

*National Assessment & Examinations Center.
Ministry of Education, Science, Culture And Sport of Georgia.*



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



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Sophia Gorgodze, Director of the National Assessment and Examinations Center.

Photo Credit: Giorgi Ebanoidze

I am honored to present the 2020 annual report of the National Assessment and Examinations Center ([NAEC](https://naec.ge)). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this year we had to work under completely different circumstances than normal. On the one hand, the Center was supposed to assess the knowledge and skills of about 70,000 examinees and on the other hand we had to make sure that we could protect the health and well-being of the examinees and our staff.

The Center modified the procedures for conducting and organizing the exams accordingly. As a result of our dedication and hard work, together with the relevant organizations, we achieved our aims and the largest assembly in summer 2020 did not contribute to the spread of the infection. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our partner organizations and the staff who made it possible.



In 2020, the university entry admissions model was slightly different compared to 2019. This change (which, in most cases meant fewer mandatory exams) turned out to be especially beneficial as the majority of applicants had to attend an exam three times instead of four and examinees applying for arts and sports programs only had to attend twice.

Also, mathematics became compulsory for applying to certain programs and there was no longer a chance to enroll in a program by passing less relevant subjects for technical fields (for example: passing literature, art, or geography in order to enroll in engineering or business administration program). Biology became the third compulsory subject for healthcare applicants; however, they still have to select chemistry, physics, or mathematics as the fourth subject.

The new model also meant moving the mandatory General Ability Test (GAT) to the list of optional subjects, which encouraged talented arts and sports applicants, some of whom could not enter university because of low scores in the GAT, despite having an outstanding sports and arts profile and a high score in the university-organized field-relevant examinations.

Changing the exam format increased the number of applicants who enrolled in universities taking either mathematics or history tests (together with the mandatory Georgian and foreign language test). Also, more examinees took chemistry as an optional exam compared to the previous year. It is worth mentioning that if an applicant passed four subjects in 2020, their chance of securing state funding for tuition doubled. In 2020, the most state funding went to the applicants who passed the mathematics exam.

Besides the Unified National Examinations, the NAEC is engaged in various significant activities that will be highlighted in this report. Each of these activities is crucial for the development of the educational system. Educational research is especially noteworthy, as better policy can be implemented based on the results of these studies.

If we summarize the results of our year's activity, we can say that we had a challenging but successful year. We realize that the assessment and examinations system need further development in order to address existing challenges in the fields of teaching, learning, and assessment. We are open for partnership and cooperation with interested parties who can work with us to ensure a more valid, relevant, and dependable assessment system.



Who Are We?

Information about the Center

The National Assessment and Examinations Center was established in 2002. In 2005, the very first Unified National Examinations were conducted that played a crucial role in the development of the higher educational system. Currently the Center conducts Unified National Examinations, Unified Masters Exams, the Student Grant Competition, Teacher Competency Testing and Examination for Candidate Teachers, the National School Olympiad, Vocational Testing, examinations for those who want to continue studying in Georgia and also facilitates and administrates International Exams (Cambridge Exams, TOEFL, ACCA).

Research represents one of the core aims of the Center. The NAEC takes part in international educational research (PISA, PIRLS, TIMMS, and TALIS) and also conducts the state assessment, which refers to the teaching and learning process and student achievement at schools. The Center shares the results with the general public, interested parties, and the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports to encourage the implementation of better educational policy.

Unified National Examinations

The Unified National Examinations model was created by the National Assessment and Examinations Center in our country. Since 2005, passing the mentioned exams is a mandatory precondition in order to enroll in any of the accredited higher education institutions in Georgia. Exams are selective and the whole process is standardized, which means that every procedure (administering an exam, marking, appellation) is in accordance with established standards and



applicants are in equal conditions. Therefore, the National Assessment and Examinations Center has played an important role in eradicating corruption.

The Unified National Examinations are centralized. Each year Exam Centers are opened in the following cities: Batumi, Poti, Zugdidi, Ozurgeti, Kutaisi, Akhaltsikhe, Gori, Tbilisi, Rustavi, Telavi and Khulo.

Applicants have the opportunity to gain full or partial state funding. Also, they can list as many higher education institutions as they want and change the following list even after learning the final results.

The exam system is updated year after year: ([More Information](#))

Exams and the Pandemic

How did we prepare for the 2020 exams?

As a result of new COVID-19 infections, there was doubt as to whether or not exams could be held. A working group was formed that included the following entities: the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons From the Occupied Territories, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, the National Center for Disease Control and Public Health, the Ministry of Justice (the Resocialization and Rehabilitation Department of the Penitentiary Service), JSC Telasi, JSC Energo Pro Georgia, and JSC Magticom Ltd.





In accordance with public health measures, recommendations related to the novel coronavirus were adopted in order to ensure the safety of examinees and avoid the spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Safety Protocol during Examinations 2020

The selection and training of up to 3000 employees within a specific timeframe during the pandemic was quite a difficult task to fulfill. Online training was organized for exam center administrators, coordinators, invigilators and curators. Medical staff were also selected and prepared. Since the registration period for the 2020 exams coincided with the state of emergency, the call for applicants, as well as the submission of medical records for examinees with special needs, was prolonged.





The number of registered applicants for the 2020 exams (the Unified National Examinations, Student Grant Competition, Teacher Competency Exam, and Exam for Candidate Teachers) was 70,000.

#IDidn'tHaveStressfulExams

"In fact, the days I was scared of the most turned into the most memorable period of time.

I'd like to thank the National Assessment and Examinations Center for creating the pleasant and comfortable environment during exams." ANA, Applicant

In order to keep applicants safe, the number of sessions increased from 24 days to 30 days. Open door days switched to an online format. The applicants were given the option to ask questions via the Facebook page of the NAEC every Wednesday from 13:00 to 16:00. The NAEC's hotline was available 24/7. The Center also got involved in TV School's "Tips and Tricks from the Most Successful Entrants" and other useful, informative videos were created for the applicants in 2020.



Special posters were placed regarding Covid-19 in every exam center. The exam centers were provided with face masks and other necessary sanitizing equipment.

Pre-examination Days

On the 28th of June, Georgian Post distributed computers and other necessary equipment in exam centers in Batumi, Zugdidi, Poti, Ozurgeti, Kutaisi, Akhaltsikhe, Gori, Tbilisi, Rustavi, Telavi and Khulo.



The preparation process went simultaneously in 24 exam centers. The centers were adapted for 200 applicants with special needs. The Center provided 8 applicants with braille transcriptions. The centers prepared exam spaces for 26 applicants (24 university entrants and 2 post graduates).

The safety measures during the 2020 examinations included:

Up to 10 examinees were allowed in each exam sector. Each desk was equipped with a special barrier; the desks were spaced 2 meters apart. The Center provided each examinee with a face mask (however, examinees could also bring their own face masks). The Center arranged spaces for quarantine as well. Free PCR tests were available for applicants in quarantine spaces.

Representatives of the media were invited to Public School No.103 for an Open-Door Day. The Director of the Center, Sophia Gorgodze, spoke about medical recommendations as well as exam procedures.



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The Exam Process

The Unified National Examinations for 2020 started on the 6th of July. The procedures were as follows. The disinfection of each exam center started at 5:30 am. The exam center Coordinator and Administrator, together with ICT Specialists, printed out the lists of applicants. Registrations and Invigilators were present a bit later. The registration started at 8:00. The police started patrolling from the mentioned time around the exam center as well as inside the building. Emergency and Fire Brigades were mobilized outside exam centers.



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The applicants had to go through the dezo barrier, thermal screening and hand sanitizing procedure. Examinees left their personal belongings at a specially arranged place, everything was

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wrapped carefully. The applicants were distributed to exam sectors according to their exam ID. The exam started after the applicant logged in successfully with the help of an invigilator, who gave an examinee the special code.



Covid-19 Infected Examinee

A family member of one of the examinees was diagnosed with Covid-19 the day after an examination, therefore the applicant also got tested and Covid-19 was confirmed. 9 applicants from the sector of the mentioned examinee were tested and all of them were placed in quarantine exam spaces. All of them were able to take the exams. The infected examinee had to take an exam at the hospital.



The Center equipped 3 rooms with laptops at the hospital. The exam booklet was kept in one of the laptops, the second one was used for listening tasks, and the third laptop was used to observe and record the exam process. Sealed laptops were opened together with the examinee with 2 specially trained and equipped invigilators. The exam was conducted in accordance with all the procedural regulations of the NAEC.

“The exam conditions gave each examinee the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills. In spite of challenges, the Covid-19 didn’t disturb me from achieving my goal”

Luka Balakhadze, The freshman of Kutaisi International University



What Happens After the Examinations Are Over?

The trucks loaded with answer sheets went to the National Assessment and Examinations Center after each exam where the sealed boxes were placed in quarantine spaces for 2 days. After the packages were opened, the answer sheets were scanned and distributed to markers through a specially designed e-platform. The assessment was made via e-marker which is unable to divide answer sheets and distributed only parts of the paper to the marker. Therefore, no marker has access to any whole answer sheet.



Each answer sheet was assessed by two markers. In the case of incongruent evaluation, the task was transferred to a third marker.



The marking process ran parallel with the exam process. The results were published as soon as the marking process was concluded. This was followed by the appeal procedure.

The relevant decisions were made by the Independent Committee for Appeal, (comprised of staff members from the NAEC)

Equating and scaling came after the appeal procedure. This was followed by checking the documents of the applicants and other necessary paperwork. Finally, the process was concluded by enrollment and grant distribution.

Georgian Language Preparation Program

The National Assessment and Examinations Center provides ethnic minorities with an opportunity to learn the Georgian language free of charge for one academic year at the university they are willing to enroll in. The only precondition for this is to pass the General Abilities Test in their mother language (Armenian or Azeri). After successful completion, the students continue to pursue their bachelor's degree at the same university.

In 2020, 1200 entrants participated in the Georgian Language Preparation Program.

Unified Masters Examination

The National Assessment and Examinations Center has conducted centralized Unified Masters Examinations every year since 2009. Passing this exam is a compulsory precondition to continue studying a Master's program at any accredited university (except theology, fine arts, and sports) within the jurisdiction of Georgia.

Unified Masters Examinations 2020

The following changes were made to the Unified Masters Examinations: one type of test was offered instead of 3 types (A, B, C which were used previously according to the field of study).



However, the structure of the test remained the same. The test consisted of four parts: Reading Comprehension, Analytical Writing, Logical Reasoning, and Quantitative Reasoning.

“I passed the Unified Masters Examinations in 2020. The exam center appeared to be very decent and well equipped in accordance with Covid-19 medical regulations. Social distance was kept at the entrance of the building as well as inside the exam center. I’ll like to thank the National Assessment and Examinations Center for creating a peaceful and safe environment to pass exams during the pandemic.”

Mariam Sulkhaniashvili, Student, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

Post graduate students were involved in the examination process of 2020 from the 1st of August. The exams were conducted over a two day period. The Reading Comprehension and Analytical Writing portions were carried out on the first day and Logical Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning were done on the second day. Health and safety measures were strictly enforced during this period as well.

Important Data

1. 12,600 applicants were successfully registered;
2. More than 85% of applicants were present;
3. More than 700 Masters students were awarded state grants.

Student Grant Competition

The Student Grant Competition has been conducted since 2007 in Georgia. This enables undergraduate students to get additional funding (or initial funding if he/she doesn’t have any). This opportunity is given to all of the students from accredited universities, in any field. If a student’s application for additional funding is declined, they will receive the same amount of grant funding as the previous year.





The funding is distributed according to the applicant's position on a rating list. Each year the NAEC item experts develop tests for this exam.

The Student Grant Competition was conducted on the 25th of July 2020.

Important Data

- 78% of the 3600 registered applicants were present during the exam;
- 123 applicants were awarded with initial grants;
- 139 applicants were awarded additional funding.

Teacher Competency Examination and Exam for Candidate Teachers

The National Assessment and Examinations Center began conducting qualification exams for teachers in 2010. The Center has carried out the Teacher Competency Examination and Exam for Candidate Teachers since 2017.

Applicants that are eligible to take this exam are the following:



- a teacher who is involved in the professional development and career advancement scheme;
- holders of a Bachelor's, Master's or equivalent degree, and also students who are in the last term of their studies or have a military or sports professional education;
- candidate teachers who have a degree in Pedagogy or are in the last term of their studies.

Current teachers are free to register for one subject or professional competency exam as well. Candidate teachers can only take the competency examination.

The Professional Competency Examination in Subject Matters is offered in the following fields:

- Georgian Language and Literature (primary level);
- Mathematics (primary level);
- Natural Sciences (primary level);
- Georgian Language and Literature, Mathematics and Natural Sciences (I – IV grades);
- Georgian Language and Literature (secondary and tertiary levels);
- Georgian as a Second Language (primary, secondary and tertiary levels);
- Mathematics (secondary and tertiary levels);
- Social Sciences (secondary and tertiary levels): History, Geography, Civic Education;
- Natural Sciences (secondary and tertiary levels): Physics, Chemistry, Biology;
- Foreign Languages (primary, secondary and tertiary levels): English, German, French, Russian;
- Aesthetic Upbringing Subjects: Arts, Music, Sports;
- Informational Communication Technologies.

In summer 2020, an exam for candidate teachers was conducted. Medical requirements were strictly adhered to during the exam process. The exams started on the 22nd of July and ended on the 30th of July. Examinations were conducted only during the first half of the day. Out of the 12,000 applicants, 88% attended the exams.





Teachers representing schools from ethnic minorities were given an opportunity to take a test translated into their mother language (Armenian, Azeri or Russian). Markers that had been specially trained by NAEC's experts graded the papers with the help of a group of translators. Due to Covid-19, in accordance with health and safety recommendations, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports decided to conduct the Teacher Competency Examination before the beginning of the 2021-2022 academic year. Exams for special teachers will be conducted in 2021. Important work has been done with regards to the examination for special teachers: pilot tests were conducted and standards were set.

The National School Olympiad

The National Assessment and Examinations Center has been conducting the National School Olympiad since 2009 for pupils at the primary and secondary levels. The first stage is carried out in schools using tests developed by the NAEC's experts.

The goal of the National School Olympiad is to increase motivation amongst the pupils and also to identify the best candidates in order to form a team to represent Georgia at the International Olympiad.



The 2020 National School Olympiad

Due to the medical recommendations regarding Covid-19, the National School Olympiad was not conducted for the 2019-2020 academic year (except in the German Language).

The 2020-2021 National School Olympiad has been adapted to this new reality. This year, for the first time, students took part in the National School Olympiad electronically. The participants had an opportunity to log in at www.naec.ge on the relevant dates between 09:00 to 20:00 and fulfill the tasks online.



More than 30,700 students registered for the 2020-2021 National School Olympiad, which started on the 16th of November and ended on the 20th of November.



Vocational Testing

The National Assessment and Examinations Center developed a new model for Vocational Testing in 2013. The exam assesses the skill sets required for learning various areas of craftsmanship. There are no barrier points set for this exam.

Vocational Testing 2020

More than 12,000 applicants registered for the 2020 Vocational Testing. The registrants had an opportunity to participate in an online pre-test on the 4th of September. 59 exam centers were opened throughout the country and all of them met the Covid-19 prevention requirements. The examinations took place on the 5th and 6th of September. More than 62% of applicants were present.

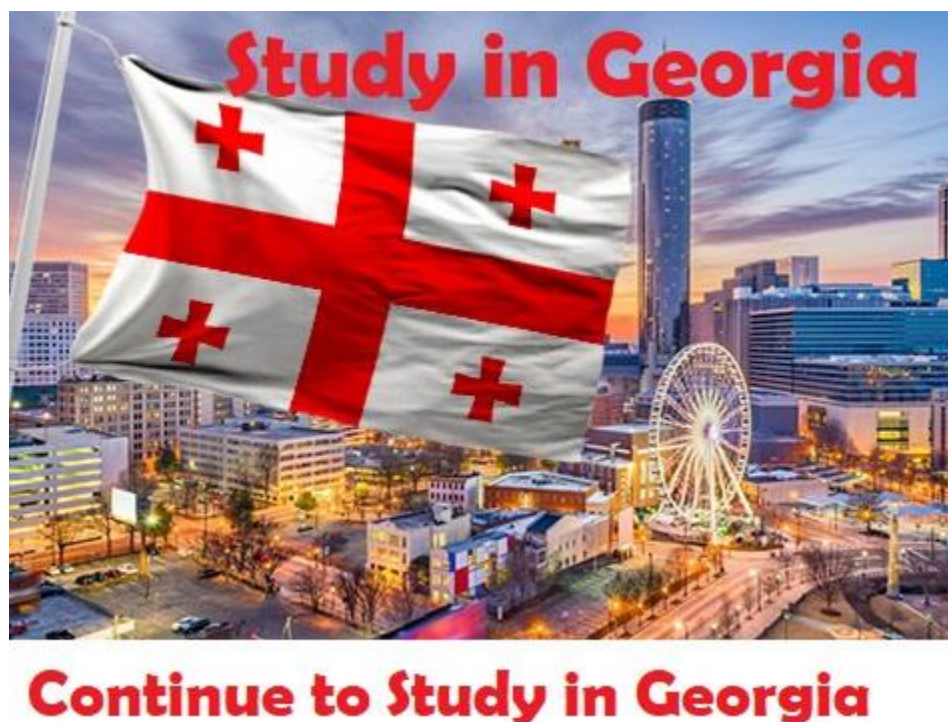
Ranking lists of examinees for each field of study were created instead of the grading documents used in previous years.



Exam Organized for Students Willing to Continue to Study in Georgia

Since 2019, the National Assessment and Examinations Center has been conducting exams for students willing to continue studying in Georgia. Citizens of Georgia who have studied, or are studying, and have received credits or qualifications at a higher education institution that is recognized by law in a foreign country (they must have been abroad for a period of study and for not less than 75 days per semester) are eligible for this exam.

The exam consists of three parts: Reading Comprehension, Logical Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning.

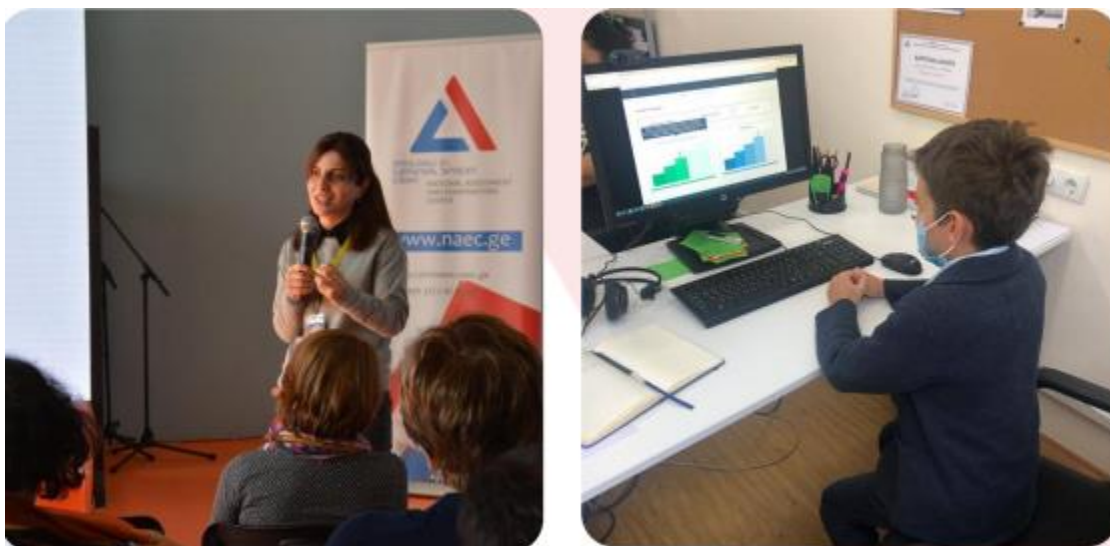


In 2020 the exam was organized twice, once in February and once in September. A special exam space was equipped in accordance with the health and safety recommendations. More than 400 applicants took the exam, of which 50 examinees were successful.

“Assessment for Development” Project

The National Assessment and Examinations Center started working on the “Assessment for Development” project in 2019 to assess 7th graders’ knowledge and skills in Mathematics and Georgian Language and Literature.

The results will help students and parents monitor the progress made during the learning process and obtain information about the strengths and weaknesses of the students. This project will enable schools to observe the teaching and learning trends, both at individual class level and at the school level in general.



The National Assessment and Examinations Center developed the project in three main directions in 2020: establishing the conceptual framework of evaluation, assessment content, and technical infrastructure.

To this end the Center has managed to accomplish the following:

- An assessment framework for mathematics and the Georgian language was defined for grades 4 and 6;
- Test assignments were created in the aforementioned subjects and classes were tested and processed based on psychometric analysis;
- The "Tao" platform was selected in order to create and carry out online electronic testing. It has been used by the Ministries of Education in many European countries (Eg. France, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Denmark, Lithuania, Portugal), as well as for Pisa International. The program was installed via the servers of EMIS;
- An open-ended task correction module has been created, as "Tao" only enables tasks with multiple choice questions to be assessed automatically. The program underwent trial testing in November;
- The development of an electronic platform that will give access to academic results to students, their parents, teachers and the school principals. The program has almost been completed and schools that participated in the pilot will receive electronic reports in the near future;
- Two pilot tests were conducted in February in 60 public schools. The goal was to test the "Tao" platform. All three components of the online testing system were checked (the test distribution, the marking of open ended questions, the evaluation module). More than 1000 pupils around the country took part in the pilot tests .

The whole pilot was conducted online; pupils performed assignments online and the results will also be published on their personal accounts. The majority of the students participated in the testing remotely, from their homes. The results will be visible at the student level, as well as at the class level.



The results will be used for the further development of the project and the platform. This assessment model will help schools plan the upcoming academic year accordingly. Only seventh graders were involved in the pilot due to the project goals and Covid-19.

International Exams

The National Assessment and Examinations Center has been administering various types of international exams since 2013. The Center has been facilitating the Cambridge exams, which are taken by approximately 3 million applicants in 130 countries around the globe every year.

The NAEC has been a long time partner of ETS and has the license to administer TOEFL exams. The center offers the ACCA exam as well.

In 2020, 49 examinees took TOEFL exams, 45 took ACCA exams and 135 took Cambridge exams.

International Research and National Assessment

Educational research is one of the key aims of the Center. The NAEC has been facilitating Georgia's participation in several international research projects since 2006. The center also conducts National Assessments.



Countries use the results of the state and international surveys to assess the education system and its tendencies. State assessment focuses on the level of achievement nationally, while international studies reveal the results of the country within a global context. Specific recommendations are being developed as a result of the outcome analysis.

The following International Reports were prepared in 2020:

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2018 Report, Georgia

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is a triennial survey of 15-year-old students that assesses their level of key knowledge and skills essential for full participation in society. The assessment focuses on proficiency in reading, mathematics, science and an innovative domain (in 2018, the innovative domain was global competence), and on student wellbeing.



Results from PISA indicate the quality and equity of learning outcomes attained around the world, and allow educators and policy makers to learn from the policies and practices applied in other countries.



Georgia has been involved in PISA since 2009. In 2018 (as in 2015), Georgia's participation was made possible through the financial support of the Second Compact of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) with Georgia, administered by the Millennium Challenge Account – Georgia (MCA-Georgia).

600,000 students completed the assessment in 2018, representing about 32 million 15 year-olds in the schools of the 79 participating countries and economies. In Georgia, 5,572 students, in 326 schools, completed the assessment, representing 38,489 15-year-old students (83% of the total population of 15-year-olds).

Computer-based tests were used in Georgian schools, with assessments lasting a total of two hours. In reading, a multi-stage adaptive approach was applied in computer-based tests whereby students were assigned a block of test items based on their performance in the preceding blocks.

Students also answered a background questionnaire, which took about 35 minutes to complete. The questionnaire sought information about the students themselves, their attitudes, dispositions and beliefs, their homes, and their school and learning experiences. School principals completed a questionnaire that covered school management and organization, as well as the learning environment.

The Teachers and School Leaders as Valued Professionals (TALIS) 2018 Report, Georgia

The OECD Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) is the largest international survey asking teachers and school leaders about their working conditions and learning environments. It provides a barometer of the profession every five years.

Georgia has been involved in TALIS since 2013. In 2018, Georgia's participation was made possible through the financial support of the Second Compact of the Millennium Challenge



Corporation (MCC) with Georgia, administered by the Millennium Challenge Account – Georgia (MCA-Georgia).



Across all of the survey components, approximately 260,000 teachers responded to the survey, representing more than 8 million teachers in 48 participating countries and economies. In Georgia, 3,101 lower secondary teachers and 177 principals completed the TALIS questionnaires.

Based on the feedback from teachers and school leaders, the TALIS 2018 report offers a series of policy recommendations to help strengthen the professionalization of teaching careers. The report aims to provide an in-depth analysis of teachers' and school leaders' perceptions of the value of their profession, their work-related well-being and stress, and their satisfaction with their working conditions. It also offers a description of teachers' and school leaders' contractual arrangements, opportunities to engage in professional tasks such as collaborative teamwork, autonomous decision making, and leadership practices.

Nine main themes were selected for inclusion in the TALIS 2018 survey: teachers' instructional practices; school leadership; teachers' professional practices; teacher education and initial



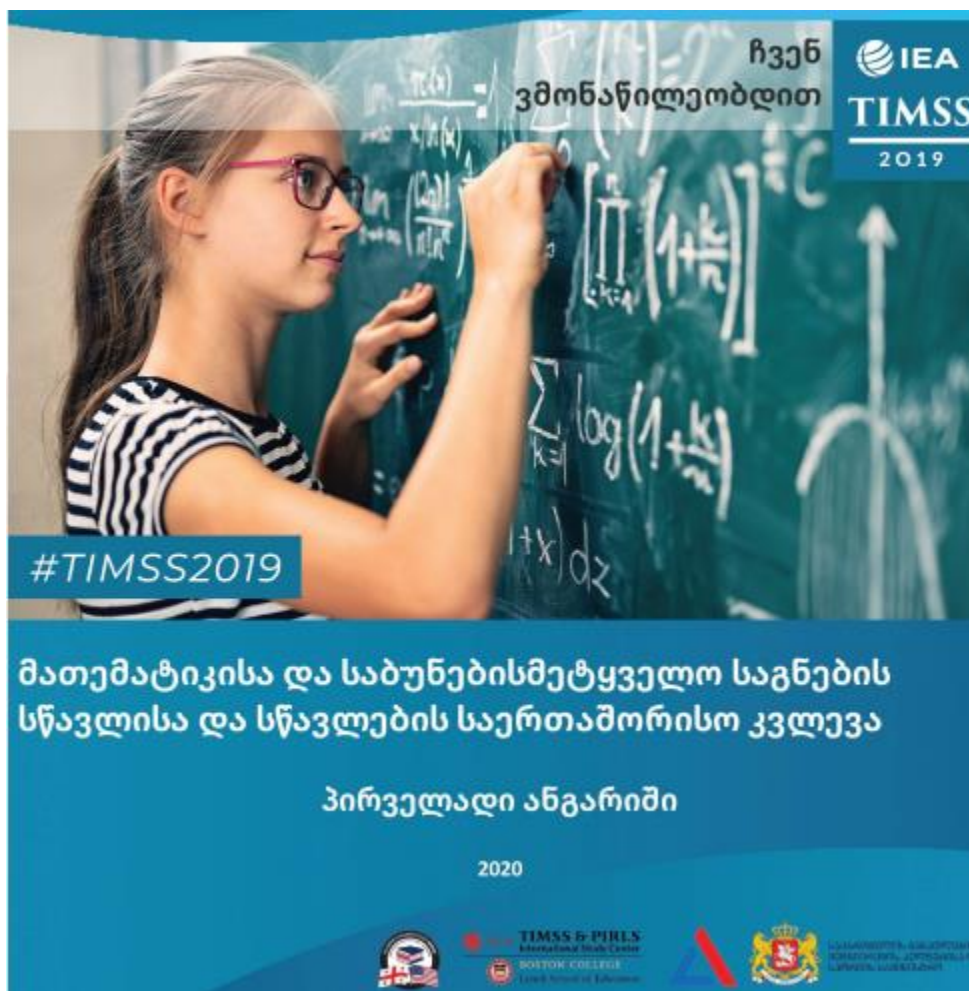
preparation; teacher feedback and development; school climate; job satisfaction; teachers' human resource issues and stakeholder relations; and teacher self-efficacy. Two cross-cutting themes were added to this list: innovation and equity and diversity.

The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2019

Conducted every four years since 1995, TIMSS has been a valuable tool for monitoring international trends in mathematics and science achievement at the fourth and eighth grades. Georgia was first involved in 2007 and since then has participated in the TIMSS in 2011, 2015 and 2019. Georgia was represented by both the 4th and 8th grades. The study was administered by the National Assessment and Examinations Center.

The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) enables participating countries to assess their education system, existing teaching practices, and identify obstacles to teaching mathematics and science. The study evaluates the achievement dynamics of students of the same education level compared to previous cycles, and also shows whether student achievement has changed over the years at different stages of the learning process in the country (primary and lower secondary).





64 countries participated in the TIMSS 2019. 58 countries and 6 regions participated in the fourth grade assessment, and 39 countries and 7 regions participated in the eighth grade assessment.

From 2019, TIMSS switched to electronic assessment (e-TIMSS). Before stepping towards e-Assessment, Georgia conducted a transitional bridge research. The research fieldwork was conducted from April 24 to May 29, 2019. 226 schools from Tbilisi and different regions of the country participated in the TIMSS 2019 cycle throughout Georgia. A total of 154 fourth graders (6,002 students) and 145 eighth graders (5,698 students) participated.

In addition, for the first time, interested parties will have an opportunity to visit the TIMSS website and view information about the main data from the 2019 survey in Georgian.



The National Study of Distance Learning

The Center conducted the National Study of Distance Learning in order to enable the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports to plan the teaching and learning process better.

Research field work was conducted in June 2020 and 7,286 teachers, 32,431 parents and 39,619 students took part in the survey.

The goal of the research was to reveal the results of changing the teaching format in the Georgian education system. The survey was conducted with technical support from EMIS. The research report was prepared for the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia.

Partnership with International Organizations

Educational experts from the University of Cambridge were invited to audit the item bank developed by the NAEC's experts. Reports prepared by these experts included recommendations regarding procedural improvements, as well as strategic development.

Another important partnership was formed in 2020, when the Center became a member of FLIP+. The organization was established in 2019 by 4 countries (France, Italy, Luxemburg and Portugal). The goal of the organization is to share experience regarding e-assessment between partners. NAEC staff members were actively involved in the working groups of FLIP+. On the 11-12th of June, the NAEC's pilot project "Assessment for Development" was discussed.

The National Assessment and Examinations Center of Georgia (NAEC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the State Examination Center of the Republic of Azerbaijan (SEC) in 2020. According to the MoU, the SEC experts were responsible for the development of an item bank for the Teachers Certification Exams for the Azerbaijani language and literature teachers working in Georgian secondary schools with Azerbaijani as the language of instruction. While the NAEC took on the role of reviewing the SEC's Georgian language test items for school-leaving



exams (grades 9 and 11). Covid-19 turned out to be quite a challenge for this partnership; therefore the MoU was prolonged for one more year with the hope of more active collaboration. Further information can be found at naec.news.

Consultancy Services and Projects of the Center

Another important aim of the National Assessment and Examinations Center is implementing assessment projects for different organizations. The Center consults for various institutions, conducts training, and assists in administering the testing and recruitment processes.

The NAEC assisted the following organizations in 2020

- the British Council Georgia;
- the Representation of the East-West Management Institute in Georgia;
- the Georgian National Communications Commission;
- the LEPL General Giorgi Kvinitadze Cadets Military Lyceum;
- the National Center for Education Quality Enhancement;
- the Georgian State Security Service;
- the LEPL Vladimir Komarov Tbilisi Physics-Mathematics No.199 Public school;
- the American Consulting Organization MATHEMATICA POLICY RESEARCH.

Supporting Materials of the National Assessment and Examinations Center

The NAEC prepares supporting materials for its target audience each year. In 2020, the experts of the subject groups also created a collection of tests available to entrants, which is an important resource for them during the exam preparation process.

This year the Center once again published another important resource – the "Reference Book for Entrants".



All the relevant information was compiled, for example: news, the registration instructions for the exams, clarification for selecting exams and educational programs, information about the examination process, results publication and the appeal procedure, enrollment and the regulations for obtaining state funding. The table was also presented in the reference book with information about exam coefficients, minimum quotas for certain programs, fees and other important details.

The National Assessment and Examinations Center started preparing for the 2021 exams as soon as the examination process for 2020 came to an end. Currently the Center is actively engaged in planning and resolving tasks for the upcoming exams.

Many interesting projects are also in the works for the future.





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