Libraries in Georgia in 2004-2014

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Topics

- Georgia
- Library statistics
- National Libraries
- Public libraries
- Academic libraries
- School libraries
- Other libraries
- Legislation, standards,..
- Library education
- Access to e-resources
- Open Access
- Open Source solutions
- Georgian Library Association
- NSL
Georgia

- Georgia is a democratic semi-presidential republic, with the President as the head of state, and Prime Minister as the head of government.
  - President: Giorgi Margvelashvili
  - Prime Minister: Irakli Garibashvili
  - Speaker of the Parliament: Davit Usupashvili
- Georgia is divided into 9 regions, 1 city, and 2 autonomous republics. These in turn are subdivided into 69 districts.
- Ethnic Georgians form about 84% of Georgia's current population of 4,661,473 (July 2006 est.)
- Georgian is the primary language of approximately 71% of the population, followed by 9% speaking Russian, 7% Armenian, 6% Azerbaijani, and 7% other languages.
- Tbilisi - 1,172,700 population
Libraries (estimated numbers)

- National Parliamentary Library
- Public libraries – 560
- Academic libraries – 200
- School libraries – 2000
- Other (Gov., NGO, Prison, Army, private,..)
- Library schools (uni) – 1
- Georgian Library Association – from 2000 year (about 100+ members)
NPLG

- Leading library in Georgia
- Books 3,641,456
- Magazines/Journals 233,383 annual sets
- Newspapers 55,124 annual sets
- Publications 77,089
- Printed music 96,610
- Gramophone records 23,992
- CD/DVD 4,740
- Cartography 17,158
- Microforms 19,890
- Buildings in Tbilisi + new building in Kutaisi
NPLG (cont.)

- Ann. Budget – 3.7 mil. USD
- Staff – 450
- History – from 1846
- IT – from 1988
- eCatalogues - 2 mil. records (CSS/ISIS - UNIMARC)
- Digital libraries (Dspace, Greenstone)
Public libraries – huge closures

- 2004
  - 2000 libraries with branches
  - Poor infrastructure:
    - premises
    - IT services
    - Internet – ab. 5-7
    - No e-catalogues
    - No state policy or strategy for development

- 2014
  - 560 libraries with branches
  - Reduced – children and youth libraries
  - Relatively improved infrastructure:
    - Building reconstructions
    - Computers
    - Internet – ab. 15-20
    - E-catalogues – ab. 10-15
    - Responsibility - Local authorities (Act 2007)
    - No state policy or strategy
Public libraries... today

- No closing in 2013
- Opened – 2 “mediatekas” in Tbilisi
- Developing innovative services (including IT): Kutaisi, Batumi, Zugdidi, Khashuri, Akhaltsikhe, and more..
- “New Vision of Public Libraries in Georgia” – 2013 – GeLA + Lithuania + Khashuri
Modern library services – pilot project (2014)

- BeyondAccess initiative (http://beyondaccess.net/)
- Ministry of Justice – Georgia (Public Services Agency)
- National Parliamentary Library
- Georgian Library Association

- Selected 4 rural libraries
- Signing contract (MoJ)
- Goal – pilot development of innovative services at public libraries by user demands
Academic libraries

- 2004 – 250 small universities in Georgia
- State Accreditation – including library conditions
  - 10 books per student
  - Including books mentioned in curricula
  - PCs, web sites (Georgian), databases
  - E-catalogues
  - Spaces (hall, book stacks, ..)
  - Working hours, staff
- Result: ab. 100 accredited universities with improved libraries (services)
Old library
Merging institutions

- Almost all former research institutes of Academy of Sciences merged to universities – 2004 – 2012
- National Academy of Sciences – membership –based organization (70 Full members (Academicians) +...)
- Process is unclear and rises problems:
  - Misery state budget for Institutes
  - Not incorporated into university structures
  - Not many adapted to new environment
  - Problems with their libraries (about 60)
New library
New library..
New library
IT services at Acad. Libraries

- All have online catalogues (OPACs, MARC21) and web sites/pages
- Majority has access to online e-databases (mostly via EIFL, several - individually)
- 5-10 Universities publish regular e-journals (not necessarily connected to libraries)
School libraries

• Statistics – 2300 schools
• Not enough research data available
• MES Activities in 2012-2014:
  • Meetings with school directors
  • New “Standard for School Librarian” (2013)
  • Authorization – currently just private schools
  • “School Librarian’s Guide” – planned for 2014
  • Problem with librarians’ skills – Training
• Online catalogues and webpages – not active but developing
Other libraries

- For many years almost neglected
- Collection of State Book Chamber – Merged to National Library in 2006
- Several active NGOs have good libraries
- Good examples of recent year
Prison library project (Oslo partnership)
Library of Georgian Patriarchy
Georgian library related legislation and standards

  - Min. Culture and National Library – “methodological supervision”...
  - Currently no library department at Min. Culture
- No Legal Deposit Law – draft version exists (to be provided to Parliament in 2014)
- 2007 Government Decree states all public libraries to be under responsibilities of local administrations
- Law on National Parliamentary Library
- Evaluation of legal situation: INEFFICIENT, resulting in unclear management of libraries and no state policies on development of libraries.
Standards

- Switching from USSR/Russian standards to International - European/US
- Management (just the most active libraries) – changing management style, introducing quality management system
- Bibliography/cataloguing/metadata: MARC21, AACR2/RDA, Dublin Core
- Classification: mostly UDC, several – DDC
- Development (and publishing) of standards: NPLG & GeLA
Education

- All university programs transformed according to Bologna requirements – Undergraduate (4 years), Masters (2 years), Doctoral (3 years).
- 15-20 students per year
- New faculty members (professors)
- Curriculum – close to Scottish structure (Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen)
Training for librarians

• Active training center of Georgian Library Association and National Scientific Library
• Bi-monthly courses for 2 weeks each (2 types)
• Participants – librarians and library managers
• Topics:
  • Cataloguing rules, classification, collections
  • E-catalogues, databases
  • Management, marketing, projects, financial management
• Smaller training centers do exist (universities, bigger public libraries)
Access to e-resources

- Mainly via EIFL program ([www.eifl.net](http://www.eifl.net), from 2000, about 70 libraries, about 50 providers)
- E-books (100 000), e-journals (20 000+), dictionaries, databases
- No support from government – all managed by GeLA:
  - Licenses
  - Fees
  - Trainings
  - Technical and legal issues
Open Access

- Digital Repositories (digital archives of files + search)
  - National Library (Dspace, Evergreen, other)
  - Georgian Library Association (Dspace)
  - Several autonomous servers (uni-s)
- Materials
  - Digitised books, newspapers, journals, photos, articles
  - Digitally produced works
  - Audio- video
- E-journals
  - Georgian Library Association (“Open Journal Systems”)
  - [http://openjournals.gela.org.ge](http://openjournals.gela.org.ge)
  - 10 e-journals.
  - Several autonomous servers (uni-s)
- E-dictionaries (Nat. Library)
- Elib.ge and other private e-libraries
Open Source library software

- Open Source – software with open code and open use/modification license.
- Free!!
- Adaptable for our needs (Georgian alphabet, local rules, classification etc., translation possible)
- Already in use in many libraries & countries
  - Stable working systems can be found
  - International developers’ communities – upgraded regularly
OS solutions in Georgia

- Websites – Drupal, Joomla, .. Modern Content Management Systems
- Catalogues (ILSs) – Openbiblio, KOHA, Evergreen
- Digital Repositories – Evergreen, Dspace
- Open journal systems
- And much more...

- Translated /localized to Georgian language
- GeLA offers
  - installation,
  - training,
  - hosting.
Drupal

- Used in 10 000+ organizations worldwide
- Additional modules (10 000) provide functions useful for library environment (bibliography, communication, publishing, polls/questionnaires, e-learning, group working,...)

Sites:
- GeLA
- NSL
- Rustavi public library
- Kutaisi public library
Actual sites
Openbiblio

- Simple Integrated Library System for small (less than 60,000 titles) libraries
- Cataloguing, Circulation, Administration, Reports, OPAC modules
- Translated and adapted for Georgian libraries
- Gela offers installation, training, printed user manual, consultations
- Installed in ab. 100 libraries (public, uni, schools, NGOs, GOVs)
- Easy to install (local PC or online) and learn
- MARC21
- Very stable – errors rare and easily located
OpenBiblio is written in PHP/MySQL platform. Currently we use version 0.7.1.

It supports MARC21, import of MARC files, barcode scanners, fee/charges system, and much more. Though it lacks some functionality of modern systems (e.g. has no user interaction tools, MARC export).

Following online installations of OpenBiblio are made in Georgia by Georgian Library Association:

- Gori University
- Tbilisi Public School № 42 Named After Academician Ilia Vekua
- Arnold Chikobava Institute of Linguistics
- New School
- Library of Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University
- British-Georgian Academy
- Grigol Robakidze University
- Guram Tavartkiladze Teaching University
- Gurjaani Library
- Eurasian Independent Teaching University
- European Teaching University

Fedora4 Beta: Large File Support, Clustering, Triplestore, Authorization, Content Modeling
Available Now: DuraSpace
2013 Annual Report
IRIS Brings the History of Science to Life
Open Repository Debuts in Mexico with New Monterrey-Based Client

Who's online
There are currently 0 users and 33 guests online.

EIFL news and events
E-discussion on Open Access
KOHA

- Much more functionality – all library procedures presented, with interactive and user-friendly interface.
- MARC21 or UNIMARC (we use Marc21)
- Cataloguing, Authority records, Patrons, Reports, Bib. Tools (eg. Export/import, label or card printing), and much more...
- Much bigger database – 5-10 million record possible
- Much more skills required (librarians, administrators, authority, even users,..)
- GeLA makes installation, hosting (our own server), training, problem-solving/consultations, translation
- Installed in NSL, GTU, Nat. Archives, Kutaisi library, prison library, Tbilisi Media libraries, ..
Digital libraries

- Dspace, Greenstone – open source software for creation and management archives/libraries of files (texts, photos, video, combinations)
- They provide search through metadata (bib. Descriptions in formats like Dublin Core, etc) + search though texts in files (txt, doc, pdf, html,..)
- Dspace – MIT software (dspace.org)
- Greenstone – UNESCO distribution
Dspace Gela.org.ge server

DSpace is Live
Welcome to our digital repository of Georgian Library Association research!
More exciting news to appear here.

Search
Enter some text in the box below to search DSpace.

Communities in DSpace
Choose a community to browse its collections.
Dsplace – “Iverieli” at NPLG
More collections
More types of materials
Much more records
Georgian Library Association

- Founded in 2000
- All types of libraries, almost all regions, personal or corporate membership
- Is one of the most actors in library science or practice in Georgia
- IT projects – all above mentioned
- National Library Weeks – library advocacy and promotion – every April since 2002
- Library publications: standards, guides, journal “Georgian Library”
- Works pro-actively with National or local authorities, international organizations, libraries, publishers, ...
- [http://www.gela.org.ge](http://www.gela.org.ge)
- President: Ms. Rusudan Asatiani
National Scientific Library

- From 2012 Merged to Tbs. State University I.Javakhishvili
- Biggest collection including: 4 mil books, 2.5 mil journals, 20000 rare materials, 20 000 patents, standards, microfilms, etc.
- Developed IT services – website (Web 2.0 technologies), OPAC (KOHA), digitization, el. Document Delivery, translation, bibliometric (citation analysis), trainings and much more..
- Participated in almost all above mentioned projects/programs
- In addition offers: service for blind, Electronic document delivery, translation services, spaces by demand (meetings, exhibitions, etc), digitization by demand, citation analysis, ..
NSL – visit of president
NSL
We have connections with colleagues from Azerbaijan
But we would be happy to establish much more active and dynamic partnership
www.sciencelib.ge
Director: Irakli Garibashvili
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Thank you!

Baku, Azerbaijan
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