1. Description

1.1. Name of beneficiary of grant contract: Public Movement Multinational Georgia

1.2. Name and title of the Contact person: Arnold Stepanian, Chairman

1.3. Name of partners in the Action: International Society For Fair Elections and Democracy

1.4. Title of the Action: “Contribute to the conduct of more free and fair Local Government Elections in Georgia scheduled for 2014, particularly in Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti, Shida Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions”

1.5. Contract number: EIDHR/2013/315-122

1.6. Start date and end date of the Action: 15 October 2013 – 14 October 2014

1.7. Target country(ies) or region(s): Georgia: Tbilisi, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti, Shida Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions

1.8. Final beneficiaries &/or target groups (if different) (including numbers of women and men): Final beneficiaries of the Action is population of the target regions, including ethnic minority constituencies; while target groups are 437 PMMG observers deployed during the 2014 Local Self-Government Elections.

Composition of the target group (observers):

Ist round: women – 302 persons (69%), men – 135 persons (31%)

IInd round: women – 103 persons (67%), men – 51 persons (33%)

1.9. Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7): N/A

2. Assessment of implementation of Action activities

2.1. Executive summary of the Action

The project proposal developed by the PMMG envisaged the realization of a comprehensive program intending the conduction of a high-quality and impartial Election Day observation mission in Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti, Shida Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions for the 2014 Local Governmental Elections. In addition, the proposed action enabled the imposition of a high-quality and impartial long term monitoring (LTM) including pre-election monitoring as well as post-election monitoring of complaints and appeals in the underlined regions.

The program was complex by its very nature and encompassed different methodological as well as practical means to be realized for the delivery of highly efficient observatory work.

Activities were implemented with support of several donors, namely European Commission, National Endowment for Democracy, Embassy of the Netherlands in Tbilisi and Open Society Georgia Foundation.

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1 “Target groups” are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the Project Purpose level, and “final beneficiaries” are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large.
2.2. Activities and results

**Activity 1:** Capacity Building Training Program for Long-Term Observers (LTOs) in Bakuriani, Georgia with 12 participants for 3 days on 3-5 May, 2014

**Topics/activities covered:** The project delivered 3 days long capacity building training program for the selected 12 Long Term Observers (LTO)s. The training program encompassed 3 main thematic pillars:

Pillar 1: training session on the monitoring of abuse of state resources (ASR): the training participants got acquainted with the basic methodology as well as tools for the conduction of monitoring over ASR. The training program captured but has not been limited to the deliberation over the following themes: a) monitoring of financial resources; b) Institutional Resources; c) Regulatory Resources; d) Enforcement Resources.

Pillar 2: training session on the monitoring of campaign finance: the main focus has been placed on practical aspects of monitoring – what to monitor and how to monitor. In addition, the training participants received the methodological materials (guidance) in order to effectively perform their immediate duties: a) leaflet that included the main findings and problems identified during previous elections in order to create baseline for future monitoring. Therefore, monitors would be better prepared to monitor, identify and prevent ASR. b) manual for campaign finance monitoring that included checklists and guidelines on how to monitor and track observations and violations of existing rules. The second part of this pillar has been dedicated to the monitoring tools necessary for the conduction of monitoring over the Biometric Registration Data of the Common Voters List.

Pillar 3: training session on monitoring post-election activities at District Election Commissions in the project targeted regions and Central Election Commission; Observation of complaints adjudication process; as well as monitoring of the Biometric Registration Data of the Common Voters List.

The capacity building program has been realized by the project attracted highly qualified experts: Dimitri Tsertsvadze and Alexandra Kalatozishvili. Separate sessions were also conducted by the invited elections expert Ana Mikeladze, lawyer Teimuraz Koridze and PR manager Sopho Khutsishvili. PMMG team with support of the elections expert attracted by the project have elaborated the Manual, as well as weekly questionnaire for 12 long-term observers (LTOs) engaged into PMMG’s elections monitoring program. Upon finalization of the work, all materials were translated into Russian language to ensure better understanding by LTOs and used for the conduction of LTO training.

*Kindly find the agenda of the Long Term Observers’ capacity building program attached to the report.*

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program

**Results of this activity:** 12 LTOs, namely: Sabina Talibova, Rustam Mailov, Ervand Marutyun, Vagarshak Shakhbekyan, Kristina Mkrtchyan, Agasi Zalalyan, Tamta Gachechiladze, Tamta Bibiluri, Giorgi Mantashashvili, Beka Neshumashvili, Guram Berianidze, Givi Bochoradze were trained and prepared for the conduction of long-term monitoring mission in the regions.

**Activity 2:** Conduction of long-term monitoring mission in the regions in the period from 1 May to 15 June, 2014
**Topics/activities covered:** Upon the completion of the training program the project trained LTOs have been deployed to the regions to carry out Long Term Monitoring program (pre-election and post-election monitoring). The program has been carried out in 18 electoral districts of the regions targeted by the action: Ninotsminda, Akhalkalaki, Aspindza, Akhaltsikhe, Adigeni, Borjomi (Samtskhe-Javakheti region); Gardabani, Marneuli, Bolnisi, Tsalka, Dmanisi, Tetritskaro (Kvemo Kartli region); Akhmeta, Lagodekhi, Kvareli, Sagarejo (Kakheti region); Mtskheta (Mtskheta-Mtianeti region), ad Kaspi (Shida Kartli region. Some LTO covered several electoral districts. The monitoring program was carried out in three major directions:

1st direction - Monitoring the abuse of state resources such as a) Financial Resources: monitoring monetary assets will focus on the manipulation and misuse of state and local budgets to finance programmes and activities that aim at “buying off” voters shortly before the elections; b) Institutional Resources: the misuse of institutional resources will focus on tendencies of using public personnel or goods for party purposes that blurs the line between the ruling party and the government, thus creating unequal conditions between the ruling party and all other political parties, who do not have access to these resources; c) Regulatory Resources: observe cases of policymakers who misuse their mandate to pass laws or change regulations that affect their roles and activities as public officials in a way that is relevant to the campaign; d) Enforcement Resources: monitoring potential cases of abuse of enforcement resources will target any pressure or illegal activities committed by state officials or bodies in order to intimidate voters or candidates.

2nd direction - Monitoring Campaign Finance. The monitors looked at expenses of all political parties engaged in the project targeted regions, the ruling party as well as the opposition. Although all expense categories included in party reports were covered, the monitors focused on parties’ expenses largest item lines and expenses. In addition, the monitors observed and documented campaign events, advertisements and estimated expenses in the field. The data were collected from parties’ campaign materials, media reports and other sources. The particular attention has been paid to such cost categories as TV/radio/print advertising, outdoor advertising (billboards and posters) and public campaign events.

3rd direction – Post-election monitoring as well as monitoring of the Biometric Registration Data of the Common Voters List. Due to the high amount of the performable task the monitoring of the Biometric Registration Data of the Common Voters List has been conducted only in Marneuli, Akhalkalaki and Akhaltsikhe electoral districts.

Therefore, the monitors attended and monitored regional events related to the project, reviewed information from media on a daily bases, filed addresses to agencies in their respective districts, met and interviewed political party activists, opposition supporters and voters, counted printed advertisements, billboards and posters, drafted reports and submitted to the project central office for consideration. All the obtained electoral data have been permanently communicated with the project central office, which has verified the findings and disseminated among the different stakeholders through the utilization of various communicational channels including the website of the organization. In addition, the hot line service has been functional enabling the delivery of the monitoring findings to the respective stakeholders and thus enhancing the public scrutiny over the cases of ASR and campaign finance. As a result of monitoring of pre-election environment, the project produced two reports: interim and final and disseminated among the stakeholders through the conduction of press conferences, mailing list and social media.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program

**Results of this activity:** The pre-election monitoring program has revealed the following tendencies:
• Situational analysis of the pre-election environment evolved in the regions with the compact settlements of ethnic minorities clearly demonstrated some positive dynamics as compared with the previously held elections. However, there were number of problems as well as challenges characterized by different frequency of electoral violations and their essence;

• Given the general analysis of the pre-election monitoring program it can be concluded the frequency as well as extent of abuse of administrative resources has declined as compared with the previous elections. Moreover, some single facts of bribery of the voters have been revealed. However, some electoral incidents have been identified during a pre-election period among which are: intimidation of the voters, pressure and violation of the agitation rules by the political subjects as well as hampering the process of pre-election campaigning / activities. Moreover, it has to be noted that some facts have been identified regarding the damage of promotional materials belonging to the political subjects;

• Unfortunately, the incidents directly related to the imposition of pressure over the political subjects still remained persistent. The Long Term Observers of the “Multinational Georgia” have revealed the incidents of physical violence and tension with the directly engagement of both, representatives of the political subjects as well as their activists. It has to be taken into account, that there have been some attempts of introduction of the issue of interethnic relations into the political campaigning;

• The issue of removal of the candidature form the party list by the election candidates has acquired alarming and chronic character. Organization deeply believes that the emergence of the problem has been caused by the presence of two major factors: a) the pressure imposed on the political subjects and b) the political agreement concluded between the so called “interest groups”;

• Moreover, some interesting tendency has also been evolved: falsification of the party lists (some sporadic facts have been identified), as well as cheating of the political candidates and intentionally their enlistment in the party list of other political subjects;

• Central Election Commission has been actively engaged in the realization of the elections related activities as prescribed by the action plan during a reporting period;

• Central Election Commission has delivered the educational trainings for ethnic minority voters and the members of the election administrations in the regions with the compact settlement of minority communities as well as for the representatives of different civil societal organizations and students;

• Central Election Commission has placed 10 electoral video spots in the local TV companies in Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo Kartli regions;

• Central Election Commission organized call center offering the possibility to disseminate elections related information in minority languages;

• Staffing of the election administration in some cases has not been transparent enough;

• Despite the fact that election administration has delivered the training program for the members of precinct election commission with ethnic minority background in the comprehensible language, in some cases this has not been enough in order to enable the commission members carry out the duties and responsibilities in a highly efficient manner;

• Among the candidates nominated by the political parties in Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo Kartli regions approximately 25% represented ethnic minorities;
Vast majority of violations as identified during a pre-election period was directly associated with the removal of the candidatures from registrations. As for the rest: 31 incidents have been revealed regarding the intimidation, pressure and physical harassment of the candidates and voters, 3 incidents of abuse of administrative resources, 1 incident of falsification of the election subject’s list, 4 incidents of violation of the campaigning rules, 1 incident of prevention of the conduction of the campaigning/elections related activity, 3 incidents of voters’ bribery and 3 facts directly associated with the works of election administration.

More information is available in “The Final Report of the Pre-Election Monitoring Program” attached to the report.

**Activity 3:** Recruitment of observers in project target regions

**Topics/activities covered:** PMMG has recalled and re-attracted election observers to the project who have previously participated in the “Parliamentary Election Observation Mission” conducted by the PMMG in 2012, as well as in “Presidential Elections Observation Mission” conducted in 2013. Moreover, PMMG also intended to attract additional people to the project to fill in the gap as well as make a reserve list of observers for the project. To this end, the project staff has developed respective informational materials, as well as application forms for the purpose of conduction of informational-outreach meetings which ensured wider dissemination of the project information. Series of informational meetings were carried out in the target regions, as well as in the capital, and outreached representatives of the wider spectra of stakeholders including students studying at higher educational establishments. PMMG has widely utilized its capital-based and regional network for spreading information for the attraction of potential observers. Information was also spread in social networks, as well as vacancy was announced in electronic media (HR sites, etc.).

PMMG elaborated the set of criteria for recruitment of observers. Special attention was paid to the following factors: language skills, previous experience of similar actions, non-partisanship, sociability, age range (only adults were allowed to apply), physical state (ability to travel on long distances), etc.

Followed by the conduction of informational-outreach meetings PMMG made a short list of successful applicants through the careful review of their application forms. This year, PMMG again used a different approach for the recruitment of observers (this approach was utilized by PMMG during Presidential Elections Observation Mission in 2013 and proved successful). All the preliminary selected applicants were personally interviewed by the evaluation team to reveal the level of their interest, motivation, experience, language skills, etc.

Within the set deadline, 630 applications were received by PMMG; the team has interviewed 613 pre-selected candidates, based on the initially elaborated criteria (languages skills, previous experience in the field, non-partisanship, sociability, age range, etc.) and have made the short list of 505 people who were then personally interviewed by the project team in order to reveal the level of their interest, motivation, skills, etc. The interviews were held according to the following schedule:

- 25 February, 2014 – Gardabani (Kvemo Kartli region)
- 28 February, 2014 – Telavi (Kakheti region)
- 5 March, 2014 – Marneuli (Kvemo Kartli region)
- 23 March, 2014 – Sagarejo (Kakheti region)
- 24 March, 2014 – Gori (Shida Kartli region)
- 4 April, 2014 – Akhaltsikhe, Akhalkalaki and Ninotsminda (Samtskhe-Javakheti region)
In line with this, interviewing process with applicants residing in Tbilisi was held in PMMG’s head office located in Tbilisi. Upon completion of the interviewing process, PMMG team made the final lists of people selected for participation in the capacity building training program which was held on the next stage of project implementation.

Likewise in previous years, PMMG used the 4 step selection approach for the recruitment of observers: 1) Interview; 2) Written testing upon completion of the capacity building training; 3) Verbal test; 4) Elections Day simulation.

The vast majority of PMMG attracted observers were multilingual: Russian, Georgian, Armenian and Azerbaijanian (or Turkish). Some observers possessed English, and had the sign “I speak English” on their T-shirts on the Elections Day to make it visible for international observers visiting the precincts. It has to be noted that all PS observers have been recruited to be deployed according to cross district and cross village approach – 100% of PMMG observers observed the elections in other precincts rather than the places of their immediate residence in order to avoid any possible relational or friendly ties with elections administrations, political subjects, etc.

Reason for modification for the planned activity: N/A

Results of this activity: 553 people were recruited to attend the capacity building training program and act as observers on the Elections Day, including: a) 352 static observers; b) 19 district election commission observers (DEC); c) 64 mobile group (MG) observers; d) 2 central election commission observers (CEC); 16 district logistic coordinators (DLC) and 100 backups assigned.

Activity 4: Capacity Building Training Program for Trainers (ToT) in Tbilisi, Georgia with 17 participants for 4 days on 9-12 May, 2014

Topics/activities covered: In order to form a team of trainers for the conduction of capacity building training program for project recruited observers, PMMG programing team carried out personal meetings with successful observers deployed under PMMG’s monitoring program in 2013, with special focus on persons having experience of work in formal and non-formal education fields, and therefore having necessary skills (including language skills – trainers should possess at least two languages out of Georgian, Russian, Armenian, Azerbaijanian or Turkish), as well as respective knowledge in the field. To this end, PMMG team has interviewed educators having potential of acting as trainers within the framework of organization’s local elections observation mission. Selected people later attended the Training for Trainers (ToT) which was based on the methodology utilized and shared with PMMG by NDI country team. With support of the elections expert attracted by the project, ToT manual was developed.

The training program focused on the discussion of the following thematic topics: a) Electoral rules and procedures including the review of the electoral code of Georgia; b) Rights and obligations of those parities having an authority to be present at the electoral precinct: members of the PEC, representatives of electoral subjects, domestic and international observer organizations as well as the media; c) Reporting methods and techniques: detailed description of the reporting procedure; timing of submission of the interim reports (PMMG “Observation Form”); the structure of the report for the submission etc.; d) Logistics: detailed description of observers’ deployment and coordination process; division of responsibilities for providing logistical support to the observers; deliberation on the emergency response measures, effective communication, etc.; e) Tips for successful observation: detailed review of the electoral practice of the previous years, including the main types of the violations of electoral rules and procedures revealed during the previous
observations; discussion about the available mechanisms for prevention and response to the violations; f) filing complaints.

The entire training program applied to two major methodological approaches: a) deliberations on the theoretical aspects; b) doing practical exercises (which include going through the procedures of the Election Day prescribed for PECs, providing the detailed description of the duties of all parties present at polling stations, filing complaints as well as filling out of the reporting forms).

*Kindly find the agenda of the ToT attached to the report.*

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program

**Results of this activity:** 17 trainers, namely: Agasin Zalalyan, Dimitri Tsertsvadze, Erna Pogosovi, Kristine Malania, Ani Kiknadze, Jaba Bregvadze, Bakhtiar Zeynalov, Sabina Talibova, Mikheil Agakhanyan, Vagarshak Shakhbekyan, Davit Kirvalidze, Natalia Bregvadze, Dariko Nemsveridze, Rustam Maylov, Tamar Sordia, Mariam Janjgava, Diana Surmanidze were trained and prepared to realize capacity building training program for PMMG attracted potential observers.

**Activity 5:** Capacity Building Training Program (31 training sessions) for static (PS) observers in Tbilisi, Bakuriani, Marneuli, Ninotsminda, Gardabani, Kobuleti and Telavi with 553 participants for 2 days from 14 May to 8 June 2014

**Topics/activities covered:** This particular training program implied the delivery of STO training by PMMG trained trainers to all project attracted people who taking into account the specificity of the election observation methods as well as special tasks were required to undertake comprehensive preparation course.

The training program has been specially designed to meet the specific observatory needs of static observers and consequently focused on the discussion of the following thematic topics: a) Electoral rules and procedures including the review of the electoral code of Georgia; b) Rights and obligations of those parities having an authority to be present at the electoral precinct: members of the PEC, representatives of electoral subjects, domestic and international observer organizations as well as the media; c) Reporting methods and techniques: detailed description of the reporting procedure; timing of submission of the interim reports (PMMG “Observation Form”); the structure of the report for the submission etc.; d) Logistics: detailed description of observers’ deployment and coordination process; division of responsibilities for providing logistical support to the observers; deliberation on the emergency response measures etc.; e) Tips for successful observation: detailed review of the electoral practice of the previous years, including the main types of the violations of electoral rules and procedures revealed during the previous observations; discussion about the available mechanisms for prevention and response to the violations; f) main requirements for filing complaints.

The entire training program applied to two major methodological approaches: a) deliberations on the theoretical aspects; b) doing practical exercises (which include going through the procedures of the Election Day prescribed for PECs, providing the detailed description of the duties of all parties present at polling stations, filing complaints as well as filling out of the reporting forms).

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** Initially, it was planned to conduct 18 training sessions for static observers instead of 31. Increased number of trainings was entailed by the decision of PMMG team who considered that in order to achieve more
efficiency it was desirable for all types of observers to undertake the static observer’s course first and later to attend specific training program either for DEC/CEC or Mobile Group observers. Additional number of trainings was implemented with support of other donors to PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program.

**Results of this activity:** 553 people were trained, including: a) 352 static observers; b) 19 district election commission observers (DEC); c) 64 mobile group (MG) observers; d) 2 central election commission observers (CEC); 16 district logistic coordinators (DLC) and 100 backups assigned.

**Activity 6:** Capacity Building Training Program (3 training sessions) for mobile group observers in Tbilisi with 64 participants for 2 days on 11-12 June, 2014

**Topics/activities covered:** The training program has been specially designed to meet the specific observatory needs of mobile groups’ observers and consequently focused on the discussion of the following thematic topics: a) Brief review of the basic rights and obligations of the parties engaged in the electoral process; b) Reporting methods and techniques: brief description of the reporting procedures; d) Logistics: detailed description of observers’ deployment and coordination process; detailed deliberation on the response methods in cases of emergency with the special emphasis put on the mobile observation techniques etc.; e) Tips for successful observation. Methodology of the training program will be entirely rested on theoretical as well as practical deliberation over the identified issues.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** N/A

**Results of this activity:** 64 people were trained to further act as mobile group (MG) observers.

**Activity 7:** Capacity Building Training Program (1 training session) for DEC and CEC observers in Tbilisi with 21 participants for 1 day on 10 June, 2014

**Topics/activities covered:** The training program has been specially designed to meet the specific observatory needs of DEC’s and CEC observers and consequently focused on the discussion of the following thematic topics: a) specificities of observation at DECs and CECs; b) Rights and obligations of the stakeholders engaged at the DECs and CECs; c) Reporting methods and techniques: detailed description of the reporting procedure; timing of submission of the interim reports; the main structure of the report for the submission etc.; d) Tips for successful observation: detailed review of the electoral practice of the previous years as well as the main types of violation of electoral rules and procedures identified in the previous observations; deliberation over the mechanisms to prevent and respond to the violations.

Methodology of the training program has been entirely based on theoretical deliberations over the topical issues as well as on doing practical exercises relevant to the specific needs and requirement of DEC’s and CEC observers.

All capacity building training programs materials are available in Georgian, Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijanian languages upon request.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** N/A

**Results of this activity:** 21 people were trained to further act as DEC and CEC observers.
**Activity 8:** Capacity Building Training Program (1 training session) for Call Center Operators in Tbilisi with 15 participants for 1 day on 11 June, 2014

**Topics/activities covered:** The training was organized in order to get call center operators acquainted with PMMG monitoring mission objectives as well as specific tasks and requirements call center operators were supposed to assume on the Election Day. Moreover, the training session allowed testing the technical equipment of the call center as well as conduction of on job orientation of operators.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program.

**Results of this activity:** 15 people, namely: Irina Merabyan, Gayane Shakhnazaryan, Mamuka Kapanadze, Seid Iza Agaeva, Mikheil Chkheidze, Ana Basilashvili, Nana Chkhiriode, Gvantsa Pataria, Mariam Balarjishvili, Lizi Zurikashvili, Lika Avetisyan, Svetlana Avetisyan, Lana Farmanyan, Giorgi Rukhadze, Lusine Khoderyan were trained in order to act as Call Center Operators on the Elections Day.

**Activity 9:** Capacity Building Training Program (1 training session) for District Logistics Coordinators in Bakuriani with 18 participants for 1 day on 9 June, 2014

**Topics/activities covered:** The training program was organized in order to get District Logistics Coordinators acquainted with PMMG monitoring mission objectives as well as specific tasks and requirements DLCs were supposed to assume prior to and on the Election Day.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program.

**Results of this activity:** 18 people were trained in order to act as District Logistics Coordinators

**Activity 10:** Development of Internal and External communications plans

**Topics/activities covered:** The project attracted PR manager in closer cooperation with and supervision of elections expert developed internal and external communications plans. Internal Communication Plan (ICP) set out the procedures for communication between the project head office and deployed observers on the Election Day while the External Communication Plan (ECP) provided detailed guidelines and procedures for the dissemination of electoral findings to the respective stakeholders on the Election Day. Moreover some visual electoral templates with elections related findings have been developed and disseminated among the interested parties.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** N/A

**Results of this activity:** Project developed ICP and ECP were widely used and applied to in a course of conduction of elections monitoring mission.
**Activity 11:** Development of the web-enabled data base

**Topics/activities covered:** PMMG has attracted Web developer – Irakli Naskidashvili to the project in order to develop the special data base for data reporting and monitoring purposes. The following works were carried out to this very direction: data entry, data management, analysis, reporting and testing. All these 5 modules have been eventually incorporated into the whole web base and handed to the project for Election Day monitoring and reporting purposes. The project attracted IT manager was closely working with the web developer and provided all the necessary conceptual as well as technical support to develop the data base according to the strict requirements, compliance to the established standards as well as needs of the observer organization.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** N/A

**Results of this activity:** Web-enabled database was created for data reporting and monitoring purposes on the Elections Day

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**Activity 12:** Verbal testing and simulation day in Tbilisi with 553 people for 8 days in the period from 4 to 11 June, 2014

**Topics/activities covered:** The project team developed special tests in order to evaluate the performance of project trained people. Therefore, upon the completion of the training program, in the period from 4 to 10 June, 2014 project staff members made calls to all the trained people and carried out the testing over the phone. Based on the result of testing PMMG has developed the final composition of observers. Those people who did not succeed on the tests were enlisted in the reserve list (100 backups).

In addition, upon the completion of phone testing the successful observers have been asked to take part in the project organized “Election Day Simulation” in which each observer was required to fill in the respective section of the Observer’s Form and hand over the respective information to the project organized Call Center.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program

**Results of this activity:** This methodological approach has been deliberately applied to just to ascertain the readiness of the observers, call center operators and the project central office staff for the E-day, as well as to test specially developed web-enabled database, and to make judgment over the quality of the training program. Testing has revealed the highest degree of readiness as well as professional mannerism of project trained observers and other staff.

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**Activity 13:** Conduction of Election Day Observation Mission in Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti, Shida Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions with 437 observers on 15 June, 2014

**Topics/activities covered:** As has been underlined above the project envisaged four types of observers who would be eventually deployed for the conduct of Election Day observation mission according to the schedule provided bellow. The project targeted 90% of the areas where minorities compose over 30% of the population in Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti, Shida Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions. In addition, it should be noted that PMMG covered 100% of the precincts in Marnelli, Ninotsminda and Akhaltsikhe Municipalities. In total, the project deployed: 2 CEC observers; 19 DEC observers; 352 PS
observers and 64 mobile group observers, thus compiling the Election Day observation mission of 437 observers.

*Kindly find the list of STO observers and DLCs attached to the report.*

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<tr>
<td>Rustavi</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kakheti</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lagodekhi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagarejo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akhmeta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kvareli</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shida Kartli</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaspi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mtskheta-Mtianeti</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mtskheta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tbilisi</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OVERAL SUB-TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>437</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hereby it has to be mentioned that the electoral precincts for observation have been chosen based on the following considerations: a) density of ethnic minority communities; b) sensitivity of PSs to the electoral fraud as demonstrated by the results of previously held elections; c) findings of the current pre-election environment in the respective regions.

Before the deployment of observers the project team prepared observers’ kit including all the necessary materials for the conduction of observation: reporting and incident identification forms in Georgian, Armenian, Azerbaijanian and Russian languages; complaint and appeals form; observer’s badge; block notes and pans, etc.
Deployment as well as operation of the observers and the mobile groups in the project targeted regions have been coordinated from the project head office in conjunction with the District Logistics Coordinators (DLC) hired under the project and responsible for the provision of any kind of logistical support to the observers including their deployment and coordination of their observatory works.

DLCs also acted as mediators between the deployed observers and the project head office. Each observer monitored the process at the polling station, before the commencement of the voting process, during the voting and at the stage of vote counting. Observers were responsible for filling out and submitting the report according to the PMMG “Observation Form”, obtaining copy of the summary protocol of PEC and filling incident forms as well as complaints in case of identification of violations. Therefore, all PMMG observers remained at the assigned PEC until they obtained the copy of the protocol.

According to the instructions provided by the PMMG head office in case of identification of violations, observers informed the representatives of the mobile groups, project head office and observers from partner organizations notably “International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy” (ISFED). Moreover, mobile groups deployed under this particular action performed two main types of tasks: a) they delivered assistance to the observer once he/she revealed the violation of the electoral law; b) they periodically observed situation at the selected polling stations, where PMMG did not have permanent observers deployed.

Specially for reporting purposes the project developed the reporting scheme according to which the static observers reported about the local developments to the project head office. Observers reported by phone to the head office organized call center at:

- 08:00 to report any violations directly related to setting up of electoral precinct (opening of the PS and preparation for voting);
- 12:00 to report turnout for 12:00);
- 17:00 to report turnout for 17:00);
- 20:00 to report findings revealed during voting process as well as closure of the PS);
- The final call (to report findings associated with the tabulation of the results as well as give final account to the whole Election Day process).

Observers directly reported to PMMG Call Centre Operators (CCO). At each call operators accessed to the digital data base specially developed for the project purposes and filled in the respective block of the “Observation Form”. In total 5 planed interim reports were obtained by the head office from each deployed observer during the Election Day (total 5 blocks and one summary block of the “Observation Form”).

Apart from the planned calls observers communicated with the head office in case of necessities as well as with the project engaged 2 Lawyers, DEC observers and mobile groups. Some random calls have also been made to the observers from the project head office to clarify/recheck data inserted in database.

In addition, the project engaged lawyers delivered the legal assistance to the PMMG head office as well as to the observers in order to properly draft the appeals/complaints as well as to adequately react to the electoral violations, shortcomings and emerged crisis. Moreover, the project employed elections expert permanently monitored the data base as well as the reported incidents to insure the consistency of the electoral findings with the entries in the data base and thus development of the interim reports in a high quality manner (proved incidents). All the reported electoral incidents entered into the data base have been double checked by the elections expert in line with the communication with the observers.

The ultimate goal of the observation mission was to identify the violations of electoral law and apply to the respective legal means for the correction of revealed electoral
shortcomings. Therefore, according to the instructions which have been previously issued to the observers, they have reacted to the violations including procedural shortcomings in two ways: a) verbal objection to be expressed towards the PEC to correct or eradicate the problem immediately; b) filing complaints and submitting to PEC and DEC in case the PEC did not immediately react to the verbal objections to eradicate or correct the problem. Moreover, observers have been instructed by the project management to fill out the incident form in case of identification of the violation or shortcoming and thus pursue the legal means for the mitigation of the problem.

Therefore, PMMG deployed static observers observed the opening of, voting and counting in 352 polling stations. Moreover, PMMG also observed the handover of electoral materials and the tabulation of results in 19 Electoral Districts.

On the day before elections, PMMG presented its program to media. Based on the findings as obtained from the observers on elections day, PMMG head office developed 4 statements:

- at 10.30 summarizing the process of setting up the electoral precinct from 07:00 to 08:00;
- at 14.30 assessing the proceedings of the voting process;
- at 18.30 assessing the proceedings of the voting process;
- at 22:00 assessing the closing of the precincts and proceedings of counting of votes.

The project director made public of the statements through their presentation at the press conference specially organized and facilitated by Media Coordinator (PR manager) at “Media Center”. Moreover, on the next day of elections PMMG issued preliminary assessment of the Election Day. Statements as well as interim assessment have been developed in Georgian and English languages and disseminated among the wider audience through electronic newsletter (apart from the presentation at the press conference). Information was also regularly upload on PMMG’s website and Facebook page.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** N/A

**Results of this activity:** Given the findings of the observers the following tendencies have been revealed during an Election Day:

The vast majority of observers of the “Multinational Georgia” were allowed to freely enter the electoral precinct to conduct the observation. Only 15 observers out of 350 were not allowed to freely observe the opening of the polling station.

33 polling stations out of 350 have been ready only after 08:10 for the reception of the first voter.

Moreover, based on the findings as obtained by the observers of the “Multinational Georgia” in most cases the number of ballots delivered to the electoral precinct has been less than the number of registered voters.

20 complaints have been filed by the observers to the precinct election commissions during the vote casting process. 9 complaints have been satisfied by the commission. 4 complaints have been refused. 6 complaints were handed over to the district election commissions.

Four out of the total number of filed complaints presented to the precinct election commissions (1 in Tsalka, 2 in Sagarejo and 1 in Gardabani) have been related to the following electoral shortcoming: incompatibility of the control paper which is the ground for the annulment of the results of elections.
The observers of the “Multinational Georgia” deployed to the respective electoral precincts have revealed 121 incidents of violation of the voting procedures. Most of the incidents have been eradicated as a result of verbal objections raised by the observers. Vast majority of the incidents were related to the following types of violation of the electoral law: the presence of unauthorized people at the electoral precinct, inappropriate setting up of the electoral precinct, inappropriate documentation of the electoral proceedings, violation of the rules of marking, agitation.

Kindly find the preliminary assessment of the Election Day attached to the report.

**Activity 14**: Conduction of the post-election monitoring in project target regions

**Topics/activities covered**: This particular component of the project implied the delivery of two sub actions: a) Monitoring post-election activities at District Election Commissions in the project targeted regions and Central Election Commission; Observation of complaints adjudication process; and b) Submitting complaints and appeals to District Election Commissions in the project targeted regions, Central Election Commission and courts as needed.

**District election commissions**: 

Upon the completion of the voting process, the head office of the “Multinational Georgia” has filed 79 complaints to the district election commissions on the annulment of the summary protocols of the electoral precincts in the following electoral districts:

- Akhalkalaki – 16 complaints
- Bolnisi – 9 complaints
- Akhmeta – 1 complaints
- Gardabani – 9 complaints
- Ninotsminda – 6 complaints
- Tsalka – 4 complaints
- Marneuli – 24 complaints
- Dmanisi - 2 complaints
- Lagodekhi – 2 complaints
- Mtskheta – 1 complaints
- Rustavi – 1 complaints
- Sagarejo – 3 complaints
- Kvareli - 1 complaints

The ground for the submission of the complaints to the district election commissions was the inconsistency of the summary protocols with the standing legislation, incompatibility of the control paper (in 3 electoral precincts) and illegal introduction of changes in the voters’ list (in one electoral precinct).

The district election commissions considered the appeals on 18-19 June, 2014. It has to be noted that no summary protocols of the precinct election commissions has been annulled as requested by the PMMG. However, the district election commissions have acknowledged the incidents of violation of electoral law and consequently charged the chairmen as well as the secretaries of the respective precinct election commissions with administrative responsibility – penalty.

In addition, #22 Marneuli district election commission has refused to register the appeal filed by the organization. The case has been eventually brought to the Central Election Commission (CEC). The CEC has considered the case, however, did not satisfy the demand of the observer organization.
Courts:
Some parts of the decisions made by the respective district election commissions, according to which the appeals of the organization were refused, have been challenged in the respective municipal courts. In total 4 appeals have been filed to the courts requesting the annulment of the summary protocols of 10 electoral precincts: Akhalkalaki (1 electoral precinct), Ninotsminda (3 electoral precincts), Bolnisi (4 electoral precincts) and Gardabani (2 electoral precincts).

Hereby it has to be noted that Akhalkalaki municipal court has satisfied the request of the organization regarding the annulment of the results of #1 electoral precinct where the unlawful changes have been made to the voters’ list. In view of the above the CEC has appointed the repeated elections in the underlined electoral precinct.

As for the appeals requesting the annulment of the results of other electoral precincts, they have not been satisfied. The courts have acknowledged the incidents of violation of the electoral law, however did not annul the results of the electoral precincts as far as they would not affect the final outcome of the polling.

Reason for modification for the planned activity: N/A

Results of this activity: 79 complaints were submitted to the district election commissions and 4 appeals have been filed to the courts.

Activity 15: Conduction of the monitoring over the repeated elections in Akhalkalaki and Marneli with on 29 June, 2014

Topics/activities covered: On 29 June, PMMG has carried out the monitoring over the repeated elections at #25 and #57 electoral precincts of #22 Merneuli electoral district, as well as at #1 electoral precinct of #40 Akhalkalaki electoral district.

It has to be noted that at #1 electoral precinct of # 40 Akhalkalaki electoral district the repeated elections were being held based on the complaint filed by the “Multinational Georgia” to the Akhalkalaki municipal court which has satisfied the request of the organization (requiring the annulment of the results of the electoral precinct).

Reason for modification for the planned activity: This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program

Results of this activity: According to findings as obtained by the observers of the “Multinational Georgia” the voting process was being conducted in a calm environment. However, some minor shortcomings have been reported. Each reported incident was resolved as a result of verbal objection raised by the observer, notably: 1) there was an attempt to conduct the electoral precinct opening and setting up related procedures from 7:00 to 8:00 in non-state language at # 1 electoral precinct of # 40 Akhalkalaki electoral district. However, after the challenge of the incident jointly by the observer of the “Multinational Georgia” as well as other local observer, conduction of the procedure was continued in a state language; 2) at the same electoral precinct there was an incident of restricting the right of observation on the voting process. Hasmik Marangozian, Chairperson of Akhalkalaki district election commission who was present at the electoral precinct was trying to interfere in the works of the observer of “Multinational Georgia” and restricted the right to freely move inside the polling station and observe the voting process; 3) the registrar has mistakenly put the signature in the voters’ list next to the name of the voter and the voter has put the signature in the box prescribed to the registrar. Observer of the “Multinational Georgia” has reported the incident to the Chairman of the electoral precinct. As a result the registrar wrote the explanation letter and the incident has been resolved; 4) at the same
electoral precinct the registrar has mistakenly put the signature in the voters’ list next to the name of Rima Asaturian who has not showed up at the polling station. The incident has been challenged by the observer of “Multinational Georgia”. The registrar wrote an explanation letter. The incident has been resolved.

**Activity 16**: Conduction of the monitoring over the second round of elections in the cities of Tbilisi, Mtskheta, Gori and Telavi to elect the Mayor, also in Akhmeta, Kvareli and Telavi Electoral District to elect Gamgebelis on 12 July, 2014

**Topics/activities covered**: Elections monitoring mission has been carried out by the PMMG observers who have been specially trained for and participated in the 15 June, 2014 Municipal Elections.

*Kindly find the list of STO observers and DLCs attached to the report.*

The second round elections monitoring program has been carried out according to the following scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>DEC/CEC</th>
<th>Mobile groups</th>
<th>PECs</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kvemo Kartli</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rustavi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kakheti</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telavi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kvareli</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akhmeta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shida Kartli</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gori</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td><strong>Mtskheta-Mtianeti</strong></td>
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<td>Mtskheta</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tbilisi</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prior to the conduction of elections monitoring program PMMG delivered specially designed one day orientation – educational capacity building program for the re-attracted observers in order to assign new tasks as well as deliberate over the specificities of the observation program.

The capacity building program has been realized in the period from 7 to 10 July in Tbilisi, Bakuriani, Telavi and Gori for the selected observers assigned into 8 study groups. The program was delivered by the PMMG trainers.

For the purpose of monitoring of the second round of elections, PMMG has modified the previously developed data base to incorporate the new electoral precincts and the related data into the base. Moreover, Call Center Operators (6 people), lawyer, PR specialist as well as
election expert have been re-attract to assume the respective duties on the Election Day. In addition, additional scheme of observers’ deployment and transportation has been developed and executed.

As underlined above the monitoring mission has been executed by 154 observers out of which 116 were Static Observers, 9 District Election Commission (DEC) observers, 28 Mobile Group (MG) Observers and 1 Central Election Commission (CEC) observers.

On 12 July “Multinational Georgia” was disseminating information through the media (4 press briefings organized at the Media Center on the Election Day and the one organized on the next day to present the preliminary assessment of the Election Day.) regarding the electoral violations and shortcomings as identified by the observes of the organization during the opening and setting up of the electoral precinct, vote casting and closing of the polling station as well as vote counting.

6 Call Center Operators were engaged in the Call Center set up at the head office of the “Multinational Georgia” to enter and process the findings as obtained from the program deployed observers into the elections data base. The Call Center was specially organized to register electoral shortcomings on regular bases which could endanger the conduction of the elections in a democratic manner.

Every citizen could independently report the electoral shortcomings or any elections related incidents to the Hot Line of the “Multinational Georgia” which was functional throughout the Election Day to allow the processing as well as delivery of the respective measures to mitigate the violation of the electoral law.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity:** This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program

**Results of this activity:** During the second round of elections of the Mayors / Gamgebelis, observers of the “Multinational Georgia” have filed 11 complaints to the precinct election commissions out of which 9 have been satisfied. The rest of the complaints (2) have been brought before the district election commission (one complaint is already satisfied). In addition, upon the completion of the elections “Multinational Georgia” have filed 3 complaints to the respective district election commissions: 1 to Krtsanisi DEC (satisfied), 1 to Kvareli DEC (under consideration) and 1 to Telavi DEC (under consideration). It has to be noted that the ground for the submission of complaints to the DEC has been inappropriate documentation (filling) of the summary protocol which is the reason for the annulment of the polling results. Moreover, on the Election Day observers of the “Multinational Georgia” have reported 81 incidents.

Given facts and available evidence it can be concluded that the second round of the Municipal Elections held on 12 July and observed by the “Multinational Georgia” in Kvemo Kartli (Rustavi city), Kakheti (Telavi, Kvareli and Akhmeta cities as well as Karajala community of Telavi municipality), Shida Kartli (Gori city), Mtskheta-Mtianeti (Mtskheta city) regions as well as in three electoral districts of Tbilisi (Krtsanisi, Isani and Samgori) with the high density of ethnic minority voters have been conducted with some electoral shortcomings which would not affect the final outcome of the polling.

Most of the observers of the “Multinational Georgia” have been allowed to carry out the observation over the conduction of the voting. The vote casting process itself has been carried out in a culm environment. However, observers of the “Multinational Georgia” have identified several electoral shortcomings largely caused by the insufficient understanding of the election law on the part of some precinct election commission members.

Kindly find the Preliminary assessment of the results of the second round of elections of Mayors and Gamgebelis attached to the report.
**Activity 17**: Conduction of the post-election internal organizational retreat in Kobuleti, Georgia for 2 days on 17-18 July, 2014

**Topics/activities covered**: The meeting was attended by PMMG central office staff engaged into elections monitoring program, other project attracted professionals (elections expert, PR manager, etc.), as well as district logistics coordinators.

The 2-days retreat aimed to measure the performance of the organization during the elections, as well as identify strong and weak sides of the program for better future planning and implementation.

*Kindly find agenda of the retreat enclosed to the report.*

**Reason for modification for the planned activity**: This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program

**Results of this activity**: Based on the discussions, the following conclusions were done:

For the 2014 Municipal Elections PMMG has managed to substantially improve the performance of the monitoring program as compared with the previous years, largely due to the proper perception and understanding of those problems, needs, constraints as well as challenges the monitoring programs had encountered during 2012 Presidential and 2013 Parliamentary elections.

PMMG has successfully measured its performance and identified strong and weak sides of 2014 Elections Monitoring Program. First of all PMMG has studied the problems, challenges and shortcomings identified in a process of attraction of observers and therefore perfected the process of observers’ recruitment. Moreover, the multi phases testing process as a newly adopted approach, including careful revision of the application forms during the recruitment process, testing upon the completion of the training program, phone testing and simulation of the Election Day has greatly assisted the project to identify and deploy the most successful candidates as observers.

In 2013, when analysing the performance of the past years monitoring programs, the project team has come up to the conclusion to redefine the concept of the reporting forms as well as manual of observers and develop them in a way fully complying with the monitoring objectives as well as the needs and constraints of observers. Therefore, in 2014 the project has developed newer versions of the observers’ forms and the manual which turned out to be more applicable, comprehensive and relevant. Such materials included: reporting forms for static observers; Incident forms for static observers; Manual for static observers; incident forms for mobile team observers; “What to do” guidance for mobile team observers; reporting forms for District Election Commission observers; Manual for District Election Commission observers; Manual for District Logistics Coordinators; incident reporting form of District Logistics Coordinators.

Particular attention has been devoted to the quality of capacity building programs which have been developed and conducted in a way to allow the maximum coverage of all the issues which turned out important as well as problematic as a result of analysing of past years’ results (more attention has been paid to the development of observers legal skills – development and filing of complaints, deepening the observers’ understating of electoral violations and the concrete methods how to better react to electoral incidents etc.). To this end the project has delivered separate training sessions for short term, mobile group and district election commission observers as well as district logistics coordinators. Training program for each target group has been developed in a unique way to cover all the respective electoral issues necessary for observers to meet the highest demand and expectations.
The project has perfected the internal and external communications system which has allowed to a) establish and carry out in depth and highly effective communications with the observes to obtain impartial and proved findings and b) form and execute wider audience outreach external communications channels to timely disseminate electoral findings in Georgian and English languages through the organization of media briefings at Media Center as well as proliferation of information through the mailing list and social media.

The project has managed to develop very pragmatic, comprehensive and highly applicable observation strategy and plan which has allowed removing any shortcomings as well as successfully coping with time pressure while dealing with such issues as: recruitment of project staff members, development of observers’ deployment and transportation schemes, solving administrative issues, technically supporting the program etc.

**Activity 18**: Presentation of the Final Elections Report in Tbilisi, Akhalkalaki, Ninotsminda, Marneuli and Gardabani from the period from 3 to 10 of November, 2014

**Topics/activities covered**: Presentation of the report was held on 13th of November in Tbilisi, as well as in the period from 3rd to 10th of November, 2014 in 4 project targeted municipalities, namely in Akhalkalaki and Ninotsminda (Samtskhe-Javakheti region), Marneuli and Gardabani (Kvemo Kartli region). Presentations were attended by relevant stakeholders, particularly governmental representatives (including local self-government bodies), CEC, political parties, field related international and non-governmental organizations, diplomatic missions, etc.

**Reason for modification for the planned activity**: This activity was not envisaged by the EUD supported Action and was delivered with support of other donors of PMMGs Elections Observation complex monitoring program

**Results of this activity**: Findings of PMMG Elections Observation Mission and recommendations to respective stakeholders were presented to wide public.

### 2.3. Activities that have not taken place

N/A

### 2.4. What is your assessment of the results of the Action? Include observations on the performance and the achievement of outputs, outcomes, impact and risks in relation to specific and overall objectives, and whether the Action has had any unforeseen positive or negative results. (Please quantify where possible; refer to Logframe Indicators).

It can be noted that the Action has achieved all initially envisaged quantitative as well as qualitative results. In particular, the overall program was constructed in a way to ensure the realization of the following tasks:

a) Conduction of 1, 3 days long capacity building training program for Long-Term Observers (LTOs) outreaching 12 people  
b) Deployment of 12 LTOs and conduction of long-term monitoring mission in the regions  
c) Development of Short-Term Observer’s Pocket Book  
d) Recruitment of observers in project target regions  
e) Conduction of 1, 4 days capacity building training program for trainers (ToT) outreaching 17 people  
f) Conduction of 31, 2 days long capacity building training sessions for static (PS) observers outreaching 553 people  
g) Conduction of 3, one day long capacity building training sessions for mobile group observers outreaching 64 people
h) Conduction of 1, one day long training session for DEC and CEC observers outreaching 21 people
i) Conduction of 1, one day long training session for Call Center Operators (CCOs) outreaching 15 people
j) Conduction of 1, one day capacity building training session for District Logistics Coordinators (DLCs) outreaching 18 people
k) Development of Internal and External communications plans
l) Development of the web-enabled data base
m) Verbal testing and simulation of the Election Day
n) Conduction of Election Day Observation Mission in Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti, Shida Kartli and Mtshketa-Mtianeti regions by the project deployed 437 observers according to the following scheme: 2 CEC observers, 19 DEC observers; 64 mobile group observers and 352 PS observers
o) Conduction of post-election monitoring: 1) carrying out monitoring of post-election activities at DECs in the project targeted regions and CEC; conduction of observation of complaints adjudication process; 2) Submission of complaints and appeals to DEC in the project targeted regions, CEC and courts as needed;
p) Conduction of the monitoring over the repeated elections in Akhalkalaki and Marneuli
q) Conduction of the monitoring over the second round of elections in the cities of Tbilisi, Mtshketa, Gori and Telavi to elect the Mayor, also in Akhma, Kvareli and Telavi Electoral District to elect Gamebelis
r) Conduction of 1, 2 days post-election internal organizational retreat
s) Development, publication, presentation and dissemination of the Final Elections Report reflecting obtained findings and stakeholder specific recommendations.

The Action has also attained positive impact, enhancing the conduction of elections in more fair and transparent manner. This is proved by a fact that comparing to the previous years, during 2014 Local Elections PMMG observers have revealed less incidents and therefore have filed less number of complaints. This gives us a ground to conclude that PMMG’s elections monitoring program has played significant preventive role in the reduction of potential electoral fraud, and hence safeguarding the votes as well as political choice of ethnic minority constituencies in project targeted areas.

Organization’s performance on 2014 Local Elections can be also assessed positively. However, internal organizational retreat which was conducted upon completion of the project’s active phase, has revealed certain shortcomings which will be taken into account and improved in future. Detailed information about lessons learnt can be found below.

2.5. What has been the outcome on both the final beneficiaries &/or target group (if different) and the situation in the target country or target region which the Action addressed?

The befit of the Action has been positive for the final beneficiaries as far as the monitoring mission has prevented the manifestation of the electoral fraud and thus secured casted votes and political choice made by ethnic minority constituencies who have been traditionally subjected to electoral fraud and manipulation.

Project trained observers (target groups) gained perfect electoral knowledge as well as practical skills enabling the delivery of high performance observation mission. These observers will be further attracted by PMMG and engaged into the conduction of similar type of observation programs for any upcoming elections.

As to the target regions, in long-term run the project will assist in seizing the window of opportunities leaving the space for further democratization of the entire electoral environment.
2.6. Please list all materials (and no. of copies) produced during the Action on whatever format (please enclose a copy of each item, except if you have already done so in the past).

**Material 1:** Short-Term Observer’s Pocket Book

**No. of copies:** Azerbaijani (100 copies), Armenian (100 copies), Russian (200) and Georgian (300 copies) languages

**Target audience and way of distribution:** The “Pocket Book” was distributed among the project attracted observers. Publication is available upon request.

**Material 2:** Final Elections Report

**No. of copies:** Azerbaijani (100 copies), Armenian (100 copies), Russian (200) and Georgian (300 copies) languages

**Target audience and way of distribution:** Publication (both hard copy and electronic version) was distributed among all interested parties and is available upon request.

**Material 3:** Materials kit (STOs’ manual, reporting and incident forms, as well as on respective forms and orientation guidelines for Mobile Group Observers, District Election Commission Observers and District Logistics Coordinators) was developed for the conduction of capacity building training program for observers

**No. of copies:** N/A

**Target audience and way of distribution:** The kit was forwarded to every single participant of the capacity building program on the first day of the training session. Materials are available in Georgian, Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani languages upon request.

2.7. Please list all contracts (works, supplies, services) above 10.000€ awarded for the implementation of the action since the last interim report if any or during the reporting period, giving for each contract the amount, the award procedure followed and the name of the contractor.

N/A

2.8. Describe if the Action will continue after the support from the European Union has ended. Are there any follow up activities envisaged? What will ensure the sustainability of the Action?

For the purpose of replication and extension of the action outcome, PMMG will follow up and advocate for the introducing respective policy changes and initiation of new programs to enhance the quality as well as scope of intervention aiming at the improvement of the electoral environment. PMMG team will carry out advocacy meetings with the respective parties thought to be responsible for the realization and practical implementation of the specific policy recommendations as developed by the project for different stakeholders including CEC, central and local authorities, political parties, media, etc.

For the moment, the part of PMMG recommendations stipulating the necessity for the improvement of electoral knowledge as well as skills for ethnic minority members of the election administration has been shared by the CEC and is already reflected in its 5 year strategic plan. According to the CEC strategic document the respective capacity building programs will be realized for ethnic minority
members in order to improve their electoral performance. However, PMMG considers important to carry out respective civic monitoring program over the CEC organized capacity building activities in order to make sure that the educational program meets the stated goal and objectives as well as are tailored to the actual needs and constraints of the program participants.

In addition, it has to be noted that the respective activities are already being carried out by the direct engagement of the political parties, CSOs and the CEC in order to seek the ways for the adoption of the most desirable electoral system. PMMG expresses its will to widely engage in this process and promote the “Vote Casting Preferential System” which has been reflected in its recommendations. To this end PMMG plans the conduction of active advocacy campaign with the representatives of all interested parties.

Finally, despite the fact that CEC has shared PMMG recommendation regarding the delivery of long term voters educational programs, it has to be noted that this program will only outreach the limited constituencies of the target groups such as people with disabilities and women while ethnic minority voters are excluded from the program for the moment. Therefore, PMMG will carry out active consultations with the CEC to include ethnic minority voters into the CEC planned voters’ educational measures.

2.9. Explain how the Action has mainstreamed cross-cutting issues such as promotion of human rights, gender equality, democracy, good governance, children’s rights and indigenous peoples, environmental sustainability and combating HIV/AIDS (if there is a strong prevalence in the target country/region).

The right to elect and be elected is one of the fundamental human rights. PMMG considers that monitoring over the implementation of this right is extremely important.

2.10. How and by whom have the activities been monitored/evaluated? Please summarise the results of the feedback received, including from the beneficiaries.

“Performance Management Group” (PMG) has been formed for proper, timely and effective realization and monitoring of the activity envisaged by the project. To this end, weekly timeline has been developed (kindly find the document attached to the report). The timeline was communicated to the project staff to ensure the realization of the document in duly manner. PMG was composed by the representatives of the project managing team and District Logistics Coordinators.

In addition, PMMG has preliminary informed its partner organizations (ISFED, GYLA, etc.), as well as diplomatic missions conducting monitoring over the elections, about the scope of its monitoring program and observers’ deployment scheme. Therefore, in line with direct communication with PMMG observers on the elections day, related stakeholders had possibility to monitor the performance of PMMG observers in the respective precincts and DECs. Later, PMMG has received positive feedback from a number of international observers and diplomatic corps regarding the performance of organization’s observers during the 2014 Local Elections.

2.11. What has your organisation/partner learned from the Action and how has this learning been utilised and disseminated?

It has to be underlined that for 2014 elections the quality of performance of PMMG observers was way too high as compared with the previous elections. However, more needs to be done in order to improve their performance particularly in legal area.

Lesson learnt:

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2 Including those of people with disabilities. For more information, see “Guidance note on disability and development” at [http://ec.europa.eu/development/body/publications/docs/Disability_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/development/body/publications/docs/Disability_en.pdf)
5 To refer to EC Guidelines on gender equality, disabilities…
• Inadequate number of lawyers and the need for the attraction of more legal specialists;
• Designing of the program in a way to divide its functional mandate into two parts: a) incidents should be fixed and treated directly by the lawyers, and b) the monitoring forms should be processed by the call center operators;
• It is highly recommended to cover all 100% of electoral precincts of the respective observable electoral district;
• It is highly recommended that organization conducts the pre-election monitoring and to this end develops the respective knowledge and skills of long term monitors as well as secures their long term deployment to the respective electoral districts;
• It is highly recommended that the organization perfects its post-election monitoring strategy as well as attracts the needed number of post-election monitors;
• It is highly recommended that the organization develops its long term election monitoring external communication strategy and ensures the professional advancement of the respective personnel;
• It is highly recommended that the organization develops new, user friendly and high profile website to meet the mounting needs of the elections observation program.
• It is important to maintain at least one permanent lawyer on the Election Day in each electoral district. Moreover, on the Election Day PMMG has to increase the number of lawyers at its central office who would deliver needed legal advice to the program deployed observers.

3. Partners and other Co-operation

3.1. How do you assess the relationship between the formal partners of this Action (i.e. those partners which have signed a partnership statement)? Please provide specific information for each partner organisation.

In general, cooperation with project partner can be assessed positively. Within the framework of existing internal restrictions related to preparatory period, both organizations were maximally coordinating its work with each other and exchanging information about the deployment of observers. Cooperation between two organizations included but was not limited to: considering and filling the gaps in coverage of the precincts in target areas; interaction and mutual support between mobile groups as well as between PS observers where both organizations were represented on the Elections Day, etc. In a number of issues PMMG has considered ISFED’s experience that was extremely useful in a course of preparation and realization of the monitoring program.

3.2. Is the partnership to continue? If so, how? If not, why?

Yes, as this partnership is effective, complementary and mutually beneficial due to presence of the following factors:

a) ISFED has significant experience in monitoring of elections that is useful for PMMG;

b) PMMG is targeting those municipalities where ISFED is less active, and therefore we have more expertise in this field that is useful for ISFED.

3.3. How would you assess the relationship between your organisation and State authorities in the Action countries? How has this relationship affected the Action?

On a central level, PMMG was represented in the Inter-Faction Group established in 2013 to review and upgrade election legislation, as well as in the Technical Working Group functioning under auspices of CEC.

At the same time it should be noted that on municipal level, not all DECs were constructive towards PMMG. However in general, there were a few cases hampering PMMG’s performance on the Elections Day. As opposed to previous years, due to mostly constructive approach towards PMMG’s opinion, majority of organization’s complaints were satisfied.
3.4. Where applicable, describe your relationship with any other organisations involved in implementing the Action:

- Associate(s) (if any): N/A
- Sub-contractor(s) (if any): N/A
- Final Beneficiaries and Target groups

Final beneficiaries: We had constructive relationship with local population in the target areas, as far as they believed that PMMG’s opinion would enhance positive changes for the conduction of more fair and transparent elections, and thus will protect their votes and political choice. These expectations were met as far as PMMG has managed to obtain and provide reliable and impartial information regarding the proceedings of the elections, as well as react on the identified cases of electoral violations and thus assist the restoration of justice.

Target groups: Relationship with target groups can be described as target and result oriented one.

- Other third parties involved (including other donors, other government agencies or local government units, NGOs, etc)

In the course of project implementation, PMMG has established relationships, as well as strengthened cooperation with diverse stakeholders in Tbilisi and project target regions, namely:

Foreign diplomatic missions and international organizations, including donors of the project: Relationship was positive and effective as far as they have maximally assisted PMMG in a course of project realization. On our side, we were regularly updating interested parties about the elections proceedings through timely dissemination of the electoral findings and project produced reports.

Governmental agencies: In general, relationship can be described as constructive. As was already mentioned above, on a central level, PMMG was represented in the Inter-Fraction Group established in 2013 to review and upgrade election legislation, as well as in the Technical Working Group functioning under auspices of CEC. At the same time on a municipal level, not all DECs were constructive towards PMMG. In general, there were a few cases hampering PMMG’s performance on the Elections Day.

Other NGOs: We were regularly exchanging information and updates about electoral findings and interacted whenever necessary.

3.5. Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions.

Given Action was a part of PMMG’s Elections Monitoring complex program supported by several donors: European Commission, National Endowment for Democracy, Embassy of the Netherlands in Tbilisi and Open Society Georgia Foundation.

3.6. If your organisation has received previous EU grants in view of strengthening the same target group, in how far has this Action been able to build upon/complement the previous one(s)? (List all previous relevant EU grants).

In 2008 PMMG has implemented the project “Joint elections observation program in the areas of minorities compact settlement for the Presidential and Parliamentary Elections” co-funded by the EU. It was one of the first monitoring missions conducted by PMMG, and was smaller in comparison to the current one. Given grant helped to realize, strengthen and improve our previous experience of elections monitoring.

3.7. How do you evaluate co-operation with the services of the Contracting Authority?
Cooperation with the EUD was absolutely positive and effective, and did not create any discomfort in a course of project implementation. Constructiveness of approaches practiced by representatives of the EUD significantly contributed to the enhancing efficiency of PMMG’s monitoring mission. It should also be mentioned that representatives of the EUD promptly reacted on our requests/questions and provided support whenever necessary.

4. Visibility

How is the visibility of the EU contribution being ensured in the Action?

The project team has applied diverse measures to ensure the visibility of the action as well as EU support. In particular:

a) special informational-outreach meetings were held in the project targeted regions as well as with the wide spectra of audience for observers’ recruitment purposes that created significant space to widely communicate project cause with the respective parties as well as promote visibility of EU funding;

b) EU support was verbally underlined during all capacity building training programs organized in the framework of the project; also EU flag has been always placed in the premises where the events were held.

c) press-conferences and presentational meetings were accompanied by special verbal message underlining support of EU and other donors to the program;

d) all above mentioned events were visually supported by the project produced special banner depicting the name of the project, implementing and donor organizations as well as providing their logos;

e) all printed materials, including press-releases, informational updates and public reports produced and disseminated within the scope of the project encompassed the disclaimer of EU with the respective logos.

The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of Actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on the EuropeAid website? If so, please state your objections here.

N/A

Name of the contact person for the Action: Arnold Stepanian

Signature: Location: Tbilisi, Georgia

Date report due: 15 January 2015 Date report sent: 19 February 2015