



XIV

საგარეო ურთიერთობის
ეკონომიკური
განვითარების
ფორუმი



LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM

HEALTHY CITY

GREEN, ECOLOGICALLY CLEAN ENVIRONMENT,
FLEXIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

June 6-7, 2024



PARAGRAPH TBILISI - 1 FLOOR
2 LADO GUDIASHVILI STREET, TBILISI, GEORGIA

Working Languages: Georgian, English
* Simultaneous Interpretation

Since 2007, the **Local Economic Development Forum** has ensured an effective platform for know-how heads, debates, discussions, and the development of long-standing partnership for building up a confident future of our cities. During the event, the city annually hosts both local and international speakers, experts from various fields, representatives of municipalities and academic circles.

Forum is an effective platform for sharing experience, modern approaches, and new ideas that creates a sustainable and long-term perspective for cooperation and development of cities. Tbilisi continues its long-standing commitment and hosts the 14th Local Economic Development Forum – **“Healthy City – Green, Ecologically Clean Environment, Flexible and Sustainable Urban Development”** The forum will be held on June 6th and 7th of this year.

A Healthy City prioritizes the well-being of its residents by integrating policies and initiatives that promote physical, mental, and social health. Both local and central authorities bear the responsibility of crafting health-related policies and leading relevant initiatives to create green and ecofriendly environment. Simultaneously, they strive to create opportunities for economic growth and sustainable development. This multifaceted approach involves the design of infrastructure, municipal services, and programs aimed at promoting healthy habits and bolstering social connectivity. Additionally, efforts are made to address pressing environmental issues such as pollution and climate change, ensuring the cities remain prepared and resilient.

In the framework of the event the following themes will be discussed: Healthy City, Renewable Energy Consumption and Development, Smart Initiatives and Superblocks, Sustainable Socio-economic Development, Healthy City as an Indicator of Sustainable Tourism Development, Development of Eco Transportation and Green Mobility, Climate Neutrality-Reduction of Disaster Risks, Circular Economy for Sustainable Development, the Importance of Spatial Arrangement in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals, Green Building and Infrastructure: Real Estate Market, New Technologies and Startup Environment in Georgia as well as in the Region, Labor Market – Difficulties and Challenges, Civic Engagement and Collaboration, Strengthening Local Businesses for Economic Sustainability, the Influence of Healthy Lifestyle on the Economic of the City, Demography, Migration, Poverty, Housing, Secured and Comfortable Environment, Innovations in Healthcare for Urban Development, Providing Accessibility of the Health Care Services.

HEALTHY CITY

GREEN, ECOLOGICALLY CLEAN ENVIRONMENT, FLEXIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

JUNE 6

09:00 - 10:00 REGISTRATION/WELCOME COFFEE

10:00 - 10:30 WELCOME SPEECH

- **Kakha Kaladze** - Mayor of Tbilisi
- **Levan Davitashvili** – First Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
- **Mikheil Sarjveladze** – Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
- **Eldar Azizov** – The Head of the Executive Power of Baku City
- **Giorgi Tkemaladze** – Chairman of Tbilisi Assembly
- **Mzia Giorgobiani** – Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure
- **Alexander Khvtisiashvili** - Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

10:30 - 10:45 BREAK

10:45 - 12:15 OPENING SESSION

HEALTHY CITY

- Keynote Speaker – **Dr. Kira Fortune**, Regional Advisor of World Health Organization, Head of European Healthy Cities Network
- Moderator – **Andria Basilaia**, Deputy Mayor of Tbilisi
- Speaker – **Dr. Yannish Jones Naik**, Technical Officer – Economy of Well-being, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development ([Video appeal](#))
- Speaker – **Mzia Giorgobiani**, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure
- Speaker – **Nino Tandilashvili**, First Deputy Minister of Environment and Agriculture
- Speaker – **Otar Grigolia**, Member of Tbilisi Assembly, Chairman of “Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia” Fraction

12:15 – 13:15 LUNCH

13:15 – 14:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS

Photo Shoot Necessity

SESSION I – SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

- Keynote Speaker – **Spiro N. Pollalis**, Professor of Design Technology and Management, Emeritus, Harvard Design School, USA ([Online](#))
- Moderator – **Giorgi Nanobashvili**, Head of Economic development team, UNDP
- Speaker – **Nino Latsabidze**, Mayor of Rustavi
- Speaker – **Mehdi Majidi**, Professor, International Consultant and Founder of Libra Alliance, the USA
- Speaker **Aleksandre Jashiashvili**, Head of Sustainable Development Department, Procredit Bank

SESSION II – DEVELOPMENT OF ECO-TRANSPORTATION AND GREEN MOBILITY

- Moderator – **Viktor Tsilosani**, Head of Transport and Urban Development Agency of Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker – **Shalva Ogbaidze**, Chairman of the Traffic Issues Commission of the Tbilisi City Council
- Speaker – **Ilie Ceban**, Deputy Mayor of Chisinau
- Speaker – **Irina Darchia**, General Director of company “E-Motors Georgia”
- Speaker – **Davit Bakradze**, Head of Traffic Supervision Department of the Organizational Division, Patrol Police Department, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

SESSION III – ACCESSIBILITY TO HEALTH SERVICES AND INNOVATIONS

- Moderator - **Tamar Gogitidze**, Head of Health Programs Division, Health and Social Department of Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker - **Eter Kiguradze**, Director of the National Screening Center
- Speaker - **Tinatin Chincharauli**, Neuropsychologist, BCBA, Professor, Child Development Institute, Ilia State University
- Speaker - **Yonjie Yon**, Technical Officer on Ageing and Health, WHO Europe
- Speaker - **Daniel Eriksson**, CEO/Nordic Center for Sustainable Healthcare Founder

14:45 – 16:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS

Photo Shoot Necessity

SESSION I – TOWARDS FUTURE READY CITIES: EXPLORING INNOVATIVE GOVERNANCE APPROACHES FOR URBAN AREAS AND MUNICIPALITIES

- Moderator – **Tiko Tkeshelashvili**, Manager of the "Mayors for Economic Growth" project in Georgia, UNDP
- Speaker – **Ioseb Khakhaleishvili**, Mayor of Kutaisi
- Speaker – **Lado Jurkhdze**, Mayor of Khoni
- Speaker – **Manana Narimanidze**, Mayor of Dusheti
- Speaker – **Theo Cox**, Demos Helsinki ([Online](#))
- Speaker – **Rusudan Zhozhadze**, Head of Municipal Policy Department, Batumi City Hall ([Online](#))
- Speaker – **Revaz Barbakadze**, Rustavi Innovation Hub

SESSION II – HEALTHY CITY AS A KEY FEATURE AND AN INDICATOR OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

- Moderator – **Tamar Khakhishvili**, LEPL Agency of Protected Areas - Deputy Chairman
- Speaker – **Archil Chikovani**, Mayor of Batumi
- Speaker – **Mikheil Koplataidze**, Deputy Head of the Department, Tourism and Resorts of Adjara A. R
- Speaker – **Medea Janiashvili**, Deputy Head of Georgian National Tourism Administration
- Speaker – **Ketevan Meladze**, Horeca - Hotel Star Georgia, Founder/President
- Speaker – **Shota Burjanadze**, Founder of the Georgian Restaurateurs Association

SESSION III – RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND DEVELOPMENT

- Moderator – **Davit Narmania**, Professor of Tbilisi State University, Chairman of GNERC
- Speaker – **Margalita Arabidze**, Head of the Department of Energy Efficiency Renewable Energy Policy and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
- Speaker - **Zviad Kharebava**, PhD Director Infrastructure and Environment, PMCG
- Speaker – **Giorgi Abramishvili**, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Renewable Energy Development Association of Georgia
- Speaker – **Nana Berdzenishvili**, Caucasus Renewable Energy Holding ESG Manager

16:00 -16:15 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION I – CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Moderator – **Nino Janashia**, Advisor, Circular City Labs in Georgia, GIZ
- Speaker – **Dr. Maurizio Carta**, Deputy Mayor of Palermo
- Speaker – **Davit Pachulia**, Director of „Tbiliservice Group“ LLC
- Speaker – **Demetres Economides**, International Expert PMCG
- Speaker – **Oriol Segarra Pol**, BUMERANG Founder & CEO, Founding member & Secretary Board of Directors “New ERA”- New European Reuse Alliance
- Speaker – **Giorgi Jebirashvili**, Head of Projects in Caucasus and Central Asia, Tomra Collection South & East Europe

SESSION II – LABOR MARKET - DIFFICULTIES AND CHALLENGES

- Moderator – **Natia Chelidze**, Doctor of Economic, First Deputy Head of Administration of Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker – **Beka Peradze**, Head of Labor Inspection Office
- Speaker – **Nino Veltauri**, Director of the State Agency for the Promotion of Employment
- Speaker – **Elene Tskhakaia**, Project Manager of Modernization the Professional Education and Extension Systems in Agriculture, UNDP
- Speaker – **Soso Pkhakadze**, President of the Georgian Business Association

JUNE 7**09:00 - 10:00 REGISTRATION/WELCOME COFFEE**

10:00 - 11:15 PARALLEL SESSIONS**Photo Shoot Necessity**

SESSION I – GREEN BUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE, REAL ESTATE MARKET

- Keynote Speaker – **Paloma Taltavull de La Paz**, Full Professor in Applied Economics, The University of Alicante, Spain. Chair of Real Estate Advisory Group - REM, UNECE
- Moderator – **Teimuraz Bolotashvili**, Head of Architecture Service of Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker – **Shio Khetsuriani**, General Director of The Development Company "ARCHI"
- Speaker – **Nikoloz Bakhtadze**, Director of "Domus Group" LLC
- Speaker – **Margalita Arabidze**, Head of the Department of Energy Efficiency Renewable Energy Policy and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia

SESSION II – CLIMATE NEUTRALITY - REDUCTION OF DISASTER RISKS

- Moderator – **Akaki Rukhadze**, Local economy development expert, GIZ
- Speaker – **Nino Tkhlava**, Head of Environment and Climate Change Department, Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
- Speaker – **Ketevan Skhiereli**, Early Warning Systems Issue Program Manager UNDP
- Speaker – **Gocha Koberidze**, Executive Director of "Development and Environment" Foundation

SESSION III – STRENGTHENING LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

- Moderator – **Levan Vepkhvadze**, Executive Director of The Business Association
- Speaker – **Genadi Balanchivadze**, Mayor of Tskaltubo
- Speaker – **Irakli Lekvinadze**, Director of the National Competition Agency of Georgia
- Speaker – **Lasha Bostashvili**, Head of the Small and Medium Business Development Department of the Produce in Georgia Agency
- Speaker – **Nino Epkhoshvili**, Personal Organizational Development Center, Coach, Founder of “Success School”

SESSION I – THE IMPORTANCE OF SPATIAL PLANNING FOR ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- Moderator – **Revaz Sokhadze**, Chairman of the Urban Planning and City Farming Commission of the Tbilisi City Council
- Speaker – **Viktor Tsilosani**, Head of Transport and Urban Development Agency of Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker – **Nikoloz Kakhetelidze**, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Commission of the Tbilisi City Council
- Speaker – **Ketevan Kandelakishvili**, - Deputy Head of Department of Environment And Green Spaces, Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker – **Kaja Schaefer**, Inter-Regional Advisor, UN-Habitat ([online](#))
- Speaker – **Professor Charles Vitek**, Center for Disease Control Regional Director for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- Speaker – **Natalie Muller**, Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)
- Speaker – **Thomas Stellmach**, Urban Planning Expert, TSPA Director

SESSION II – IMPACT OF HEALTHY LIVING ON CITY ECONOMY

- Moderator – **Vladimer Bozhadze**, Member of the Tbilisi City Council, University of Sports, president of the Georgian National Skateboarding Federation
- Speaker – **Giorgi Chakvetadze**, Member of the Parliament of Georgia
- Speaker – **Guram Okropiridze**, Chairman of Sports and Youth Affairs Commission of Tbilisi City Council
- Speaker – **Irakli Gvilava**, Head of Sports and Youth Affairs Department of Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker – **Vasil Liparteliani**, Associate Professor of the University of Sports , Invited Sports Expert of the Special Penitentiary Service, Founder and CEO of “Sports” LLC

SESSION III – IMPACT OF GREEN AND RECREATIONAL SPACES ON GENDER GROUPS

- Moderator – **Nino Burdzenidze**, Adviser of the Mayor of Tbilisi in Gender Issues
- Speaker – **Nino Tsilosani**, Chairperson of the Permanent Parliamentary Gender Equality Council
- Speaker – **Tinatini Nibloshvili**, Chairperson of the Gender Equality Council at Tbilisi Assembly
- Speaker – **Nino Museridze**, Professor/ Reproductologist
- Speaker - **Irakli Kokhraidze**, Professor of the Department of Tbilisi Medical University, Doctor of Medicine, Head of Oncology Department of Karaps Medline

12:45 -13:30 LUNCH

13:45 – 15:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS**Photo Shoot Necessity**

SESSION I – HEALTHY LIFESTYLE: EXERCISE, REST, PROPER NUTRITION

- Moderator – **Avtandil Tsintsadze**, Member of Tbilisi City Council, World Champion in Sambo
- Speaker – **Julianne Williams**, Technical Officer on Non-Communicable Diseases, Special initiative for NCDs and innovation, WHO Europe ([Online](#))
- Speaker – **Zaza Telia**, Sports doctor, Dermato-venerologist, Doctor of medicine
- Speaker – **Dr. Ketevan Beridze**. PhD, Professor of Physical Education and Sports State University
- Speaker – **Nino Cherkezishvili**, Personal Fitness Trainer, Nutritionist
- Speaker – **Kateryna Denysova**, Programme Specialist, HIV and Health in EECA Region, UNDP
- Speaker - **Nika Kobakhidze**, Head of the Data Processing and Analysis Department of Central Criminal Police Department, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

SESSION II – DEMOGRAPHY, MIGRATION, POVERTY, DECENT HOUSING, SAFE AND COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT

- Moderator – **Natia Kvitsiani**, Project coordinator of the International Organization for Migration in Georgia, IOM
- Speaker – **Gaioz Talakvadze**, Head of Financial Department of Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker – **Gogita Todradze**, Executive Director of the National Statistical Service of Georgia
- Speaker – **Rostom Magrakvelidze**, Mayor of Aspindza
- Speaker – **Lado Jurkhadze**, Mayor of Khoni
- Speaker – **Vakhtang Charaia**, Doctor of Economics, Professor, Dean of Business and Economics School, Grigol Robakidze University

SESSION III – LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

- Moderator – **Archil Gorduladze**, Chairman of the Legal Issues and Human Rights Commission of the Tbilisi Assembly
- Speaker – **Salome Kurasbediani**, Member of Parliament of Georgia
- Speaker – **Tengiz Mtvarelishvili**, Chairman of Telavi City Council
- Speaker – **Nino Rukhadze**, Member of the Tbilisi City Council, executive director of the National Association of Local Self-Governments of Georgia
- Speaker – **Besik Chezha**, Deputy Mayor of Zugdidi
- Speaker – **Koba Lursmanashvili**, Mayor of Kharagauli,

15:15 - 16:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS

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SESSION I – MODERN TECHNOLOGIES AND START-UP ENVIRONMENT IN GEORGIA AND THE REGION

- Moderator – **Giorgi Nanobashvili**, Head of Economic Development team, UNDP
- Speaker – **Archil Chikovani**, Mayor of Batumi
- Speaker – **Avtandil Kasradze**, Chairman of the Georgian Innovation and Technology Agency
- Speaker – **Vakhtang Charaia**, Doctor of Economics, Professor, Dean of Business and Economics School, Grigol Robakidze University
- Speaker – **David Gelantia**, Founder of the Freiburg-based startup VoteRookie
- Speaker – **Guri Koiava**, "Axel" Angel Investor Network

SESSION II – CONNECTING CITIES - RENEWABLE ENERGY OPTIONS AT THE LEVEL OF MUNICIPALITY

- Moderator – **Ketevan Papashvili**, Regional Advisor in South Eastern Europe, Connecting Cities GIZ
- Speaker – **Saba Odisharia**, Chairman of Senaki Municipality City Council
- Speaker – **Lado Jurkhadze**, Mayor of Khoni
- Speaker – **Otar Tsotniashvili**, Head of Eredvi Municipality
- Speaker – **Dr. Irakli Samkharadze**, Energy Consultant, Legal expert

SESSION III – THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- Moderator – **Tamar Gogitidze**, Head of Health Programs Division, Health and Social Department of Tbilisi City Hall
- Speaker – **Kakha Abuladze**, Director of Tbilisi Kindergarten Management Agency
- Speaker – **Tamar Gagoshidze**, Psychologist, Neurotherapist, Head of The Neuropsychology Center
- Speaker – **Maya Kherkheulidze**, Doctor of Medicine, Professor, Head of the Department of Pediatrics of TSSU
- Speaker – **Lana Giorgidze**, Executive Director of “Your car seat”

CLOSING SPEECH

- **Vakhtang Lomjaria** - Head of Municipal Department of Economic Development at Tbilisi City Hall

