Annex N

Subject Benchmark Statement of Ground Transportation Process Services

I and II Cycles of Higher Education

VI and VII Levels of the National Qualifications Framework

2023

I. Introduction

The Subject Benchmark Statement for Ground Transportation Process Services defines the academic standards for this field, outlining the minimum learning outcomes required at Levels VI and VII of the National Qualifications Framework. It also specifies the essential teaching, learning, and assessment methods, along with the necessary resources and other key elements needed to achieve these outcomes.

The purpose of the Subject Benchmark Statement for Ground Transportation Process Services is to establish the minimum requirements for learning outcomes, support the development of educational programmes, facilitate student mobility, and promote international recognition of the awarded qualifications. This Benchmark Statement is mandatory for all higher education institutions offering Bachelor's and/or Master's programmes in Ground Transportation Process Services. The specific content of these programmes, along with the teaching, learning, and assessment methods, is determined by each institution in accordance with the current legislation of Georgia.

Familiarization with this Subject Benchmark Statement is recommended for:

- the academic, invited and administrative staff of the higher education institution involved in the development and implementation of the education programme;
- prospect students interested in pursuing an educational programme in the field of ground transportation process services;
- Current students seeking to understand the knowledge, skills, and competences they will acquire upon completion of the programme;
- Employers evaluating the competencies and employability of graduates from programmes aligned with this Benchmark Statement;

- Members of Accreditation, Authorization, and Appeals Councils who are responsible for evaluating educational programmes and making decisions regarding their compliance with accreditation standards.

The name of the Subject Benchmark Statement in English is: **Subject Benchmark Statement of Ground Transportation Process Services.**

The validity period of the Subject Benchmark Statement of Ground Transportation Process Services is 7 years.

The basis for the development of this Subject Benchmark Statement is the document Fields of Education and Training 2013 (ISCED-F 2013) -Detailed Field Descriptions, where the field Transportation Services – 1041 is defined, in particular: Road motor vehicle operations, Railway operations, Shipping operations, etc. Furthermore, pursuant to the Association Agreement signed on 27 June 2014 between Georgia on the one hand, and the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, on the other hand, directives regulating the field of transport were defined, of which the most important is Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 establishing common rules concerning the conditions to be complied with to pursue the activity of road transport operator and repealing the Council Directive 96/26/EC.

II. Description of the Field of Study

In the modern world, transportation is the primary means of moving people and material resources, playing a critical role in the national economy of every country. The effective planning and execution of transport service operations significantly influence a company's market success, as well as a country's economic stability, defense capabilities, social

development, and international competitiveness. The field of Ground Transportation Process Services addresses key areas such as the planning and management of transportation operations under both international and domestic conditions; the preparation of required transport documentation; and the legal and software support essential for efficient transport processes. Given its strategic importance, the development of a skilled workforce in ground transportation process services is vital to meeting the demands of the labour market.

Ground transportation process services imply the implementation of transportation processes in accordance with the demands of the modern transport market through such operations as: Planning and implementation specifics of ground transportation processes under conditions of international and local shipments; Preparation of the documentation required for the implementation of ground transportation processes;

Legal and software support of ground transportation processes; Ensuring the uninterrupted and continuous supply of ground transportation vehicles; Planning and execution of loading/unloading operations considering cargo characteristics, its placement and securing on the transport vehicle; Monitoring of transportation processes; Development of transportation schedules in compliance with road/railway traffic organization and safety; Ensuring the smooth operation of transport telematics, and more.

The transport sector mainly consists of two components:

- Engineering of transport vehicles, in particular: design, production, service, and repair;
- Transportation process services, in particular: carrying out shipments/transfers using the produced vehicles.

For the effective functioning of the latter component, it is necessary to prepare human resources with qualifications relevant to the modern labour market. The Bachelor's educational programme in ground transportation process services ensures broad knowledge and practical application of the basic issues and methods related to the implementation of such transportation processes. This implies a critical understanding of the aspects of planning-implementation-monitoring of ground transportation processes, as well as their key features, which serves as a basis for continuing studies at the Master's level. The Master's educational programme in ground transportation process services ensures the development of in-depth and systematic competences in planning-implementation-monitoring of transportation processes using land transport, as well as the deepening of research competences, which serves as a basis for continuing studies at the doctoral level.

III. Learning Outcomes

This Subject Benchmark Statement defines the minimum level of learning outcomes (knowledge and understanding, skills, responsibility and autonomy) that a graduate of the respective cycle (Bachelor's or Master's) educational programme must possess in order to be awarded the qualification of Bachelor/Master in Ground Transportation Process Services upon completion of the programme. It should also be noted that higher education institutions are free, when designing a programme, to additionally target those outcomes that will be of priority for a specific environment or dictated by best international practice.

A higher education institution is authorized to define learning outcomes under all three components (knowledge and understanding, skills, responsibility and autonomy), either with or without breakdown into categories.

3.1. Learning Outcomes Required for Awarding the Bachelor's Academic Degree in Ground Transportation Process Services

A graduate:

- Explains the general principles and specifics of planning, implementing, and monitoring ground transportation processes: transport mode selection, determination of optimal route, monitoring of passenger/cargo movement, and others;
- Defines the general parameters for planning and implementing transportation processes by ground transport;
- Develops models for the effective implementation of ground transportation processes using appropriate software;
- Manages/monitors ground transportation processes in compliance with international and local legislation;
- Analyses the existing conditions and development trends of the transportation services market;
- Conducts marketing and managerial activities in a transport company based on the instructions of higher-level management;
- Ensures the continuity of the supply of transport rolling stock;
- Carries out a research/practical project or thesis according to the programme profile and predetermined guidelines, and presents it using information and communication technologies;
- Identifies problems hindering ground transportation processes and formulates ideas to resolve them;
- Conducts professional relations with local and international professional organizations within the scope of their competence;
- Considers traffic and environmental safety requirements in the planning and

implementation of transportation processes;

- Evaluates personal and others' strengths and weaknesses to effectively plan academic and professional development.

3.2 Learning Outcomes Required for Awarding the Master's Academic Degree in Ground Transportation Process Services

A graduate:

- Describes theories, approved schemes, latest trends, and technological solutions related to the planning and management of ground transportation processes;
- Demonstrates in-depth knowledge of contemporary development trends in ground transportation processes;
- Develops effective methods for solving problems arising in the implementation of ground transportation processes;
- Demonstrates professional communication and coordination skills in a multidisciplinary environment while collaborating with target groups, colleagues, and professionals from other fields.
- Researches modern methods/approaches of ground transportation process management and develops innovative ways for their effective implementation;
- Coordinates the planning, implementation, and monitoring of ground transportation processes, including with the use of approved geographic information systems, taking into account all actors involved in the process;
- Based on the results of the study of the country's transport potential, it guides the effective and optimal functioning of transport processes;
- Produces a research-based paper, in compliance with the principles of academic integrity and using the latest research methods, and presents it before the academic and professional community;
- Plans ground transportation processes in compliance with modern requirements for traffic

and environmental safety;

Ensures the selection of the necessary human resources and assumes responsibility for their professional development.

IV. Qualification to be awarded

a) Bachelor of Ground Transport Process Services

b) Master of Ground Transport Process Services

V. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The teaching-learning and assessment methods provided in this Subject Benchmark Statement have a recommendatory nature and are based on the principles of student-centered teaching. The teaching and learning methods and corresponding assessment approaches presented in the Subject Benchmark Statement make it possible to achieve the learning outcomes defined by the educational programme. These teaching, learning, and assessment methods include the obligations and opportunities of academic and invited staff of higher education institutions to provide in-depth feedback to students. The teaching, learning, and assessment methods defined by the Subject Benchmark Statement represent the most widespread forms. However, depending on the views of the higher education institution, the programme may include only some of them and/or additional methods.

5.1. Teaching and Learning Methods

Given the specifics of teaching in the field of ground transportation services, it is important to apply common student-centered teaching and learning methods: Verbal method,

demonstration method, group work, practical work, case study, project-based learning, problem-based learning, simulation-based learning, consultations, discussions/debates, presentations, e-learning, and others.

The activities used for teaching and learning complement each other. Learning outcomes can be achieved in a variety of ways, such as: Independent study/interpretation/explanation of books and textbooks; Situation analysis; Preparation of professional reports; Preparation of answers to questions; Completion of written assignments; Case analysis; Participation in discussions and debates; Independent preparation of research papers under supervisor's instructions; Independent preparation of a paper/project/thesis; Learning through the performance of practical work.

5.2. Assessment Methods

Assessment methods of learning outcomes include: participation in debates/discussions/professional discussions, public presentations in native or foreign language, individual assessment based on projects, research papers and exams, performance of oral and written tasks, assessment of team work, peer-review by students, report preparation and presentation and more.

VI. Additional Information

According to the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO), professions classified into 1324 group units are defined; the tasks to be performed by specialists in these professions include: Supervising the loading of cargo onto vehicles, trains, ships or aircraft; operating record systems to monitor the movement of goods, ensuring restocking at optimal

times, liaising with other departments and customers regarding outbound goods and transportation requirements, etc. Among the professions classified in this unit group, the most significant is "Transport Company Manager." On the basis of the Association Agreement signed on 27 June 2014 between, on the one hand, the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, and on the other hand, Georgia, regulatory directives/regulations for the transport sector were defined. Among these, of particular importance is the Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 "establishing common rules concerning the conditions to be complied with to pursue the activity of road transport operator and repealing Council Directive 96/26/EC." In accordance with the first paragraph of Article 4 of the aforementioned Regulation, an enterprise that carries out the activities of a road transport operator must represent at least one natural person - a transport manager. The same regulation defines a list of competencies (Article 8) that a transport manager must possess, as well as a list of subjects, the study of which will lead to the acquisition of relevant skills and knowledge, provided in the form of an appendix. Therefore, it is extremely important to prepare educational programmes for the 6th and 7th levels of higher education in accordance with the learning outcomes defined by this subject benchmark statement, which will make it possible to prepare human resources with relevant knowledge, skills, and responsibilities for the labour market.

VII. Members of the Subject Benchmark Statement Development Group

7.1. Members of the document development group

№	Name, surname	Organization/institution	Position
1	**Otar Gelashvili**	LEPL- Georgian Technical University	Doctor of Technical Sciences; Professor of the Department of Motor Transport, Dean of the Faculty of Transport Systems and Mechanical Engineering, Chair of the Faculty Council; Editor-in-Chief of the scientific-technical journal Transport and Mechanical Engineering
2	**Teimuraz Kochadze**	LEPL – Akaki Tsereteli State University	Doctor of Technical Sciences; Professor at Akaki Tsereteli State University; Head of Master's Programme in Transport Logistics and Doctoral Programme in Engineering Technologies of Transport Processes
3	**Valery Jajanidze**	LEPL – Georgian Technical University	Doctor of Transport Engineering Associate Professor at the Faculty of Transport Systems and Mechanical Engineering; Quality Manager of the Personnel

			Certification Body of the Training, Research and Expert Center for Transport Systems; Accreditation Expert of Higher Education Programmes at the LEPL National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement; Authorization Expert of Vocational Educational Institutions
4	**Elizbar Darchiashvili**	N(N)LE - Transport and Roads Association	Doctor of Technical Sciences; Professor; Expert of the Transport and Roads Association
5	**Fridon Gogiashvili**	LEPL – Akaki Tsereteli State University	Doctor of Technical Sciences Professor of the Department of Construction and Transport of Akaki Tsereteli State University; Chair of the Dissertation Council of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Head of the Division of Vocational Training/Retraining and Recognition of Non-Formal Education at the Center for Vocational and Continuing Education; Accreditation Expert of Higher Education Programmes at the LEPL National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement; Authorisation/Accreditation Expert of Vocational Educational Institutions

6	**Ketevan Goletiani**	Batumi Navigation Teaching University	Doctor of Technical Sciences; Doctor of Business Administration; Professor at Batumi Navigation Teaching University, Dean of the Faculty of Business and Logistics; Assistant Professor at Shota Rustaveli State University, Department of Business Administration, Management and Marketing; Expert on Logistics, Transport and Freight of the Adjara Association of Logistics, Transport and Carriers; Technical Expert on Logistics, Transport and Freight at the Classification and Certification "Society Russian Register – West Georgia"
7	**Koba Metreveli**	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Chief Specialist of the Land Transport Division, Department of Transport and Logistics Development Policy at the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
8	**Mzevar Gogilava**	LEPL – Transport and Urban	Development Agency of Tbilisi City Hall Head of the Automated Traffic Flow Management Service of the Transport and Urban Development Agency;

			Chief Specialist of the Road Traffic Organisation Division, Urban Transport Service of Tbilisi City Hall
9	**Nino Kochlamazashvili**	Ltd. Mintransi	Ltd. Mintransi Executive Director
10	**Otar Sikharulidze**	LTD "Tegeta Academy"	LTD "Tegeta Academy" Director, Head of Vocational Educational Programme (Repair of Electrical and Electronic Systems)
11	**Davit Meskhishvili**	N(N)LE – Association of Vehicle Inspection Centers of Georgia President of the Association of Vehicle Inspection Centers of Georgia;	Academic Doctor in Transport Engineering; Chairman of the Transport and Roads Association; Coordinator for Relations with Donor Organizations at Ltd. Tbilisi Transport Company; Founder of NGO Association of Road Safety and Driving Schools

7.2. Members of the Document Development Group within the Scope of External Initiation

№	Name, surname	Organisation/institution	Position
1	Otar Gelashvili	LEPL Georgian Technical University.	Dean of the Faculty of Transport Systems and Mechanical Engineering; Professor
2	Natia Butkhuzi	LEPL Georgian Technical University.	Head of QA, Professor
3	Valeri Jajanidze	LEPL Georgian Technical University	Department of Road Transport and Logistics, Assoc. Professor
4	Avtandil Sharvashidze	LEPL Georgian Technical University	Head of the Academic Department of Railway Transport, Professor
5	Boris Gitolendia	LEPL Georgian Technical University	Associate Professor
6	Fridon Gogiashvili	LEPL Akaki Tsereteli State University	Professor;
7	Davit Meskhishvili	N(N)LE – Transport and Roads Association	Chairman of the Association
8	Elizbar Darchiashvili	N(N)LE – Transport and Roads Association,	Expert