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CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Internal Diagnostic Audits and Capacity-Building Activities for ISO/IEC 17025 Accredited Laboratories

Project Title	Better Goods and Better Services in Georgia
Activity	Internal Diagnostic Audits and Capacity-Building Activities
Country	Georgia
Implemented by	Czech Metrology Institute (CMI) in cooperation with the Czech Development Agency (CzDA)
Date of Publication	13.07.2026

1. Background and Project Context

This Call for Expression of Interest (hereinafter referred to as the “Call”) is launched within the framework of the EU-funded project *Better Goods and Better Services in Georgia*, which aims to strengthen the quality infrastructure system in Georgia, support alignment with European and international standards, and enhance the technical capacities of laboratories and related stakeholders.

The project is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in cooperation with the Czech Development Agency (CzDA). Within the project, the Czech Development Agency is responsible for activities focused on laboratory capacity building and related technical support, while selected technical activities are implemented by the Czech Metrology Institute (CMI) in cooperation with local stakeholders.

This Call aims to identify laboratories interested in participating in a structured capacity-building programme based on internal diagnostic audits and subsequent technical support.

The expected number of selected laboratories is 5. Cooperation is expected to commence in August 2026 and continue until approximately February 2027.

2. Objective and Scope of the Activity



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The objective of this Call is to identify and select a limited number of laboratories accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025 in Georgia to participate in internal diagnostic audits and subsequent capacity-building activities.

The cooperation is structured as a continuous improvement cycle consisting of:

- an initial internal diagnostic audit;
- identification of practical gaps and opportunities for improvement;
- participation in targeted technical consultations, seminars, and training activities;
- a follow-up internal diagnostic audit aimed at assessing progress and improvements achieved.

The findings generated through the audits will serve as inputs for targeted recommendations, methodological support, tailor-made trainings, and other project activities designed to strengthen laboratory competence and support the adoption of European good practices.

Participation in the programme is voluntary and free of charge. This Call constitutes technical assistance and capacity-building support and does not represent a procurement procedure or a grant scheme. No financial compensation will be provided to participating laboratories.

3. Nature of Internal Diagnostic Audits

The internal diagnostic audits are intended solely as a project tool for technical assessment and capacity building.

The audits:

- do not constitute official accreditation audits, surveillance activities, or regulatory inspections;
- do not replace activities performed by accreditation bodies or regulatory authorities;
- have no influence on the accreditation status of participating laboratories;
- are intended to identify practical challenges, common gaps, and opportunities for improvement.

Information obtained during the audits will be treated as strictly confidential and will not be shared with accreditation bodies, regulatory authorities, or other external entities.



Participating laboratories are expected to ensure reasonable cooperation, including the availability of relevant documentation, designation of responsible contact persons, and provision of access to relevant information and premises necessary for the audit activities. The audit process will respect the decision of laboratories not to disclose information considered purely internal or commercially sensitive.

4. Eligibility of Applicants

Participation in this Call is open only to private legal entities duly established and operating in Georgia that operate an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory.

Applicants must meet all of the eligibility requirements listed below. Compliance with each requirement shall be confirmed in the Application Form submitted together with the application.

	Eligibility Requirement
1	The applicant is a private legal entity duly established and operating in Georgia ¹ .
2	The applicant holds a valid ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation at the time of application.
3	The applicant's accredited scope includes calibration and/or testing activities relevant to the objectives of this project.
4	The applicant has participated in at least one seminar, workshop, or other capacity-building activity organized under the Better Goods and Better Services in Georgia project. ²
5	The applicant has submitted a duly completed and signed Application Form, including a comprehensive Laboratory Profile describing the applicant's main laboratory activities, testing and/or calibration services, ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation, accredited scope, and relevance of the laboratory's activities to the objectives of the project.
6	The applicant commits to participating throughout the entire programme, including the initial internal diagnostic audit, follow-up consultations and training activities, and the final follow-up audit.
7	The applicant has designated a responsible contact person who will coordinate communication and project activities throughout the implementation period.

¹ This requirement shall be demonstrated by submitting a Legal Registration Certificate together with the Application Form.

² For the purposes of this Call, eligible capacity-building activities include participation in one or more of the following project seminars: **The Metrology System in the State, Its Benefits and Practical Use; Accreditation and Metrology in the Practice of Calibration and Testing Laboratories; Measurement Uncertainty; Pressure Measurement; and Temperature Measurement.**



8	The applicant confirms that its management supports participation in the project and will ensure the availability of relevant personnel, documentation, and facilities necessary for the implementation of the planned activities.
9	The applicant confirms willingness to provide access to relevant QMS documentation, technical documentation, records and premises necessary for the diagnostic audit.
10	The applicant confirms that there are no legal, insolvency, liquidation, integrity-related or conflict-of-interest circumstances that would prevent its participation or pose a reputational risk to the project

Applicants must satisfy all of the above eligibility requirements to be considered eligible for participation.

Accreditation must remain valid at the time of application and throughout the period of cooperation. The Czech Development Agency (CzDA), in coordination with the Czech Metrology Institute (CMI), reserves the right to terminate participation in the event that a laboratory loses its accreditation during the implementation period.

The Czech Development Agency (CzDA), in cooperation with the Czech Metrology Institute (CMI), reserves the right to request additional information or supporting documentation to verify compliance with the eligibility requirements at any stage of the selection process.

6. Expected Participation

Selected laboratories are expected to actively cooperate throughout the implementation of the activity.

Participation includes:

- preparation and provision of relevant documentation for audit purposes;
- participation of designated personnel in on-site or remote audit activities;
- attendance at follow-up consultations, workshops, seminars, and training activities;
- cooperation during the follow-up audit aimed at assessing progress achieved.



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The overall cooperation is expected to take place between August 2026 and February 2027.

7. Expected Benefits

Participating laboratories will receive:

- expert feedback based on internal diagnostic audits;
- practical recommendations aimed at strengthening technical competence and quality management systems;
- access to targeted technical consultations and methodological support;
- participation in tailor-made seminars and training activities;
- opportunities to exchange experience and familiarize themselves with European approaches and best practices.

The activity is expected to contribute to strengthening laboratory capabilities and supporting the development of quality infrastructure in Georgia.

8. Submission of Applications

Applicants are required to submit a completed and duly signed Application Form, together with the following mandatory supporting documents:

1. A copy of a valid ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation certificate;
2. The current scope of accreditation (full annex).

By submitting the Application Form, the applicant confirms that all information provided is true, complete, and accurate, and that all eligibility requirements set out in Section 4 of this Call are fulfilled.

Applications shall be submitted under the following conditions:

- **Language:** English;
- **Format:** Electronic submission in PDF format;
- **Submission Method:** E-mail to eka.avsajanishvili@czechaid.gov.cz ;
- **Deadline for Submission:** 31.07.2026

Only complete applications submitted before the stated deadline will be considered for evaluation. In case the Application Form contains obvious formal errors, clerical mistakes or minor omissions, the applicant may be requested to correct or complete the



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Application Form within a specified deadline, provided that such correction does not alter the substance of the application or replace mandatory eligibility requirements. The Czech Development Agency (CzDA), in cooperation with the Czech Metrology Institute (CMI), reserves the right to request additional information or supporting documentation where necessary to verify compliance with the eligibility requirements.

9. Selection Procedure and Notification

Applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee composed of representatives of the Czech Development Agency (CzDA), technical experts from the Czech Metrology Institute (CMI), representatives of the Georgian Laboratory Association (GeLab), and an expert nominated by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

The Selection Committee will verify whether each application complies with the eligibility requirements set out in Section 4 of this Call. Compliance will be assessed based on the information and declarations provided in the Application Form and the supporting documents submitted by the applicant. Where necessary, the Selection Committee may request additional information or supporting documentation.

Only applications meeting all eligibility requirements will be considered eligible for participation.

If the number of eligible applications exceeds the available project capacity (up to 5 selected laboratories), eligible laboratories will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date and time of receipt of the complete application. The Selection Committee shall have the full discretion to make adjustments where necessary to ensure a balanced representation of technical fields and sectors relevant to the objectives of the project. Any such adjustment shall be documented and justified in the minutes of the Selection Committee. If additional project capacity becomes available, the implementing entities reserve the right to increase the number of laboratories selected for participation and to invite additional eligible applicants, including from the reserve list where applicable.

The selection decision shall be documented in minutes signed by all four members of the Selection Committee.

The decision of the Selection Committee shall be final and is not subject to appeal. Applicants shall not be entitled to request a review, reconsideration, or reversal of the Selection Committee's decision.

Timeline and Notification

- **Submission Deadline:** 31.07.2026
- **Evaluation Period:** 03.08.2026-07.08.2026



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- **Notification of Results: 10.08.2026**

All applicants will be informed of the outcome of the evaluation by e-mail.

Selected laboratories will subsequently be invited to sign a Memorandum of Cooperation defining the scope of the planned activities and the respective responsibilities of the parties.

The decision of the Selection Committee shall be final.

10. Questions and Clarifications

Any questions concerning this Call should be submitted in writing to:

eka.avsanishvili@czechaid.gov.cz

To ensure equal treatment and transparency, requests for clarification should be submitted before the deadline for applications.

11. Disclaimer and Confidentiality

Participation in this Call is voluntary and does not create any contractual entitlement to participation in project activities.

The implementing entities reserve the right to amend, suspend, or cancel this Call at any stage without incurring any liability.

Participation in the activities described herein is intended exclusively for capacity-building purposes and does not replace official accreditation, certification, inspection, or regulatory procedures.

All information submitted by applicants and all information obtained during the implementation of internal diagnostic audits will be treated confidentially and used solely for the purposes of evaluation and implementation of project activities.

Any dissemination or publication of outputs based on audit findings will be carried out only in aggregated and anonymized form, ensuring that individual laboratories cannot be identified.