

## Support to Child Welfare Reform, Georgia

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<b>Assignment</b>	Supporting the Government of Georgia in the reform of the national child care system
<b>Client</b>	Government of Georgia
<b>Financing Agency</b>	European Union (Tacis)
<b>Partners</b>	Every Child - UK (lead)
<b>Composition of Team</b>	<i>BMB Mott MacDonald</i> : A Social Assistance Expert <i>Partner(s)</i> : Team Leader, Child Care Expert, Training Expert
<b>Period of Assignment</b>	From August 2006 to August 2009 Staff months: <i>BMB Mott MacDonald</i> : 17; <i>Partner(s)</i> : 44
<b>Contract value</b>	<i>BMB Mott MacDonald</i> : € 335,000 <i>Partner(s)</i> : € 1,865,000
<b>Background</b>	The Child Welfare Reform project in Georgia is intended to consolidate reforms to the child care system, which have been underway in different forms since 1999. It is the natural progression from a number of other initiatives, many of which have been supported by the European Commission. In particular the project will work in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), which currently holds responsibility for state child care, the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs (MoLHSA), to which this responsibility will be transferred in early 2008 and which is already responsible for general social assistance to vulnerable groups, and the Government Commission on Child Protection and Deinstitutionalization (GCCPD), which is an inter-ministerial body with a leading role in child care reform.
<b>Description of project</b>	The overall objective of the project is to improve the situation of vulnerable children through supporting the reform of the national child care system. Although a large part of the work will be in consolidating and continuing the process of deinstitutionalization, the project will also take a broader view of protection of children's rights through social policy and support in the transition of responsibility for management of the child care system between ministries.
<b>Services provided</b>	The team of consultants will carry out the following activities: (i) Developing and improving child care policy and legislation so that it fully supports the new child care system and is better integrated with the overall social policy. (ii) Supporting the development of an institutional and administrative framework which will allow the government to effectively manage the reformed child care system. (iii) Increasing the capacity of national and local level bodies to effectively plan, manage and monitor the reformed child care system. (iv) Developing specialized training programmes to improve and increase the skills, qualifications and capacity of service providers at local level so that they are able to deliver services needed in the reformed child care

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system.

(v) Increasing the understanding of the importance of children growing up in a family environment, which is the driving force behind the reform of the child care system.