



November 2017

Invitation for a meeting organised in the context of the Horizon 2020 PSF Specific Support to Georgia

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia expressed its interest in receiving the Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility advice and recommendations on how to tackle three selected R&I policy issues: **(1) Support in identification of promising research fields; (2) Measures for narrowing the gap between research and industry/business, (3) Proposal for the performance-based funding of research entities.**

I would like to invite you/a representative of your organisation to meet the PSF Panel during the forthcoming first visit in **Tbilisi on 4-7 December 2017.**

The Panel composed by six independent experts from Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Czech Republic, Poland and Sweden will meet Georgian authorities and representatives of relevant stakeholders involved in R&I policies. The aim of the first mission is to:

- get a **better understanding of the current situation** in the three focus areas
- make **contacts to key stakeholders** in the country, and **gather their views** on how to tackle the focus areas,
- **collect information on possible solutions, options and their feasibility,**
- identify **visions for change** and the limitations for implementing them.

In the Annex 4 we provide **few starting points for discussion** with key stakeholders per each focus area. The discussions will be organised in small groups of stakeholders representing similar interests. The Panel invites you to bring along or send in advance suggestions or documentation you consider important but please do not prepare any presentations.

After the mission, the panel will discuss the outcomes and draft a first tentative outline on the status quo in the focus areas, and possible options on how to improve the situation. In a second in-country mission in February 2018, the panel would like to gather additional views

of stakeholders that could not be met in the first mission because of time constraints, and discuss and verify possible options with the key stakeholders.

The PSF specific support context and process are described in Annex 1, the composition of the Panel is outlined in Annex 3. The draft programme of the visit is included in Annex 2.

Should you require any further information on the objective and methodology of the review you can contact the responsible policy officer in the European Commission: Mrs Diana Senczyszyn (email: Diana.Senczyszyn@ec.europa.eu, tel. 32-2-299.33.76).

Looking forward to our future exchanges.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Honeth

Chair of the PSF experts' panel

Annex 1 – PSF Georgia fact sheet

Annex 2 – Draft agenda of the PSF Panel visit in Georgia

Annex 3 – PSF experts panel

Annex 4- Initial issues for discussions during the meeting