



LEPL Iakob Gogebashvili Telavi State University

Strategic Development Plan

2018 - 2025

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Chair of the Academic Council, Rector:

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Introduction

LEPL Iakob Gogebashvili Telavi State University is the worthy successor of the century-old educational traditions of Ikalto Academy, Telavi Philosophical and Theological Institution (founder Erekle II), Theological Seminary, Theological Institution. In 1924 Pedagogical College was founded in Telavi, which was remodelled as the Higher Educational Institution in 1939 and as Pedagogical Institute in 1951. Since 1940 the institution has been named after the great Georgian pedagogue Iakob Gogebashvili, and since 1999 it has been awarded the state university status. It is an autonomous state higher educational institution. Teaching language here is native Georgian. Getting education at the university is available via renewed programmes covering Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral cycles. The Institution covers vocational educational programmes as well.

Mission

The mission of TeSaU is to: prepare competitive, highly qualified, morally grounded graduates in different fields, who are faithful to democratic values, principles of democracy and humanism by introducing learning and teaching oriented on modern methods in all three cycles of education and vocational studies, taking into consideration the academic, cultural, social and economic factors; build, store and share knowledge in the field of Agricultural Sciences providing specific features of the region; enhance tourism perspective for regional development and improvement of the field of education; satisfy the educational demands of the society; organize lifelong study-promoting events and internationalization of education.

Vision

By 2025, the university to: become the most demanded institution for the population of the Region and ethnic minorities living in Kakheti; become one of the innovative universities in the fields of Tourism, Education and Agriculture; make a significant contribution to the economic, public and social development of Kakheti region and country.

The Basic Values of the University

The basic values of the university are based on the ethical ideals of liberty and independence determined by the great charter of European Universities: university autonomy, support for the multicultural/intercultural environment of staff and students; responsibility towards the society and respect for the person; academic freedom; tolerance, humanism, integrity and aspiration for development.

Goals and Objectives of the University Strategic Development Plan

Under the renewed standard of authorization and accreditation, the university should obtain confirmation of the degree of teaching, research and management. For this purpose, the Strategic Development Plan of the University of 2018-2025 was elaborated, in development of which the students, academic personnel, administrative units and society representatives were involved. The present document represents an action strategy developed by considering the analysis of the university achievements, the challenges faced by the university and abilities for overcoming them.

On the background of the new information technology environment, migration processes, social-economic situation of the region and conditions for growing competition, in 2018-2025 years, with the purpose of the programme accreditation, the university should submit the new, fundamentally modified programmes and prepare the new programmes covering all three cycles of higher education and

vocational programmes, which are prior for the region.

The University should develop the strategic plan on the basis of the clearly defined goals, which can be really implemented.

The University goals are as follows:

- promotion of student teaching, student life, employment, and career enhancement;
- improvement-development of higher educational programmes in compliance with the labour market demands and development of new programmes;
- support of research work;
- improvement of the University management system and human resources;
- development of quality assurance mechanisms;
- facilitation of the University internationalization;
- assurance of financial sustainability;
- improvement of academic infrastructure and development of material base;
- renovation of library resource.

Goal 1: Promotion of student teaching, student life, employment, and career enhancement

The core priority of the University is to ensure comfortable and modern study/research environment for students.

In order to achieve the abovementioned goal, in the course of authorization it is planned to:

- improve study process focused on learning outcomes;
- foster student participation in international exchange programmes;
- promote establishing active relationship among students and employers;
- offer free trainings for promoting students' career enhancement;
- diversify student life in view of their creative and sport interests;
- carry out social activities for disadvantaged group of students.

Goal 2: Improvement-development of higher educational programmes in compliance with the labour market demands and development of new programmes

According to the regulation taking place at the University, the process of educational programme development is public and transparent, in which programme supervisors, academic staff, students, potential employers, and alumni are actively involved.

In order to achieve the abovementioned goal, in the course of authorization it is planned to:

- develop new programmes considering the labour market demands and specifics of the region;
- develop joint programmes along with the partner universities taking into account the labour market demands and specifics of the region;
- modernize ongoing educational programmes by taking into account modern standards;
- support involvement of foreign professors in the development of educational programmes;

- develop English language courses and certain study courses;
- consolidate communication with potential employers and alumni with the purpose of developing and evaluating educational programmes.

Goal 3: Support of research work

According to specifics of the region, involvement in research and efficiency of research activity is one of the main aspects of the University.

In order to achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- improve internal university funding system of research projects;
- inform academic staff regularly about donor organizations and grants competitions and support fundraising for research projects;
- develop the research infrastructure;
- support the University prior fields and innovative interdisciplinary researches;
- organize joint international scientific conferences along with partner organizations;
- provide financial support to the University affiliated academic staff for publishing their papers in highly-rated scientific journals;
- provide financial support to the University affiliated academic staff for taking part in international and local conferences.

Goal 4: Improvement of the University management system and human resources

Efficient institutional management plays an important role in realization of University priorities, which can be achieved by attracting qualified staff.

In order to achieve the goal, in the course of the authorization it is planned to:

- develop management policy focused on staff development;
- optimize structural units and staff;
- attract competitive personnel oriented on career enhancement;
- develop ranking salary policy;
- attract staff with international experience for the educational programmes of the University prior fields;
- improve regulation of ethics and behavior rules of students and personnel;
- establish internal audit system;
- train staff with the purpose of raising qualification;
- arrange trainings to improve the quality of communication and student service;
- offer free courses in foreign languages and information technologies to the staff.

Goal 5: Development of quality assurance mechanisms

University Quality Assurance Department supports the development of academic and research processes; develops all instruments and methods necessary for evaluation of learning and research processes; plans periodic assessment; evaluates both learning and research processes; develops recommendations in order to improve the quality of learning and research processes on the basis of the data obtained.

In order to achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- implement and develop quality assurance mechanisms;
- improve the study process monitoring mechanisms and develop evaluation system of educational programme implementation;
- conduct annual studies of students' and staff (academic, invited) satisfaction and responses to them;

- improve mechanisms for responding to research results;
- develop plagiarism detection and response mechanisms;
- improve the monitoring mechanism of students' academic performance;
- develop evaluation system of quality assurance mechanism efficiency and use evaluation results.

Goal 6: Support of the University internationalization

Integration in international academic and research space is one of the priorities of Telavi State University.

In order to achieve the goal, in the course of authorization it is planned to:

- increase international recognition;
- promote the university involvement in international scientific-academic projects;
- expand partnership with higher educational institutions and scientific centers abroad;
- promote students' and staff mobility in exchange projects;
- identify appropriate funds in the fields of Agriculture, Tourism and Education and search for relevant project partners;
- raise qualification of the staff in writing international projects.

Goal 7: Assurance of financial sustainability

The University budget ensures high quality education for students and creates comfortable conditions for studies and research.

In order to achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- maximally adopt student quota defined for the University;
- create accessible tuition payment system for students by deepening partnership with donor and commercial organizations;
- attract investments to develop infrastructure projects;

- improve expert and consultation service system for society;
- develop financial management and control system.

Goal 8: Improvement of academic infrastructure and development of material base

Improvement of the area and material-technical base of the University is an essential precondition for conducting academic and research process.

In order to achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- rehabilitate the study building I completely and equip with proper material-technical base;
- rehabilitate of the study building IV completely and equip with appropriate material-technical base for the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences;
- set up a dormitory in the study building III;
- renovatethe University computer centers with computer technique of modern standards;
- instaln elevator in the study building Iby followingthe standards stated for people with disabilities;
- improve adaptive environment for PwDs persons on the whole territory of the University;
- improve open and close working environment provided with internet space for students;
- establish and developthe University publishing house;
- rehabilitate the gyms and sports grounds and equip them according to modern requirements;
- set up and develop farming infrastructure in the University experimental plot;
- setup irrigation infrastructure in the University experimental plot;
- create incubator and Hublab for University prior fields (Agriculture, Tourism, Education).

Goal 9: Renovation of library resource

Library resource is one of the most important factors for conducting the University learning/research processes and implementing educational programmes thoroughly.

In order to achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- increase the accessibility on using library resources for PwDs persons;
- improve the environment and renovate the material-technical base for library resource users;
- monitor the internet resources constantly and search for new informational, diverse and high-quality electronic resources;
- develop the electronic catalogue regularly;
- develop new library services;
- enrich the library with book funds, new printed and digital editions, contemporary Georgian and foreign scientific literature, scientific periodical editions, international electronic databases (especially in the fields of Agriculture, Tourism and Education).

The main directions of development of University Faculties, their goals and objectives are fully relevant to the Mission of LEPL Iakob Gogebashvili Telavi State University.

Faculty of Humanities:

Goal 1.Improvement-development of educational programmes at the Faculty of Humanities and creation of new programmes according to the labor market demands

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- gain accreditation to Bachelor and Master programmes at the faculty – 2021;
- gain accreditation to the preparatory programme Georgian, as a Second Language, at the Faculty (for Azer, Armenian, Ossetian and Abkhazian speakers)- 2019;
- introduce one-year programme “ Georgian Language for Foreigners”– 2019;
- gain accreditation to the Master educational programme “Archeology” – 2019;
- gain accreditation to Bachelor educational programme “English Language and Literature” (in English) –by 2022;
- gain accreditation to Master educational programme “Georgian Language and Literature” -2019.

Goal 2. Development of research activities in the field of Humanities

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- study the history of the cities and villages in Kakheti Region - (2019-2020);
implement various research projects for integrating ethnic and religious minorities living in Kakheti Region (conduct joint researches/conferences) - (2019-2024);
- organize international scientific conference “Intercultural Dialogues” – (once in two years);
- organize scientific conference - “School and University” (annually);
- organize scientific conference - “The Lessons of Classicists” (annually).

Goal 3. Support and development of continuous education (certificate retraining courses)

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- create LLL courses of foreign languages (2019-2020).

Faculty of Education Sciences:

Goal 1.Improvement-development of educational programmes at the Faculty of Education Sciences and creation of new programmes according to the labor market demands

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- create and gain accreditation to “Teacher Training Programme” (300 credits) - by2018;
- gain accreditation to Master programme “Subject Teaching Methodology”–by 2019;
- create and implement English Language Training Courses within the ongoing Master Programme - by 2022 ;
- create Master programme in English in the field of Education - by 2024.

Goal 2.Development of research activities in the field of Education sciences

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- organize international conference “Education, Research, Practice” – (once in two years);
- study the school problems of the region and elaboration of recommendations (by involving Master students) – (2019).

Goal 3. Support and development of continuous education (certificate retraining courses)

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- create Teacher Training LLL Courses (2019).

Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences:

Goal 1. Improvement-development of educational programmes at the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences and creation of new programmes according to the labor market demands

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- gain accreditation to Bachelor and Master programmes at the faculty - (2020; 2022);
- create and gain accreditation to a new Master programme“Computer Sciences” (2023);
- create and gain accreditation to a new Master Educational programme“Microbiology” (2021);

Goal 2. Development of research activities in the field of Exact and Natural Sciences

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- conduct interdisciplinary researches in Agricultural and Natural Sciences - (2020; 2024);
- organize eco-educational conferences (by involving pupils and students) – (annually).

Goal 3. Support and development of continuous education (certificate retraining courses).

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned:

- create Computer Program LLL courses (2019).

Faculty of Agricultural Sciences:

Goal 1.Improvement-development of educational programmes at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and creation of new programmes according to the labor market demands.

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- gain accreditation to Bachelor and Master programmes at the Faculty – (2018);
- gain accreditation to Master programme Viticulture-Winemaking(2018);
- involve foreign leading university professor in implementation of Master educational programme “Viticulture-Winemaking” within
- the project “Study in Georgia” and develop Doctoral educational programme “ Alcoholic Beverages” (2018).
- modify the Doctoral programme “Alcoholic and Nonalcoholic Products Manufacturing Technology” thoroughly by considering the specifics of the region, according to which the programme will be focused only on Alcoholic Products Manufacturing Technology. This will promote development of Winemaking in the country and introduction of the results of modern scientific researches in this field - (2018).

Goal 2.Development of research activities in the field of Agricultural Sciences:

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- create an experimental object, that will be presented at the university base as a vineyard (2018-2019), mixed garden (2018), seedling (2020), mini winery (2023), mini farm of the cattle (2024), growing cereal crops by using modern technologies (2024);
- Expand laboratories for Microbiological studies of agricultural crops (2018);

- create the laboratory for”studying wine chemical composition” (2019);
- “arrange wine tasting hall and cellar” (2019).
- specify optimal scheme of cultivating prospective wine varieties (Khikhvi, Kisi) ”of Kakheti Entrepreneurial Assortment” and examine cordon forms in order to improve the quality and amount of the crops. The goal of the research is to determine the optimal scheme of prospective vine varieties (Khikhvi and Kisi) on the basis of stationary experiments, and examine cordon forms for formation vine varieties - Khikhvi and Kisi (2018-2021);
- create agrotechnical maps of agricultural crops (2018-2019);
- create the cartogram of Telavi municipality soils (2020);
- create agrochemical cartogram of Kakheti region soils(2021-2024).

Goal 3. Support and development of continuous education (certificate retraining courses)

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- develop LLL courses of Viticulture-Winemaking (2019).

Goal 4. Giving consultation services to farmers and persons interested in Agriculture

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- plan/conduct trainings for farmers of Kakheti Region (2019-2024).

Faculty of Social Sciences, Business and Law:

Goal 1. Improvement-development of educational programmes at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Business and Law and creation of new programmes according to the labor market demands

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- gain accreditation to ongoing Bachelor and Master programmes at the faculty – (2018-2022);
- gain accreditation of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) for teaching Accounting in Bachelor Programme of Business Administration (2021).
- supplement Bachelor Programme of Tourism with the modules elaborated within SuToMa Project (2018);

Goal 2. Development of research activities in the field of Social Sciences, Business and Law

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- create the centre for social researches (2018);
- plan-develop new hiking tourist routes and offer them to touroperators (2019);
- consolidate the relationship with the tourism sector (2019-2024)

Goal 3. Support and development of continuous education (certificate retraining courses)

To achieve the goal, during the authorization period it is planned to:

- create LLL Courses of Accounting (2019).