



VEREIN ZUR ENTWICKLUNG
DER BEWÄHRUNGSHILFE IN
OSTEUROPA

Association for the
Development of the Probation
Services in Eastern Europe

Zurich, April 9th 2021

Opening Event in Tbilisi – Project «Drunken Driver Learning Programme in Georgia»

English translation of the video message from VEBO to our partners in Tbilisi.

Thomas Wüthrich, President VEBO

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen
Dear guests

My name is Thomas Wüthrich and it is an honour for me, as President of VEBO, the Association for the Development of Probation Services in Eastern Europe, to bring you this message of greetings from Switzerland.

I am pleased that VEBO, together with our partners in Tbilisi, will be able to launch another project, namely the introduction of learning programmes for drunken drivers.

I especially want to thank the Lottery Fund of the Canton of Zurich, with whose financial support the project can be realised at all.

I would also like to thank all those involved for their commitment and hard work.

I wish us good cooperation and that the project will be a success!

I greet you cordially and wish you a wonderful opening event.

Manfred Flühmann, Project Manager VEBO

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen

My name is Manfred Flühmann. I am a member of the Board of VEBO and together with my colleague Martin Erismann I will be responsible for the project for which you have gathered here today and will accompany it from the Swiss side.

I am exceptionally pleased that from our first visit to Georgia in October 2019, this project has come about and will be supported by the Lottery Fund of the Canton of Zurich with CHF 480,000.00 for implementation over the next 3 ½ years.

I am also particularly pleased about the past and future cooperation both with our partner organization Georgia Global Connection and with Irma Barbakadze, as well as with Road Safety and other institutions.

In order for the project "Introduction and implementation of learning programmes for drunken drivers" to be successfully implemented in Georgia, cooperation with staff from the Directorate of Justice and Interior of the Canton of Zurich is essential. Therefore, I am very grateful that we can benefit from the expertise of these staff members.

Before I pass the floor to my colleague Martin Erismann, I wish you an interesting and successful event and hope to be back in Tbilisi soon and to meet some of you personally.



Martin Ehrismann, Project Manager VEBO

Ladies and Gentlemen

I too am very pleased to be able to say a few words to you at the opening.

About 20 years ago, I was personally involved in developing learning programmes in Zurich similar to the programme we will run in Georgia.

In retrospect, the drunken drivers learning programmes have proved to be particularly successful. They were in great demand right from the start, and close cooperation with the state prosecutors and courts as well as administrative authorities concerning road safety turned out to be very important.

I am now most excited to see how the drunken driver learning programme can be implemented in Georgia and wish the project management every success in this endeavour!

VEBO can certainly contribute significantly to the success of the project with its many years of experience from Zurich.

Best regards from Zurich!

Until we meet soon!