

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON COOPERATION IN GENERAL EDUCATION**

BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH OF ESTONIA,

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF GEORGIA,

FOUNDATION INNOVE AND

UNICEF GEORGIA

The Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Estonia, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, Foundation Innove and UNICEF Georgia hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties",

On the basis of friendly relations between the countries;

Observing the provisions of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of Georgia on Co-operation in the fields of Culture, Education, Science, Youth and Sports signed in Tallinn on 12 October, 2004;

Observing the provisions of the Agreement between the Republic of Estonia represented by the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNICEF to Support Implementation of the Technical Assistance to General Education in Georgia signed on 24 March, 2015;

Wishing to develop exchanges in the field of education, to promote the understanding, cooperation and mutual support;

Believing that this cooperation will contribute to the development of friendly relations between Georgia and Estonia, and to the pursuit of common interests of the Parties;

Exploring and collaborating in defining possible ways and means of a dynamic and result-oriented trilateral cooperation, with a view to facilitating, *inter alia*, Georgia's on-going process of alignment with the relevant European Union standards and best practices in European Union Member States;

Consulting, and cooperating, as appropriate, under the European Union programmes in the fields of education;

Desiring to join efforts in concrete projects within the framework of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and, wherever possible, of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the European Union, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and of other relevant international organisations;

Have adopted the following Memorandum of Understanding and have agreed on the following:

SECTION I

1.1. The Estonian Ministry of Education and Research and Foundation Innove jointly with UNICEF Georgia shall provide assistance to Georgia in the field of curriculum revision and development.

1.2. In the immediate terms Foundation Innove shall designate curriculum experts to provide support to the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia in the revision of grades 7-12 of general education. Foundation Innove will also designate experts for the exchange of experience in the area of implementation of the curriculum policy.

1.3. The Parties shall encourage direct cooperation, beyond the life of this Memorandum of Understanding, between Estonian and Georgian educational authorities and institutions in the field of curriculum development, as well as the exchange of relevant materials.

SECTION 2

2.1. The Estonian Ministry of Education and Research jointly with UNICEF Georgia and Foundation Innove shall offer to the Georgian Universities their support in pre-service teacher training.

2.2. During the life of this Memorandum of Understanding, Foundation Innove shall provide experts in the field of pre-service teacher training who will work closely with the Georgia's Universities.

2.3. The Parties shall encourage direct cooperation, beyond the life of this Memorandum of Understanding, between Georgian and Estonian institutions responsible for pre-service teacher preparation.

SECTION 3

3.1. To support Georgia's current process of education strategy development, the

representatives of the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research shall pay a visit to Georgia. They will meet with Georgia's policymakers as well as key education experts. The high level Ministry representatives shall share Estonia's experience and lessons learnt in the areas that are particularly important for Georgia. They include, *inter alia*, Estonia's reforms in teacher development, the measures that Estonia has implemented in order to improve student performance, and the development of education strategies and policies.

3.2. In the course of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Ministry of Education and Research of Estonia, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and Foundation Innove shall strive to exchange representatives. The aim of the visits shall be to exchange views and experience on issues related to curriculum, and to discuss possibilities for further cooperation.

SECTION 4

4.1. The Activities under this Memorandum of Understanding are financed from the funds of the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs allocated to UNICEF Georgia according to the provisions of the Agreement between the Republic of Estonia represented by the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNICEF to Support Implementation of the Technical Assistance to General Education in Georgia signed on 24 March, 2015.

SECTION 5

5.1. This Memorandum of Understanding takes effect upon its signing by all Parties and will remain in force until December 31, 2016.

5.2. Any dispute arising out of the implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be resolved by consultations or negotiations between the Parties.

5.3. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended in writing by mutual consent of the Parties.

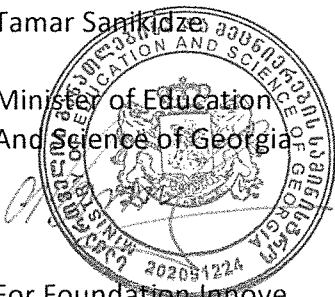
5.4. This Memorandum of Understanding may, at any time, be terminated by one of the Parties, upon informing the other Parties in writing at least three months in advance of the proposed termination.

Done in Tbilisi, Georgia __on __May, 14, 2015_____ in three identical copies in English.

For the Ministry
of Education and Science
of Georgia

For the Ministry
of Education and Research
of the Republic of Estonia

Tamar Sanikidze
Minister of Education
and Science of Georgia



For Foundation InnoVe

Birgit Lao-Peetersoo
Chairman of the Board

Mart Laidmets

Deputy Secretary General
for General and Vocational
Education