



Annual report of the Institute of Social Studies and Analysis

The year 2017

Institute of Social Studies and Analysis implemented 12 research projects in 2017, encompassing following fields:

- Healthcare and social security;
- Infrastructure;
- Agriculture;
- Youth;
- Education;
- Law;
- Tourism and migration;
- Local self-governance;

Healthcare and Social security:

ISSA has implemented 3 research projects in the field of healthcare and social security. ISSA has conducted the research of population attitudes regarding tobacco consuming ordered by the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC). The aim of the research was to study the experience and attitudes of Georgian population regarding tobacco consumption and illegal/contraband cigarettes. In the framework of quantitative research, face-to-face interview method was applied and 3000 respondents were interviewed across the country.

Institute of Social Studies and Analysis conducted public opinion survey on pension reform, ordered by Georgian Trade Unions Confederation (GTUC). The aim of the quantitative research was to study the attitudes of Georgian population regarding new pension reform models; Determining how the new pension system responds to the socio-political positions and values of the citizens. The target group of research was represented by the population of Georgia (Tbilisi and all regions), whose age is 18 years and more. The final size of sampling was 1000 respondents. Respondents participating in the survey were interviewed using face-to-face interviews.

The Institute of Social Studies and Analysis has studied the needs of disabled children, their families, and care centers, by the order of the organization - "Child, Family, Social Counseling". In the research framework both quantitative and qualitative methods were used. Within the qualitative framework have been comprehensively studied the needs of disabled individuals and day centers, their beneficiaries and their families, while the purpose of the quantitative research was to identify needs of day centers, their beneficiaries and families with disabilities in Georgia. In the frames of qualitative research, 24 in-depth interviews and 12 focus groups were conducted, while for the



quantitative research administration staff members, teachers, beneficiaries and their parents were interviewed in day centers, 450 respondents in total.

Infrastructure

In the direction of infrastructure, the Institute of Social Studies and Analysis is implementing the research ordered by “IRD engineering”, which aims to evaluate the process of infrastructural projects that were implemented by Municipal Development Fund of Georgia and are funded by The World Bank in Georgia. Within the framework of the project, more than 40 infrastructural projects are being evaluated such as kindergartens, roads, sports complexes, public centers, etc. The implementation of the project started in 2016 and will be finished in 2019.

Agriculture

In the field of agriculture, the Institute of Social Studies and Analysis conducted qualitative research ordered by the organization “Bridge innovation – development”, which aimed to study the youth involvement in agriculture and agricultural development in Georgia. In the qualitative research framework, 3 methods were used – Focus group, in-depth interviews and desk research. In total 11 focus groups and 5 expert interviews were conducted. The aim of the desk research was to study and map the local organizations that were working on youth issues as well as donor organizations with agricultural programs.

Besides the agriculture, this research touched upon youth problems in general as well. Due to the research goal, the survey was focused on the needs of rural youth, identifying possibilities of their involvement in the development of agriculture.

Youth related issues

In 2017 ISSA conducted another sociological research regarding the youth ordered by the organization Hedayah. The aim of the research was to find out what the risk-factors for vulnerability to violence were in Georgian youth and which (sub) group was the most vulnerable. Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used in the research. In the quantitative research framework, 1145 respondents were interviewed with a face-to-face interview. In the qualitative framework following methods were used – group interview; in-depth interview and critical discourse analysis. Target groups were presented by the young people aged 18-29, students and teachers of public schools as well as religious boarding schools.

Education

After winning the tender announced by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, ISSA carried out the sociological survey, which aimed to monitor 2 directions – inclusive education and its sub-program, transitive education that were initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia. In order to reach research goals within the monitoring, the organization used both qualitative and quantitative methods. Quantitative method (via face-to-face interview) included 106 public schools (which were equally distributed in Tbilisi and other regions). In the framework of the qualitative research, a case study was carried out, which meant the research of 10 students' cases.



During the research process, were carried out the analysis of factors affecting the efficiency of involving students with special educational needs (SEN) in the learning process.

Law

In 2017, constitutional changes were actively discussed in Georgian political and public life. Due to the high interest of society, by the order of presidential administration T Institute of Social Studies and Analysis carried out sociological research that aimed to study Georgian population attitudes regarding constitutional changes. The target group of the research was Georgian population aged 18 and more. 1500 respondents were interviewed with face-to-face interviews in Tbilisi and regions of Georgia (Adjara, Imereti, Samegrelo – Zemo Svaneti, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Shida Kartli)

Tourism and migration

In the field of tourism and migration, ISSA conducted three sociological studies in 2017; The possibility of conducting two studies was awarded to ISSA by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In the evaluation frames of the project "Strengthening Capacities of the Government of Georgia in Border and Migration Management" were used qualitative research methods, focus groups and in-depth interviews. In total, 10 expert interviews, 7 group interviews, and 4 focus groups were conducted. The aim of the second research ordered by the IOM was to study the quality of tourist satisfaction towards border checkpoints. In the framework of the survey was used the method of quantitative research - face-to-face interview. Within the scope of the survey, 3 000 respondents were interviewed at 6 border checkpoints of Georgia - international airports (Tbilisi, Batumi, Kutaisi) and land border crossing points (Sarpi, Red Bridge, and Sadakhlo).

The aim of the research carried out by the order of non-governmental organization "Public Advocacy"(PA) was to study economic interests and professional skills and identify social-economic needs of the individuals under international protection, which in turn will facilitate to implement the activities directed to raise the welfare and social-adaptation process of internationally protected refugees living in Georgia. The face-to-face interview was used in the research and 212 respondents from 12 different nations participated in the survey. The survey was distributed among 9 administrative units of Georgia.

Local Self-governance

In the summer of 2017 with the support of Open Society-Georgia Foundation, the Institute for Social Studies and Analysis has developed a quantitative social survey -Assessment of Needs of Tbilisi Population - which will further assist the formation of the budget of special needs, and this will, in turn, facilitate to carry out the activities that will raise the welfare of the population. The survey was carried out using the quantitative method, face-to-face interviews in particular. The target group of the research was the population of election age (18 years and above) from 10 districts of Tbilisi, and the size of the sampling unit combined total of 3000 respondents.



Institute of Social Studies and Analysis

Other activities

Besides the research projects, 2017 was significant in terms of development and expansion of the organization. ISSA replaced working office in 2017, which provides the organization with the possibility of active involvement in the direction of education in the future. Also, organization's new website will be completed soon, which will be useful for its resources and content for the people working in social sciences as well as for any interested party.

Chairman of the Institute of social studies and analysis
Iago Katchkatchishvili

