

Annual Report/ 2015

საპატენტი



საქართველოს ინტელექტუალური
საკუთრების ეროვნული ცენტრი

საქპატენტი

SAKPATENTI

NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
CENTER OF GEORGIA

www.sakpatenti.org.ge

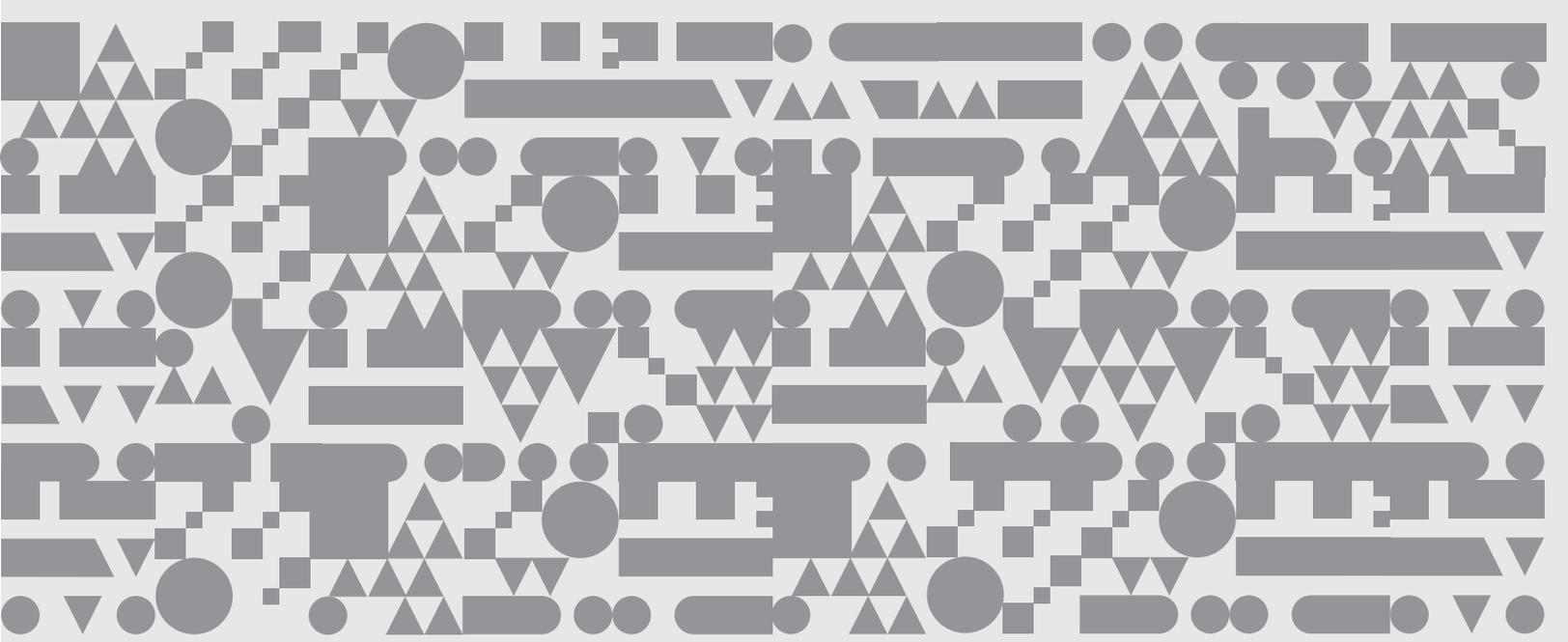


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Foreword

Dear Reader,

We are presenting the annual report of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti for 2015. Along with statistics, you will find in the report detailed information on our priorities and their implementation.

Sakpatenti's activities in 2015 can be assessed as especially successful in the international arena. Namely, Georgia moved from the WIPO Group of Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European Countries (CACEEC) to the Regional Group of Central European and Baltic Countries (CEBS). Accordingly, Georgia will be represented at the international level as a member of the group of European Union countries. Transition to this group will facilitate stronger cooperation with EU member states and the harmonization of intellectual property with European standards.

In 2015, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Francis Gurry paid an official visit to Georgia. During the visit, the Memorandum of Understanding in the field of intellectual property protection was signed between the government of Georgia and WIPO. At this time, the government of Georgia highlighted the importance of implementing the necessary legal and procedural steps to enable Georgia's recognition as one of the countries ensuring the proper protection of intellectual property.

With the support of WIPO and its Academy, Sakpatenti set up an intellectual property training center, which offers special courses in the field of intellectual property for various target groups. It also works on developing intellectual property programs for representatives of countries in the region.

Also in 2015, the Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Cooperation was signed between Sakpatenti and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO).

In accordance with the Memorandum, the Georgian trademark and design databases will be integrated into the EUIPO databases. As a result, information on trademarks and designs registered at Sakpatenti will become available on the EUIPO webpage. In addition, local and foreign users will be able to carry out searches in the TMview and Dsview databases using the Georgian interface. The EUIPO will also assist Sakpatenti in drafting trademark and design guidelines and building the capacity of Georgian examiners.

The year 2015 was very fruitful in terms of cooperation with the government of the United States of America.

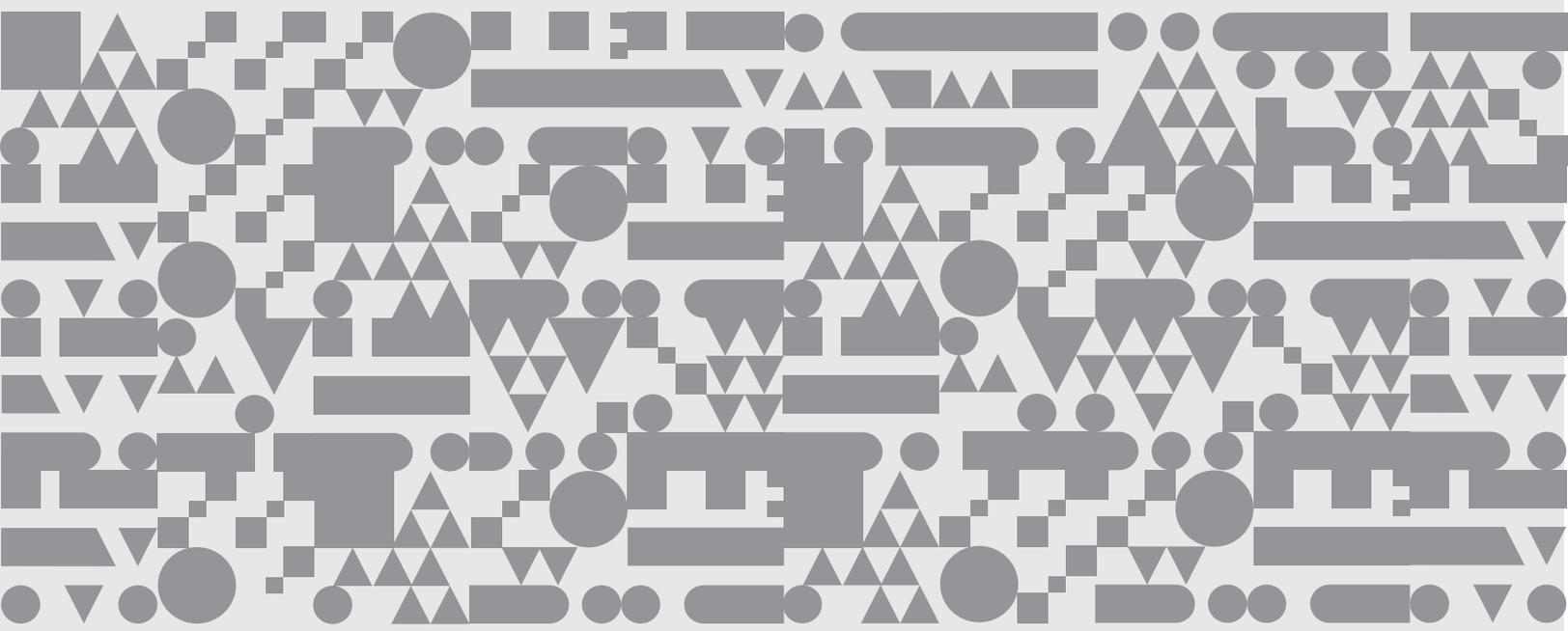


Twelve Sakpatenti employees participated in a capacity building training program at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Various events were organized with the support and assistance of the Embassy of the United States of America in Georgia, USAID, and CLDP for further improvement of the intellectual property system in Georgia.

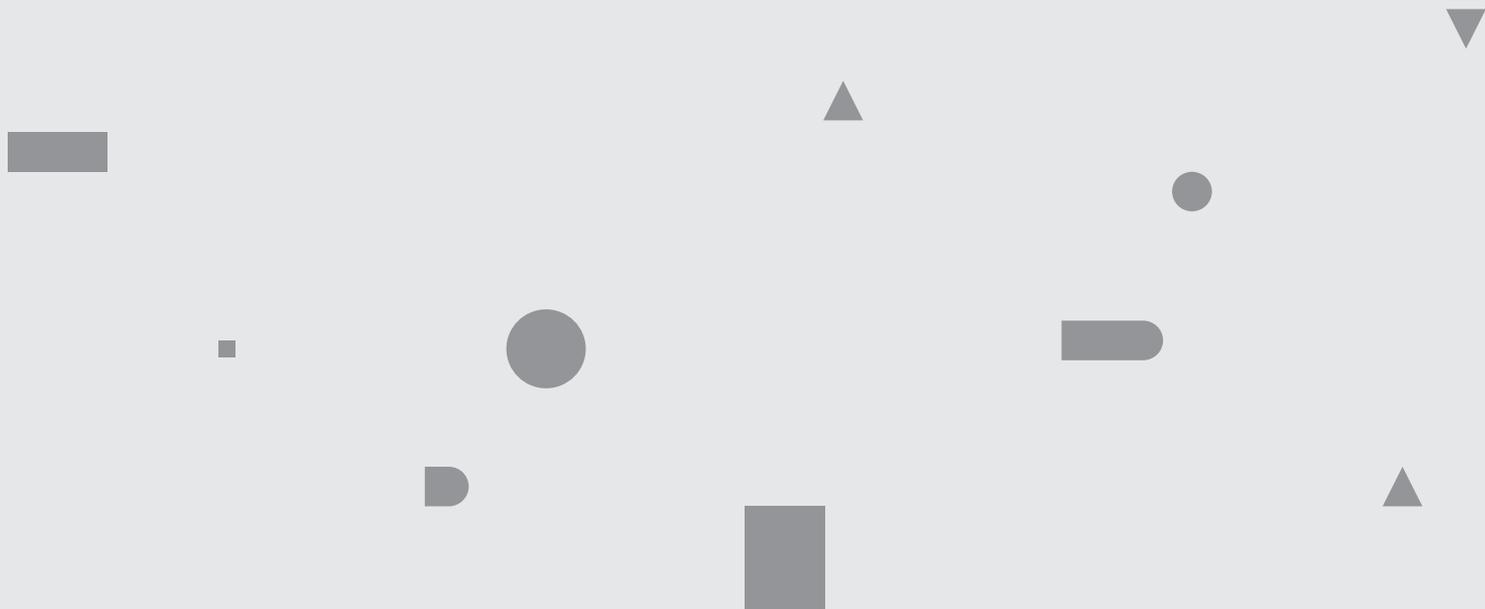
Compared with the previous year, the number of trademark applications increased by up to 10% in 2015. Notably, in contrast to the abovementioned increase, the number of trademark appeals decreased by about 20%. This progress has been conditioned by the activities implemented by Sakpatenti, as detailed in the present annual report.

Sakpatenti is committed to continuing its work in 2016 for the development of the intellectual property system in Georgia, as a powerful intellectual property system is a precondition for the country's economic development. We successfully responded to the challenges facing us in 2015, and we look forward to sharing with you our new achievements in 2016.

Nikoloz Gogilidze - Chairman
LEPL National Intellectual Property
Center of Georgia Sakpatenti



Events



January

15



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Scientific-Research Center of the Agriculture in order to promote protection and development of agricultural products, Georgian appellations of origin and geographical indications.

20

To draft a strategic plan against pirated CD and DVD discs and introduce methods of its implementation, a meeting was held with representatives of sound recording studios. As representatives of the studios noted, the main source of distribution of pirated products is internet.

28



5 new appellations of origin of mineral water – “Mitarki”, “Skuri”, “Utsera”, “Bolnisi” and “Zvare” were registered.

5

Sakpatenti started rendering free of charge patent-information services to scientific research centers to render patent-information services using international commercial and non-commercial patent databases. It helped scientists and engineers to get familiarized with scientific and technological achievements in the fields of their activity and evaluate the patentability of the object under study.

26



The State Service of Intellectual Property and Innovation of the Kyrgyz Republic issued registration titles for seven Georgian appellations of origin. Exclusive rights on “Khvanchkara”, “Tvishi”, “Akhasheni”, “Tsinandali”, “Mukuzani”, “Napareuli” and “Kindzmarauli” on the territory of Kyrgyz Republic were granted to the “Georgian National Wine Agency”.

February

March

3



Sakpatenti Chairman participated in the Conference “Intellectual Property and Beyond”, within which a meeting was held with Director of the Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia and future cooperation plans were discussed (Riga, Latvia).

5



For the purpose of sharing experience of Estonia, the visit of Chairman to the Estonian Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Centre (EIPTTC) took place. Within the visit a meeting was held with the Director General of the Estonian Patent Office (Tallinn, Estonia).

9

Sakpatenti employees attended the Intellectual Property Basic Seminar on Trademarks and design, organized by the European Union agency – the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) for the purpose of capacity building and sharing experience of EUIPO (Alicante, Spain).

10

The Interagency Coordination Council for Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights was set up, which aims to introduce an effective system for promotion and protection of intellectual property rights and to establish effective system on combatting infringements of intellectual property rights.

12



A meeting was held at Sakpatenti Office with Mr. Matthew Murray Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce of USA. During the meeting future cooperation between Sakpatenti and the US Department of Commerce in the framework of the activities with the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) was discussed.

16



Sakpatenti participated in the thirty-third session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT), which aims developing international legislation in this field and bringing in line with it legislations of WIPO member states (Geneva, Switzerland).

17



The first meeting of the Interagency Coordination Council for Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement was held, during which priority directions of intellectual property protection were defined, including one of the main problems of this field related to aspects of infringement of copyright in the internet.

19



Hungarian Intellectual Property Office

Sakpatenti delegation visited Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO). The aim of the visit was familiarization with the specificity of work and sharing experience of HIPO and its structural units, including the Coordination Council and the National Board Against Counterfeiting (Budapest, Hungary).

23



Visit of Sakpatenti management to the European Patent Office (EPO) to discuss the biennial Program of Co-operation Activities, which includes issues of negotiations on the validation agreement, capacity building of patent examiners, promotion of innovation activities and access to commercial databases (Munich, Germany).

26

Sakpatenti management participated in the 8th International Conference on “Innovation and Creativity of Women – Design in Business Strategy”, organized by WIPO, within which a bilateral meeting took place with the President of the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland to discuss issues of future cooperation (Warsaw, Poland).

30

For the purpose of sharing knowledge between examiners, a representative from Sakpatenti attended the Seminar “Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions: Regional, National and Local Experiences”, during which the need for updating the work of the intergovernmental committee was identified, in order to develop international legal mechanisms for protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional expressions of folklore (Geneva, Switzerland).

31



Winners of Millennium Innovations Competition presented to Sakpatenti examiners their invention “Multi-Climatizer”. Sakpatenti conducted preliminary search for the invention of the 10th grade school pupils Irakli Kapanadze and Karlo Khutsishvili, on the basis of which patentability criteria of the device were evaluated.

April

3



Sakpatenti launched a campaign for the World Intellectual Property Day – April 26, celebrated in 2015 under the slogan “Get Up, Stand Up. For Music”. The aim of the campaign was to send a clear message to the society that piracy and infringement of copyright is a punishable crime.

4

Sakpatenti representative participated with the status of a member of the jury in the republican round of the International Olympiad of Young Scientists and Inventors, organized by the Chaglar Educational Institutions, and awarded special prizes to the participants.

7



To promote inventive activity and commercialization of its results, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU), within which Sakpatenti will render assistance to the University scientific-research structural units and laboratories in conducting patent information search as well as adopting the search methodologies.

9

Sakpatenti representative attended WIPO Regional Seminar on Raising Awareness on New Types of Trademarks/Protection of Non-Traditional Marks – Current Status and Challenges, where the international practice regarding non-traditional trademarks was discussed (Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan).

17

Musical work of composer Mamuka (Peke) Begashvili was announced as the winner of the musical competition “Get Up, Stand Up. For Music” within the campaign on occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day – April 26. The musical work was performed by 20 well-known Georgian singers. The winner was awarded 1000 (one thousand) GEL and a mobile phone (smartphone). The song was recorded at Bravo Records, a CD was released and a video commercial was created.

18



Within the campaign “Get Up, Stand Up. For Music”, dedicated to the World Intellectual Property Day – April 26, Sakpatenti organized a workshop for musicians on copyright protection, during which copyright protection mechanisms and management issues were discussed.

21



Sakpatenti employees participated in conference PATLIB 2015, organized by the European Patent Office, aimed to share work experience of PATLIB patent libraries (Munich, Germany).

21

Training Workshop on Intellectual Property organized by State Intellectual Property Office of the Peoples’ Republic of China, was attended by Sakpatenti employees. The training was aimed at capacity building and familiarizing with the intellectual property system and legislation of the Peoples’ Republic of China (Shanghai, China).

22



Students of Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA) visited Sakpatenti and familiarized with Sakpatenti functions, intellectual property subject-matters, economic analysis of the effectiveness of the patent system, and trademarks as a major branding tool. The lectures were delivered at Sakpatenti within the framework of “Business Laboratory” project.

23

Sakpatenti representatives attended National Seminar on Intellectual Property Policies in Universities, organized by WIPO, which was aimed to share experience of Belarus, which is well-known for intensive inventive activity and its successful commercialization (Minsk, Belarus).

26



A reception took place on occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day – April 26. The reception was opened by Mr. Mikheil Giorgadze, Minister of Culture and Monuments Protection of Georgia. H.E. Mr. Richard Norland, Ambassador of the United States of America to Georgia and Mr. Boris Iarochevitch, Deputy Head of the Delegation of European Union to Georgia, made opening addresses. At the end of the reception, the winner of the musical competition “Get Up, Stand Up. For Music” was awarded a special prize and his song was presented.

27



Sakpatenti participated in the Session of the Georgian-Austrian Joint Commission for Foreign Economic Relations, within which a bilateral meeting was held with the Austrian Patent Office to discuss joint measures for capacity building of examiners (Vienna, Austria).

28



In partnership with Sakpatenti, an annual meeting of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC) was held in Tbilisi, to discuss current global issues in the copyright field.

29



Within the campaign “Be Aware of Your Rights”, a meeting was held with members of the Georgian Publishers and Booksellers Association, who were provided detailed information on publishers’ copyright, civil, administrative and criminal liability in case of copyright infringement.

May

3

Sakpatenti representative participated as a member of the jury in the international round of the International Olympiad of Young Scientists and Inventors, organized by the Chaglar Educational Institutions, and awarded to the winner a special prize.

4

In order to study the reasonability of establishing Intellectual Property Educational Centre in Georgia with the support of WIPO, expert Mr. Rosano Ramchanar and Ms. Isabella Pimentel, Program Officer of WIPO Academy, paid an official visit to Georgia. The delegation held meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, universities, the High School of Justice, business sector, the International Chamber of Commerce, the Economic Committee of the Parliament of Georgia, potential lecturers and project coordinators.

5



Sakpatenti management took part in the Economic, Energy and Trade Working Group Meeting of the US-Georgia Strategic Partnership Commission (Washington, DC, USA).

6



Sakpatenti management held official meetings with Ms. Michelle Lee, Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), within which issues of capacity building of Sakpatenti staff members and implementation of joint training programs were discussed. Meetings also took place with representatives of the Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA) and the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the Department of Commerce.

6



In order to raise awareness in the field of IP, Sakpatenti hosted the second and fourth year students of the Business-Engineering Faculty of the Georgian Technical University and presented IP protection mechanisms.

19

Sakpatenti representatives attended workshop on Access to Technology for Innovation – Search Strategies and Techniques, where access to patent databases, creation of patent technical information centres, the same as technology and innovation support centres (TISC) were discussed (Almaty, Kazakhstan).

20

Sakpatenti representatives participated in the Meeting on Developing a Regional Central Asian Network of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (Almaty, Kazakhstan).

21



Sakpatenti Chairman attended Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a New Act of the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration, held in Geneva at the WIPO headquarters, which was completed by the official signing ceremony of the Act.

21



Intellectual Property Agency of the Republic of Armenia granted certificates of registration for appellations “Tsinandali”, “Akhasheni”, “Kindzmarauli”, “Khvanchkara”, “Manavi” and “Mukuzani”. The exclusive right on these appellations on the territory of Armenia was granted to LEPL National Wine Agency.

25



Within the project “Research and Innovation Competition for Schoolgirls”, held with co-participation of Sakpatenti, a meeting took place with schoolgirls who are interested in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) during their university studies.

26

For capacity building, Sakpatenti representative attended the Regional Innovation Training for Representatives of the Eastern Partnership Countries, organized within the EU 7th Framework Program for Research and Technological Development, by the International Cooperative Network of Science and Technological Innovations, which was aimed to improve the innovation policy and management in the Eastern Partnership countries (Minsk, Belarus).

28



Within the visit of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Mr. Francis Gurry to Georgia a Memorandum of Understanding in the field of intellectual property protection was signed between the Government of Georgia and WIPO, aimed at further strengthening of cooperation on administration and legal protection of intellectual property rights, developing the geographical indications protection system, drafting IP strategy and promoting innovation activities.

29

Director General of WIPO held meetings with the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development, Minister of Culture and Monument Protection and Minister of Foreign Affairs, during which he outlined the progress of Georgia in the intellectual property field regarding harmonization of legislation of Georgia with EU legislation.

29



Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU) awarded Director General of WIPO Mr. Francis Gurry the title of honorary doctor. Mr. Francis Gurry delivered a public lecture for TSU students and professors on “Protection of Intellectual Property in Contemporary Economy”.

29



WIPO Regional Workshop for Caucasian, Central Asian and Eastern European Countries was opened in Tbilisi, which discussed the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled and Beijing Treaty on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances.

June

1

Decree of the Government “On Approval of the List of Measures to Fulfill the Obligations under the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Super Cup 2015 and the Related Events” was drafted. Coordination of measures was assigned to the Interagency Coordination Council for Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement, functioning at Sakpatenti.

1



Delegation of Sakpatenti, National Food Agency and Georgian Wine Agency visited Institute National de l’Origine et de la Qualité (INAO), to get familiar with the geographical indications protection system of France and establish new working contacts (Montreux, France).

3



In order to raise awareness in intellectual property field, pupils of Misaktsieli and Zhinvali schools of the “New Generation” attended a lecture at Sakpatenti specially prepared for them. The meeting was held on the initiative of the local committee of Anti-Violence National Network, the partner of PH International.

11



Within the campaign “Be Aware of Your Rights”, a meeting was held with members of the Association of Photographers of Georgia, during which problematic issues of copyright protection and enforcement were discussed.

12



In cooperation with the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), Sakpatenti drafted legislative amendments and by-laws, to ensure UEFA intellectual property protection and to satisfy special requirements.

16



A seminar for farmers working in Samegrelo region was held within the project “Let’s Meet Europe”. Farmers familiarized with the advantages of products protected by geographical indications for the European Union market (Zugdidi, Georgia).

16

Sakpatenti representative attended Regional Seminar on the Multilateral Legal Framework and Practice of Patents, where the current policy and international legal mechanisms of patent protection in pharmaceutical field and defence of public interests were discussed (Ashgabat, Turkmenistan).

18



In partnership with the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP), a workshop was organized for Georgian judges. The US judges familiarized the participants with experience of the United States of America on intellectual property disputes (Batumi, Georgia).

20



In partnership with CLDP, a seminar was organized for Georgian journalists, where basic issues on trademark protection, intellectual property impact on the economy, innovation, creativity and culture were discussed (Batumi, Georgia).

22



Within the project on drafting a national IP strategy, to assess the current intellectual property system in Georgia, Mr. Ronald Marchant, Consultant of WIPO, and Ms. Tamara Nanayakkara, Head of WIPO Innovation Policy Section of SMEs and Entrepreneurship Support Division, visited Georgia.

26



On the initiative of "Media Center- Kakheti", a meeting was held with farmers and entrepreneurs on the importance and the role of farmers and the associations of farmers in registering appellations of origin (Telavi, Georgia).

27



A seminar was organized for information agency editors and information-analytical program producers of Georgia on raising awareness in intellectual property field, as one of the responsibilities under the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) (Lopota Gorge, Georgia).

29



Sakpatenti representative participated in 30th Session of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, which works on improving the international legal framework in this field and bringing in line with it legislations of WIPO member states (Geneva, Switzerland).

30



Students of the "Innovation and Development Foundation" familiarized with general principles of intellectual property protection during a meeting held at Sakpatenti, where intellectual property objects and principles of their legal protection were discussed.

3



Within the campaign “Be Aware of Your Rights”, the second meeting was held at Sakpatenti with members of the Georgian Publishers and Booksellers Association, where they received detailed explanation on the issues related to the publishers’ rights, civil, administrative and criminal liability in case of infringement of publishers’ copyright.

7



Sakpatenti launched a campaign to protect UEFA intellectual property rights. The aim of the campaign was to explain to the society the actions prohibited by law and inform about the sanctions while violating the respective legislation.

7



Sakpatenti presented a social video clip which was specially created for the campaign to protect UEFA intellectual property rights during the UEFA Super Cup 2015 Final Match in Tbilisi.

8



Within the project “Let’s Meet Europe”, a seminar was held for farmers working in Achara region, who learned about the advantages of goods protected by geographical indications to be imported to the European Union market (Batumi, Georgia).

9



The First International Conference “Georgia against Counterfeiting” served the purpose of starting a private and public sector dialogue against counterfeiting. The event, organized by the Sakpatenti, in cooperation with the GLZ and ICC Georgia, was attended by representatives of the Government of Georgia, international organizations, Georgian and foreign private companies, including representatives from law firms (Batumi, Georgia).

14



For the purpose of raising public awareness, Agreement was signed with WIPO concerning the translation into Georgian and printing of the WIPO publications (Geneva, Switzerland).

19



Sakpatenti management visited the State Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova (AGEPI) to discuss the possibilities of further cooperation in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between AGEPI and Sakpatent (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova).

20

Sakpatenti representative participated in the conference “IP Executive Week”, organized by the European Patent Office (EPO) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), where the role of intellectual property offices in global economy was discussed (Alicante, Spain).

23



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Chairman of Sakpatenti Nikoloz Gogilidze presented to patent attorneys a detailed report of the one-year work, which reflected reorganization of the Office and the new structure, priority directions of the 4-year action plan, establishment of the Intellectual Property Educational Center, drafting an intellectual property strategy and promotion of innovation activities.

August

28



Regional Workshop "Hope Project 2015" was organized by WIPO, the World Women Inventors & Entrepreneurs Association (WWIEA) and Sakpatenti on the topic of the development of human resources in creative/inventive process in the field of innovations, invention protection and intellectual property rights management (Batumi, Georgia).

September

10



Sakpatenti took a favourable decision concerning registration of four new geographical indications – "Akhalkalaki Potato", "Kutaisi Greens", "Tqibuli Tea" and "Machakhela Honey".

12



With the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Sakpatenti started work on improvement of the electronic system of applications, development of an electronic office management system and a new website.

13



Sakpatenti representative participated in the work of the UPOV Technical Working Party, during which cases of testing of vegetation cycles of plants for distinctness, uniformity and stability were discussed.

18



To raise awareness of Georgian lawyers engaged in the field of intellectual property, workshop on Litigation of Trademark and Copyright Disputes was held, during which US experts discussed issues related to registration of trademarks in bad faith, determining similarities between 2D and 3D marks and recognition of "well-known" trademarks (Tbilisi, Georgia).

21



Sakpatenti representatives attended training in USPTO on "Introduction to USPTO Patent Examination: Laws, Process and Practice", to familiarize with the United States patent system, to share US experience in patent examination field and to improve practical skills of application processing (Alexandria, Virginia, USA).

24



Within the European Union project “Let’s Meet Europe”, the seminar was organized for farmers of Samtskhe-Javakheti region. During the meeting the advantages of products protected by geographical indications for European market were discussed (Akhaltsikhe, Georgia).

25

Sakpatenti Management took part in the Meeting of the US-Georgia Strategic Partnership Commission, where a report was presented to the US Government on cooperation (Washington, USA).

29



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Legal Aid Service and Sakpatenti, under which Sakpatenti undertook the responsibility to ensure professional training on issues related to intellectual property law for lawyers of the Legal Aid Service.

30



International Conference on geographical indications and appellations of origin “Latest Developments on the International Arena” was organized by WIPO in Tbilisi. The conference discussed the latest developments in the field of geographical indications and the international system for their protection.

October

1



Within the International Conference on the protection of geographical indications and appellations of origin, which was attended by up to 70 representatives from various countries, an exhibition and tasting of Georgian products took place for the purpose of popularization of Georgian geographical indications and appellations of origin.

2

Within the project “Let’s Meet Europe”, a seminar was held for farmers working in Racha region, who familiarized with the advantages of products protected by geographical indications for the European Union market (Ambrolauri, Georgia).

2



Sakpatenti successfully negotiated transition from the WIPO Central Asian, Caucasus and certain countries of Eastern Europe (CACEEC), which unites CIS countries, to the regional group of Central European and Baltic Countries (CEBS).

7



An exhibition of specimens of Georgian cultural heritage and tasting of Georgian wines of appellations of origin and cheese protected by geographical indications took place within the Fifty-Fifth series of meetings of Assemblies of the member states of the WIPO. The ceremony was attended by up to 1000 delegates from 188 countries (Geneva, Switzerland).

7



The Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Cooperation between the European Union Intellectual Property Office – Trade Marks and Designs – (EUIPO) was signed, which provides for integration of Georgian applications into databases, cooperation in training programs and support in drafting trademark and design guidelines (Geneva, Switzerland).

7



The Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on cooperation in setting up an Intellectual Property Educational Centre with WIPO support (Geneva, Switzerland).

20



Sakpatenti delegation participated in annual Worldwide Symposium on Geographical Indications, organized by WIPO, which is an international forum on issues of protection and use of geographical indications (Budapest, Hungary).

22



Representatives of “Dito Tsintsadze Foundation” handed over a certificate of commendation to Sakpatenti representatives for their support and assistance.

27



In the framework of the visit of the Afghanistan Government delegation to Georgia, a meeting was held with Director of Afghanistan Central Business Registry and Intellectual Property of Ministry of Commerce and Industry of Afghanistan. During the meeting the parties discussed prospects for mutual cooperation in the field of innovations, protection of trademarks and geographical indications.

29

Sakpatenti Chairman took part in the meeting of US-Georgia high-level dialogue on trade and investments (HLTD), where the changes related to intellectual property rights in Georgia were discussed.

November

2

Sakpatenti representative participated in the session of WIPO Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, during which the draft amendments to common regulations of the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks were discussed (Geneva, Switzerland).

9



The Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Municipal Centre for Legal Assistance and Public Engagement, which provides for drafting educational programs, offering lectures and seminars in intellectual property law for trainer-lawyers of the Municipal Centre and their professional training in this direction.

9



Sakpatenti participated in the 16th session of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) and meeting of Working Group of the regional group of Central European and Baltic Countries (CEBS), where Georgia expressed its position concerning readiness to cooperate on intellectual property rights in developing and least developed countries regarding education and professional development, cooperation with educational institutions of judges (Geneva, Switzerland).

15

Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Serbia, which provides for exchange of knowledge and experiences in delivering intellectual property services to clients (Belgrade, Serbia).

16



Sakpatenti participated in the session of WIPO Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications, where documents related to the Agreement of the Design Law and proposals submitted in relation to protection of country names were discussed (Geneva, Switzerland).

17

Within the project “Let’s Meet Europe”, a seminar was held for farmers working in Lower Kartli region, who familiarized with the advantages of products protected by geographical indications for the European Union market (Marneuli, Georgia).

19

A meeting with the delegation of the US Trade Representative’s Office was held at Sakpatenti as a follow-up of US-Georgia high-level dialogue on trade and investments. During the meeting changes related to intellectual property rights, programs for the IP Educational Center and possible involvement of the USA in this regard were discussed.

23

Sakpatenti delegation participated in WIPO International Conference: “Innovation, Economic Development and Intellectual Property”, aimed at sharing experience in the field of innovations, commercialization of inventions and transfer of knowledge (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova).

25

A meeting of the Interagency Coordination Council for Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement took place, the agenda of which included drafting an amendment to the procedural law, related to determining the obligations of providing relevant information to rightholders in the process of enforcement of intellectual property rights.

26



A trilateral Memorandum of Understanding on Promotion of Scientific and Technological Development was signed between Sakpatenti, Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and Georgia’s Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA) to organize joint events aiming to popularize science, set preliminary search on grant applications, offer joint services at public innovation centres, regional hubs and techno-parks.

27

Sakpatenti and the National Wine Agency founded a non-profit (non-commercial) legal entity "oriGlin Georgia", aimed at identifying products eligible for protection by geographical indications, determining specifications and ensuring legal protection.

27

Sakpatenti representative participated in the Seminar on the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, the aim of which was to introduce already established and new projects on the international level, which will facilitate simplification of examination procedure on international applications (Geneva, Switzerland).

30



Sakpatenti participated in the session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents for the first time as a member of the Working Group of the regional group of Central European and Baltic Countries (CEBS) (Geneva, Switzerland).

30

Sakpatenti representative attended Regional Seminar on Exceptions and Limitations to Archives, Libraries and Educational Institutions, where legislations of member states concerning copyright restriction with respect to archives, libraries and educational institutions were discussed (Baku, Azerbaijan).

31



Within the bilateral cooperation, Sakpatenti delegation participated in Trademark Administration event, organized by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Global Intellectual Property Academy, aimed at familiarization with US trademark system (Washington, DC, USA).

December

1



The Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Sakpatenti and the National Wine Agency to improve the mechanisms of registration, control and protection of new appellations of origin and geographical indications and to facilitate popularization and branding of agricultural goods produced in Georgia.

4

Work was completed on Draft Laws of Georgia on Making Amendments and Additions to the Patent Law of Georgia, Law on Copyright and Related Rights, Law on Design, Trademark Law of Georgia, Law on Pesticides and Agrochemicals, Law on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Activity, which is an obligation under the Association Agreement with the European Union.

7



Sakpatenti participated in the session of the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, which works on the improvement of the international legal framework in this field and harmonization of legislations of WIPO member states with it (Geneva, Switzerland).

11



Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) handed over to National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti a special award for "Accessibility of Public Information in 2015".

11



The Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the European Patent Office (EPO), which includes issues of negotiations on the validation agreement, capacity building of patent examiners, promotion of innovation activities and access to commercial databases.

15



The Memorandum was signed between Sakpatenti and the High School of Justice, within which the parties will develop study programs on particular directions of intellectual property law for judges.

18

Sakpatenti representative participated in the work of the competition commission of Young Inventors and Reserachers' Competition "Leonardo da Vinci" and awarded a special prize to the winner.

21

Within the Memorandum signed with the WIPO Academy, the first module of WIPO training took place at the Intellectual Property Training Center of Georgia, on the topic of intellectual property development.

25



Renewed scientific popular journal "IP Georgia" was published, which incorporated scientific articles by Sakpatenti staff members; the journal also included the interview of physicist Gia Dvali specially for this edition.

International Affairs/ 2015



Cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) supports Sakpatenti to strengthen intellectual property protection system and national institutional and human resources as well as to develop relevant infrastructure. The year 2015 was especially active and rich in programs and events carried out jointly with WIPO. In particular:

- An intellectual property training center was set up at Sakpatenti, which will offer special short and long-term programs on intellectual property to different target groups. Within the Intellectual Property Academy project, WIPO will assist Sakpatenti in training of trainers and provide educational literature to the centre. WIPO expert mission offered the first training to Georgian trainers in December 2015;
- The project "Drafting Intellectual Property State Strategy in Georgia" has started, in the frames of which the current intellectual property system in Georgia should be assessed and areas requiring development should be identified, as well as short and long-term activities should be defined. WIPO experts, together with Sakpatenti management, held meetings at the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, the Revenue Service, the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Wine Agency. Meetings took place with patent attorneys, inventors, the Georgian Chamber of Commerce, the Business Association of Georgia, the International Chamber of Commerce and educational institutions. As a result of the obtained information, an intellectual property strategy of Georgia was drafted;
- Negotiations started on the project for development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). One of the components of the project is customization of the multimedia study program "IP PANORAMA" for

the Georgian users and translation into the Georgian language. This program gives small and medium-sized enterprises practical knowledge on the significance of intellectual property subject-matters and assists them to utilize and manage intellectual property in their business. The project also offers seminars and conferences for representatives of small and medium-sized enterprises;

- Scholarships of WIPO Academy were granted for the distance learning courses to Georgian examiners in order to build capacity.

In 2015 Georgia has finalized negotiations on the transition to the WIPO regional group of Central European and Baltic Countries (CEBS) and on October 2, a decision was taken by the consensus of the CEBS group member states on approving the membership of Georgia to the group. Before that Georgia was in the WIPO Group of Central Asian, Caucasus and Eastern European Countries (CACEEC), which unites the CIS countries. The change of the group was determined by the European way and values chosen by Georgia. After becoming a member of the CEBS group:

- Sakpatenti will continue work at WIPO on a common platform with Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Montenegro and Croatia on further harmonization of international legislation;
- Work in the group will facilitate processes related with integration of Georgia into the European Union and fulfillment of obligations under the Association Agreement with EU in the field of intellectual property;

The official visit of Director General Mr. Francis Gurry in 2015 brought the relations with WIPO to a new level. Mr. Gurry visited Georgia for the first time by the invitation of Prime Minister of Georgia. Within the visit:





- A meeting was held with the Prime Minister, during which the Memorandum of Understanding in the field of intellectual property protection was signed between the Government of Georgia and WIPO. The memorandum will further strengthen cooperation on administration and legal protection of intellectual property rights in Georgia, development of the geographical indications protection system, drafting intellectual property strategy, promotion of innovation activities and establishment of the Intellectual Property Educational Centre at Sakpatenti;



- discussed around which a regional workshop was organized in Tbilisi by Sakpatenti and WIPO;
- Mr. Francis Gurry met with Ms. Tamar Sanikidze, Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. During the meeting possibilities of implementation of educational programs in the field of intellectual property were considered;
- WIPO Director General Mr. Francis Gurry opened a Regional Workshop on the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print



- Within the visit WIPO Director General Mr. Francis Gurry met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia. During the visit Mr. Francis Gurry familiarized with the progress of Georgia in the development of the system of intellectual property rights enforcement, which is a commitment taken



- Disabled and the Beijing Treaty on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances for Caucasian, Central Asian and Eastern European Countries. During the workshop the advantages of signing the two new WIPO-administered treaties were discussed;
- Director General of WIPO was awarded the title of honorary doctor of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State



- by Georgia under the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA);
- During the meeting of WIPO Director General with the Minister of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia, the commitment taken by the Government of Georgia was discussed concerning amendments to the Law on Copyright and Neighboring Rights, on which Sakpatenti has already completed work. The Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances was also



- University (TSU). Mr. Francis Gurry delivered a public lecture for TSU students and professors on Protection of Intellectual Property in Contemporary Economy. Mr. Francis Gurry expressed willingness to support in Georgia implementation of priority projects jointly, which will raise public awareness on intellectual property protection and will promote development of this system in Georgia.



Cooperation with the Delegation of the European Union to Georgia

In 2015 Sakpatenti cooperated actively with the Delegation of the European Union to Georgia. In particular:

- Delegation of the European Union to Georgia participated in the organization of the event on the occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day, April 26. The promotional material of the event was published with the EU support;
- Sakpatenti was engaged in the European Union information campaign for 2015 "Let's Meet Europe". Within the campaign meetings were held with farmers and entrepreneurs of Samegrelo, Achara, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kakheti, Lower Kartli and Racha regions, who familiarized with the advantages of products protected by geographical indications in the European Union market;
- Within TAIEX instrument, Sakpatenti submitted a project proposal on organization of workshop on the issue of Internet Service Providers Liability (ISP liability);
- Within TWINING instrument, Sakpatenti submitted a project proposal on establishment of an effective control system of Georgian geographical indications and appellations of origin in Georgia.

In 2015 work continued in the direction of implementation of action plan under the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA), which implies the following commitments in the field of intellectual property:

- Ensuring for both Parties a high level of protection of intellectual property rights and introducing adequate measures to enforce these rights;
- Ensuring proper functioning of the judicial system to guarantee access to justice for rightholders and availability and effective implementation of sanctions;
- Taking measures to increase public awareness in the field of intellectual property and ensuring effective dialogue with rightholders.

Taking into account the above mentioned commitments,

under the DCFTA action plan, Sakpatenti is responsible to carry out the following measures:

- Harmonize Georgian legislation with the relevant EU legislation. Make amendments to procedural legislation regulating intellectual property;
- Provide training for judges and attorneys on issues related to intellectual property rights;
- Hold seminars and workshops to raise public awareness. Publish information bulletins and flyers.

In accordance with the DCFTA action plan, in 2015 the following activities were carried out:

- After discussions with international organizations and local private sector, draft amendments to the legislation regulating the intellectual property field were prepared for final conclusion. According to the amendments, in case of infringement of intellectual property rights, the holder is endowed with authority to demand removal from circulation of infringing objects, their destruction, destruction of any images related to them and deletion of the material published in the Internet, infringing exclusive rights, destruction of any technical device which is used to make these objects. The holder of exclusive rights is also entitled to define at his discretion the caused damage, received benefit and to demand lump sum compensation payment. At the same time, the legal mechanisms of determining the extent of damage and financial compensation are established. The new amendments also stipulate procedural interim measures to preserve relevant evidence and interim restraining measures related to protection of intellectual property subject-matters, which is especially important in terms of effective enforcement of rights;
- A workshop "Adjudication of Civil Intellectual Property Infringement Cases" for judges (18.06.2015, Batumi,) and training on intellectual property law for lawyers engaged in the intellectual property field, during which issues of registration of trademarks in bad faith, determining similarities between 2D and 3D marks, recognition of "well-known" trademarks, collective licensing were discussed (18.09.2015, Tbilisi);
- To raise public awareness, campaign "Be Aware of Your Rights" was carried out. Meetings and workshops were held with holders of copyright and related right of various categories (musicians, publishers, photographers, etc.), a respective information flyers were prepared and published;
- A campaign under the slogan "Get Up, Stand Up. For Music" was carried out on occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day – April 26. The aim of the campaign was to raise public awareness on combatting piracy and infringement of copyright. Within the campaign a social video was disseminated by the mass media, and in the social network 20 video commercials were published, with interviews of well-known musicians, calling upon to protect

copyright. A competition to create a musical work on the topic of intellectual property was carried out. The winning composition was recorded, a CD was released and a video commercial was created, which was disseminated by the mass media;

- Sakpatenti hosted pupils and students and delivered lectures on the basics and significance of intellectual property;
- Seminars on geographical indications were held in regions of Georgia for entrepreneurs and farmers, focusing on the advantages of goods protected by geographical indications on the European Union market;
- Seminars were organized for TV journalists and producers, during which the significance of the mass media in terms of raising awareness in the intellectual property field was discussed;
- Information flyers/booklets were prepared and published on appellations of origin, geographical indications, copyright, intellectual property rights enforcement in Georgia, Marrakesh and Beijing Treaties, and Frequently Asked Questions;
- The renewed scientific-popular journal of Sakpatenti IP Georgia was prepared, published and disseminated;
- Various types of information related to intellectual property issues was disseminated through the mass media. Sakpatenti representatives also took part in various TV and radio programs and offered to the general public detailed information on current issues in the intellectual property field.



Cooperation with the Government of the United States of America

Sakpatenti is supported by the Government of the United States of America to implement Sakpatenti Action Plan. In 2015 active cooperation continued with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), the Embassy of the United States of America to Georgia and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). With active involvement of the above-mentioned institutions, as well as with the support of the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the United States Department of Commerce and USAID Georgia Primary Education Project (G-PriEd), in 2015 the following activities were carried out:

- On occasion of the World Intellectual Property

Day – April 26, the event was organized with the involvement of the Embassy of the United States of America to Georgia. H.E. Mr. Richard Norland, Ambassador of the USA to Georgia, participated in the information campaign dedicated to copyright protection under the slogan “Get Up, Stand Up. For Music”. 20 video commercials were created, with interviews of well-known Georgian musicians, as well as a social video which was disseminated by TV channels of Georgia. The campaign was aimed at informing the society about the significance of intellectual property protection;

- In 2015 an agreement was concluded with USAID on supporting the program for developing an electronic governance system. The grant of 247000 USD was allocated for development of the electronic filing system, which simplifies the application filing and management procedures. Within the grant, the electronic office management program will also be developed, which will make more efficient management at Sakpatenti. In the framework of cooperation, a new website will be developed, which will be compatible with mobile devices and the new database. Under the project intellectual property training center will be furnished with the new conference equipment allowing foreign experts to deliver webinars. Mr. Bruce Andrews, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Commerce, and Mr. Jonathan Katz, Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia at USAID attended the presentation of the Action Plan within the project at Sakpatenti head office;
- Supplementary reading literature was prepared for pupils of the 2nd-6th classes on inventions, trademarks, copyright and design;
- With the support of CLDP, a seminar for Georgian judges was held, during which US judges shared with their Georgian colleagues the US experience on intellectual property disputes;
- With the support of CLDP, a seminar was organized for journalists and representatives of mass media, where journalists familiarized with experience on basic issues of trademark protection and the role of intellectual property in economics;
- CLDP, United States Embassy in Georgia, Sakpatenti, Georgian Bar Association and Georgian Copyright Association (GCA) organized training on intellectual property law for attorneys and practicing lawyers. The training was led by American experts who discussed cases related to trademarks and other intellectual property objects;
- By the invitation of CLDP and USPTO, two study visits of Sakpatenti staff members were organized to the USA to familiarize with the patent examination process, to study trademark administration issues and to share US experience;
- Negotiations started with the Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA) functioning at USPTO on the possibility of drafting GIPA-Sakpatenti joint training programs for the intellectual property

training center in Georgia and delivering face-to-face lectures and offering distance webinars by US experts for trademark/patent examiners, judges, lawyers, attorneys, business sector, students and other interested parties;

- A meeting was held at the intellectual property training center with the delegation of US Trade Representative's Office, headed by Director for Western Europe and Middle East Affairs Jason Butin. The members of delegation familiarized with its future plans regarding transforming the centre into a regional hub facilitating raising public awareness in the IP field;
- On March 12, a meeting took place at Sakpatenti, attended by Ms. Danica Starks, Chief Adviser of the Caucasus and Central Asian Bureau of the Department of Commerce and H.E. Mr. Richard Norland, Ambassador of the USA to Georgia. The participants of the meeting discussed the intellectual property protection system of Georgia, as well as Sakpatenti vision and activities to promote intellectual property protection and enforcement in the private sector as well as prospects for strengthening cooperation within CLDP. During the meeting the close cooperation of the USA with the Government of Georgia on intellectual property protection issues and achieved progress was noted.



Cooperation with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

In 2015 Sakpatenti and EUIPO, signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Cooperation. EUIPO is the agency of the European Union, responsible for registration of EU trademarks and designs with a single application. Within the Memorandum:

- Sakpatenti trademark and design databases will be integrated with the EUIPO TMview and Designview databases, which will enable foreign users to receive information on marks registered in Georgia. Along with this, adding the Georgian language, will provide users to search by means of the Georgian interface;
- The Offices will cooperate in drafting trademark and design guidelines;
- Experience of the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights will be shared;
- EUIPO Academy will cooperate with the Intellectual Property Educational Centre founded by Sakpatenti in drafting intellectual property training programs and receiving access to the EUIPO Academy

electronic platform;

- EUIPO will assist Georgian trademark and design examiners in capacity building, through participation in seminars and workshops, organized by the EUIPO.



Cooperation with the European Patent Office (EPO)

In 2015 Sakpatenti management visited the European Patent Office (EPO) to discuss issues related to integration of Georgia in the European patent system. During the meeting the biannual Program of Co-operation Activities was discussed, which includes negotiations on the Validation Agreement, capacity building of patent examiners, promotion of innovative activities and access to commercial databases. Within the biannual Program of Co-operation Activities signed between Sakpatenti and EPO :

- Sakpatenti received access to special search database (GPI) for 8 users;
- Georgia continued to participate in the patent libraries project PATLIB;
- integration of Georgian databases into European patent databases was planned;
- to raise qualification of Georgian examiners, distance learning courses of the Academy of the European Patent Office were financed.

In cooperation with the European Patent Office, Sakpatenti will draft programs for the Intellectual Property Training Centre.

Cooperation with Patent Offices

In order to strengthen cooperation with various patent offices and other foreign organizations the following activities were carried out in 2015:

- Sakpatenti delegation visited Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO), with the aim to familiarize with the specificities of work and share experience of HIPO and its structural units, including the National Board Against Counterfeiting (NBAC). Within the visit, which took place in the framework of the Agreement of Cooperation signed with the Hungarian Intellectual Property Office, the heads of the Offices discussed future cooperation prospects and possibilities of holding joint events;

- In order to share experience in the direction of innovation activities, Sakpatenti Chairman visited the Estonian Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Centre (EIPTTC), during which implementation of joint projects was planned to foster development of research activities;
- In the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between AGEPI and Sakpatenti, Sakpatenti management visited the State Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova (AGEPI). During the visit cooperation prospects between the two offices and possibilities of implementation of joint events were discussed. Within the visit, a meeting was held at the Agency for Innovation and Technology Transfer (AITT) of Moldova on issues of innovation promotion policy. During the meeting with the Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Moldova Mr. Eduard Grama and other top officials of the Ministry, Sakpatenti delegation introduced the system of protection of geographical indications of Georgia and shared experience;
- In 2015 bilateral meetings were held between Sakpatenti management and heads of intellectual property offices of Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Czech Republic, Poland, Serbia, Hungary, Austria and China. In the reporting year, negotiations were also conducted with the offices of Romania and Switzerland for the purpose of strengthening bilateral relations, in the direction of implementation of new projects in the intellectual property field and organization of awareness raising events. The Memorandum of Cooperation was drafted and signed on November 16 with the Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Serbia.

Sakpatenti participated in sessions of interstate bilateral economic commissions. Positions on intellectual property protection issues were drafted to be included in various protocols. The positions were considered during sessions of bilateral intergovernmental economic commissions with China, Austria, Lithuania and Latvia. In 2015 the bilateral Intergovernmental Agreement was signed between Georgia and Republic of Belarus in the Field of Protection of Intellectual Property.

In 2015 Sakpatenti participated in the negotiations on the Free Trade Agreement between Georgia and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). The protection of Intellectual Property is a separate chapter within the agreement.

Conferences/ 2015



Title: **Hope Project**

Date and venue: August 28-29, 2015, Batumi

Organized by: National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Women Inventors & Entrepreneurs Association (WWIEA)

The topic of the workshop was development of human resources in creative/inventive process, in the field of innovations, invention protection and intellectual property rights management. In the framework of the workshop, experts from an innovator country in the intellectual property field, Korea, discussed the state development plans drafted by Korea and the results brought about by carrying out of this policy. Rapid economic success of Korea is largely due to the fast policy of use and development of the country's intellectual property.

South Korea developed a new approach to invention, innovation and intellectual property in general, which was manifested in the introduction of a concept such as "invention education" and the slogan derived from it "teach invention". The majority of valuable inventions are created by pupils, but they need deeper knowledge, more information and contacts. "Invention education" is a curriculum, which is taught at schools and universities. This method by special means facilitates stimulation of creative thinking. The method principle is: Everyone can invent.

To discuss the path passed by Korea, to share knowledge and to outline relevant future plans, the workshop was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education of Georgia, heads of public and private schools, rectors of universities, representatives of small and medium business.

Title: **Georgia Against Counterfeiting**

Date and venue: July 9-10, 2015, Batumi

Organized by: National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, International Chamber of Commerce – Georgia (ICC Georgia) and GIZ Private Sector Development Programme South Caucasus

The conference "Georgia against Counterfeiting" was held in Georgia for the first time. The aim of the conference was to inform the public about mechanisms for combatting counterfeiting, to start a private and public sector dialogue against counterfeiting and to bring together interested parties.

During the conference issues of compensation for damages caused to owners of intellectual property rights and introducing ex officio mechanisms of intellectual property rights enforcement were discussed. Presentations were delivered by the representative of Business Action to Stop Counterfeiting and Piracy (BASCAP ICC), Attaché of World Customs Organization (WCO), lawyer of company "Philipp Morris" and intellectual property expert from Germany Mr. Wolfgang Preuss. Among the participants were representatives of private companies and law firms (LEVI'S, Beiersdorf, Japan Tobacco International, Microsoft, Gleiss Lutz, Preuss, etc.), as well as Members of the Interagency Coordination Council for Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement, representatives of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Customs Department of the Revenue Service, the Georgian Bar Association, Business Ombudsman, etc. The conference was attended by up to 118 participants who expressed a desire to hold the conference on a regular basis. The organizers took a decision to hold the conference annually.





Title: WIPO Regional Workshop on the Beijing and Marrakesh Treaties

Date and venue: May 28-29, Tbilisi

Organized by: National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

WIPO Regional Workshop for Caucasian, Central Asian and Eastern European Countries on the Beijing Treaty on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances and the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled was opened by Director General of World Intellectual Property Organization Mr. Francis Gurry. During the workshop the advantages of signing the two new treaties were discussed.

The Beijing Treaty was adopted after 12-year negotiations on June 26, 2012, at the Diplomatic Conference of WIPO. It will strengthen the economic rights of performers in their audiovisual works and will give them an opportunity to receive additional income. It will potentially protect performers and enable them to demand from producers sharing of income obtained from the use of audio-visual works on the international level. It is considered that the Treaty will eliminate the universally recognized imbalance in the legal protection of rights of audiovisual and musical performers at the international level. It will also provide for the protection of performers' rights in the virtual space.

The Treaty adopted at the Diplomatic Conference in Marrakesh has a clearly defined dimension of humanitarian and social development. The adoption and practical implementation of the Treaty will eliminate "book hunger" and exchange of books by organizations for protection of rights blind and other categories of persons of different countries without creating unnecessary barriers. The Treaty is related with exceptions, which provides facilitation of access to books and other copyrighted works in a convenient format for the above-mentioned persons.

The workshop was attended by representatives of the copyright and related rights field from 15 countries, as well as representatives of international organizations including International Federation of Film Producers Associations (FIAPF), International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), International Federation of Reproduction Rights (IFRRO), International Publishers Association (IPA) and Motion Picture of America and representatives of National Federation of the Blind (NFB).

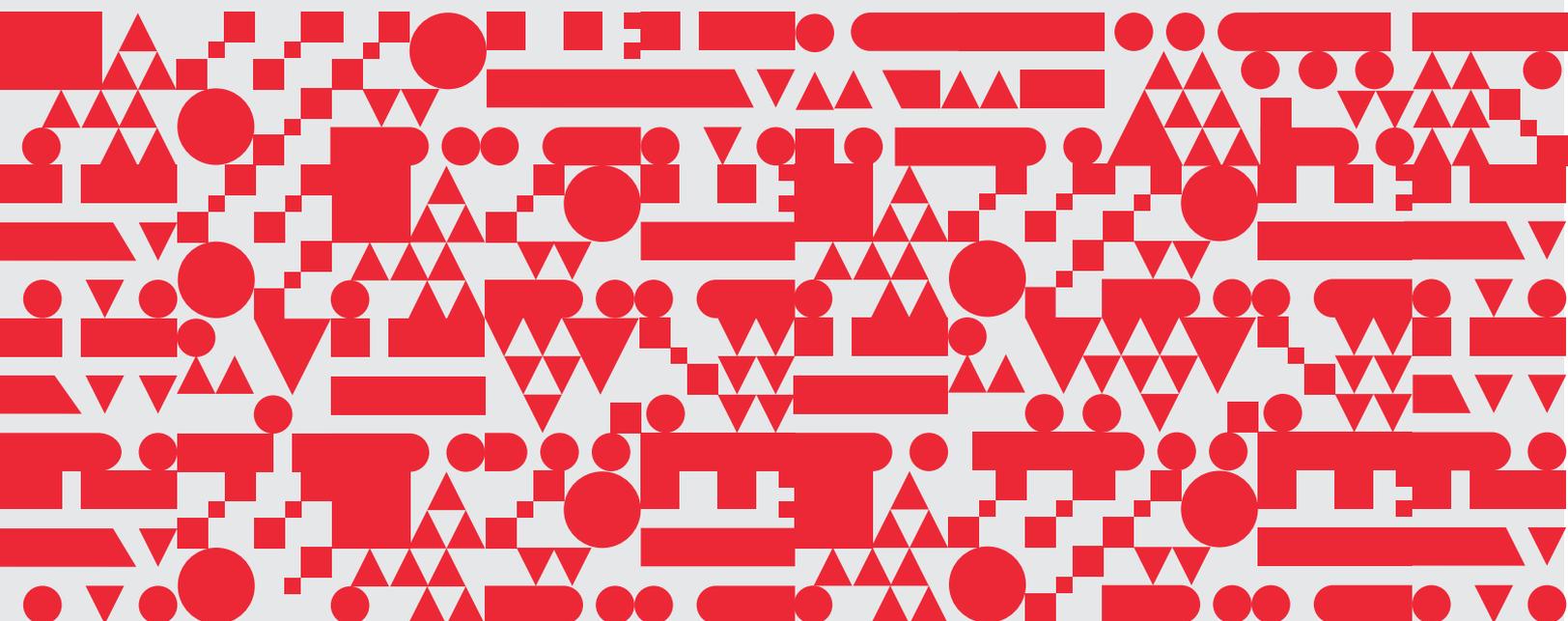
Title: Geographical Indications: Latest Developments on the International Arena

Date and venue: September 30-October 1, 2015, Tbilisi
Organized by: National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

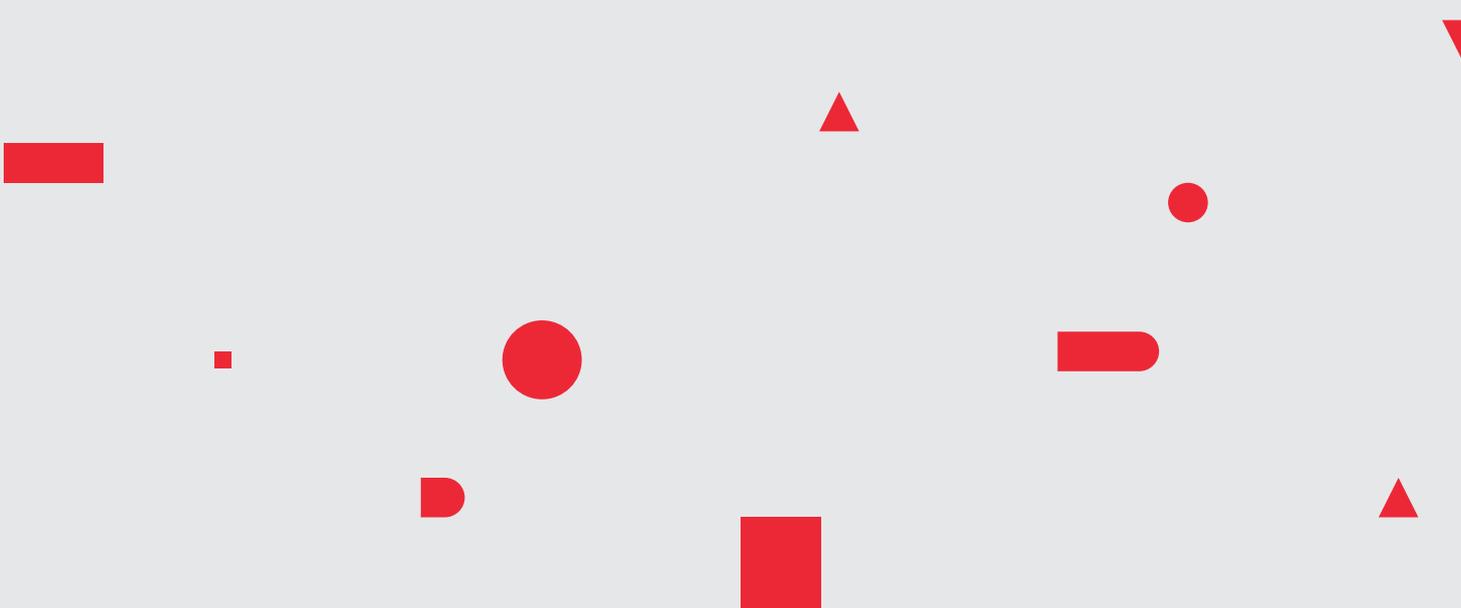
The International Conference discussed the latest developments in the field of geographical indications. The topics discussed during the conference included the international system for protection of geographical indications and control systems, issues and challenges in making products potentially eligible for GI protection. Among the invited speakers was Mr. Mihaly Ficsor, Vice-President of Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO) and Head of the Working Group for the Development of the Lisbon System, who guided drafting the new Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration. Representatives of INAO and Queen Mary University of London delivered presentations. The conference was attended by representatives of Kiev University of Law, various patent offices, in particular, France, Hungary, Romania, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan, as well as representatives of the Parliament of Georgia, Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, National Wine Agency, Research Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy, Associations of Producers, Delegation of the European Union to Georgia, Embassy of the United States to Georgia, FAO, USAID and other Government and private structures.

The event ended with an exhibition and tasting of Georgian products of geographical indications and appellations of origin.





Trademark



Trademark

In order to raise public awareness on the significance of protection of trademarks as an intellectual property subject-matter, to improve examination procedure and introduce the practice of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) as well as to simplify application filing and other procedures for applicants and holders of trademarks, National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti in 2015 implemented the following activities:

- Guidelines Concerning Proceedings before the European Union Intellectual Property Office (Trade Marks and Designs) were translated into the Georgian language, which will assist examiners in developing a unified, correct and coherent practice with regard to trademarks.
- In 2015 WIPO publications were translated on the topic of geographical indications, protecting marks abroad (Madrid System), industrial property, intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, which will assist in raising awareness among representatives of business and scientific circles as well as patent attorneys and interested persons on various subject-matters of intellectual property.
- Scientific articles on protectability criteria of three-dimensional trademarks and guaranteed traditional special product were written and published for the journal IP Georgia.

The result of the implemented activities was reflected in the reporting year in the increase of the amount of the trademark applications about by 9% as compared with the previous year, under the national and the international procedure. The number of applications filed under the national procedure increased by 7%, and the number of applications filed under the international procedure – by 10%. Of the trademark applications filed under the national as well as the international procedure in 2015 applications for services and pharmaceutical products predominated. The Majority of applications (555) were filed from the USA, Germany (342) and Russia (338).

In 2015, 33 applications were sent from Georgia to the International Bureau under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks.

The leading classes according to the number of local trademark applications are as follows:

- Class 35: Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions – 359 applications
- Class 5: Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations, etc. – 208 applications
- Class 33: Alcoholic beverages (except bears)) – 209 applications

applications

The leading classes according to the number of international trademark applications are:

- Class 5: Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations, etc. – 1304 applications
- Class 35: Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions – 915 applications
- Class 9: Data processing equipment, computers; computer software, etc. – 644 applications

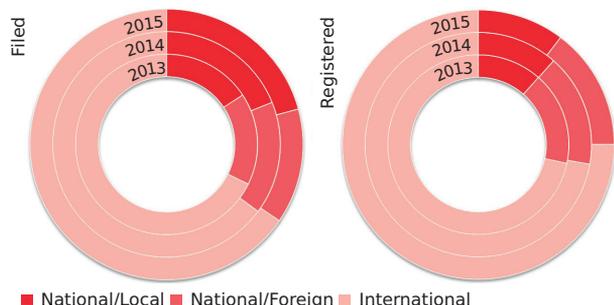
In order to fulfill the obligations under the Guarantees of Protection of UEFA Intellectual Property Rights, Related to Organization of UEFA Super Cup 2015 in Tbilisi, signed by Prime Minister of Georgia, on the orders of the Government of Georgia, National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti carried out the following actions:

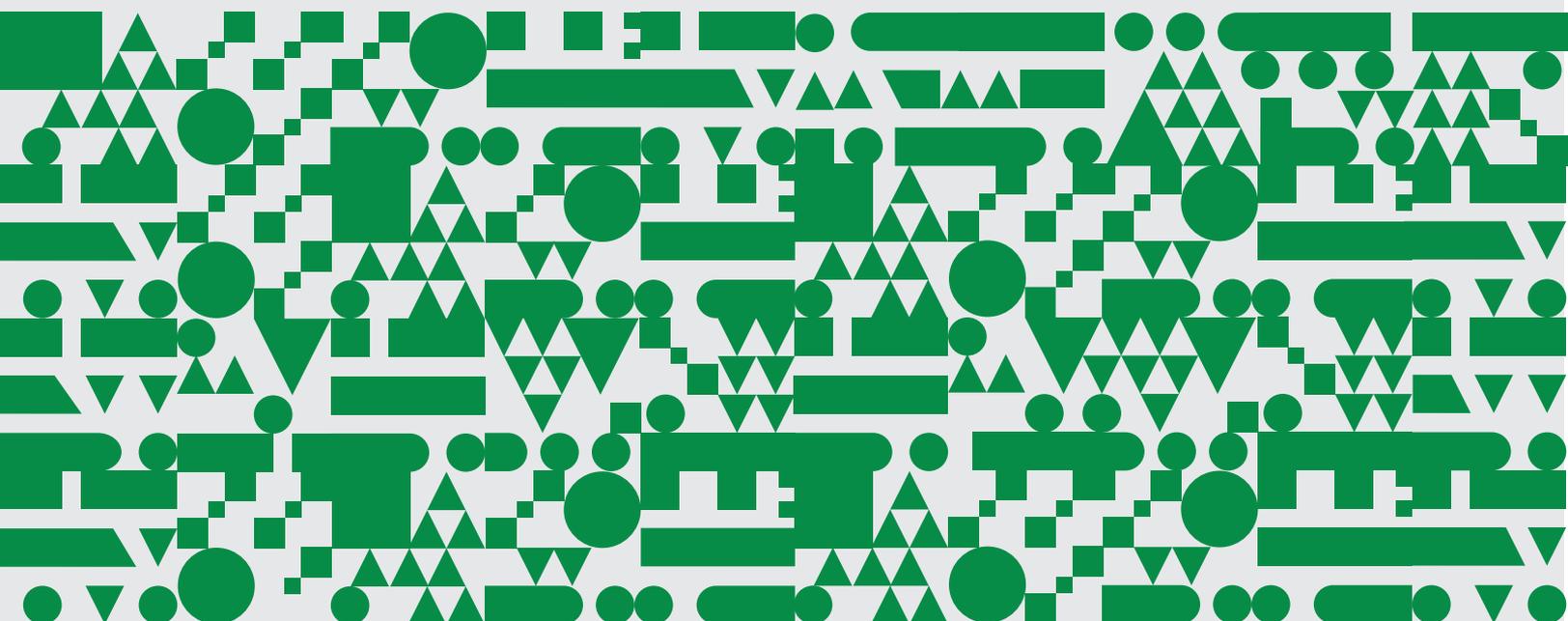
- legislative acts and bylaws were drafted, providing for protection of UEFA intellectual property rights on the territory of Georgia
- Information campaign was planned and launched directed towards protection of intellectual property rights, within which a social video and information flyers were prepared, information was disseminated by the mass media, meetings were held with target groups and administrators of Internet websites, who were requested to block uploading announcements on unauthorized sale of tickets for the Super Cup match.
- relevant measures to prevent unauthorized offer for sale of the match tickets and use in a commercial event without UEFA permission were carried out;
- Sakpatenti provided for revealing of UEFA intellectual property rights infringement, prevention and seizure of counterfeit goods;
- External trade and improper advertising, as well as any promotional event, including dissemination of promotional items, and revealing and prevention of improper advertising were prevented.
- revealing and prevention of unauthorized broadcasting of the match by broadcasting companies;
- revealing and prevention of facts of unauthorized public broadcasting of the match in public places.

It was assigned to the Interagency Coordination Council for Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement, functioning at Sakpatenti, to coordinate the above-mentioned measures. Sakpatenti staff members together with UEFA representatives were monitoring the place of public broadcasting, fun zones and the commercial perimeter.

The activities carried out by Sakpatenti received the highest appraisal from UEFA.

Trademark		Filed Applications			Registered Applications		
		2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
National Procedure	Local	805	913	1092	479	474	452
	Foreign	842	782	722	698	665	639
International Procedure		3457	3130	3437	2975	2958	3278
Total		5104	4825	5251	4152	4097	4369





Geographical

Indication and

Appellation of Origin



Geographical Indication and Appellation of Origin

To facilitate popularization and branding of agricultural goods produced in Georgia, to develop the system of appellations of origin and geographical indications, to improve and update specifications of registered geographical indications, to implement measures necessary for control of products, in 2015 National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti carried out the following activities:

- fees related to registration were reduced from 430 US dollars equivalent in the national currency to 60 US, which made more comfortable the registration process of appellations of origin and geographical indications
- WIPO publication on geographical indications was translated into Georgian and prepared for publication, which will assist farmers, entrepreneurs, patent attorneys and other interested persons in raising awareness on these IP subject-matters.
- Registration procedure of “Machakhela Honey”, “Akhalkalaki Potato”. “Tqibuli Tea” and “Kutaisi Greens” was completed, which will lead to increase of competitive and quality Georgian products on the market.
- 5 new appellations of origin – “Mitarbi”, “Skuri”, “Utsera”, “Bolnisi” and “Zvare” were registered for mineral waters, which will protect consumers against the presence of counterfeit products bearing these appellations of origin on the market.
- To ensure a more flexible and wider use of recipes, to achieve a greater social and economic effect, an amendment was made to the specification of geographical indication Sulguni
- A non-profit (non-commercial) legal entity OriGIn-Georgia was founded which aims to create a favourable environment for the development of the geographical indications protection system in Georgia, promoting high quality goods production, identification of products eligible for protection by geographical indications, their inventory, determination of the specifications and provision of legal protection.
- With WIPO support, Sakpatenti delegation visited France to get familiar with the model of Institute National de l’Origine et de la Qualité (INAO) – control system, practice of management systems, methods for conducting comparative analysis of specifications of goods, procedures of granting certificates for compliance with specifications of goods.
- In 2015 a New Act of the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration was signed during the

Diplomatic Conference, held in Geneva, Switzerland. The adoption of the new Act, in addition to increasing the scope of protection, will make the Agreement more flexible and attractive from the viewpoint of inclusion of new parties in the system and in terms of increasing the number of protected geographical indications. The basic negotiating text for the Diplomatic Conference was developed by the working group on the development of the Lisbon System, with active involvement of Georgia, repeatedly elected as the vice-chair during the meetings. The Geneva Act will enter into force three months after five eligible parties have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession.

- For the journal IP Georgia scientific articles were written and published on competitiveness and development of geographical indications, use of geographical indications for mineral waters and practice of controlling appellations of origin in Spain.

The result of these measures was reflected in the increase of goods protected by Georgian appellations of origin (4) and geographical indications (5). As compared with the previous year, the number of applications filed with the request to use the registered appellations of origin by 49%. In 2015, the increase of applications filed on the basis of the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration increased to 156%.

Among goods for which the right to use the registered geographical indications and appellations of origin was granted, wines predominate:

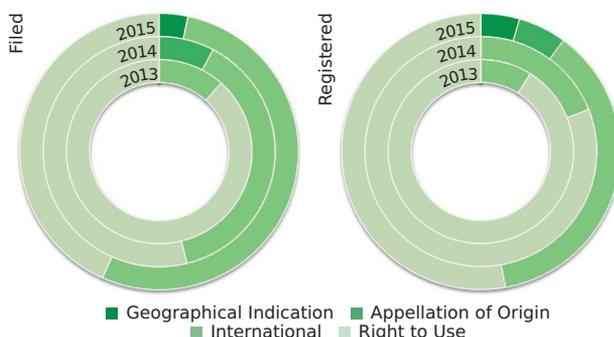
- “Khvanchkara”, “Tsinandali” and “Kindzmarauli” – 6 certificates for each;
- “Mukuzani” – 5 certificates;
- “Akhasheni” and “Napareuli” – 4 certificates for each.

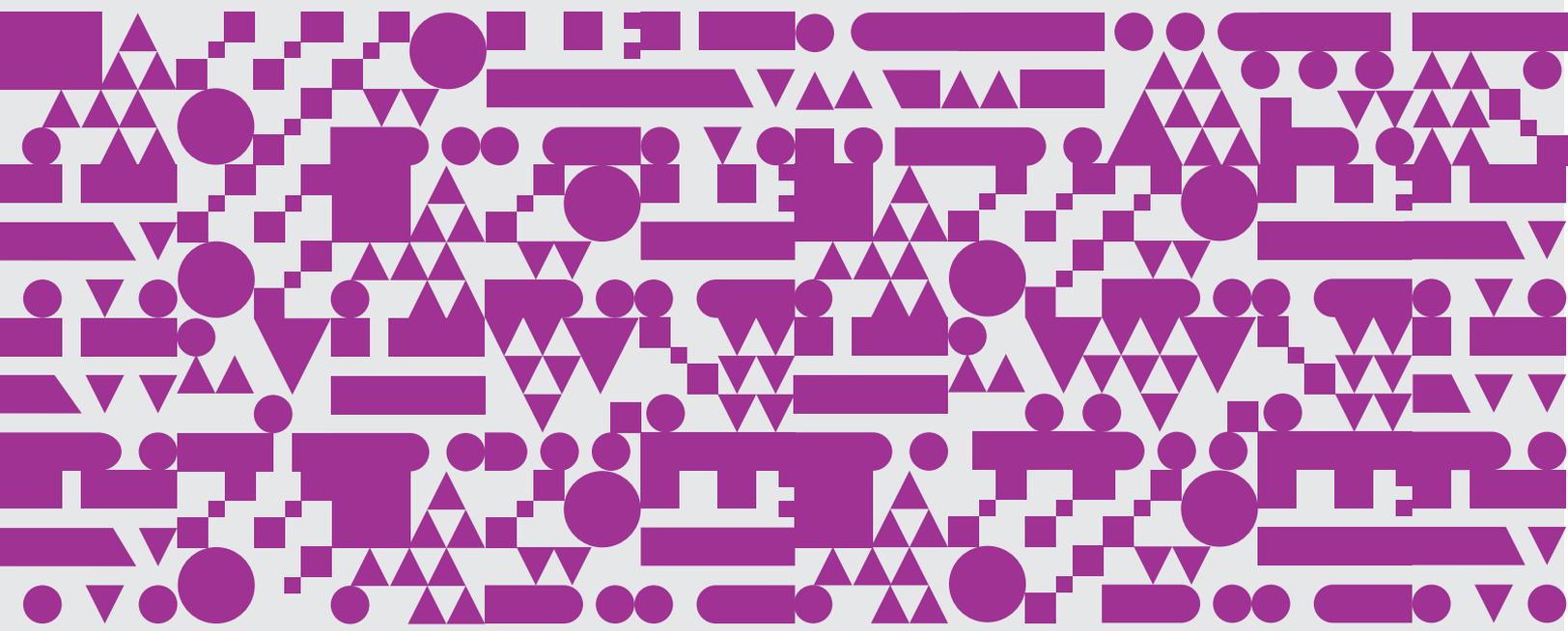
Among the appellations extended to Georgia under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration the following classes predominate:

- Classes 27 and 29: carpets and cheese – 10 applications for each;
- Class 29: Meat – 6 applications;
- Class 31: Grains, fruits and vegetables – 3 applications.

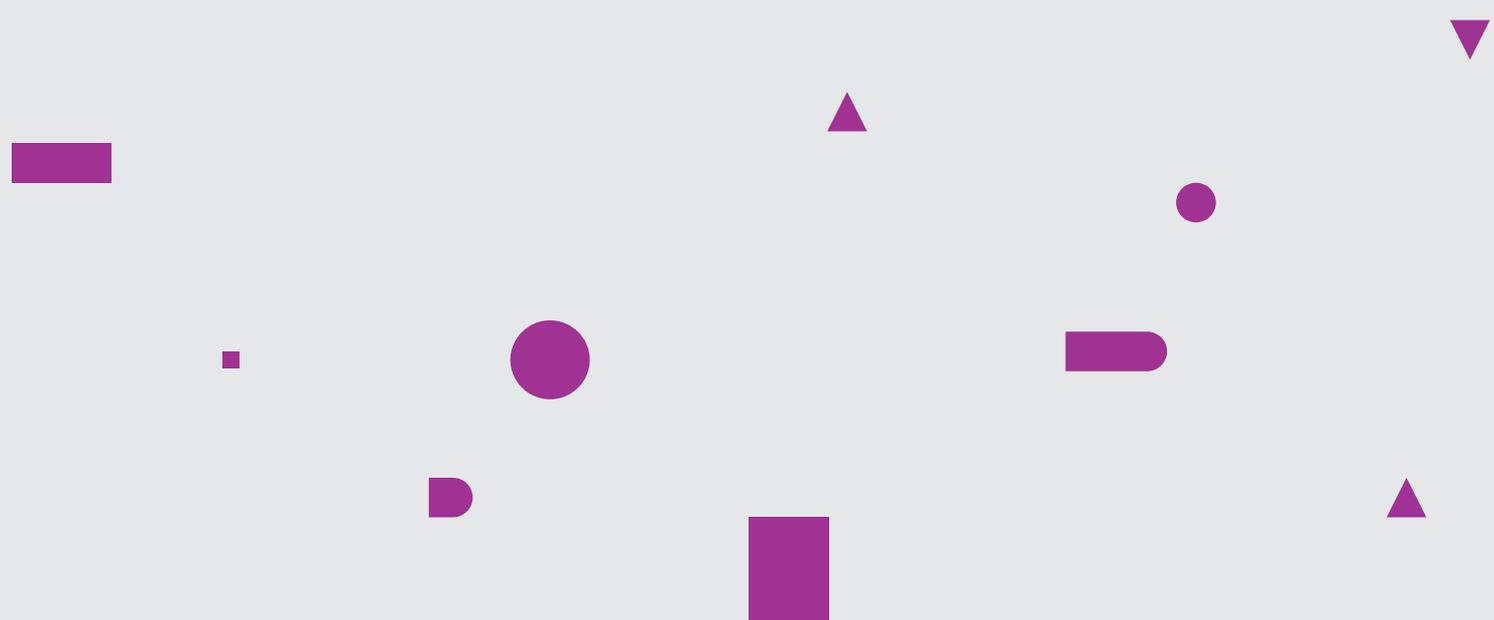
In 2015, 21 applications from Italy, 11 applications from the Republic of Iran and 1 application from the Slovak Republic were filed requesting extension to Georgia under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration.

Geographical Indications and Appellations of Origin		Filed Applications			Registered Applications		
		2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
National Procedure	Geographical Indication	0	0	4	0	0	4
	Appellation of Origin	0	5	0	0	0	5
International Procedure (Lisbon Agreement)		7	25	64	6	8	33
Right to Use Appellation of Origin		53	35	52	61	34	47





Design



For the purpose of raising public awareness on the significance of protection of design as an intellectual property subject-matter, Sakpatenti in 2015 implemented the following activities:

- Guidelines Concerning Proceedings before the European Union Intellectual Property Office (Trade Marks and Designs) were translated into the Georgian language, which will assist examiners in developing a unified, correct and coherent practice on issues of determination of basic criteria of filing design applications, examination and protection of designs.
- International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification) was edited according to the 10th edition, which allows classifying designs on the basis of the current international classification.
- For Sakpatenti website questions and answers (FAQ) were prepared on design according to the legislation of Georgia, which enables applicants to familiarize with procedures related to filing design applications and registration in the popular language.
- An article on the concept of design and protection criteria was prepared for the journal "IP Georgia".

As a result of the implemented activities, the number of national applications increased. In 2015, as compared

with the previous year, the number of applications increased by 37.5%, of the total amount 80% of applications were filed by local applicants.

The breakdown of these applications according to classes of the International Classification for Industrial Designs:

Class 9 – Packages and containers

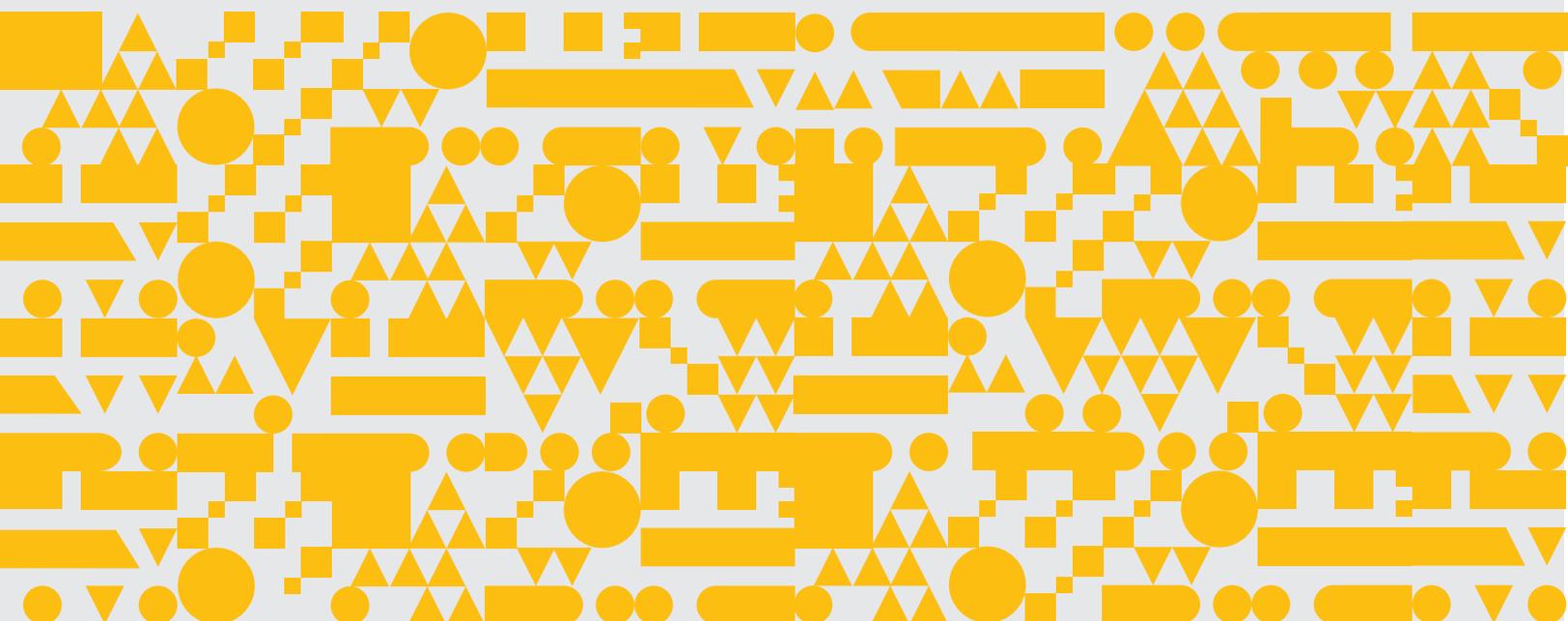
Class 19 – Stationery and office equipment

Class 32 – Graphic symbols and logos, surface patterns

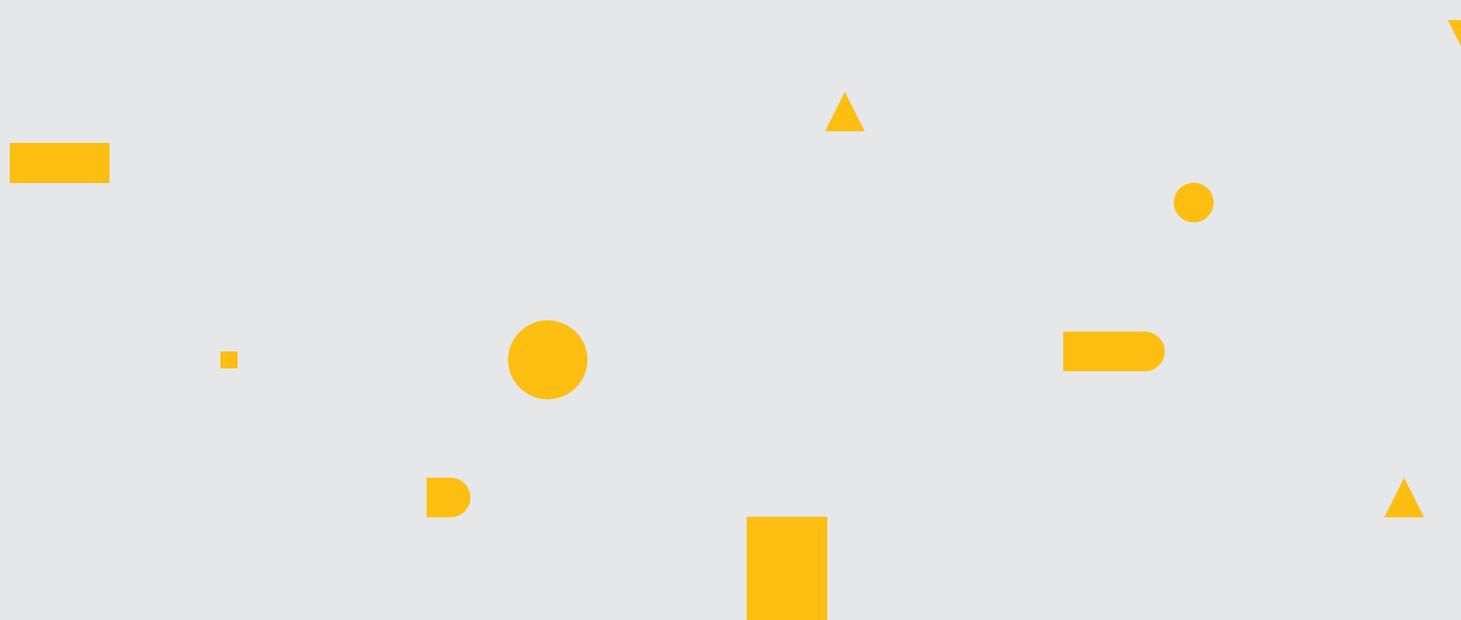
Several applications were filed in the classes of building units, furnishing, foodstuffs. In classes of travel goods, natural sheet material, household goods, recording equipment, toys, lighting apparatus, tobacco, machines and appliances for preparing food or drink – 1 application was filed per each class. As compared with 2014, the number of design applications filed on the basis of international registration increased slightly – by 5 applications. Priority objects of protection with request of extension of the rights to Georgia are again clocks and watches, packages and containers, as well as articles of adornment. Applicants from Switzerland, Germany and France again remain active. In 2015 the number of applicants from Turkey and Ukraine also increased.

Design			Filed Applications			Registered Design Applications		
			2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
National Procedure	Local	Legal Entity	12	18	20	11	13	12
		Natural Person	27	25	33	22	22	29
	Foreign		10	5	13	9	4	13
International Procedure			261	257	262	205	242	234
Total			310	305	328	247	281	288





Invention



Invention

To promote innovation activities in Georgia and raise public awareness on the significance of legal protection of invention and utility model as intellectual property subject-matters, in 2015 Sakpatenti implemented the following activities:

- A 70% discount in fees related to patenting and registration of intellectual property subject-matters was established for higher educational institutions and independent scientific research units. From the date of entry into force of this amendment, the activity of scientific research centres intensified, which was manifested in the increase of the number of applications filed by them with Sakpatenti. The discount in fees will also facilitate the increase of the number of local applications for inventions and utility models filed with Sakpatenti.
- Sakpatenti began rendering free of charge patent-information services to scientific research centers and higher educational institutions using international commercial and non-commercial patent and non-patent databases, which implies preliminary assessing of patentability and retrieving the state of the art information in a particular field. This helps scientists and engineers to familiarize with scientific and technological achievements in the field of their activity.
- Agreements were concluded with WIPO on Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) program and Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) Program. Within the ASPI program, Sakpatenti purchased PatBase and Thomson Innovation commercial platforms, which are regarded as leading tools in the patent field. ARDI program is a search tool for scientific literature, which together with full text delivery service AutoDoc allows access to scientific literature. These systems are used for conducting patent search, as a result of their use, the examination quality and terms of proceedings were improved.

- The use of EPO commercial search system Global Patent index (GPI) in examination process was renewed to improve the examination quality and proceedings terms.
- Scientific articles on peculiarities of protection of utility models, specific issues in assessing patentability criteria and international practice were prepared and published in the journal "IP Georgia".

As a result of the above-mentioned activities, in 2015 30 applications for inventions and utility models were filed with Sakpatenti in the name of higher educational institutions and independent scientific research units, which is more by 150% as compared with the previous year. The number of applications for utility models increased as compared with the year 2014 by 33 %, of these, 20% increase was observable in national applications. In 2015 the majority of local as well as international applications for inventions and utility models were filed in human necessities. In 2015, the greatest number of foreign applications was filed from the USA (52), Italy (19) and Germany (11).

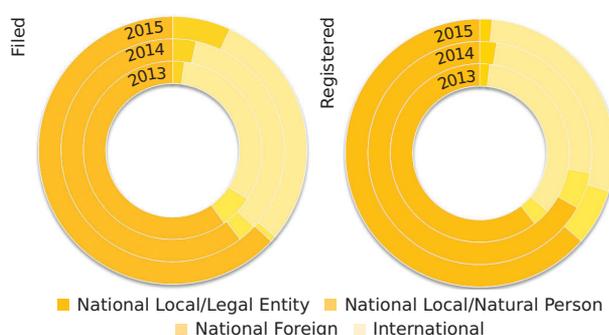
The leading sections of the International Patent Classification according to the number of local applications for inventions are:

- Branches of Section A (human necessities) – 39 applications;
- Section B (performing operations) – 17 applications;
- Section C (chemistry, metallurgy) – 14 applications.

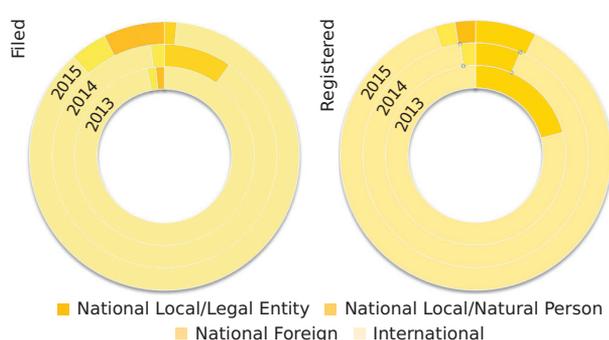
The leading sections according to the number of foreign applications for inventions are as follows:

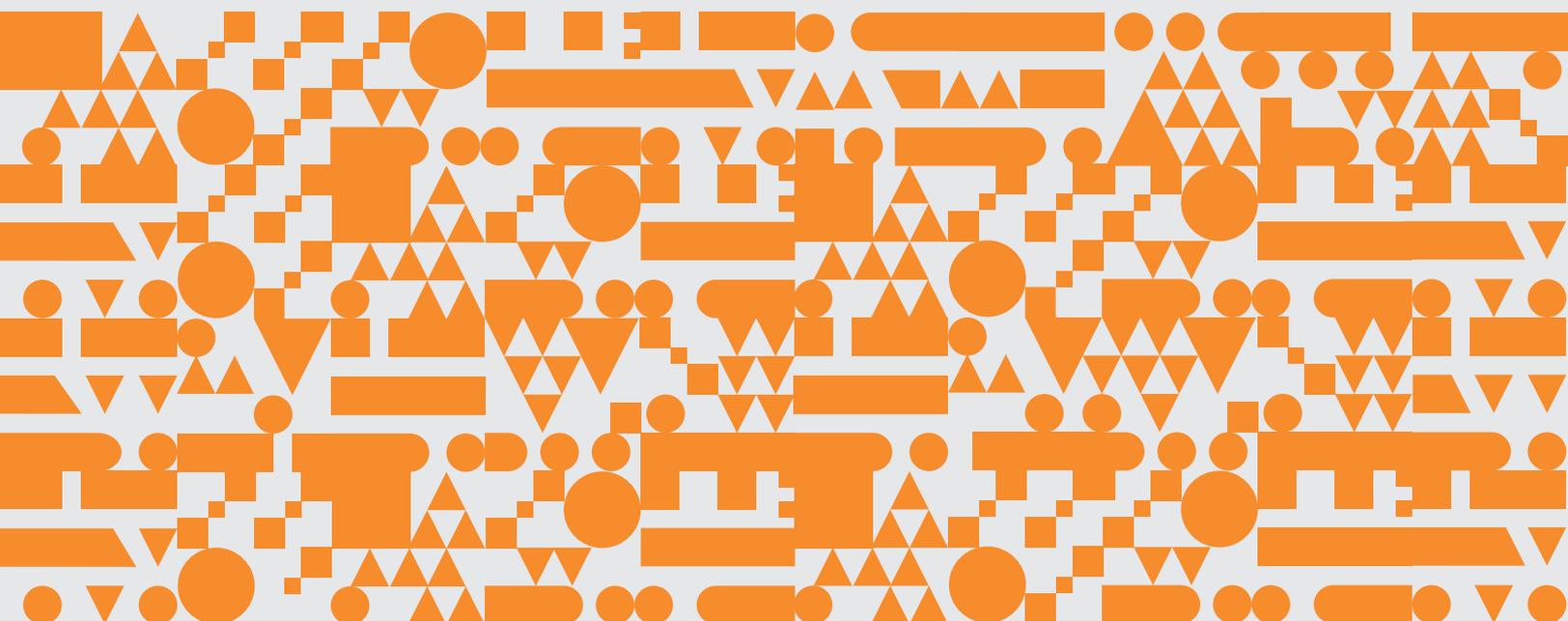
- Branches of Section A (human necessities) – 80 applications;
- Section C (chemistry, metallurgy) – 72 applications;
- Section B (performing operations) – 8 applications.

Invention			Filed Applications			Registered Patents		
			2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
National Procedure	Local	Legal Entity	7	10	19	5	5	3
		Natural Person	107	100	79	99	53	58
	Foreign	20	8	2	9	11	14	
International Procedure			199	179	171	173	139	131
Total			333	297	271	286	208	206



Utility Model			Filed Applications			Registered Patents		
			2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
National Procedure	Local	Legal Entity	0	5	1	9	3	3
		Natural Person	63	45	59	34	42	36
	Foreign	1	1	3	0	1	1	
International Procedure			1	0	5	0	0	1
Total			65	51	68	43	46	41

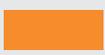




New Plant

Varieties and

Animal Breeds



New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds

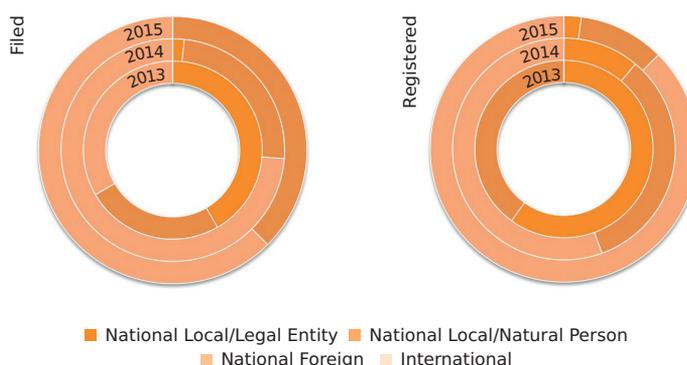
To improve legal protection of new plant varieties and animal breeds in Georgia, and in 2015 National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti implemented the following activities:

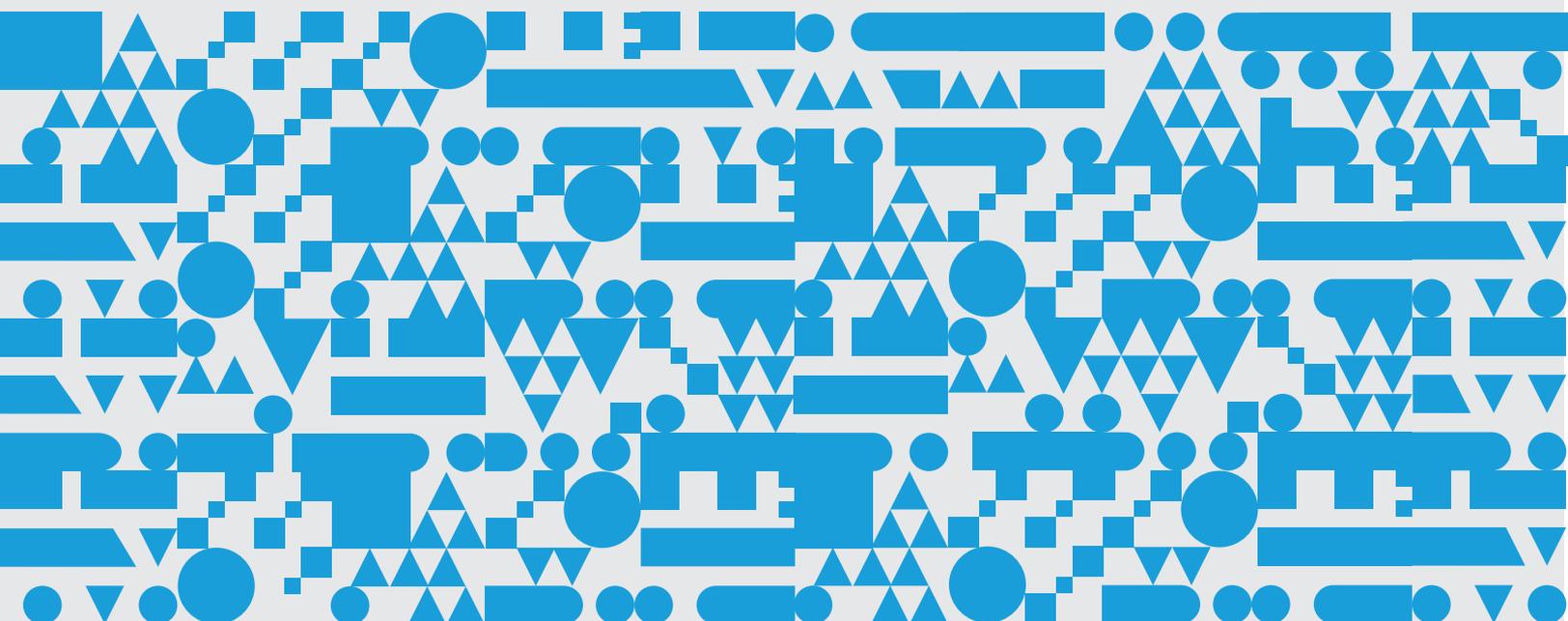
- Joined a new database of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) – PLUTO database, into which information on the new plant varieties registered in Georgia is uploaded. According to the amendments of the UPOV Convention, additional data were entered into the PLUTO database fields. The plant varieties database was completed with additional material in the Georgian and the English languages and UPOV codes.
- UPOV Guidelines for the Conduct of Tests for Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability- Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus L.*) and Field Bean (*Vicia faba L.*), which will assist breeders to conduct testing according to basic criteria in conformity with the requirements of the international standards.
- A brochure on the legal protection of new plant varieties and animal breeds was prepared, which will enable applicants to familiarize in the popular language with the requirements of the legal protection of registration procedure of new plant varieties and animal breeds.

- Sakpatenti participated in drafting the first law on seed materials and seed breeding – the Law On Seed, which will regulate production of graded seed in Georgia.
- Took part in preparation of certification issues of the seed breeding sector of Georgia organized by FAO, which will allow farmers to yield and accordingly to commercialize graded seed materials.
- Participated in the Working Group on drafting the agro-biodiversity strategic plan for 2014-2015, which prepared the draft law on Access to Genetic Resources and Related Traditional Knowledge and Fair and Equitable Distribution of the Benefits Received as a Result of their Use, which will facilitate the economic rise of regions of Georgia, rich in genetic resources.

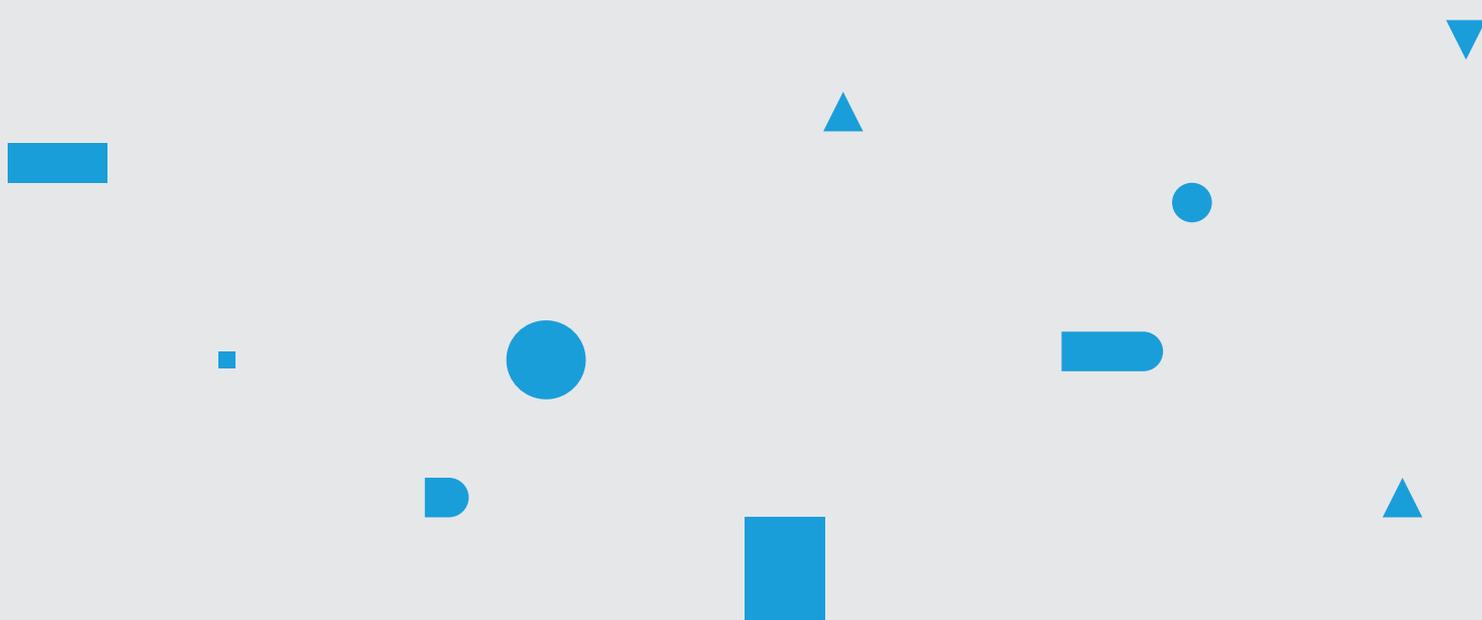
In 2015 the frequency of the publication in the Official Bulletin for the Protection of New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds increased, in which 78% increase of registration was reflected. According to the crops, the highest number of applications was filed for new varieties of potato – 15 applications. 2 applications were filed for new varieties of beans, wheat, broccoli, and 1 application for broccoli. In 2015 rare applications were filed for the new animal breed – silkworm – 4 applications.

New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds		Filed Applications			Registered Varieties/Breeds		
		2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Local	Legal Entity	15	1	0	3	3	1
	Natural Person	9	15	9	2	9	5
Foreign	Legal Entity	12	45	15	0	15	42
	Natural Person	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		36	61	24	5	27	48



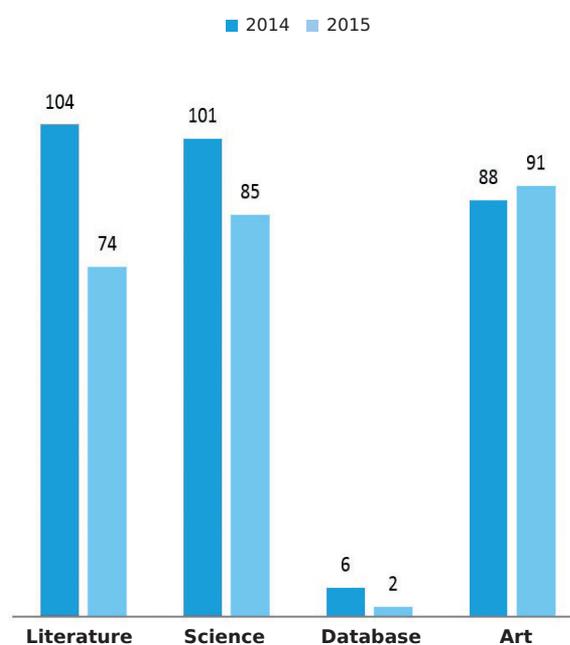


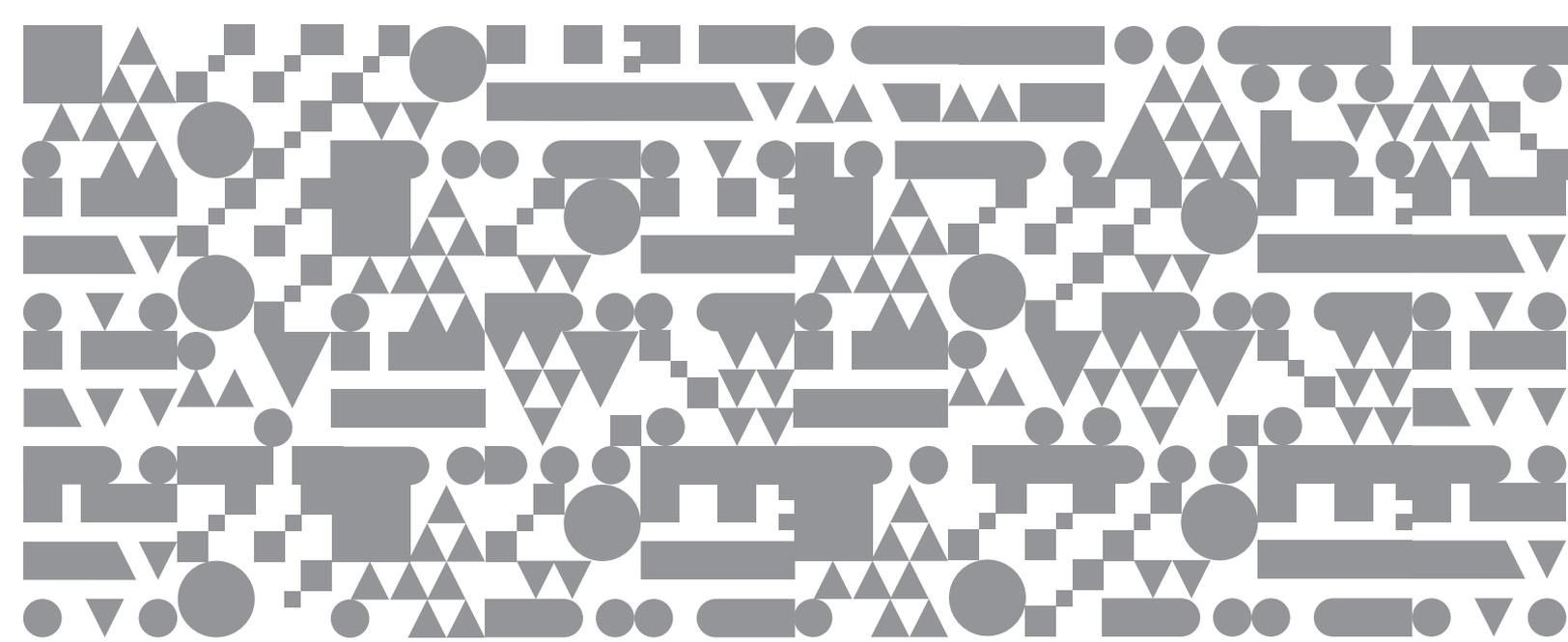
Copyright



In 2015 the number of deposited works protected by copyright decreased about by 15%. The majority of deposited works were related to literary works.

Subject-matter	Category	2014	2015
Literature	Anthology	-	1
	Description	3	-
	Drama	-	1
	Translation	1	3
	Collection	4	4
	Literary Work	32	33
	Synopsis	4	5
	Scenario	40	23
	Compiled Work		4
	Book	20	-
Science	Computer Program	18	11
	Methodological Work	32	13
	Overview	-	1
	Scientific Paper	33	27
	Scientific Article	2	9
	Scientific-Methodological Work	16	14
	Textbook	-	4
Database	Compiled Work	-	6
	Database	3	2
Art	Reference	3	-
	Adaptation	1	-
	Architectural Project	16	16
	Audio-Visual Work	9	5
	Description	1	-
	Decorative-Applied Art	3	-
	Design	3	8
	Preview	5	4
	Theatrical-Decorative Art	1	4
	Collection	1	-
	Logo	1	4
	Multimedia Work	-	1
	Musical Arrangement	1	-
	Musical Work	13	12
	Musical Work with Words	17	15
	Work of Visual arts	9	16
	Telefilm	1	-
	Painting	3	1
	Photography	1	5
	Book	2	-
Total		299	252





Lawmaking and Litigation/ 2015

In 2015, the process of consideration of draft amendments to be made to the legislation regulating the intellectual property field, in cooperation with the relevant agencies, was completed. These draft amendments were sent for final conclusion to the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. The amendments, that are a part of the commitments under the Association Agreement with EU, were drafted for the following laws:

- Patent Law of Georgia
- Law of Georgia “On Copyright and Related Rights”
- Law of Georgia “On Design”
- “Trademark Law” of Georgia
- Law of Georgia “On Pesticides and Agrochemicals”
- Law of Georgia “On Drugs and Pharmaceutical Activity”

According to the amendments to the “Patent Law”, “Law” “On Copyright and Related Rights”, Law “On Design” and “Trademark Law”, in case of infringement of intellectual property rights, the holder is endowed with authority to demand removal from circulation of infringing objects, their destruction, destruction of any images related to them and deletion of the material published in the Internet, infringing exclusive rights, destruction of any technical device which is used to make these objects. According to the amendments, the holder of exclusive rights is also entitled to define at his discretion the caused damage, received benefit and to demand lump sum compensation payment. At the same time, the legal mechanisms of determining the extent of damage and financial compensation are established. The new amendments also stipulate procedural interim measures to preserve relevant evidence and interim restraining measures related to protection of intellectual property subject-matters, which is especially important in terms of effective enforcement of rights.

According to the draft amendments to the “Patent Law”:

- Granting of an additional protection certificate is envisaged for invention patent related to plant protection products.
- For the medicinal product with regard to which

pediatric studies have been carried out, the term of protection may be extended for additional 6 months.

- Introducing the regulation known as the so-called Bolar exception, which will facilitate balancing the interests of patent owners and the society.
- In special cases, on the basis of the consent of the competent authority, the use of a patented invention or utility model is stipulated
- Introducing of the so-called cross licensing, provided for under the TRIPS Agreement is envisaged, which will prevent use in bad faith of patent rights.

According to the draft amendments to the Law of Georgia “On Copyright and Related Rights”:

- Right holders will be granted an additional term of protection in special cases.
- The Article on communication of a work to the public, defined by the current edition of the Law, will be specified.

In connection with the organization of UEFA Super Cup 2015 Match in Tbilisi, to ensure protection of intellectual property rights of the Union of European Football Associations, Sakpatenti drafted legislative acts:

- Amendments were made to the Law on Advertising, according to which, any unauthorized advertising or other action without UEFA permission, carried out by unauthorized persons for the purpose of getting profit from UEFA's reputation, as well as offering for sale of the UEFA Super Cup 2015 match tickets or use in any commercial event were prohibited.
- Decree of the Government of Georgia On Carrying Out Special Measures for Protection and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights Related to Organization of UEFA Super Cup 2015 Match was enacted, according to which relevant agencies were assigned to implement special measures to protect and enforce UEFA IP rights.

In accordance with the Action plan of Sakpatenti, in 2015, the following normative administrative and legislative acts were adopted:

- Order of Chairman was enacted “On Establishment of

the Interagency Coordination Council for Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement and Approval of its Statute". The Council which aims to introduce an effective system for combatting infringements of intellectual property rights, to coordinate work of relevant government agencies and to define general policy. The members of the Council are representatives of agencies whose functions are related with protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights by the state (Prosecutor's Office of Georgia, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Investigation Service of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia, Customs Department of Revenue Service and LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti).

- An amendment was made to the "Statute on Patent Attorneys of Georgia", according to which, registered patent attorneys are exempted from the obligation to pass a new certification exam.
- An amendments was made to the Order "On Approval of Instruction on Procedures Related with Drafting and Filing Applications for Inventions and Utility Models and Granting a Patent", according to which, benefits in service fees, applicable in case of several applicants, were regulated.
- Based on the structural changes carried out at Sakpatenti, a new Statute of the Structural Divisions of Sakpatenti was adopted.
- Statute of a new structural division – Intellectual Property Educational Centre was drafted.
- In 2015, for the purpose of protecting Georgian geographical indications and appellations of origin abroad, the following legal procedures were implemented:
- A dispute was completed successfully with two Chinese companies, as a result of which, the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC) invalidated Georgian appellations of origin "Khvanchkara", "Tsinandali", "Kindzmarauli" and geographical indication "Chacha " registered in bad faith.
- Necessary measures were carried out to register and protect the appellation of origin of Georgian mineral water "Nabeghlavi" on the territory of the People's Republic of China.
- Registration procedure was completed successfully

at the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (ROSPATENT) on six Georgian appellations of origin: "Khvanchkara", "Tvishi", "Kindzmarauli", "Tsinandali", "Mukuzani" and "Akhaseheni".

- For the purpose of mutual recognition of geographical indications, negotiations were underway with the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the State Committee on Standardization, Metrology and Patent of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

In 2015, the majority of appeals filed with the Chamber of Appeals (160) were related with issues of examination of trademarks, which shows the special interest of the public in this subject-matter. It is noteworthy that in the reporting year the number of filed trademark applications increased by 9%, whereas the number of appeals, as compared with the previous year, decreased by about 27%. The decrease of the number of appeals in 2015 is a result of the activities carried out by Sakpatenti in order to improve the quality of trademark examination. In particular, as a result of sharing experience of foreign countries, capacity building events for examiners and other activities, a uniform practice was developed on various problematic issues of examination. Accordingly, a predictable environment was created for the applicants in the trademark field, which is a major factor for development of the intellectual property system.

It is also noteworthy that in 2015, as compared with the previous year, the number of appeals upheld by the Chamber of Appeals increased to 14%, which was reflected in the decrease of the number of the appeals at the Court against the decision of the Chamber of Appeals.

In 2015 the number of appeals filed at the Court against the decision of the Chamber of Appeals and examination decreased by 14%. Sakpatenti participated in 36 hearings, of which 29 disputes were related to trademarks. The majority of disputes (31) were settled in favour of National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti. The appeals against Sakpatenti were upheld in 3 cases, which is less by about 73% as compared with the previous year. These data indicate the improvements in the work of the Chamber of Appeals. Namely, the majority of the deficiencies made in the examination process are corrected within the Chamber of Appeals, which is its main function.

Subject-matter		2013					2014					2015				
		Filed	Heard	Upheld fully	Upheld partially	Rejected	Filed	Heard	Upheld fully	Upheld partially	Rejected	Filed	Heard	Upheld fully	Upheld partially	Rejected
Invention	Applicant	5	4	2	2		4	5		1	6	1	1			1
	Third Party															
Utility Model	Applicant						1				1	1				1
	Third Party	1	1	1												
Design	Applicant						1	1			-	-				
	Third Party	1	1	1			2	2		1	4	-				
Trademark	Applicant	184	198	111	7	80	181	165	75	13	77	132	138	82	11	54
	Third Party	16	18	2	4	12	17	18	1	2	15	28	23	4	5	14
Total		207	222	117	11	94	204	189	76	16	99	166	163	86	16	70



- The information campaign “Protection of UEFA Intellectual Property Rights” was implemented. The aim of the campaign was to inform public on the actions prohibited by the law and the sanctions provided for by the law in case of committing these actions. Within the campaign a social video was prepared which was broadcasted by all the leading TV channels, including the Public Broadcaster and Sports Television. It was also uploaded on the sports websites and video commercial was disseminated in the social network. Within the perimeter defined by UEFA a group of specially trained students distributed flyers and provided detailed information to target groups.



- To popularize geographical indications and appellations of origin in Georgia, to present new geographical indications, exhibition and tasting of the products took place. For the event, information cards and maps on the products were created and disseminated.
- In order to popularize Georgian geographical indications, appellations of origin and culture abroad, an exhibition was held within the Fifty-Fifth series of meetings of Assemblies of the member states of the WIPO (Geneva, Switzerland). The Georgian alphabet, Georgian wine vessels, Georgian national costumes, photos of unique landscape, replicas of archaeological and goldsmithing specimens were presented. Up to 1000 delegates



- Scientific-popular journal “IP Georgia” was prepared and published, the journal contains scientific articles by staff members of National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti as well as patent attorneys. A special interview of well-known physicist Gia Dvali for journal “IP Georgia” was also included in this edition.



from 188 countries attending the event watched a film by Merab Kokochashvili “Ancient Georgian Traditional Method of Making Qvevri Wine”, listened to Georgian polyphony performed by ensemble Rustavi, tasted wines of Georgian appellations of origin and Georgian cheese and sweets protected by geographical indications.



Publishing and Information Activities / 2015

According to the Action Plan of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, in 2015 publishing and information activities were implemented. In particular, in accordance with the requirements of Article 12 (2) of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, 24 issues (No. 1(413) – 24(437) of the Official Bulletin of Industrial Property were published in Georgian and English. 6 issues of the bilingual Official Bulletin for the Protection of New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds were also published (No. 1(18) – No. 7(24). In the reporting year, according to the Action Plan, which provides for promoting publishign activities and facilitating specialized literature, the folloing materials were published at Sakpatenti publishing house:

- Renewed scientific-popular journal "IP Georgia".
 - Brochures: "Geographical Indications and Appellations of Origin", "Protecting Your Marks Abroad – The Madrid System (translation of WIPO publication)", "Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement in Georgia", "Marrakesh Treaty", "Beijing Treaty" and "Frequently Asked Questions" on designs, new varieties and breeds, and geographical indications.
 - Triplets: "Intellectual Property", "Appellations of Origin of Georgian Wines", Liability for Copyright Infringement
 - Flyers for photographers and publishers for the campaign "Be Aware of Your Rights"
 - Flyer "Geographical Indications" for the campaign "Let's Meet Europe",
 - Flyer on occasion of UEFA Super Cup Match 2015, to prevent infringement of intellectual property rights and to provide information to the public
 - Information cards on appellations of origin and geographical indications registered in Georgia
 - Maps of appellations of origin of wines registered in Georgia, cheese, and other geographical indications
- Commentaries to the WIPO Copyright Treaty and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty were prepared for publication.

In the reporting year, in the form of polygraphic services, Sakpatenti participated in the events related to the intellectual property field and published:

- Album "Ancient Georgian Traditional Wine-making Method" prepared by the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia
- Journal "COPYRIGHT" of the Georgian Copyright Association (issues 11 and 12)
- A book "Anthology of Modern Poetry" (author – poet Salome Sulaberidze), prepared with the financial support of the Georgian Copyright Association
- Journal "Wine" of the Georgian Sommelier Associ-

ation, issue 2, in the Georgian and the English languages

To simplify access to intellectual property literature and databases, in 2015 Sakpatenti Library changed the place of its location and returned from the main building of Sakpatenti in Mtskheta to Tbilisi. To raise public awareness and replenish the patent information collection, Sakpatenti implemented the following activities:

- purchased 10 news books by world renowned authors in the intellectual property field
- subscribed to periodicals "IP World" and "Managing IP"
- within the Intellectual Property Educational Center project, with the assistance of WIPO, replenishing of the library with new books began
- work continued on patent libraries project PATLIB which provides for free of charge access to commercial databases and non-patent literature for visitors of Sakpateni library
- free consultation services were rendered to up to 500 potential applicants.

In 2015, to simplify the process of rendering services and consultations to applicants as well as improvement of proceedings, Sakpatenti Administration opened an office in Tbilisi, which made more comfortable access of applicants to administrative units of Sakpatenti. The local area network was integrated with the infrastructure of the central office in Mtskheta. In the reporting year up to 20000 documents were filed and processed at Sakpatenti office. The number of filed applications and correspondence according to subject-matters according to years is as follows:

Subject-matter	2013	2014	2015
Invention	333	297	285
Utility Model	65	51	54
Design	310	305	328
Trademark	5104	4825	5251
Geographical Indication and Appellation of Origin	53	61	34
New Variety and Breed	36	61	24
Copyright	-	299	252
Total	5901	5899	6228
Correspondence	11133	13671	10986

In 2015 to ensure financial support in fulfilling the Action Plan of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, to manage resources and the budget process, to implement effectively the purchases, Sakpatenti carried out the following actions:

- Pursuant to amendments to the Budget Code of Georgia, the office moved to the unified account of the State Treasury, which implies transfer to a single electronic system of the Treasury and budget management.
- The received cash incomes increased by about 39% as compared with the previous year.
- Expenditure of financial resources (cash expenses) was decreased by 5%, which was a result of economy on the goods and services, other expenses and salaries.
- In accordance with the Law on Public Purchases, simplified purchases (342 contracts with the value of 605241 GEL), simplified electronic (23 tenders with the value of

277584 GEL) and consolidated tenders (9 tenders with the value of 102658 GEL) were implemented. As a result economy of 51676 GEL was achieved.

- To participate in the liquidation of results of the disaster of June 13, 2015, the office made corrections within its budget and transferred to the state budget 1,000,000 GEL.
- Amounts from the employees' salaries are transferred monthly to the charitable Foundations of Solidarity, Dimitri Tsintsadze and "Europe Donna Georgia". In 2015 Dimitri Tsintsadze Foundation handed over a certificate of commendation to Sakpatenti representatives for their support and assistance.

In 2015, Sakpatenti submitted operative and accurate information requested by the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI), due to which a special award for "Accessibility of Public Information in 2015" was handed over to the office.

Budget Incomes (Cash Figures)

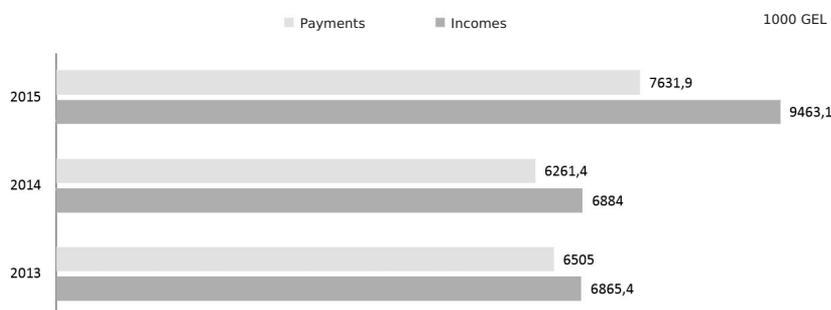
Thousand GEL

#	Title	Plan	Cash Income	Result +/-
1	Incomes from basic activities	6700	8994.6	2294.6
1.1	Incomes from services rendered to non-resident natural persons and legal entities	4200	5538.4	1338.4
1.2	Incomes from services rendered to resident natural persons and legal entities	2500,0	3456.2	956.2
2	Incomes from non-basic activities	100	468.5	368.5
2.1	Grants	0	7.9	7.9
2.2	Other incomes from non-basic activities	100	460.6	360.6
2.2.1	Including Positive exchange difference	0	452,6	452,6
	Sum Total of Incomes	6800	9463.1	2663.1

Budget Payments (Cash Figures)

Thousand GEL

Code of economic classification	Title	Plan	Cash Expense	Result +/-
21	Payment for work	3366,7	3310,9	-55,8
	Including:			
21111	Salary	2299,7	2282,1	-17,6
21113	Bonus	767,0	736,4	-30,6
21114	Allowance	300,0	292,4	-7,6
22	Goods and Services	1710,0	1606,5	-103,5
222	Including business missions	150,0	137,8	-12,2
26	Grants	1005,0	1000,3	-4,7
27	Social welfare	50,0	29,9	-20,1
28	Other Expenses	1680,0	1523,7	-156,3
282115	Including Budget Payments	1500,0	1443,3	-56,7
31	Non-financial Assets	230,0	159,9	-70,1
33	Decrease of Obligations	0,7	0,7	
	Sum Total of Payments	8042,4	7631,9	-410,5

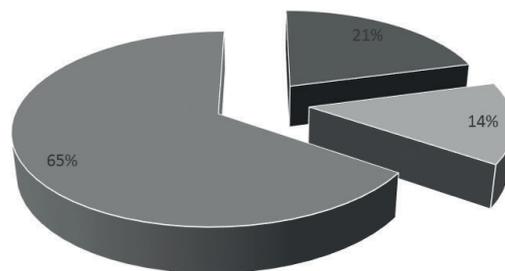


Statistics / 2015

Trademark

NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS

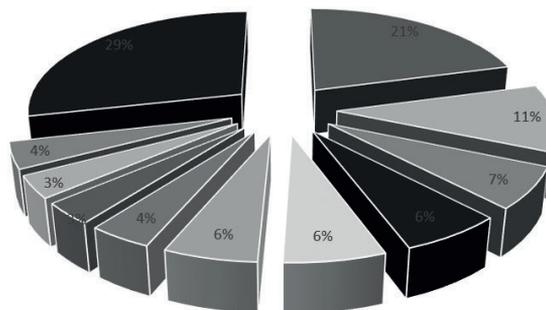
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL	1092
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	722
INTERNATIONAL	3437
TOTAL	5251



■ NATIONAL/LOCAL ■ NATIONAL/FOREIGN ■ INTERNATIONAL

NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

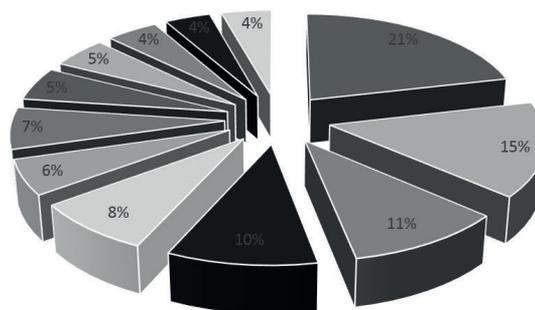
CODE	QTY
GE	1092
US	555
DE	342
RU	338
CH	332
TR	306
CN	209
IT	176
FR	183
HU	217
OTHER	1501
TOTAL	5251



■ GE ■ US ■ DE ■ RU ■ CH ■ TR ■ CN ■ IT ■ FR ■ HU ■ OTHER

NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO CLASSES

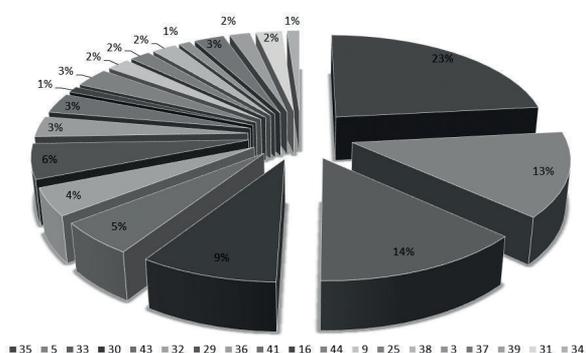
CLASS	QTY
5	1304
35	915
9	644
30	604
3	496
25	340
33	401
41	322
29	296
32	273
16	241
42	265



■ 5 ■ 35 ■ 9 ■ 30 ■ 3 ■ 25 ■ 33 ■ 41 ■ 29 ■ 32 ■ 16 ■ 42

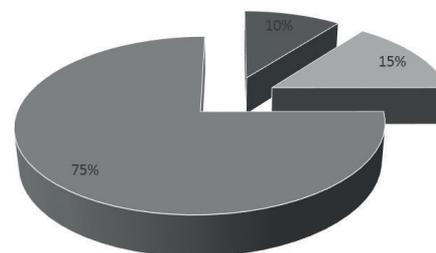
NUMBER OF FILED LOCAL APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO CLASSES

CLASS	QTY
35	359
5	208
33	209
30	136
43	81
32	68
29	86
36	51
41	50
16	15
44	48
9	31
25	28
38	33
3	16
37	41
39	28
31	36
34	17



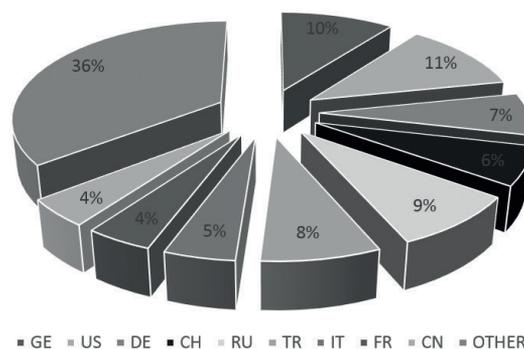
NUMBER OF MARKS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER

PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL	452
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	639
INTERNATIONAL	3278
TOTAL	4369



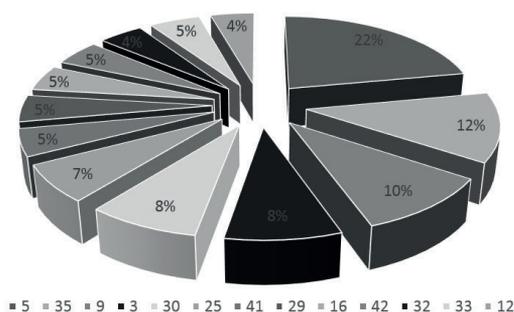
NUMBER OF MARKS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

CODE	QTY
GE	452
US	499
DE	299
CH	273
RU	376
TR	334
IT	200
FR	189
CN	194
OTHER	1553
TOTAL	4369



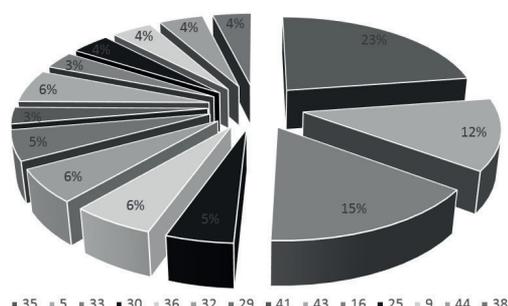
NUMBER OF LOCAL TRADEMARKS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO CLASSES

CLASS	QTY
35	125
5	69
33	86
30	26
36	32
32	32
29	29
41	16
43	32
16	17
25	21
9	22
44	24
38	21



**NUMBER OF MARKS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER
ACCORDING TO CLASS**

CLASS	QTY
5	1174
35	657
9	546
3	438
30	426
25	351
41	255
29	253
16	245
42	247
32	237
33	272
12	233

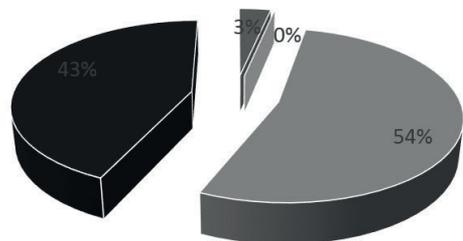


LOCAL MARKS EXTENDED BY INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION (MADRID PROTOCOL)

N	Mark	Holder/Applicant
1232336	SAMADLO	"KVARELI WINE COMPANY" LLC.
1236120	INDIAN STRONG	"GEODISTRIBUTION" LLC
1236662	DAVID IVERIELI	"Bolero & Company" Ltd.
1237834	TAMARANI	"TAMARANI" Ltd
1238308	RTVELI	"TIFLISSKI VINNI POGREB" LTD
1239092	MTEVANI	"TIFLISSKI VINNI POGREB" LTD
1239480	VITOV.T.	"GUGULI" Ltd.
1239769	WILDER ENERGY DRINK	"Georgian Beer Company" JSC
1239823	VAZIS VELI	Besarion Surmava ~ Nodar Esiava
1240727	Heart of Aragvi	"Kakhetian Traditional Winemaking" LLC
1242127	KAHIPARI MARANI	LLC "WINEMAN LLC"
1242128	SALAMURI	LLC "WINEMAN LLC"
1242129	TASI	LLC "WINEMAN LLC"
1243440	KVEVRI	"TIFLISSKI VINNI POGREB" LTD
1247751	KARTULI VAZI	"TIFLISSKI VINNI POGREB" LTD
1248422	BOOM FIRE	SAH & Co Ltd.
1251120	AKIDO	"Corporation Georgian Wine" LTD
1251455	GODORI	"Corporation Georgian Wine" LTD
1254454	Didebuli	JSC "TBILVINO"
1255839	Adaptol	"Aversi-Pharma" Ltd
1257080	BOOM BEST	SAH & Co Ltd.
1259231	ERISIONI	"SHABO-GEORGIA" LTD , Eldar lukuridze
1265839	Domain la NINA	"Nina Ananiashvili & Wine Art" LLC
1265840	Domain Mon Georges	"Nina Ananiashvili & Wine Art" LLC
1265841	Domain st. Gregoire	"Nina Ananiashvili & Wine Art" LLC
1265842	Domain st. Helene	"Nina Ananiashvili & Wine Art" LLC
1268682	TIFFANY	Nugzar Shvelidze
1273450	GMB	Duty Free International LLC
1275672	DAMANI	JSC "Telavi Wine Cellar"
1275673	LADANA	JSC "Telavi Wine Cellar"
1275674	TANADI	JSC "Telavi Wine Cellar"
1279022	LUCA POLARE	"G & G Cooperation" LTD
1279978	ELIBO	"Georgian Wines

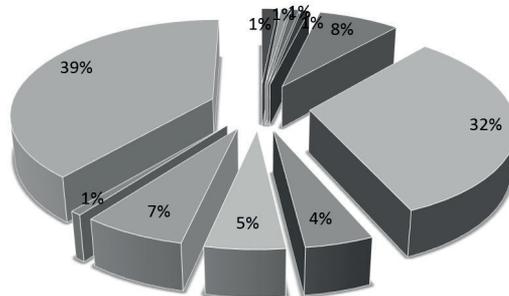
Geographical Indication

NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
LOCAL/GEOGRAFICAL INDICATION	4
LOCAL/APPELLATION OF ORIGIN	0
INTERNATIONAL (LISBON AGREEMENT)	64
RIGHT TO USE THE APPELLATION OF ORIGIN	52
TOTAL	120



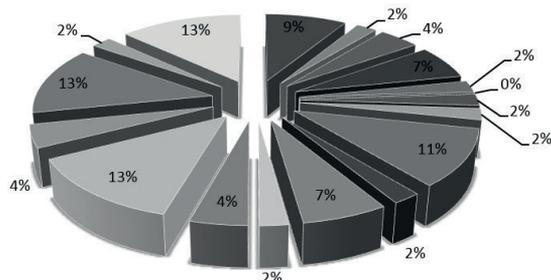
- LOCAL/GEOGRAFICAL INDICATION
- LOCAL/APPELLATION OF ORIGIN
- INTERNATIONAL (LISBON AGREEMENT)
- RIGHT TO USE THE APPELLATION OF ORIGIN

NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO CLASSES	
CLASS	QTY
30	1
31	1
14	1
32	1
29	2
30	6
31	7
33	9
27	10
29	42
33	51



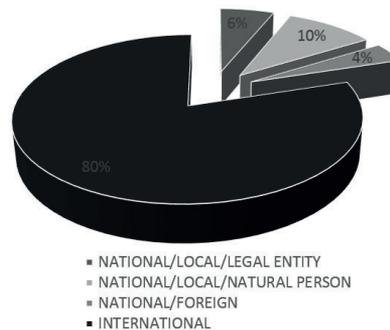
- 30 ■ 31 ■ 14 ■ 32 ■ 29 ■ 30 ■ 31 ■ 33 ■ 27 ■ 29 ■ 33

NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO APPELLATIONS ON THE RIGHT TO USE	
CLASS	QTY
AKHASHENI	4
BORJOMI	1
GURJAANI	2
VAZISUBANI	3
KAKHETI (KAKHURI)	1
KAKHURI	0
MANAVI	1
MITARBI	1
MUKUZANI	5
NABEGLAVI	1
NAPAREULI	3
NAPAREULI (RED)	1
TVISHI	2
KINDZMARAU LI	6
KVARELI	2
TSINANDALI	6
CHACHA	1
KHVANCHKARA	6

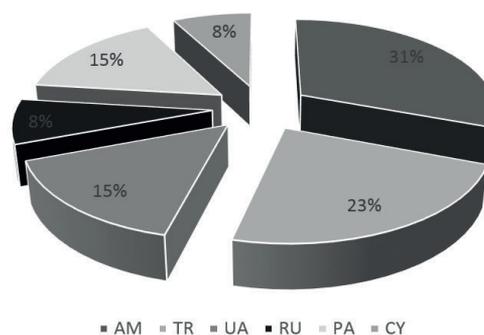


- AKHASHENI ■ BORJOMI ■ GURJAANI
- VAZISUBANI ■ KAKHETI (KAKHURI) ■ KAKHURI
- MANAVI ■ MITARBI ■ MUKUZANI
- NABEGLAVI ■ NAPAREULI ■ NAPAREULI (RED)
- TVISHI ■ KINDZMARAU LI ■ KVARELI
- TSINANDALI ■ CHACHA ■ KHVANCHKARA

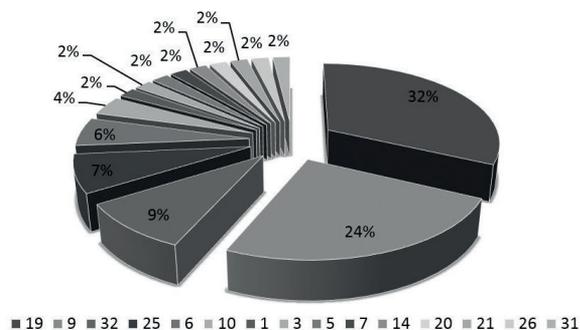
NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	20
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	33
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	13
INTERNATIONAL	262
TOTAL	328



NUMBER OF FILED FOREIGN APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES	
CODE	QTY
AM	4
TR	3
UA	2
RU	1
PA	2
CY	1
TOTAL	13

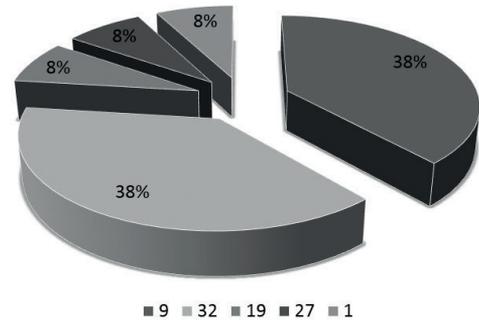


NUMBER OF FILED LOCAL APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO CLASSES	
CLASS	QTY
19	17
9	13
32	5
25	4
6	3
10	2
3	1
5	1
7	1
14	1
20	1
21	1
26	1
31	1



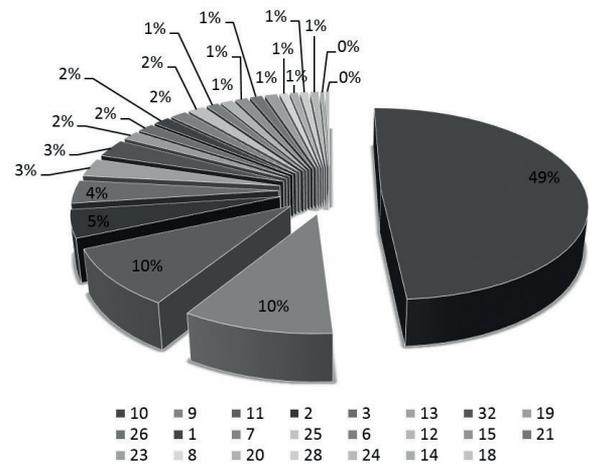
**NUMBER OF FILED FOREIGN APPLICATIONS
ACCORDING TO CLASSES**

CLASS	QTY
9	5
32	5
19	1
27	1
1	1



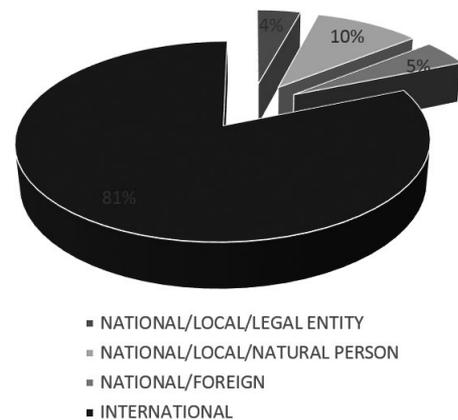
**NUMBER OF FILED INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS
ACCORDING TO CLASSES**

CLASS	QTY
10	128
9	26
11	25
2	12
3	10
13	8
32	8
19	4
26	4
1	4
7	4
25	4
6	3
12	3
15	3
21	3
23	3
8	2
20	2
28	2
24	2
14	1
18	1



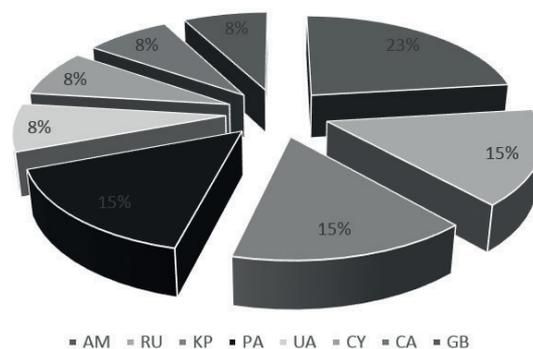
**NUMBER OF DESIGN APPLICATIONS ENTERED
IN THE REGISTER**

PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	12
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	29
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	13
INTERNATIONAL	234
TOTAL	288



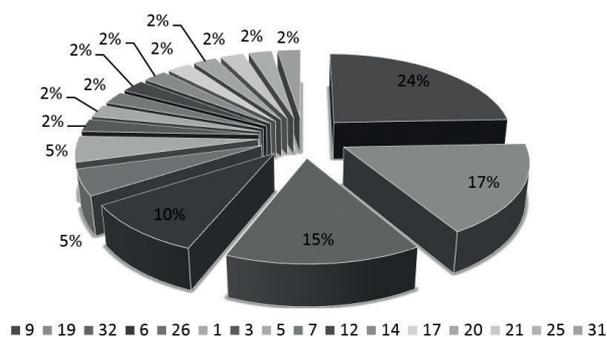
NUMBER OF FOREIGN DESIGN APPLICATIONS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

CODE	QTY
AM	3
RU	2
KP	2
PA	2
UA	1
CY	1
CA	1
GB	1
TOTAL	13



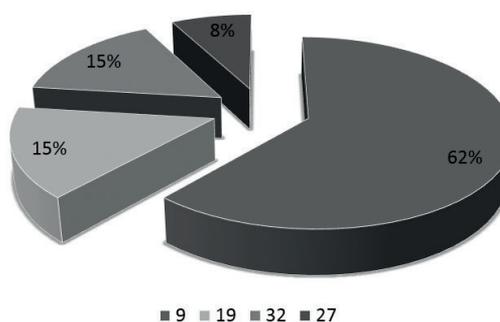
NUMBER OF LOCAL DESIGN APPLICATIONS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO CLASSES

CLASS	QTY
9	10
19	7
32	6
6	4
26	2
1	2
3	1
5	1
7	1
12	1
14	1
17	1
20	1
21	1
25	1
31	1



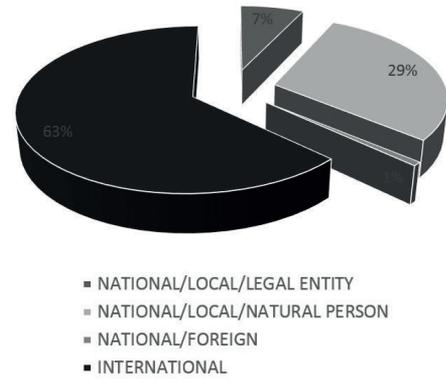
NUMBER OF FOREIGN DESIGN APPLICATIONS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO CLASSES

CLASS	QTY
9	8
19	2
32	2
27	1

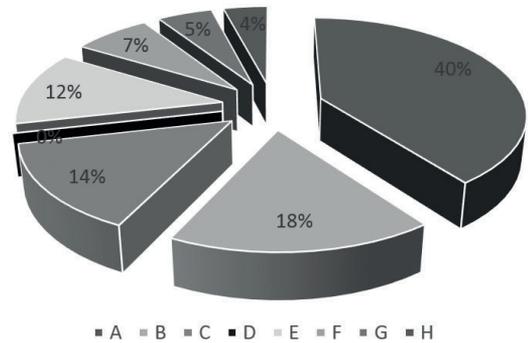


Invention

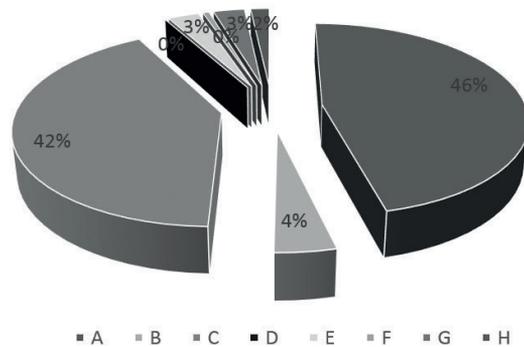
NUMBER OF FIELD APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	19
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	79
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	2
INTERNATIONAL	171
TOTAL	271



NUMBER OF FILED LOCAL APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO BRANCHES	
BRANCH	QTY
A	39
B	17
C	14
D	0
E	12
F	7
G	5
H	4

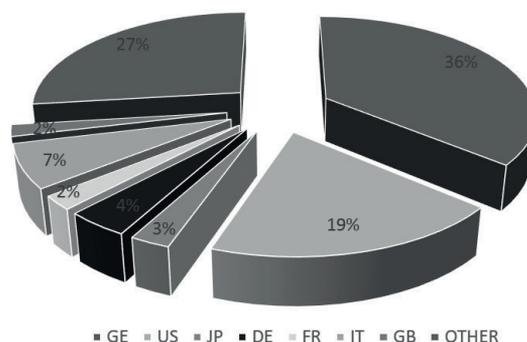


NUMBER OF FILED FOREIGN APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO BRANCHES	
BRANCH	QTY
A	80
B	7
C	72
D	0
E	5
F	1
G	5
H	3



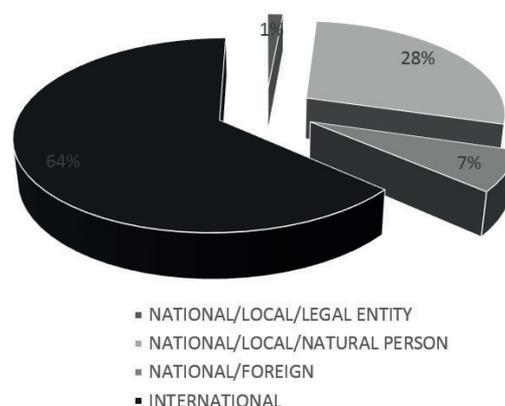
NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

CODE	QTY
GE	98
US	52
JP	7
DE	11
FR	6
IT	19
GB	5
OTHER	73
TOTAL	271



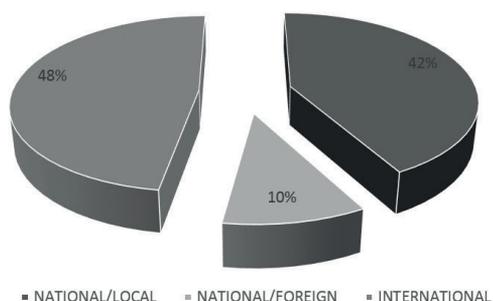
NUMBER OF PATENTS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER

PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	3
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	58
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	14
INTERNATIONAL	131
TOTAL	206



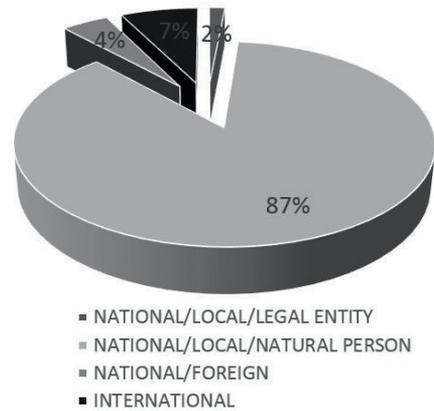
NUMBER OF INVALIDATED PATENTS

PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL	45
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	11
INTERNATIONAL	51
TOTAL	107

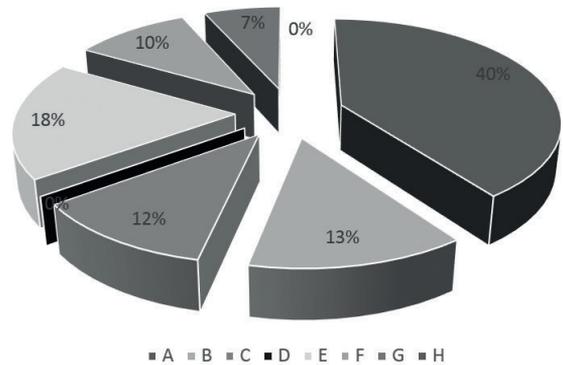


Utility Model

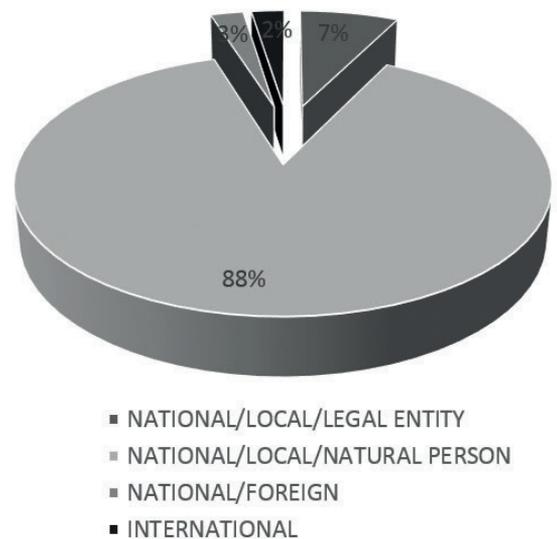
NUMBER OF FIELD APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	1
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	59
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	3
INTERNATIONAL	5
TOTAL	68



NUMBER OF FILED LOCAL APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO BRANCHES	
BRANCH	QTY
A	24
B	8
C	7
D	0
E	11
F	6
G	4
H	0

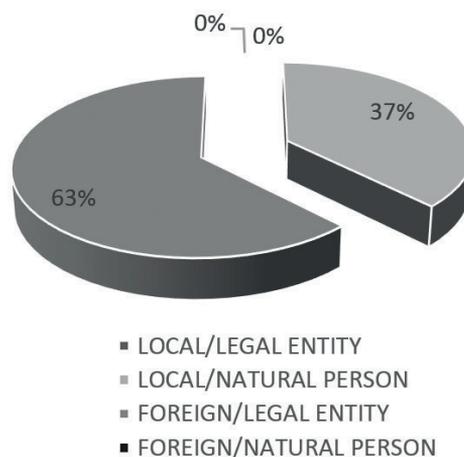


NUMBER OF PATENTS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER	
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	3
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	36
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	1
INTERNATIONAL	1
TOTAL	41

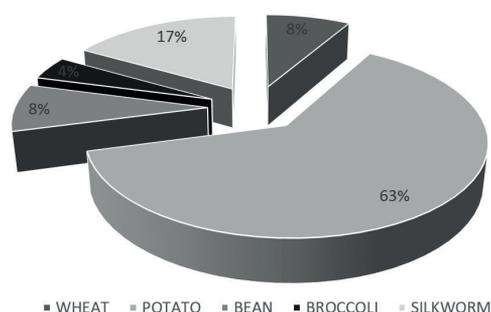


New Varieties and Breeds

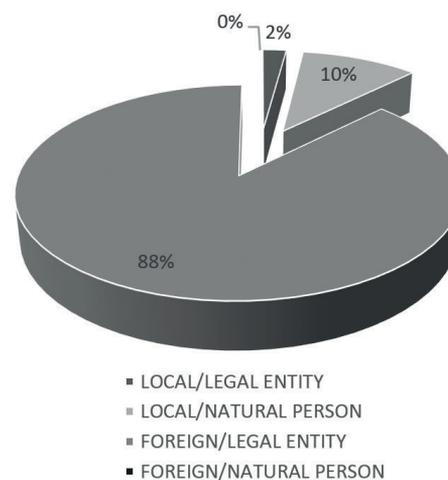
NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	0
LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	9
FOREIGN/LEGAL ENTITY	15
FOREIGN/NATURAL PERSON	0
TOTAL	24



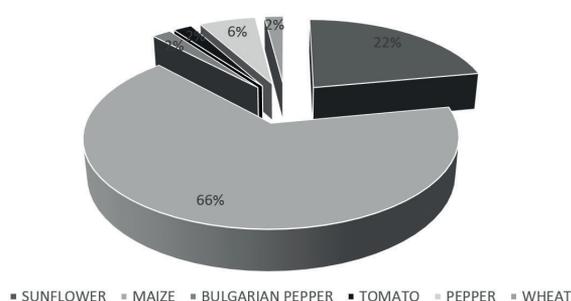
NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FILED ACCORDING TO CULTURES	
VARIETY/BREED	QTY
WHEAT	2
POTATO	15
BEAN	2
BROCCOLI	1
SILKWORM	4

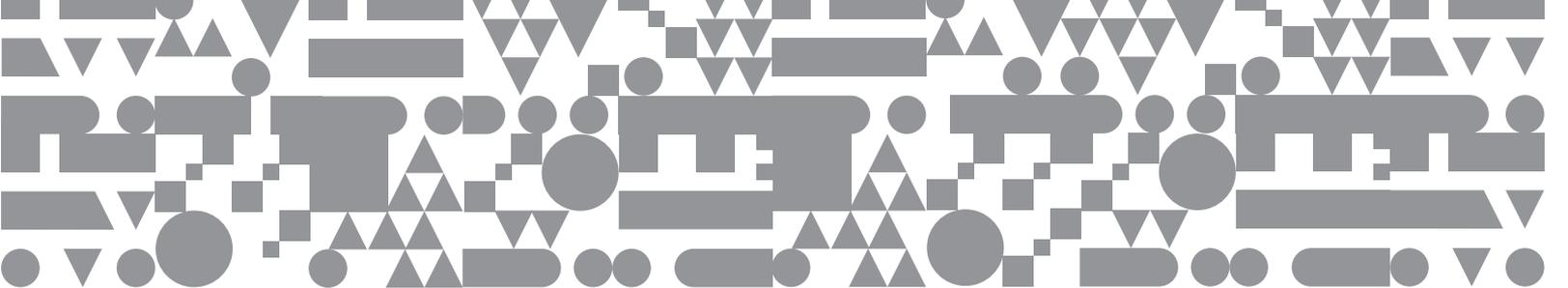


NUMBER OF VARIETIES/BREEDS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER	
PROCEDURE	QTY
LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	1
LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	5
FOREIGN/LEGAL ENTITY	42
FOREIGN/NATURAL PERSON	0
TOTAL	48



NUMBER OF VARIETIES/BREEDS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO CROPS	
VARIETY/BREED	QTY
SUNFLOWER	11
MAIZE	33
BULGARIAN PEPPER	1
TOMATO	1
PEPPER	3
WHEAT	1





Action Plan/ 2016

- Capacity building for examiners (EUIPO, EPO, USPTO/CLDP)
- Trainings/workshops for judges, lawyers, journalists (CLDP)
- Course on intellectual property for small and medium-sized businesses, researchers, scientists, lawyers, patent attorneys, students and staff members
- Support in raising awareness on protection of geographical indications among farmers, producers, consumers, representatives of Government structures (oriGIn Georgia)
- Training for trainers of the Intellectual Property Educational Center, 4 stages (WIPO)
- Furnishing the Educational Center with video conference equipment (USAID)
- Training of teachers in teaching invention (WIPO)
- Publishing reading literature for pupils of the 2nd-6th classes on inventions, trademarks, copyright, design (G-Pried)
- Translation and publishing of WIPO publications
- Publishing Georgian authors' and translated books in the intellectual property field
- Support in drafting an intellectual property strategy for universities
- Setting up an invention center in Kutaisi, with the support of the municipality
- Identification of potential geographical indications in regions and support of their legal protection (oriGIn Georgia)
- Participation in developing a multi-level control system of correspondence of product protected by geographical indications with the established specifications (oriGIn Georgia)
- Setting up a museum of geographical indications (oriGIn Georgia)
- Participating in creation of associations of farmers and producers around geographical indications and supporting in introducing modern forms of branding in their activities (oriGIn Georgia)
- Negotiations with EFTA member countries on conclusion of agreements on mutual protection of geographical indications
- Conference on "Modern Challenges in Intellectual Property" (WIPO)
- Conference "IP for Small and Medium Business Representatives" (WIPO)
- Conference "Modern Mechanisms of Branding" (WIPO)
- Conference "Georgia against Counterfeiting" (ICC Georgia, GIZ)
- Drafting instructions for new trademarks and designs (EUIPO)
- Working on legislative changes
- Presentation at the session of WIPO Rights Enforcement Committee on "Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in Georgia"
- Visit of Director General of EUIPO to Georgia
- Cooperation with EUIPO Dispute Hearing Council
- Negotiations with EPO on the validation agreement
- Bilateral meetings with EPO member countries
- Participation in the annual meeting of the International Trademark Association (INTA)
- Improvement of the electronic filing system (USAID)
- Creation of the document turnover program (USAID)
- Updating the official website (USAID)
- Creation of the Georgian version of search systems TM-View and Design-View on the EUIPO website.

The background of the page is a complex, abstract pattern of various green geometric shapes. These shapes include squares, circles, triangles, and rounded rectangles, some of which are solid green, while others are white with green outlines. The shapes are scattered across the page, creating a dynamic and modern visual texture.

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31, Nino Ramishvili Str., 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia
Tel.: +995 32 2252533, info@sakpatenti.org.ge