



Georgian Nutrition Society

Strategic Plan (2019-2025)

September 2018

Dr. Manana Stanley

Georgian Nutrition Society (GNS)

78 D Uznadze St,

Tbilisi,

Georgia

I. Overview

The Georgian Nutrition Society was established in September 2018, with the aim of improving the public's health by supporting excellence in research, education and the pursuit of associated activities to advance the knowledge and application of Nutrition Science. As of January 2019, the society is ratified with the Public Service Hall, which operates under the Ministry of Justice.

The society is a partner organization of *The Nutrition Society (Great Britain and Ireland)* which is one of the largest learned societies for nutrition in the world and highly regarded by the global scientific community.

This partnership is of key importance to the future success of the GNS given the range of support being offered to them, beginning in September 2018 when *The Nutrition Society* helped the GNS organize the symposium "Nutrition and Health - Current Developments" in Tbilisi.

During the Symposium, Dr. Manana Stanley, a member of *The Nutrition Society*, presented the idea of establishing the Georgian Nutrition Society, which was welcomed and supported by a wide range of scientific and professional communities within Georgia. The presentation was attended by members of the Nutrition Society.

II. Society Objectives

- I. **Priorities:** To enhance nutritional science and promote regulation in the field of nutrition
- II. **Aim:** Provide health benefits to Georgian society, and internationally, through promoting nutrition and nutritional science
- III. **Means:** By initiating adequate education and practice in nutrition and by promoting nutritional science

III. Objectives Approach

The GNS aims to achieve these objectives by:

- Providing information and raising awareness of new developments in nutrition and health, offering advice to relevant organisations as well as the general population. aiming to present scientific evidence to government and policy makers
- Promoting nutritional science through encouraging scientists and students to undertake research projects through universities and teaching hospitals. To achieve this goal, the society will develop links and partnerships with different organisations to secure funding.
- Cataloguing published research Georgian scientists, undertaken over past few decades; identifying Georgian cuisine as a potential area of healthy food concept, working on securing financing from food companies for studying and researching plant-based dishes known for centuries in Georgia as providers of health benefits.

- Raising awareness of the importance of nutrition through educating the public using traditional media as well as social media; providing the information on importance of weight management as a major health risk factor for the general public in Georgia. (There is an alarming increase in cases of diabetes and certain types of cancer in Georgia: the possible link to weight management is very good incentive to raise public awareness of a healthy weight and lifestyle, thus bringing significant benefits for the population)
- Devising and implementing education programs in nutrition in Georgia and contributing to the development of qualifications for professionals working in the fields of Nutrition and Dietetics through working closely with the leading universities in Georgia.

IV. Governance:

GNS is governed by the

- IV. **President and a board of trustees:** elected for a three-year term and consisting of founding members/members of the society
- V. **An advisory committee of professionals:** including, clinicians, academics, students, public health professionals, those working in industry and policy makers.

Society staff will be based at society's headquarters 78 D Uznadze St, Tbilisi. Staff will manage day to day activities.

V. Membership:

Full member: qualified individuals having at least three years' experience of working in nutrition, nutritional science, public health, sports medicine or any related subjects.

Associate member: Graduate with the relevant degree or interest in nutrition but has yet to acquire significant experience of the practical application of this knowledge.

Student member: Undergraduates with specific interest in Nutrition and related subjects

Honorary member: Given by the society for outstanding contribution to nutrition or related subjects.

Retired member

Member organisations:

Organisations with the interest in nutrition and nutritional science and related subjects.

A system will be set up for recording and communicating with the members.

Members will have power to elect the Board so, an electoral system will be set up.

VI. Communications:

A method of communicating via dedicated email address/addresses.

Website.

Will aim to be active on social media.

VII. Science:

Will use platforms like conferences, group meetings, smaller groups within institutions to communicate, discuss, debate and disseminate nutritional science.

Will seek potential collaboration with other organisations, both national and international.

VIII. Strategic Plan

The strategic plan sets the course for the GNS over next five years

1

Enhance the interest in nutrition science and create a society that will unite professionals with interests in nutrition, food science and associated disciplines. Strengthen the communication between professionals representing those fields and develop networking opportunities.

2

Initiate the creation of a regulation system that will protect the public from the risks of unqualified advice concerning health and nutrition. Work with industry, the public and private sectors, exploring ways to cooperate with those involved in the application of evidence-based nutritional science, including identifying their professional development and career needs.

3

Develop quality educational programs in nutrition and nutritional science and promote their implementation, organise training and education workshops with a high-quality specialist offering

4

Identify and catalogue the work done by Georgian scientists in nutrition and food science, making progress in archiving their work.

5

Promote locally and internationally those aspects of the Georgian national cuisine associated with the healthy food concept.

6

Develop links with organisations, universities, individuals and different international societies. Provide accesses to latest developments in nutrition and food science via scientific journals and publications for the society members, encourage student membership and initiate for student members competitions and awards. Organise scientific conferences including those at an international level.