German International Cooperation for the Rule of Law: Lessons learned from the Constitutional Reform in Georgia

The purpose of the proposed event is to share the specific experiences and insights of the German Development Cooperation with the promotion of the Rule of Law and to engage in a constructive exchange of experiences. The participants of the LJDW and the staff of the WB will be given the opportunity for an increased understanding of Germany’s worldwide involvement with regard to the Rule of Law and to share their perspectives. The special and unique approach and features of the German International Cooperation for the Rule of Law will be shared by the presentation of a highly interesting case on point. During the additional event itself the participants will have the opportunity to discover a “market of possibilities” to receive information about different German initiatives as well as the German development approach when promoting the Rule of Law.

Panel discussion on the German Development Cooperation through demonstration of the process of constitutional reforms in Georgia. Panel discussion on the success features of the advice given on legal and judicial reforms with representatives from cooperation countries, experts and foundations. Questions from the audience will be permitted at the conclusion of the presentation.

Project and Program Fair (‘market of possibilities’) where posters and other material with information about the basic principles and the approach of the German Development Cooperation and the role and meaning of the Rule of Law from the advisory services of GIZ and political foundations etc. will be displayed.

- German Development Cooperation and constitutional reforms in Georgia

Panelists
Vakhtang Khmaladze, Georgia, Chairman of the Legal Committee of Parliament and former member of the alternative Public Constitution Commission
Tamar Khidasheli, Georgia, Program Coordinator Access to Justice and Human Rights Protection, UNDP
Wolfgang Babeck, Australia/Germany, Bond University, Australia, GIZ—short term expert/key expert of the advisory services

- Further examples regarding the German Cooperation for the Rule of Law and similar processes/developments in other regions

Panelists
Peter Girke, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Coordinator of the Rule of Law program
Zeno Reichenbecher, GIZ, Program Director of the regional program ‘Advice to the Judicial and Justice Reform in the South Caucasus’

Moderator
Albrecht Stockmayer, Lead Governance Advisor, GIZ

Session Coordinator and Rapporteur: Müserref Tanriveri, German Agency for International Cooperation
**OPPORTUNITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION**

**Wednesday, December 12, 2012**

11:15 AM – 12:45 PM / MC13-121

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**Biographies**

**Vakhtang Khmaladze** is a Member of the Parliament of Georgia and the Chairman of the Legal Issues Committee. He is a physicist by profession and a renowned legal expert in constitutional law. As the Vice-Chairman of the State Constitutional Commission he co-authored the Georgian Constitution of 1995. In 2009 he was a member and one of the driving forces of the Public Constitutional Commission. Mr. Khmaladze is an associate professor at Tbilisi Academy for Economy and Law where he teaches Constitutional Law and authored number of publications on legal and political issues.

**Tamar Khidasheli** is, since December 2012, the Coordinator of the Programme “Access to Justice and Human Rights Protection” at UNDP, which aims to empower vulnerable segments of the population to have access to fair justice mechanisms. Before joining UNDP, she chaired the Georgian Young Lawyers’ Association, one of the largest and most respected NGOs in Georgia, which strives for justice, transparency, the rule of law, and human rights. She completed her LL.M. in International Human Rights law at the University of Essex, UK with distinction and has authored several research papers on human rights and democratization.

**Wolfgang Babeck** is a corporate and constitutional lawyer admitted in three jurisdictions: England & Wales, Australia and Germany. For the past 20 years he has been involved in legal and constitutional reforms in Eastern Europe and the CIS including Georgia, Armenia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Bulgaria and Kosovo. On the commercial side he is a practicing solicitor in Sydney for DibbsBarker and for Buse Heberer Fromm. He is an executive of the International Law Section of the Law Council of Australia, the chairman of the German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce and adjunct professor of law at Bond University, Australia.

**Peter Girke**, studied law with international orientation in Germany, France and the UK. Throughout his career, he focused on themes such as the rule of law, democratization, political education and conflict transformation. From 2007 to 2011 he directed the Uganda / South Sudan office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, a German political foundation engaged in international activities aimed at strengthening democracy and the rule of law, supporting economic development and promoting respect for human rights. Since 2011 he coordinates the worldwide rule of law programmes of KAS Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Berlin (HQ), Germany.

**Zeno Reichenbecher** is Program Director of the regional German Program “Advice to the Judicial and Justice Reform in the South Caucasus”, realized by GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Prior to this position, he held roles in the German Federal Ministry of Economy and Technology, and was a judge in Berlin. His work and expertise focus on the Rule of Law in transformation and developing Countries, civil justice reforms and foreign trade relations. He holds a state law degree of Hamburg, Germany and studied law in Freiburg, Bordeaux and Hamburg.

**Albrecht Stockmayer**, LL.M (Michigan), Dr. iur. (Frankfurt), member of the Frankfurt Bar, is currently Lead Governance Advisor, GIZ, trained as a lawyer and business administrator, 10 years consultant and short term advisor in Africa and Latin America for the World Bank and the UN, joined GIZ as and institutional development advisor, left for OECD/PUMA to be division chief and head of the Governance Outreach Initiative, returned to GIZ to lead the Governance and Gender Group and later the Governance Cluster.