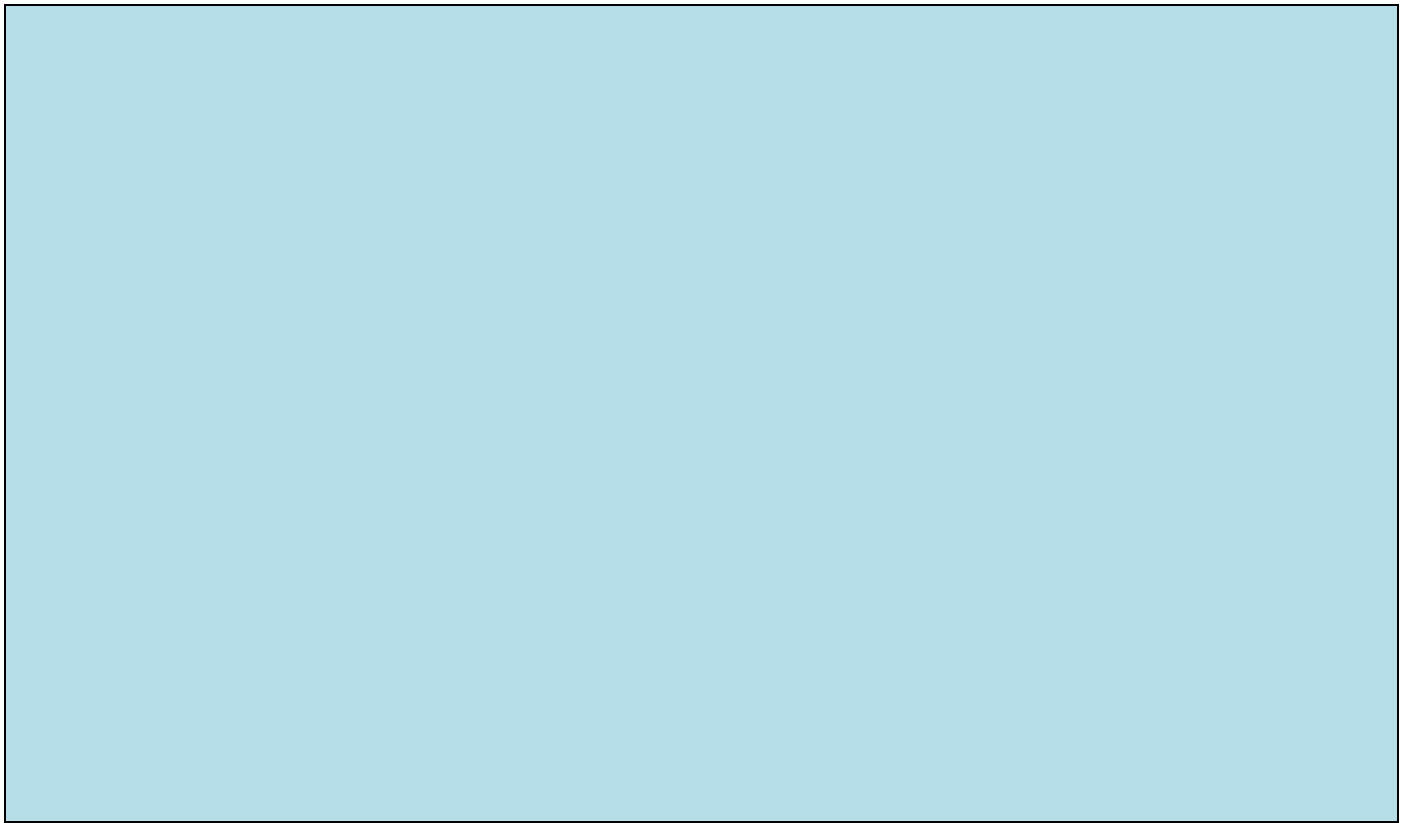
¹³ Standard Classification of International Trade (SITC Rev. 4).

¹⁴ The data will be distributed with sufficient frequency and low sampling error.

¹⁵ Locally, the Institute of Technical University of Georgia "Techinform" collects the mentioned data and has a database that includes bibliographic data of scientific publications reflected in the Georgian journal. According to the "Harmonization Plan", this indicator can be produced using Techinform data. For this, the formation of a joint working group of Geostat, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and Techinform was determined to be necessary, which will inventory the data needed for the production of the indicator and determine the procedures and periodicity of the production of the indicator.

Additional information and concluding comments

(by the responsible institution)

A large, empty rectangular area with a light blue background and a thin black border, intended for providing additional information and concluding comments.

Final assessments, challenges and recommendations

(by the coordinating institution/entity)

A large, empty rectangular area with a yellow background and a thin black border, intended for providing final assessments, challenges, and recommendations.