

BORDER MANAGEMENT

Strengthening of the Georgian Border Police (GBP) capacities for green and sea border surveillance

✓ Project completed

About the Project

The project aimed to strengthen the capacities of the Georgian Border Police (GBP) in green and sea border surveillance. The knowledge and skills of the GBP Aviation Unit were enhanced through a series of trainings focused on migration-related challenges. Additionally, a helicopter demonstration enhanced understanding of capabilities and potential benefits for aerial border surveillance. Lastly, the project also contributed to creating the necessary preconditions for closer alignment with the European Union's acquis in the area of Integrated Border Management, while also supporting improved platforms for joint cross-border cooperation and information exchange.



Partners

This MPF project was implemented by the State Border Guard of the Republic of Latvia (SBGL) in cooperation with the Georgian Border Police (GBP).



Countries

Latvia, Georgia



Time frame

April 2022 – December 2024 (33 months)



Budget

EUR 137,735.74 (90.10% from ISF Borders and Visa)

Activities



Needs analysis and revision of operating procedures

Aviation engineers from the Latvian State Border Guard Aviation Board (SBGL) visited Georgia to assess the helicopter maintenance organisation and prepare a “Gaps and Needs Analysis” with corresponding recommendations. This assessment was complemented by a study visit of Georgian Border Police (GBP) representatives to Latvia, which provided practical insights into SBGL’s structure, organisation, and internal aviation and maintenance procedures. As a result, the Georgian Border Police had the opportunity to review—and, where necessary, revise—their Standard Operating Procedures, internal regulations, and mechanisms to better align with European standards and Integrated Border Management (IBM) guidelines.



Project launch event (Riga, Latvia, 18 May 2022)



Capacity Building

GBP pilots and engineers received both theoretical and practical training on the operation and maintenance of a new type of helicopter. In addition, project participants were trained in Integrated Border Management, human rights, civil aviation regulations, and first aid. The training was delivered in the form of a Training of Trainers (ToT) programme, thereby fostering a multiplier effect and contributing to the sustainability of the project’s results.



Equipment

The project foresaw the donation of one SBGL helicopter to Georgia, along with spare parts and tools to support the helicopter's operation and maintenance in the short to medium term. However, this component could not be fully implemented.



Training of GBP pilots on the new type of helicopter (Ludza, Latvia, 14-25 October 2024)

Implemented by



The Migration Partnership Facility



This project was awarded and contracted in the framework of the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), an EU-funded initiative implemented by ICMPD to support the external dimension of the EU migration policy. Through its grants, the MPF facilitates the execution of projects to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

Funded by the European Union



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