



TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

Georgia

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Presentation for RETHINK kick-off meeting

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Tbilisi State University: Profile

- Founded in 1918
- Before 2005 consisted of 24 Faculties
- After reforming in 2005 is organized into 6 Faculties:
 - Law
 - Exact and Natural Sciences
 - Economics and Business
 - **Social and Political sciences**
 - Humanities
 - Medicine
- **The University Interdisciplinary Centre**



Faculty of Social and Political Sciences

- Six departments/institutes
 - Sociology
 - Psychology
 - Political Science
 - International Relations
 - **Human Geography**
 - Media Studies (Journalism)



Department of Human Geography: Academic Programs

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY = Social, Economic and Political Geography

Currently implemented academic programs:

- HUMAN GEOGRAPHY - Bachelor's program: 240 ECTS
- HUMAN GEOGRAPHY – Masters' program: 120 ECTS
 - Module 1: Social and Political Geography
 - **Module 2: Spatial Organization and Tourism Geography**
- HUMAN GEOGRAPHY – PhD program: 180 ECTS



SWOT Analyses: S

❖ STRENGTHS

• Masters level

- Existence of a module: Spatial organization in HG Master program;
- Courses and programs at TSU in climate and environmental disciplines;
- Upcoming PhD students studying urban issues (e.g. urban planning) abroad

• PhD level

- Research and doctoral theses on urban issues;
- Sufficient number of research grants and projects in urban and environmental studies;
- Availability of international networks for cooperation



SWOT Analyses: W

❖ WEAKNESSES

• Masters level

- Lack of a program explicitly focusing on urban issues
- Lack of lecturers in TSU (at the moment) capable to cover all subjects in urban studies
- Weak cooperation between disciplines/departments so far
- Insufficient technical equipment

• PhD level

- Lack of special course (on purpose tailored) for those who write PhD in urban studies
- Underdeveloped PhD programs and procedures at TSU (too many and frequent changes, 'heavy' procedures)



SWOT Analyses: O

❖ OPPORTUNITIES

• Masters level

- Interest and readiness of TSU interdisciplinary center (IC) to adopt and manage program(s) in urban studies;
- Recruiting professors/scholars of different disciplines at IC;
- Possibility of developing some courses or the whole program(s) in English;
- Attractiveness of getting a joint degree;
- Attractiveness of foreign exchange

• PhD level

- Possibility to use TSU IC resources and services;
- Possibility of taking English language courses;
- Attractiveness of getting a joint degree;
- Attractiveness of foreign exchange



SWOT Analyses: T

❖ THREATS

• Masters level

- Students' demand in undertaking programs in urban studies is not assessed;
- Uncertainty in job finding – no established cooperation with public and private sector
- Support of TSU central administration in organizing student exchange and mobility

• PhD level

- Uneven English and other (technical) skills of PhD students for working with sources;
- Problem of combining work and study/research



Main Purpose and Objectives

- To assure high academic quality in education
- To promote internationalization of academic activities
- To harmonize our curricula with European/international standards
- To promote students mobility and rise their competitiveness

