



საქართველოს სოლიდარობის ფონდი
SOLIDARITY FUND OF GEORGIA

ინყრთუ ჯაგამდგობა

SOLIDARITY FUND OF GEORGIA

Briefing Note - June 2015

The present brief describes activities of the Solidarity Fund of Georgia established under the initiative of Irakli Garibashvili, the Prime Minister of Georgia in June 2014.

The Solidarity Fund was launched as a common platform for philanthropy and corporate social responsibility initiatives to support individual patients and the most vulnerable families in need of high-cost life-saving treatment or social assistance.

The Fund was established upon consolidation of existing global knowledge in innovative financing mechanisms (UNITAID, Product(Red), Check-out-for-children, etc.) and national and regional solidarity foundations (e.g. EU, France, Switzerland, Germany).

The organization is guided by a 3-year Strategic Development Plan that envisages step-wise expansion of its programmes over 2015-2017 period.

During its first year of operations, the Solidarity Fund has already closed financial gaps in diagnostic and treatment services for all children and young people affected by cancer under the age of 22. As of June 2015, the Fund has mobilized over 3 million GEL and supported treatment of 112 children and young people, including high-cost treatment in 48 cases at the leading medical centers abroad.

Over 40 000 employees from 240 public services, 21 private sector companies and 53 students' organizations have already joined the initiative and ensure regular monthly donations of 250,000-270,000 GEL or 3.2 million GEL annually.

The Solidarity Fund has set a precedent of institutionalized philanthropy and integrated public-private partnership platform to make a systemic change in lives of people. The enclosed PowerPoint presentation describes in more detail the operations and partnership alliances of the Fund.

The organization is governed by a multi-stakeholders' Supervisory Board chaired by the Prime Minister of Georgia and represented by Ministers of Finance, Health, Foreign Affairs, Culture and Economy; CEOs of the lead national Banking Institutions; CEOs of the national Business and Bank Associations and international development partners as observers (UN, the World Bank, US and Czech Embassies).

Daily decision-making and operations of the Fund is managed through the Permanent Commission bringing together senior- and mid-level managers from the line ministries, national non-governmental organizations, private sector and international development agencies (observing members).

The Fund currently is currently consolidating or planning mobilization of micro-philanthropy from the following six main sources:

1. Voluntary contributions from monthly wages of public and private employees (1, 2, 5 + GEL)
2. Agreed contributions from bank transfers, ATM and other operations (0,05, 0.1 , 0.2+ GEL)
3. Solidarity contributions from Airline ticket sales (1, 2, 5 or 10 GEL)
4. Contribution from movie/theatre ticket purchases (0.1, 0.2 or 0.5 GEL)
5. Solidarity from hotel networks, check-out contribution (1, 2, 5 or 10 GEL), and
6. Solidarity contribution from TV, radio or outdoor commercial ads (2, 5 or 10 GEL)

As noted above, the Solidarity Fund is already mobilizing 275,000 GEL monthly forecastable donations or 3.2 million GEL per year.

Further expansion of monthly financial forecasts over 400,000 GEL and initiation of international partnership projects will enable the Fund to extend its financial support to children effected by other disabilities.

The Solidarity Fund intends to expand its operations in two main directions. The first direction is expansion of treatment support for children with disabilities and rare diseases as well as oncology patients above the age of 22 years.

The second direction is establishment of a National Child Health Centre and a Teaching Hospital to ensure longer-term capacity building of quality pediatric services in Georgia.

For more information please contact us:

GEORGIA SOLIDARITY FUND

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Since September 2014 Co-founder and CEO of the Prime Minister's Initiative - Solidarity Fund of Georgia. The Fund is the largest integrated national platform for public-private partnerships and innovative financing mechanisms for health and social development.

In 2012-2014 Deputy Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia in charge of strategic planning, oversight and accountability for public health sector portfolio, including Universal Health Care programme. Chaired National Commissions and Boards for Primary Health Care, Maternal and Child Health, Immunization, Penitentiary Health and Health Mediation services.

In 2011-2012 led health programme planning and reviews as a consultant to UN agencies, Global Fund, World Bank and PwC across 9 countries of CEE/CIS and sub-Saharan Africa. Member of Independent Review Committee (IRC) of the GAVI Alliance, leading review of GAVI supported Immunization and HSS programmes for 11 countries.

For 11 years (1999-2010) UN staff in charge of UNICEF Health Sector and UNAIDS programmes in Georgia, UNICEF Immunization Portfolio in Occupied Palestinian Territory and global HIV Partnerships at UNICEF New York headquarters.

As a lead author/co-author of national strategic plans and country applications to the Global Fund, USAID, UNITAID, GAVI, GAIN and Japan Government has mobilized and coordinated management of over US\$ 100 million grants for AIDS, Immunization, Nutrition and Health Systems Strengthening across 19 countries of sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, CEE/CIS and Middle East.

Recipient of Awards from WHO EURO and the Parliament of Georgia. Author/co-author of publications in 2010 UN MDGs Good Practices, 2011 Harvard Kennedy School Review and Oxford University Press.

Edward S. Mason Fellow from John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Received MPA degree from Harvard Kennedy School (US), MD from AIETI Medical School, MPH from Tbilisi State University (Georgia) and post-graduate training in public health at Lund University (Sweden) and University College London (UK).