



Official opening event, Riga, Latvia

# Strengthening the capacities of the Georgian Border Police for Green and Sea Border Surveillance

The project 'Strengthening the Capacities of the Georgian Border Police (GBP) for Green and Sea Border Surveillance' was implemented by the State Border Guard of Latvia with the aim of enhancing the capabilities of their Georgian counterparts. Support was provided through advisory and study visits, as well as technical training for eight Georgian pilots and engineers on the operation and maintenance of an Agusta Bell helicopter. In addition, participants received further training in Integrated Border Management, Human Rights, First Aid, and Civil Aviation regulations, enabling them to acquire new skills and knowledge in these areas.

# Acquisition of new technical skills



Training of GBP staff, Riga, Latvia

A technical advisory visit by the Latvian State Border Guard to Georgia resulted in the preparation of a gap and needs analysis. This, together with a study visit to Latvia, helped the Georgians better understand how the Latvian's maintenance programme for the Agusta Bell helicopter could be adapted to its own operational context. Subsequently, eight pilots and engineers received technical and practical training. All participants successfully completed the training, received official certification, and confirmed that the training activities were highly relevant, particularly in addressing operational gaps related to the new helicopter type.

*"The training was very helpful. Although I already had extensive experience with other types of aircraft, each model has its own unique technical [features], and I needed to become familiar with this one."* – Georgian project participant.

# Increasing knowledge in other relevant fields

Georgian Border Police pilots received new knowledge and increased their skills through dedicated training sessions on Integrated Border Management, Human Rights, First Aid, and Civil Aviation regulations. The training introduced useful practical aspects and theoretical insights that participants are now ready to use in their daily jobs.



# Knowledge sharing by peer exchange

The training not only fulfilled its instructional role but also facilitated an exchange of experience between the Georgian and Latvian pilots. The State Border Guard of Latvia highlighted that the Georgian pilots shared valuable expertise, especially for flying at high altitudes in mountainous terrain, conditions unfamiliar to Latvian pilots, given the mostly flat landscape they are used to. This exchange provided the Latvian colleagues with important insights into operating in different environments.

*"Given Georgia's mountainous terrain, something they do not have in Latvia, where the highest point is just under 300 meters, this was a valuable opportunity for knowledge sharing"*

- Georgian project participant





Training of GBP staff, Riga, Latvia

# Project participants gained new capabilities

Through tailored training activities, the project 'Strengthening the Capacities of the Georgian Border Police (GBP) for Green and Sea Border Surveillance' has equipped participants with new skills and knowledge that have contributed to enhancing the overall GBP capacities for border control. The training provided on Integrated Border Management has the potential to support the adoption of EU best practices in the future.

## About the MPF

This project is part of the EU-funded Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), managed by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) to support the external dimension of the EU's migration policy. MPF funds projects that promote dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between EU Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

## About the project

The project 'Strengthening of the Georgian Border Police (GBP) Capacities for Green and Sea Border Surveillance' ran between April 2022 and December 2024. The project was implemented by the State Border Guard (SBG) of Latvia.

## About the evaluation

Testimonies used in this document were collected as part of the final evaluation of the project 'Strengthening of the Georgian Border Police (GBP) capacities for green and sea border surveillance' completed between February 2025 and June 2025. The evaluation was led by Blomeyer & Sanz, leader of a consortium of six consultancies and NGOs, namely Blomeyer & Sanz, Diversity Development Group, Migration Policy Group, Policy Impact Lab, Samuel Hall and Tandans.



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State Border Guard  
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