



NEWS. RESEARCH. EVENTS.

ISET Policy Institute was founded in 2011 by the Partnership for Economics Education and Research (PEER) with the financial support of the Think Tank Fund (TTF) of the Open Society Institute.



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### Georgia's Macroeconomy at a Glance: Concern about the Economy, as Export Growth Turns Negative in August

According to preliminary estimates, Georgian economic growth declined from 7.2% to 5.2% between July and August 2014. Although the August estimate is still quite high, there is increasing concern that the national economy is set to slow down in the second half of the year.

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#### PROJECT UPDATES:

- Leading GDP Indicators: Predicted Growth Rates Continue to Fall*
- Consumer Confidence Index: Recovery from the Seasonal Drop*
- Real Estate Price Index: Residential Sales and Rent Prices in Tbilisi Start Declining*
- Khachapuri index: Prices in Georgia are on an Upward Trend*

### Inclusive Growth Dialogues: Access to Energy and Water Supply in Georgia



#### Dialogue - Access to Energy and Water Supply in Georgia

On 23 October, 2014 ISET hosted sixth of the series of events concerning inclusive growth. The topic of the event was the energy and water supply sectors. The purpose of this event was to discuss the role of energy and water supply sectors for job creation and poverty reduction, as well as suggest improvements to existing policies affecting access to, and efficient use of, scarce resources.

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#### HIGHLIGHTS:



#### Competitiveness of Georgian Agriculture: Investment Case Studies

The aim of the project is to develop a series of case studies to illustrate the role of commercial enterprises – local and those involving foreign investment and foreign expertise – in promoting productivity improvement in the agricultural sector while at the same time investing in community development, providing jobs, integrating smallholders and farmer organizations into value chains, bringing new technologies, upgrading skills and changing people's attitude to work and behavior.

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#### FROM THE BLOG:



#### Tourism and Rural Development: The Case of Tusheti

A few decades ago, if anyone had heard anything about Tusheti, it was mostly about sheep and sheep farming, and the fact that the Tushetian people were the best shepherds in Georgia. The economy of Tusheti is quickly changing, however, and while many Tushetians are still involved in agricultural pursuits, others have learned to cater to adventure-seeking tourists.

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#### How Much Regulation Does a Country Need?

A few of the recent changes in Georgian legislation have been reasons for confusion, irritation and public outrage. Particularly, the new immigration law and the one regulating the sales of non-prescription drugs. Though amended after some time, the fact that such REALLY BIG MISTAKES are allowed to occur in the first place suggests that something is deeply flawed in the Georgian policymaking machine.

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