

## Policy and Management Consulting Group

Delivering Progress

#### *PMCG Newsletter Nº8:June-September, 2016*



#### Awarded with Five Stars for Transparency

We are excited to share the news that PMC Research was recently granted a 5 star transparency award. It is a great honor for us to be awarded by international organization Transparify for setting the gold standard for the field as a whole, by reflecting exemplary transparency in publicly disclosing sources of

funding. From 200 major think tanks worldwide, around 70 were privileged to receive a five-star rating (out of five) in 2015.

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## Kabul Municipality Successfully Launches Improved Construction Permits System

Kabul, Afghanistan has successfully introduced a simpler and more efficient construction permits system, under a business process re-

engineering project by The World Bank/International Finance Corporation,

funded by USAID. In 2014, PMCG was contracted by IFC to assist Kabul in improving its construction permit processes. PMCG contributed the project by developing recommendations on the following issues: reduction of the time frames and costs for each procedure, reduction of excessive interaction between government and private sector representatives by introducing the one-stop shop (OSS) principle in the process of issuing construction permits; introduction of an individual approach for each type of building/structure known as risk-based construction permitting; and ensuring compatibility between public, private and third party interests.



#### Advancing Tax Legislation in Georgia

PMCG is assisting the Ministry of Finance of Georgia to improve its tax legislation, as a partner of USAID's Governing for Growth (G4G) program (lead by Deloitte). In order to identify gaps in the current legislation and issue effective modifications, consultants are analyzing tax dispute cases heard by the

Dispute Resolution Department of Revenue Service, Dispute Appeal Council of the Ministry of Finance and the Court.

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## Supporting Albania to Improve Business Regulatory Environment and Fiscal Efficiency

Recently, PMCG launched the World Bank project in Albania, designed to facilitate the business enabling environment reform process, to improve public service delivery, business regulatory environment, and to streamline procedural and bureaucratic issues. The project team is working towards enhance-



ments in three main areas, namely the business enabling environment, licensing and permitting, and administration in tax and customs agencies.





## Streamlining Construction Code and Spatial Planning in Georgia

PMCG, as part of the consortium led by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Georgia, within the Good Governance Fund (GGF) project, is supporting the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia (MoESD) to reform

the construction code in Georgia. PwC and PMCG are conducting a regulatory impact assessment (RIA) of the spatial planning and construction code. The RIA will help decision makers to assess the impact of the new code and establish necessary steps to effectively implement the code.

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## Sharing Experience of Implementing Structural Economic Reforms in Georgia at Public Lecture at JVI, Austria

On September 7, Aleksi Aleksishvili, Chairman and CEO of PMCG, gave a public lecture at the Joint Vienna Institute (JVI) in Vienna, Austria. The lecture was dedicated to the regions of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, and



described historic and recent challenges and how these could be overcome. Special attention was paid to the lessons learnt, specifically the barriers and challenges encountered in the process of implementing social and economic reforms.

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# PMCG Continuing to Support Regional Development and Local Governance

PMCG, as part of the USAID Good Governance Initiative (GGI) program, is continuing to work with local governances to facilitate regional development. At present, PMCG is working with the cities of Batumi and Akhaltsikhe to design

their respective city development strategies and spatial urban development plans.

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