

Strategic management of local economic development in Georgian municipalities: A review of municipal and private sector dialogue¹

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Abstract

Strategic management of local economic development in Georgia is a complex and multifaceted process that requires the active participation of both the public and private sectors. Municipal economic policies play a crucial role in promoting the sustainable growth of local communities. The inclusion of the private sector in the local decision-making process is a key factor in this regard, as it allows for the alignment of public and private interests and the identification of mutually beneficial opportunities. Municipal and private sector dialogue has increasingly gained attention as a means of fostering private sector engagement in local decision-making processes. While the private sector has traditionally been viewed as a partner in economic development, its role in shaping public policies and strategies has often been limited. However, with the recognition that the private sector can bring valuable expertise, resources, and perspectives to the table, efforts have been made to enhance dialogue and collaboration between municipalities and private sector actors. This paper aims to explore the various forms of municipal and private sector dialogue. Through a review of the literature and case studies, this paper will examine the benefits and challenges of municipal and private sector dialogue in the different sectors. It will also explore the various approaches and mechanisms used to facilitate dialogue and collaboration, including stakeholder consultations, PPP and advisory committees. The findings of this paper will be of interest to policymakers, practitioners, and academics working in the fields of local economic development. It will provide insights into the potential role of the private sector in shaping public policies and strategies, and the importance of fostering dialogue and collaboration between municipalities and private sector actors. This research will contribute to the broader discourse on municipal and private sector dialogue and its potential to support local economic development and decision-making processes.

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