

GOVERNANCE INTERVENTIONS IN THE ALLIANCES CAUCASUS PROGRAMME

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Transversal themes of governance, gender and DRR (which in the ALCP is taken as bio security and animal disease control¹), are mainstreamed and overt in the ALCP. Good governance, gender and ‘do no harm’ and resilience principles are mainstreamed in all interventions. Overt interventions are mainly related to the Rules portion of the market systems ‘doughnut’ (see Figure 1 below). From 2008 the programme applied the Making Markets Work for the Poor Approach (M4P), more commonly now known as the Market Systems Development (MSD) approach; to transversal themes.

This meant applying the full MSD methodological tool kit² to cross cutting constraints in the operating environment specifically women’s access to decision-making and public goods and animal disease control in overt interventions. These constraints were bound-up with dysfunctional governance and government and were affecting the efficacy of all livestock market system interventions.

Thus the programme developed what are known as *Governance Interventions* to facilitate the end goal with predominantly, the government³ as a partner. They utilize legislation and government systems for outreach. Key governance actors predominantly in local, regional and national government are partners. *Governance interventions* are complex long-term multi-partner exercises in maintaining multiple interests and motivations. These interventions have achieved considerable national scale and impact. See *Annex 1*⁴.

For this new phase of the ALCP focussing on regional development and outreach with Azerbaijan and Armenia the team researched rural women and youths’ access to decision making and public goods including finance and entrepreneurship and animal disease control. Based on this research, entry points for moving forward are described in Table 1 below.

The *research methodology is described in Annex 5.*

¹ And referred to as such hitherto.

² Including market systems diagnosis (see Table 1) and results chains and co-financing between programme and client.

³ But can also and has included quasi-governmental bodies such as Chamber of Commerce, Botanical Garden, civil society entities and international finance organisations.

⁴ For more information please also see The [ALCP in Infographics](#) from page 21.

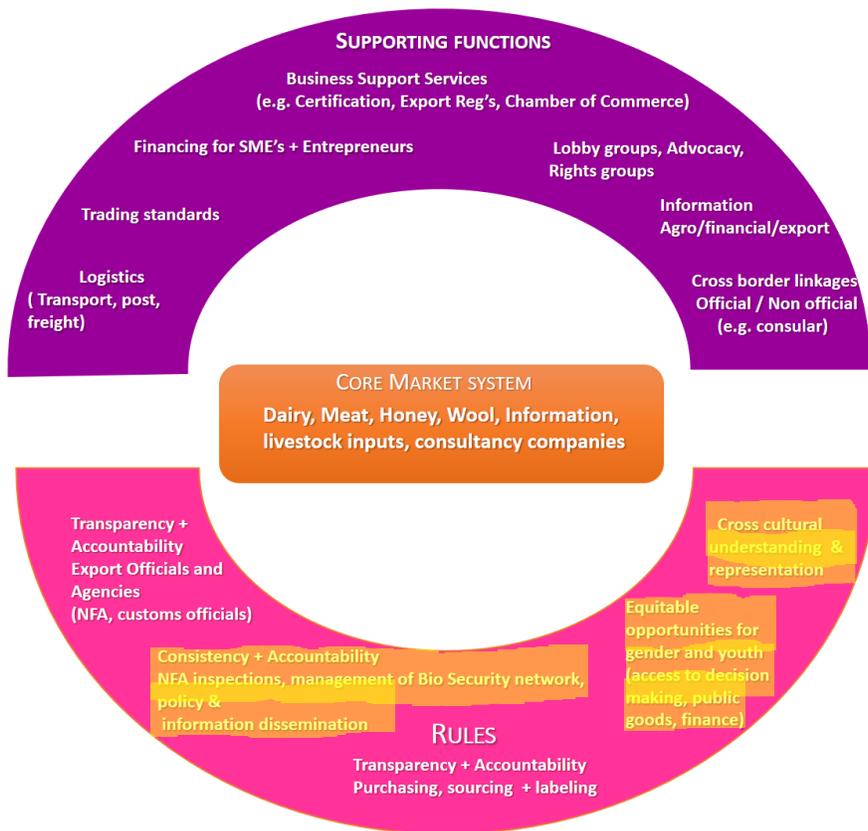


FIGURE 1: MARKET SYSTEMS DIAGRAM WITH HIGHLIGHTED RULES SECTION

TABLE 1. ALCP REGIONAL SYSTEMIC CONSTRAINTS, PRO-POOR OPPORTUNITIES AND ENTRY POINTS

Equitable Public Goods: Rural Women’s Access to Decision-Making & Access to Finance			
	Systemic Constraints	Pro-Poor Opportunities	Entry Points
Georgia	<p>Rural Women/Girls:</p> <p>Lack of involvement in new local decision-making fora</p> <p>Information, time and cultural constraints prevent women’s access to finance/entrepreneurship</p> <p>Local Self Government:</p> <p>Lack of knowledge, self-confidence and ability to respond to & implement changes in the law regarding citizens’ participation</p>	<p>By involvement of rural women in local decision-making they will be able to voice their need in support of their rural livelihoods</p> <p>Rural people can better influence local politics to ensure full knowledge and access to available public goods.</p>	<p>Facilitate with the Gender Equality Committee of Parliament for implementation of equitable citizens’ participation in Local Self Government based on programme facilitated Guidelines⁵ and expansion of the Women’s Rooms to the whole Georgia (including ongoing facilitation with MOLI in Kakheti for establishment of WR’s)</p> <p>Facilitate Chamber of Commerce of Georgia, Batumi Business Womens Association and EBRD, Georgian Farmers Association & GoG ‘Starter programme for young entrepreneurs’ to hold the <i>First National Entrepreneurs Forum</i> in Batumi 2018 (building on from the 1st Adjara Business Women’s Forum held in Batumi in January 2017)⁶</p>
Armenia	<p>Rural Women/Girls:</p> <p>Lack of access to decision making: Lack of networks and contacts outside their family; rarely or never cooperating with other women on business or political issues. Lack of public spaces where rural women can meet in the villages and no influence and voice at local decision-making Limited access to essential information and resources restricts their income generating activities</p>		<p>Facilitation of pilot Women’s Room in Alaverdi municipality</p> <p>Facilitate making of gender guidelines for LSGs with cooperation the SDC funded Armenian NGO Strategic Development Agency (SDA)</p>
Azerbaijan	<p>Rural Women:</p> <p>Lack of education and frequent early marriages; Lack of influence and voice, cultural norms and current laws do not encourage women’s participation in the decision-making process.</p> <p><i>Government:</i> Government’s role is decisive with the lack of support women's involvement any decision-making at the local level</p>		<p>Investigation of viability of peer to peer exchange particularly to Azeri areas of Georgia where equitable LSG practices are ongoing.</p>

⁵ Developed in conjunction with the Parliamentary Gender Equality Council of Georgia and endorsed by the Ministry of Rural Development and Infrastructure. The *Guidelines for the Implementation Gender Equality Policy of Georgia by Local Self Government* (2016) includes a detailed section on the new forms of citizens participation P8. These Guidelines are an update to the 2012 produced Guidelines and include necessary amendments in light of the new legislation affecting local decision-making.

⁶ The forum facilitated by the programme was organized through the Ajara Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Batumi Business Womens Association and included potential funders or resources such as EBRD and business training organisations.

Animal Disease Control & Bio Security Initiatives			
Georgia	<p>Farmers: Lack of interest & knowledge about benefits and rationale of animal identification and registration process in terms of animal disease control</p> <p>Farmers & Local Government: Poor LSG carcass disposal system and facilities increases risks of spreading various dangerous diseases including Anthrax and diseased meat entering food chain. Undermining meat value chain.</p> <p>Government: Less than optimal management of BSP's and ongoing issues on AMR currently and lack of clear future planning hamper the sustainability BSP's and National & Regional Bio Security Control</p>	<p>Well-informed farmers understand and fully use the benefits of the process and will be in compliance to the new regulations and market requirements</p> <p>Farmers safe from new sources of dangerous animal diseases; healthy animals means increased milk/meat yield and more income</p> <p>More sheep & cattle farmers are able to benefit from BSP's and treat their animals against diseases</p>	<p>Facilitation to develop a comprehensive public information provision campaign on animal identification & registration process with NFA & FAO/NAITS</p> <p>Facilitation of safe carcass disposal practice by implementing pilot of the first ever municipal incinerator in Bolnisi Municipality</p> <p>Facilitate the NFA to improve BSPs management and network to underpin the development of cross border trade and export, promote Georgian sheep/sheep products at international markets. Including presentation of <i>Critical Analysis</i> at Advisory Committee Meeting in early 2018.</p>
Cross-Border	<p>Lack of coordination between Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to ensure safe epizootic status of the whole region, that is pivotal to the livestock sector development, cross border trade and export prospects</p> <p>Lack of transparency on animal disease issues in Armenia. Dangerous animal diseases such as FMD still takes place in Armenia however officially it is denied. Data on animal disease outbreaks are not available online, no information is submitted at World Organization for Animal Health OIE</p> <p>Lack of new infrastructure. The farmers in Azerbaijan and Armenia still using soviet sheep dipping facilities</p>	<p>Livestock farmers in cross-border municipalities will benefit with synchronized prevention measures of animal diseases;</p> <p>Increased transparency and enhanced communication will improve epizootic status of three countries and reduce barriers to cross border trade and export</p>	<p>Facilitation of consultation fora between peer to peer actors of state institutions responsible for animal disease control in three countries to address livestock health related issues and improve coordination (in coordination with FAO NAITS/SDA)</p> <p>Facilitation of study tours / regional meetings between cross border stakeholders</p> <p>Facilitation of bio security initiatives including introducing best practices of animal disease management and the BSP model in Armenia and Azerbaijan</p>

For Georgia, agriculture remains an important sector in terms of GDP contribution. In 2016, agriculture accounted for 12.4 percent of GDP, up from 8.3 in 2013. The sector also provides an important safety net for the rural population, employing around 51 percent of the labor force. Small farmers comprise 95 percent of all farmers, typically cultivating around one hectare of land. In Georgia about 54% of employed females work in agriculture, along with 48% of males. Many of the women work in subsistence, family and market farming. Women lead 31% of agriculture households (HHs) and 35% of livestock HHs. Home food production is an essential part of family consumption.

The Georgian government identified agriculture as a priority for development and has increased funding for agriculture by 60 percent in recent years. It set up the Agriculture Investment Fund to support the sector by providing credit for farmers. State projects; Produce in Georgia, the Agriculture Projects Management Agency, and the Partnership Fund are government incentives to grow the private business sector in agriculture.

Georgian society is traditionally masculine with strongly prescriptive roles for men and women. The cult of motherhood and the scope of women's influence in everyday life primarily through her role as mother is lauded, underpinning gender prescription and its informal regulation by society. Traditionally men are considered the head of the family however in the home women and men tend to make decisions together at a household level.

ACCESS TO LOCAL DECISION-MAKING

Local Self-Government (LSG) is a key player in providing access to and the distribution of public goods and equitable rural participation in local decision-making depends primarily on this player. LSG related policy and legislation is being changed rapidly by the Georgian Parliament and local government ability to adjust with these changes is currently low⁷. In 2017 the Government stopped the *Village Support Programme* through which direct funds were given to the villages for local infrastructural projects and gave full power to the LSGs to manage these funds by themselves. Village meetings were the tool created by the central government and used by the municipalities to involve residents in deciding how to spend the money. Before the termination of the above mentioned programme the Government amended *the local Self-Government Code* and defined five forms of citizens' participation in local governance including the village meeting mechanism. Nevertheless, to date local governments have not proved ready to use these tools without additional direction from Central Government and village meetings which have now ceased have yet to be replaced by anything else, thereby removing the only mechanism used in practice for the involvement of citizens in community decision-making.

In 2017 changes were made in *the Law on Civil Service* which obligated all public entities in Georgia, including local self-governments, to re-adjust existing staff positions in LSG's according to the new legislation. As a result, municipal Gender Advisors and Village Representatives were removed from the permanent staff lists from the 1st of July 2017 although they are continuing to work under service contracts until the end of 2017. From the beginning of next year the municipality can renew contracts with the same people for a year or dismiss them. This process could potentially damage the gender equality provision at municipal levels as the

⁷ The Local Self-Government Code (July, 2015 & June 2017); The Law on Gender Equality (May 13, 2016); The Law on Civil Service (July 1, 2017); Istanbul Convention on Preventing Violence Against Women and a package of amendments to 24 laws (September 1, 2017);

municipal Gender Advisors and Village Representatives were and still are the key people responsible for implementing Gender Equality principles in LSG.

In June 2017, the Government of Georgia established the *Inter-Agency Commission of Georgia on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence*. The newly established commission will form the gender equality and women's empowerment chapter of the Governmental Action Plan on the Protection of Human Rights. Members of the Committee are representatives of Central Government, e.g. the PM Administration, the Parliament, ministries, sectoral agencies. Regional and local governments are not involved in this committee.

The Gender Equality Committee of Parliament has declared its intention to support local governments in providing equitable public goods and strengthening local gender equality mechanisms as implementation of gender related laws is still the weakest side of LSG.

The programme conducted a short survey in summer 2017 to find out local governments interest in setting up the Women's Room service in 5 regions of Georgia. The survey revealed that 29 municipalities out of 35 are highly interested and motivated to establish the new service but at the same time want to have central government's recommendations and financial help to do so. *See Annex 3. Outreach of the Women's Room's Model to the Other Regions of Georgia*

ACCESS TO PUBLIC GOODS, FINANCE & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

For rural HH's and women and youth (under thirty) wishing to develop rural business opportunities or expand into more commercial farming models, lack of access to public goods, resources and funding can be especially challenging. To date in the ALCP much success has been had to date though linking women to sources of funding, business training and other resources through the women's rooms⁸ and their linkages to an array of governmental and civil society bodies offering numerous services and resources to rural populations. This model of intervention will continue to be leveraged (see Table 1) by building on the Business Womens Forum model, which championed rural women's start-ups and linked women to funding entities and training opportunities and resources. This model is being expanded to a national model with national players and with a new focus on young entrepreneurs who are often more severely constrained by a lack of access to collateral or sources of income to act as a guarantee. Agriculture as a main livelihood is dominated by the over thirty to sixty demographic and youth may be forced to abandon innovative ideas for agricultural and rural enterprises which would otherwise enrich rural communities. This is in addition to the greater risk presented by the average start up.

In July 2016 the EU and Georgia Association Agreement entered into force which opened new economic opportunities and challenges for Georgia. A study conducted by the Swedish development consulting company *Indevelop* in 2016⁹ provided an insightful gendered analysis into how women and men in rural Georgia would likely be affected by the implementation of the Agreement. Agriculture and agro-food segments, especially dairy (and processed foods) in which nearly all of the women of the target group are participants are the sectors that may face challenges due to increased EU import competition and to rigorous new standards. Women tend to be at the low and micro segments of the food production chain and while they will not have to adopt EU

⁸ A total of \$ 1,121,319 has been awarded or applied for by women by or to local municipalities, government grant schemes and other funding entities such as EBRD. See Annex 1 Info graphics from *Broad Impact of ALCP*

⁹ Gender Analysis of the EU AA/DCFTAS with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, *Indevelop AB*, 29 January 2016

standards for micro-activities they could be more negatively affected than men by challenges in these areas as they have less access to information, extension services, financing, technology and other inputs. The report lists challenges for business people/entrepreneurs of the target group of Livestock and Honey Producers of the ALCP as including access to land, credit, market information and opportunities, inputs (goods and services), technology, skills and reliable infrastructure. It states that while these challenges are common for all business people, they tend to be more constraining for women, who have the added constraint of unpaid care burdens and finding time to do multitudinous household tasks.

Women and men in Georgia have equal access to credit under the law. Nevertheless, women and youth in particular are often constrained by a lack of savings, lack of property to use as collateral, lack of a regular income or working capital. These are reasons that women lag behind in entrepreneurship. Also, rural women's access to basic infrastructure including water, sanitation, electricity, transport, telecommunications, internet are still key issue the government need to be address. Women spend long hours collecting, transporting and disposing of water and they lack computer literacy and information, which bar them from applying to available sources of help.

ARMENIA

GENDER AND AGRICULTURE

Out of Armenia's total employed workers, 44% of women and 31% of men are engaged in agriculture, making the sector the largest employer of both women and men.¹⁰ Livestock production is a central component of the Armenian agricultural sector. Over the last few years almost 40% of the country's gross agricultural product has come from livestock husbandry: 95% of milk and almost 55% of meat in Armenia are produced locally; 93% of the cattle raised in Armenia are milk and beef category Brown Caucasians which are well adapted to the local climate conditions. Annually about 18 tons of mutton is produced in Armenia. Armenia has the capacity to export 180-200 thousand head of sheep annually.¹¹ According the World Bank, the rural poverty rate in Armenia is 29.9%. 27.2% of rural households are Female Headed Households (FHHs) which is a result of high rate of male labour migration to Russia. It is a common concern in Armenia that the situation of women is much worse in rural areas where the existing socio-economic conditions increase women's vulnerability. Market research conducted by ALCP staff in Armenia in summer 2017 verified that a considerable number of the male workforce work in Russia due to limited job opportunities and an unfavorable business environment locally and that women in this instance are most likely play a pivotal role in agriculture.

In Armenian society gender roles and stereotypes are determined by 'tradition' and accepted as natural. Women and men have distinct gender roles, with women taking primary responsibility for the household, and men engaging in income-earning activities outside the home. Gender stereotypes present barriers to achieving gender equality in the country. For women, their domestic burdens often leave them with insufficient time for self-education, professional training, or entrepreneurial activities. Women are only thought to have gained sufficient social capital to start a business or run for local office, for example, when they are in their late 40s, e.g. after raising children. Gender stereotypes also have negative impacts on men, for example, when men

¹⁰ World Bank Statistics and research of the Center for Gender and Leadership Studies, 2014

¹¹ <https://www.export.gov/article?id=Armenia-agribusiness>

cannot find acceptable jobs locally they have to migrate for work¹². However women taking the responsibilities of men still suffer from the stereotypes and lack of recognition of their needs from the government.

GENDER AND LEGISLATION

Armenia ratified *the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women* (CEDAW) in 1993, and *the Optional Protocol on Violence Against Women* in 2006. Armenia is a member of the Council of Europe and ratified *the European Convention on Human Rights* in April 2002. Article 14.1 of the current Constitution enshrines the right to gender equality, and outlaws all forms of discrimination on the basis of gender. The adoption of gender-related action plans and the 2013 *Law on Equal Rights and Equal Opportunities for Women and Men* were steps to improve the gender equality situation but in the Global Gender Gap 2016 Report Armenia's position is 102 among 144 countries; according to the Gender Inequality Index Armenia's position is 85th among 188 countries.

In recent years a disturbing trend has emerged as a key constraint to the improvement of gender equality. In 2013, before the adoption of the Gender Equality Law an anti-gender campaign swept the country. The opponents of this law started using the term 'Gender' to describe anything perverted and sinful, which aimed to undermine traditional Armenian values, families, and even history. The reaction was allied to Russian centric conservative politicians who also opposed moves towards the European Union. As the response to this the government replaced the word "gender" with "men and women" in law No. 57 a law almost unanimously adopted—108 for, and not a single against.¹³

ACCESS TO LOCAL DECISION-MAKING

Armenia has 11 administrative divisions—10 marzer/provinces and the capital city of Yerevan. The marzer are divided into 48 urban and 747 rural communities (795 in total). Marzpets (Governors) are appointed by the President. The municipalities of Armenia are referred to as communities. Each community is self-governing and consists of one or more settlements. The local administration consists of the head of the municipality (a mayor) and the *avaganikhorhurd* (a municipal council) who are elected for 4 years. Residents do not directly elect local administrations but vote for political parties to be represented on the council. There are no female Governors and only 22 female mayors (2.7 % of total) in Armenia¹⁴, all in rural communities. There is a clear trend in Armenia that women's participation in local governance varies by the size of the community. Women are best represented in the smallest municipalities with the fewest resources. The marzer that are characterized by strong and average participation of women are those that are further from the capital and less prosperous than others, while those that are better developed and closer to the centre of the country have low participation of women. One study, which examined the activities undertaken by mayors of rural municipalities, found that while male community heads focus on large-scale infrastructure projects, women prioritize human development. Primarily, women turn their attention to education: schools, kindergartens, nurseries and organization of leisure for the community residents and only after start concentrating on larger infrastructural projects.¹⁵

¹² ARMENIA COUNTRY GENDER ASSESSMENT, ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB), 2015

¹³ A key informant Director of State University Centre for Gender and Leadership stated that they had been attacked verbally and threatened and been forced to take an Armenian MP to court for defamation. They won their case. Also see Armenianweekly.com.

¹⁴ The last election of Local Self-Governments in Armenia was held in March, 2014 and the next will be in November, 2017

¹⁵ ARMENIA COUNTRY GENDER ASSESSMENT, ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB), 2015

According to the key informants of this research, community level decision-makers have low awareness of gender laws and policies and consequently there is a gap between the legislation and its implementation. Moreover, there are no village meetings or other forms of citizens' participation in local decision making processes in practice. Armenian NGO representatives say that women do not have the motivation to participate and nothing is done by local governments to promote and encourage women to be more active. The picture is different in the NGO sector where women play a dominant role.

According to the Armenian Young Lawyers Association report¹⁶ in 2015 the Government of Armenia established a Department of Family, Women's and Children's Issues in the Ministry of labor and Social Issues as national machinery for the advancement of women. However the *Division of Women's Issues* within this department does not cooperate with other governmental agencies, e.g. local self-governments at municipal and community levels. The report also stresses the CEDAW Committee's concern about the insufficient level of awareness of rural women of their rights and their extremely low participation in community level decision making. 'Community members are informed about the work of their local self-government bodies and introduce their problems to them mostly during informal meetings, as a result not all the residents have the opportunity of meeting the community council members, especially women, who cannot express their attitude and voice their concerns.' – the report says.

The programme met with the Governor of Lori province who expressed his readiness to cooperate and implement a pilot Women's Room model in Alaverdi municipality after the local self-government elections on 5th of November. 'We are aware that our women need more information and support and we are ready to cooperate,' – the Governor said.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND MEN IN RURAL AREAS

Armenian law guarantees women and men equal rights to ownership and use of land and other property, but in practice, women are in the minority of registered property owners. In part, this is based on traditions of registering property in the name of male family members and passing it down to male heirs. In practice most women are co-owners of some form of property e.g. house, land. Women's ability to exercise control over assets also determines their level of economic independence - when women earn money, they usually decide freely how the earnings will be spent, but age and marital status may also be determining factors. Women devote considerable time to unpaid domestic work, child care, and voluntary social and community activities, and these contributions have not been valued or included in the gross domestic product (GDP). As a consequence of unpaid work, women are time poor, especially with regard to pursuing entrepreneurial or civic activities.

Entrepreneurship is limited among women, and female-headed households (often widows or women married to men who migrated overseas) are at a greater risk of poverty.¹⁷ 'Divorce, as well as a large volume of long-term labour migration of men, increases the probability of women finding themselves in extreme poverty.'¹⁸

According to the Asian Development Bank *Armenia Country Gender Assessment (2015)* women in Armenia who are engaged in business tend to operate at the micro and small levels. A number of barriers discourage

¹⁶ Legal Monitoring of the Implementation of the UN CEDAW in Armenia, Armenian Young Lawyers Association, 2015

¹⁷ <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/opinion/2015/03/08/women---pillars-of-armenias-economy-and-society>

¹⁸ Gender Policy Concept Paper of the Republic of Armenia

women from starting and expanding businesses: limited business knowledge, skills (especially marketing skills) and confidence, exclusion from business networks, and the difficulty of balancing family responsibilities with running a business. These factors are also a reason why women's businesses are concentrated in trade, services, and small-scale production, often home-based production.

Female entrepreneurs face other constraints such as limited access to commercial loans. While there are many options for women to obtain microfinance, in practice, women often cannot access credit because they lack collateral and business experience, or because high interest rates and their aversion to risk deter them from applying. High interest rates and short repayment periods are especially problematic for women who run small agriculture based businesses. Women say their need is for more advanced and targeted training (e.g., in the legislation that regulates entrepreneurship, taxation, accounting, management skills, and marketing).¹⁹

According to the key informants of this research, only donors, international organizations and NGOs have projects supporting women's enterprise development and business training. There are no governmental programmes to support women's entrepreneurship and start-ups which cover the regions of Armenia. They also confirm that women in rural areas have fewer economic opportunities than men because lack of skills, household responsibilities and a cultural stereotype that a woman should not be a leader even in family business. Both women and men have restricted access to agriculture related information and knowledge and when donor funded projects are organizing the trainings mainly men are participate.

AZERBAIJAN

The rural population (% of total population) in Azerbaijan was reported at 45.1 % in 2016 and over 51 per cent of the poor live in rural areas.²⁰ Poverty is predominant among families with many children living in remote areas, as well as upland or mountainous areas. Rural communities generally have access to sufficient food, but productivity tends to be low and is often exacerbated by rising food prices; poor basic infrastructure, including inadequate irrigation and road access; unreliable drinking water, gas and electricity supply; and declining health and education services. Poor rural women are particularly affected, as many as 43.9 per cent of female employment is concentrated in agricultural production. Individual labour is a primary household income in rural areas: 18.3% for men and 30.6% for women.²¹ For women it is much harder to earn a living. A driving force of female entrepreneurship is male out-migration.²²

Working conditions for rural people engaged in agriculture remain generally unfavorable. They face considerable constraints associated with their smallholdings, which are inefficient, lack adequate access to services and equipment, and are unable to attain economies of scale in production. The low availability of alternative sources of income and limited opportunities to access credit further prevent the development of rural areas. Such constraints have seen a shift to subsistence farming, resulting in a consequent decrease in cash crops like cotton, fruit and grapes.

¹⁹ ARMENIA COUNTRY GENDER ASSESSMENT, ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ADB, 2015

²⁰ The World Bank statistics 2015

²¹ Human development report Azerbaijan 2005. <http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/nhdr2007gendereng.pdf>

²² Ibid. p. 28

The lack of markets for agricultural products has also been a major challenge to farmers, and has adversely affected the rural sector. At present, rising imports of competitive products resulting from the availability of foreign exchange from oil revenue and liberalization policies also constrain agricultural output. Many local farmers have been unable to compete in domestic markets or develop beyond subsistence levels of agricultural production. (Source: IFAD).

GENDER POLICY AND STEREOTYPES

The government of Azerbaijan has been struggling to formulate its policy approach to the so-called “women question” since independence. The transition to a market economy has resulted in the increasing disempowerment of women and the provision of fewer opportunities to them. Despite the greater prominence of women’s rights and gender equality agenda on international policy arena Azerbaijan has been lagging behind in this regard. The dominant national discourse primarily regards women as mothers and guardians of national traditions. The Azerbaijani gender policy and practice are tailored to the aforementioned pattern of the image of women in the society. Despite however the exiting patriarchal traditions, the Azerbaijani government joined international women’s rights institutions right after independence.

ACCESS TO LOCAL DECISION-MAKING

Azerbaijan is divided into 59 districts and 7 cities led by chairmen of municipalities and heads of structural divisions. Chairmen of municipalities are appointed by the president. Heads of structural divisions are selected by municipal councils (United cities and Local government UCLG, 2009). Local government structure is comprised of two parallel systems of governance. One consists of publicly elected municipalities with limited powers to deliver services to citizens. The other is Local Executive Authorities appointed by the president, which are part of the state governing structure. In most cases municipalities do not have adequate capacity, training or knowledge to carry out those limited responsibilities prescribed by law²³.

The inclusion of NGOs in the decision-making processes has been limited by insufficient development of the various democratic institutions. However in a progress report submitted by the government of Azerbaijan in regard to commitments made at the Global Leaders’ Meeting in 2015 it is stated that the Azerbaijani government is striving to improve the gender gap of the representation of women at the local self-government level as well as promote women’s decision making power in rural areas.

Azerbaijani women’s rights activists state that women as well as men lack basic knowledge and understanding of the principles of good-governance, gender sensitive approaches or mainstreaming gender equality at the local self-government level. Rural women in particular are limited to their household activities. Child and early marriages are practices which make women vulnerable in many respects including mobility, education and choices. There is big gap between male and female tertiary education, where men are in privileged position.²⁴

Access to Finance

According the World Bank report on Enhancing Financial Capacity and Inclusion in Azerbaijan younger women have lower financial inclusion levels than younger men²⁵. More interestingly, Azerbaijan’s Gender Gap index has materially deteriorated from 2007 to 2015 in terms of economic participation and opportunity

²³ <https://localdemocracy.net/countries/asia-pacific/republic-of-azerbaijan/>

²⁴ Human development report Azerbaijan 2005

²⁵ Enhancing Financial Capacity and Inclusion in Azerbaijan, report 2016

for women, Azerbaijan's ranking dropped significantly from 4th in 2008 to 54th in 2015. Such a trend points towards the widening gender gap for the younger generation, which seems to find its roots in education choices at younger ages, with an impact on financial participation and inclusion in later years. Differences in account ownership between the younger and older generations of women may also be explained by the fact that Azerbaijani women aged 21 and older are more likely to be married and to own an account jointly with their spouses.²⁶ The aforementioned report also stated that women are more open to uptake modern technologies than men in Azerbaijan and use mobile credit services more often.

The *State Committee for Family, Women and Children's affairs* of the Republic of Azerbaijan with UNDP established women resource centers in the regions aim to increase the level women's economic participation. FAO in Azerbaijan has launched a new project with the aim of improving women's socio-economic empowerment and their inclusion in the paid employment sector by strengthening training and extension services for rural women.²⁷ FAO studies and experience has shown that even though women have an important role in taking initiatives in agriculture, there is still gender inequality which prevents women from being full economic actors in the sector.

There may be some scope for peer to peer exchange to Azeri communities in Georgia in particular Marneuli municipality (and later on in Kakheti where women's rooms will be established in several Azeri towns). Here, equitable decision making processes and entities are in practice in local communities and broach issues such as early marriage and reproductive health issues as well as furthering access to public goods and municipal and civil resources and economic opportunities.

**** A full programme commissioned report on Gender in Azerbaijan is available upon request.*

²⁶ Enhancing Financial Capacity and Inclusion in Azerbaijan, report 2016

²⁷ Capacity Development Support to Rural Women on the Socio-economic and Gender Aspects of Sustainable Rural Development. FAO Project in Azerbaijan.

GEORGIA

During recent years, Georgia has considerably progressed in animal disease notification & control. Since 2011 the ALCP has been facilitating information exchange and interaction between relevant national, regional and local stakeholders from the public and private sectors on key issues (See *Annex 2 for ALCP facilitation and intervention timeline in Biosecurity and Animal Disease Control*). Key outcomes in animal disease control and Bio Security in Georgia include:

- * Since 2012 free state vaccination has been provided against Foot & Mouth disease throughout the whole country and against Anthrax in historical sites of disease outbreak.
- * In 2016 the NFA commenced free vaccination against Brucellosis region by region and by 2019 the livestock of the whole of Georgia will have been vaccinated. *See Annex 4 for details.*
- * Since 2016 the country has instituted the development of Biosecurity infrastructure for ensuring the systematic health control of migrating livestock. There are five Bio Security Points (6th one planned to be constructed in 2018) in operation on the Animal Movement Route (AMR) for the disinfection of migrating livestock against parasites with a safe waste management scheme and staffed by specialists hired by the NFA serving farmers free of charge.
- * In November 2015, the NFA started an ALCP/MOLI facilitated pilot programme of animal identification & registration and in 2016 [FAO Georgia](#) launched the *National Animal Health and Identification System (NAITS)* programme to support the country in improving the current system and establish integrated EU compliant traceability systems in Georgia for livestock.

[The National Food Agency](#) (NFA) a legal entity under [Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia](#) is the responsible body for animal disease control in the country. The NFA carries out activities through its eleven regional departments and local representatives in the municipalities.

The [Georgian National Animal Health Program 2016-2020](#) (NAHP) with its Animal Health Action Plan Framework adopted in December 2016 is one of the main documents where high level strategy on animal health in Georgia and a framework for the plan of action is outlined as well as achievements in the sector. See *Table 2 below* for more details.

Table 2: Notifiable Animal Disease included in NAHP 2016-2020

Disease/Pathogen	NAHP targets for 2016-2020
Anthrax	Maintain vaccination of infected villages in order to reduce risk of disease outbreaks, raise public awareness, decrease cases to <10, consistently dispose of infected carcasses safely
Brucellosis	Individual sampling of cattle prior to vaccination, establishment of a policy for farmers, vaccination of cattle and small ruminants, post vaccination serosurvey ²⁸
Sheep and Goat Pox	Vaccination of migrating small ruminants, passive surveillance
Tuberculosis	Surveillance in slaughterhouses, skin tests in infected villages for prevalence detection
Foot and Mouth Disease	To follow Risk - based strategic plan for FMD supported by EU FMD
Rabies	Vaccination of owned dogs and cats, post vaccination serosurvey
Lumpy Skin Disease	Vaccination of bordering districts based on risk; public awareness and passive surveillance
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	Passive serosurvey, public awareness
African Swine Fever (virus)	Passive surveillance, public awareness regarding pig diseases, preventive activities, and quick notification of disease
Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever	To treat animals, control ticks in infected villages, public awareness campaigns

CURRENT CHALLENGES FOR GEORGIA IN ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL

Comprehensive information provision to the public on animal health related issues: Increasing public awareness of animal disease prevention and notification is one of the main objectives of the state outlined in the NAHP as a target activity during 2016-2020. In addition as part of EU approximation process Georgia has already started to implement animal health and welfare programmes e.g. the National Animal Identification and Registration Programme. It is pivotal that information reaches farmers regarding the practical ramifications of legislation changes and reforms and that they have clear messages about their responsibilities as cattle owners and small scale producers. It is also important that the general public is notified of outbreaks of potentially harmful zoonoses.

According to the study '[Animal Identification-Registration Requirements and Current Stance in Georgia](#)' May 2017 (by Economic Policy Research Center) one of the biggest challenges for the state is to explain to farmers the goals of animal identification/registration and to motivate them to register their cattle. Provision of a comprehensive information campaign in the regions through TV and Radio is one of the recommendations included in the above-mentioned publication. The demand for more information on animal disease related issues was also confirmed by the Bio Security Survey results conducted in Kvemo Kartli and Ajara regions by the programme in summer 2017²⁹. The survey revealed farmers lack information on being able to clearly distinguish one disease from another. Their preferred methods of receiving information are TV and face-to-face communication with vets.

Implementing safe carcass disposal practices: The above mentioned programme survey also highlighted the disposal of diseased animal carcasses as an issue. The survey revealed that the common practices of dead livestock carcass disposal are mainly by burying or dumping the carcass to be eaten by stray dogs, or selling the meat cheaply for sausage making. Working on the issue to 'consistently dispose of infected carcasses safely' is also highlighted in NAHP as a target of the NFA for upcoming years.

²⁸ A survey of the serostatus of a sample of blood serum with respect to a range of substances

²⁹ A survey was conducted in Kvemo Kartli and Ajara regions on livestock health issues in summer 2017. The main purpose of the survey was to gather information about used practices and the gaps/needs to be considered to improve consistency, resilience and reduce risk in livestock market system

Development of a sustainable national bio security network: The construction of a bio-security point network facilitated by the ALCP, the Georgian government's biggest investment in sheep sector so far, obviously brings considerable progress to the sheep sector and has contributed significantly to enabling export potential³⁰. Furthermore, the NFA intends to use the BSP's as key organizational and operational components for improving national animal health control, traceability and registration building them into initiatives such as the National Animal Identification and Registration Programme. Therefore, further facilitation is essential to ensure the sustainability and ongoing development of the network, not only using them as disinfection facilities but to extend and manage their functions. The programme has continued to monitor the operation of the points since 2016 and has carried out a *Critical Analysis* identifying key management constraints, which will be broached at a specially convened Advisory Committee Meeting in early 2018.

ARMENIA

The [State Service for Food Safety](#) under the [Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia](#) is responsible for veterinary issues through its structural division the State Veterinary Inspection. The inspection has its representation in each of 11 administrative units in the County.

Each year within the framework of the 'Agricultural livestock vaccination program' the Ministry of Agriculture pursues activities for preventing the following infectious animal diseases³¹: brucellosis, tuberculosis, anthrax, brad sot, murrain, pasteurellosis, blackleg, malarial fever, classical pig plague, Newcastle avian disease and Varroa (bees). Vaccinations against Anthrax and FMD are provided countrywide, however the vaccine is often of poor quality or the date has expired. Due to this reason, there are cases of FMD disease in the country. Armenia is considered by Georgia to be an unreliable country on FMD disease³².

[FAO has been supporting Armenia](#) on the Brucellosis control issue and several projects have been carried out since 2007 in the country to try and eliminate and control the disease. [Technical and institutional support to veterinary services](#) in Armenia was one project implemented in 2013-2016 by FAO. Four vaccination campaigns in 109 communities of Syunik Marz were implemented and in total 40, 534 heifer calves and 154, 568 sheep and goats were vaccinated, capacity building was provided for network of laboratories in the country and a public awareness campaign on brucellosis and other zoonotic diseases was also carried out.

In Armenia the cattle identification-registration process started in 2014 but the system failed to function properly. The background in the country has not been prepared for this process, including legislation and technical capacity. The cattle were registered but there is no mechanism to exclude them from the data when they are slaughtered, exported etc. Currently FAO Georgia is providing experience sharing on Georgian experience and the work is ongoing to move this process forward³³.

³⁰ Please see the report 'impact of Bio security' on the following link <http://alcp.ge/library>

³¹ The information obtained from the following source: http://minagro.am/vet_services

³² In October 2017, the government of Georgia updated a document 'The list of unreliable countries on dangerous animal disease 2017' with the list of countries that are considered unreliable on various animal diseases including notifiable diseases. If during last one year the case of FMD was reported in the country, it is included in the list of states suspicious on FMD disease. Without inspection procedures and official approval from the NFA it is not allowed to import live animal and animal by products from this particular country into Georgia.

³³ Information obtained as a result of meeting with the team leaders of the national animal identification and traceability system (NAITS), FAO Georgia

According to the new [Government Programme 2017-2022 of Armenia](#) in order to introduce a digitized system for farm animal identification, registration and numbering, the RA Government plans to:

- by the end of 2017, carry out activities for the development and preparation of the programme for farm animal registration and numbering
- during 2018-2020, introduce a digitized system and ensure risk identification and infectious diseases monitoring control for farm animal identification, registration and numbering

In Armenia treatments of sheep against parasites is carried out at old, soviet sheep dipping facilities.

AZERBAIJAN

[The State Veterinary Control Service](#) under the Ministry of Agriculture of Azerbaijan is the responsible body for animal disease control in the country. The service has its representation in each of the 59 districts (rayon) of Azerbaijan who are responsible on veterinary issues locally, including provision of vaccinations. Each local unit of the state veterinary control service has their annual plan of vaccinations. The following free compulsory vaccinations are provided through the country by the state veterinarians: Anthrax and FMD (cattle and sheep are vaccinated), Rabies (only dogs are vaccinated) and Brucellosis vaccination. The farmers who ask for a visit of state vet pay an official of 5 Manat.

In Azerbaijan measures against brucellosis is one of the priorities of veterinary service provision. The country commenced activities against brucellosis in 2007 when it started sero-monitoring³⁴ and vaccination against brucellosis in several districts of Azerbaijan³⁵. Since 2011 vaccination has been carried out all over the country with the vaccine (eye drops).

Usually all farmers treat their cattle against external parasites, mainly with Creolin. There are private sheep dipping facilities in Azerbaijan and sheep get treatment against parasites there. The state vets receive insectoacaricide from the state to disseminate it to farmers free of charge, however the amount of chemicals is low, 5 liters per district and not all farmers benefit from it.

There is no animal identification and registration system implemented yet in Azerbaijan

COORDINATION OF GEORGIA WITH AZERBAIJAN AND ARMENIA ON BIOSECURITY AND ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL

The corresponding state institution representatives of Georgia and Azerbaijan, the NFA and The State Veterinary Control Service of Azerbaijan have bi-annual transboundary meetings on animal disease control for information and experience sharing. These meetings are useful for synchronizing measures and activities for better animal health status in the region. According to the head of the Vet department of the NFA they have no such kind of meeting with Armenian colleagues but that would be highly desirable for better coordination and information exchange.

³⁴ The monitoring of the presence or absence of specific substances in the blood

³⁵ Information is obtained from the following source: <http://web.oie.int>

ANNEX 1: ALCP IMPACT IN GOVERNANCE INTERVENTIONS

HELPING WOMEN ACCESS FUNDS

The Women's Rooms supports its visitors in planning and fulfilling their own activities and backs them in communication process with the local government



TOT training for the Women's Room Coordinators on Business Planning and Start Up.



Women's Rooms Managers provided business consultations for those applying to the State Programmes Produce in Georgia and Municipal Civil Budgeting



1,225 business consultations provided



247 business proposals submitted by 136 women and 109 men requested in total \$416,666 for guesthouses, bakeries, fisheries, laundries, restaurants, flower shops, etc. Now they are waiting for final decisions



69 Projects/ initiatives funded through Community meetings

\$ 456,733



Women involved in getting funds from other organizations for starting a business or supporting their agricultural activities; are buying machinery, milking machines, cows, building greenhouses.

Up to 600 BDS consultancies and 200 business projects



\$ 1,121,319 Total Funds



9 women got funding for their initiatives through the First Business Women Forum (January 2016), \$65,000 funding



WRs are encouraged by improved opportunities for women and other women's initiatives



WRs Feel motivated and have desire to act on their own



WRs' visitors are ready to share their own experience with others



4 municipal initiatives \$182,920 were funded through the national event for Equitable Empowerment



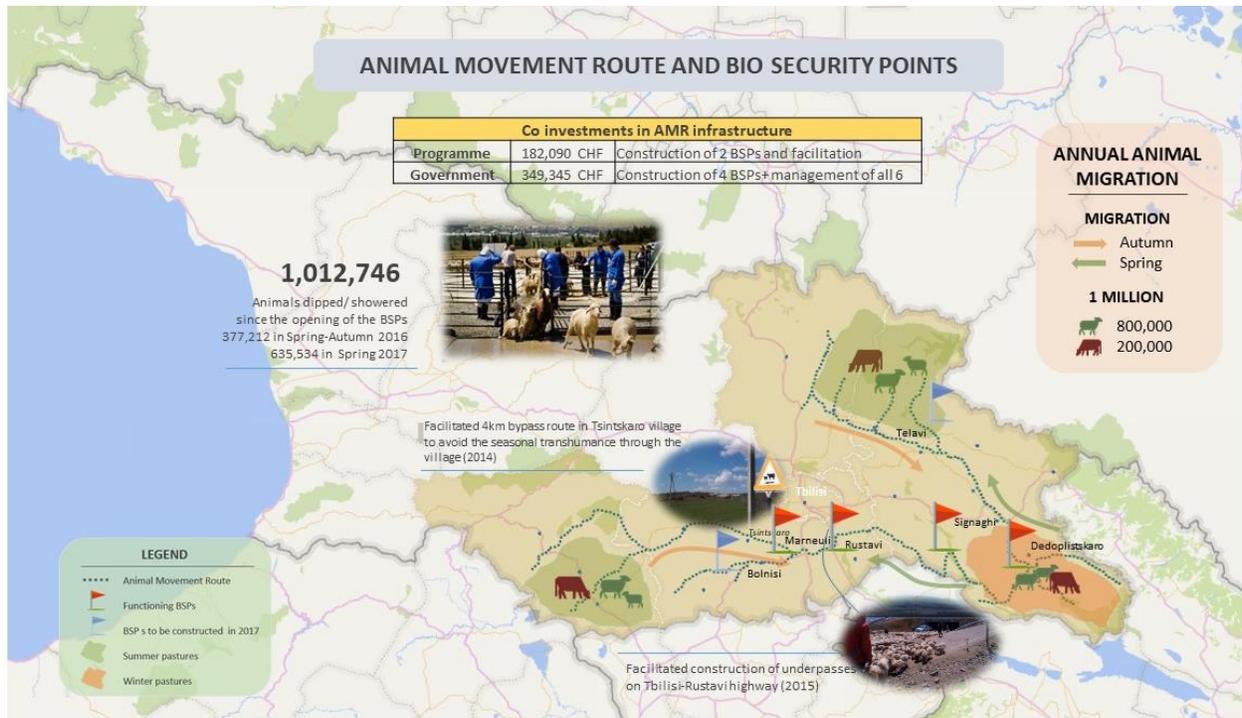
103

92

11

JOBS CREATED THROUGH THE WOMEN'S ROOMS

- ✓ The Women's Rooms help visitors in finding jobs, applying for / winning grants, etc.
- ✓ The Women's Rooms equips its visitors with knowledge and skills to increase their competitiveness on the labor market



Systemic Constraints - 2011	ALCP Facilitation 2011-2017
<p>National Vaccination Campaign & Reporting, Local Animal Disease Control Mechanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of systemic animal health control plan and an actor with the capacity to implement it • No countrywide vaccination to prevent serious notifiable diseases including Anthrax, Foot & Mouth disease identified as critical issue harming the livestock sector in the country • No proper data collection system on disease outbreaks a huge gap between officially reported cases of Anthrax and non-officially reported cases by local independent vets • Improper quarantine and non-safe carcass disposal practice redoubling the issue <p>Animal movement Route (AMR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No systematic health control of migrating livestock going through the AMR additionally contributing for spreading animal disease, badly degraded infrastructure of the route identified as a key constraint for sheep sector development in Georgia <p>Animal Identification and Registration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The country had no system of collecting and maintaining database in livestock sector. Traceability of cattle became a legal requirement in Georgia after signing DCFT agreement However the agency has not a sufficient capacity to implement animal identification & registration programme 	<p>2012: Information gathering by the programme on officially and non - officially reported cases of anthrax from local independent vets in Kvemo Kartli, Samtskhe Javakheti and Kakheti regions. The number of cases tracked and information disseminated on donor and public body levels animal diseases are a subject of debate at the Advisory Committee meetings</p> <p>2012: Coordination with the NFA to increase the coverage and penetration of the national FMD and Anthrax vaccination campaign</p> <p>2011-2017: Facilitation of DRR Municipal Working Groups with focus on animal disease control in Kvemo Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti and Ajara regions. Capacity building of self-governments for building local disease control system at municipality level, as well as ensuring proper quarantine equipment is in place</p> <p>Since 2012: Multi-stakeholder advocacy of AMR issue and facilitation of interaction and information exchange between relevant national, regional and local stakeholders from the public and private sectors</p> <p>Spring 2014: Publicizing the AMR issue in the programme facilitated Eco Films Documentary 'The Road'</p> <p>Summer 2014: Facilitation for the construction of the bypass route at the AMR for the notorious Tsintskaro Village blackspot in Tetrtskaro municipality where the million head of livestock passed directly through the village</p> <p>October 2014: Initiating infrastructural model of Bio Security Points (BSP) of the AMR for disinfection of migrated livestock against parasites</p> <p>2015: Facilitate the NFA pilot programme of animal identification & registration for the provision of traceability and creation of the database accessible for slaughterhouses, milk collectors and dairy enterprises</p> <p>2015: Co-financing with government to construct 6 BSP's at the AMR</p> <p>2016-2017: Monitoring of constructed operational BSP's and to facilitate improvement of the management and infrastructure</p>

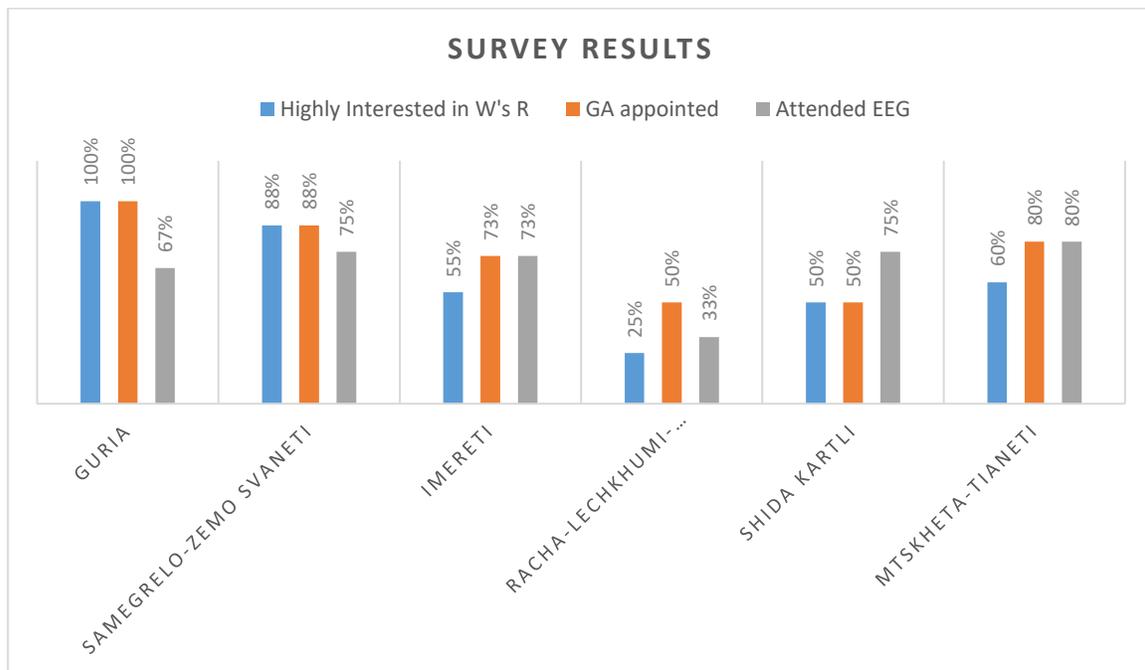
ANNEX 3: OUTREACH OF THE WOMEN'S ROOM'S MODEL TO THE OTHER REGIONS OF GEORGIA

The ALCP facilitated the National wide event - Equitable Empowerment in Georgia in March, 2017 under the patronage of the Parliament of Georgia's Gender Equality Council to celebrate community responses to equitable local government initiatives empowering women and men in communities of three regions of Georgia and to promote the Women's Rooms. Representatives of 61 rural municipalities out of total 65 of the country attended the event. To find out more about other municipalities interested in setting up a Women's Room and implementing equitable local government, the programme conducted a mini survey in 35 municipalities of the rest of 6 regions of Georgia to capture the current situation in term of gender mainstreaming in local self-governance. The survey does not cover Kakheti region because the establishment of the Women's Rooms was initiated by the Governor's office of Kakheti right after the EEG event and the process of making 11 Women's Rooms in 8 municipalities is ongoing now.

Survey results:

- * Representatives from 25 municipalities out of 35 attended the EEG event.
- * 30 municipalities out of 35 have information about the Women's Room model.
- * 29 municipalities out of 35 have the staff member who is responsible on Gender Equality issues.
- * 29 municipalities out of 35 are highly interested in the establishment of the Women's Room.
- * All municipalities consider central government's recommendation on establishment of W's R is pivotal and essential.

Table 1. The mini survey results



ANNEX 4: BRUCELLOSIS PROGRAMME IN GEORGIA

Since 2014 the National food Agency has started the mass testing of cattle³⁶ for brucellosis region by region, followed by compulsory vaccination from 2016 in Ajara, Kakheti and Tbilisi peripheries. In 2017 compulsory Brucellosis vaccination started in Kvemo Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Mtskheta-Mtianeni and Shida Kartli regions. By 2019 the livestock of the whole of Georgia will be vaccinated against this disease.

The Results of Testing on Brucellosis Disease 2014-2017 (6 month)									Vaccination Campaign	
Region	2014		2015		2016		2017		2016	2017
	# of tested animals	# of positive case	# of tested animals	# of positive case	# of tested animals	# of positive case	# of tested animals	# of positive case	Number of vaccinated Cattle	
Samtskhe-Javakheti	13 451	280	2 910	81	58 875	1 504	0	0	691	32 503
Shida Kartli	3 616	14	1 762	51	32 260	110	0	0	846	27 416
Kakheti	51 974	466	20 084	158	0	0	0	0	8 009	31 225
Kvemo Kartli	9 155	280	1 562	90	70 497	1 978	0	0	590	69 531
Mtskheta-mTianeti	3 118	139	1 587	47	16 530	437	0	0	672	12 970
Imereti	21 569	558	3 032	91	5 229	82	31 065	393	1 126	9 407
Racha-Lechkhumi	329	0	238	0	467	0	5 682	7	100	347
Samegrelo	13 159	235	3 463	71	6 653	75	43 247	337	1 482	4 972
Guria	1 764	30	1 426	89	2 611	144	21 189	143	435	1 199
Ajara	3 570	122	27 551	192	375	9	0	0	18 886	4 561
Tbilisi	4 810	382	2 011	143	20	0	0	0	3001	1 769
In Total	126 515	2 506 (2%)	65 626	1 013 (2%)	193 517	4 339 (2%)	101 183	880 (1%)	35 838	195 900

Only tagged adult cattle more than a year old are tested for Brucellosis and only non-pregnant serologically negative cattle and calves older than 4 months are involved in the vaccination campaign. All vaccinated cattle receive a passport and additional mark on their ear-tag. Infected animals are marked with the letter B using the cold branding method (dry ice) to prevent selling it as a milking cow and a certain time is given to the owner to find a meat buyer. Infected cattle should be slaughtered in slaughterhouses

³⁶ Sheep are not included in the programme. Bulls are tested only at the owner's demand

Georgia Gender Research contains information collected from various gender related surveys, media articles and official websites of public entities and NGOs and Key Informant Interviews. 35 phone call interviews were done with representatives of 35 local Government administrations (Gamblebis, Deputy-Gamblebis, Gender advisors, etc.) of 6 regions³⁷ Also, it covers and summarizes the results of a mini survey conducted in May-June 2017 by the programme. of Georgia to find out their interest and readiness regarding the establishment of the Women's Room service in their municipalities.

Armenia Gender Research contains the information collected from various studies and surveys conducted by international and local organizations working on Gender Equality issues in Armenia and Azerbaijan. Key informant interviews were conducted with NGO and government representatives in Armenia and Georgia.

Azerbaijan Gender Research contains the information collected from various studies and surveys conducted by international and local organizations working on Gender Equality issues in Azerbaijan, interviews with Azerbaijani Women rights activists are integrated in the paper. The overview is preliminary based on secondary data. There is lack of information on Azerbaijan, materials produced by international or national experts or organizations are somewhat out of date and reflect a situation 5-10 years ago. World Bank data is available, but it should also be noted that information is provided by official sources in Azerbaijan. There is lack of alternative sources on subject related matters.

Animal Disease part of the research contains information obtained from the official online sources of Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia as well as information collected from interviews, various policy documents and publications, including ALCP programme's surveys and reports.

See the list of reviewed documents in Annex 6 and Key Informant Table in Annex 7.

³⁷ Shida Kartli (4 municipalities); Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti (8 municipalities); Racha-Lechkhumi - Kvemo Svaneti (4 municipalities); Mtskheta-Mtianeti (5 municipalities); Imereti (11 municipalities); Guria (3 municipalities).

ANNEX 6: LIST OF REVIEWED DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION SOURCES

1. Republic of Armenia Gender Policy Strategic Action Plan for 2011-2015
2. Armenia Country Gender Assessment, 2016, The State of Gender Equality in Armenia
3. Armenia Country Gender Assessment, Asian Development Bank, July, 2015
4. Gender, Agriculture and Rural Development in Armenia, FAO, 2017
5. Political Participation of Women in the Elections for the Local Territorial Administration Bodies: Problems and Perspectives, a research of the Center for Gender and Leadership Studies, 2014
6. Men and Gender Equality in Armenia, UNFRA, 2016
7. Legal Monitoring of the Implementation of the UN CEDAW in Armenia, Armenian Young Lawyers Association, October, 2015
8. Gender Analysis Under 'Local Actors Join for Inclusive Economic Development and Governance in the South Caucasus (JOIN), 2013
9. Women's & Men's Economic Activity in Armenia study, YSU's Gender Research and Leadership center, 2016
10. International Fund for Agriculture Development source, IFAD in Azerbaijan
11. The World Bank statistics 2015
12. Azerbaijan Survey of Living Summary of Results
(<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTLSMS/Resources/3358986-1181743055198/3877319-1190300591595/abstracte.pdf>)
13. <https://www.export.gov/article?id=Georgia-Agricultural-Sector>
14. www.geostat.ge
15. Progress report submitted by the government of Azerbaijan to the in regard to the commitments to the Global Leaders meeting 2015
16. World Bank Data - <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/azerbaijan>
17. Azerbaijan Human Development Report 2007 GENDER ATTITUDES IN AZERBAIJAN: TRENDS AND CHALLENGE S<http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/nhdr2007gendereng.pdf>
18. A world book flagship report doing business 2017, equal opportunities for all
<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/751231478081519340/pdf/109643-WP-DB17PUBLIC-Azerbaijan.pdf>
19. An overview of women's work and employment in Azerbaijan, Decisions for Life MDG3 Project Country Report no. 9. Maarten van Klaveren Kea Tijdens Melanie Hughie-Williams Nuria Ramos Martin. AIAS University of Amsterdam.
20. Asian Development Bank and Azerbaijan: Fact Sheet, www.adb.org/azerbaijan
21. Gender Data Portal, <http://datatopics.worldbank.org/gender/country/azerbaijan>
22. COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION of 22.7.2015 on the Annual Action Programme 2015 in favor of Azerbaijan to be financed from the general budget of the European Union
23. Gender Analysis of the EU AA/DCFTAs with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, Indevelop, 2016
24. Georgian National Animal Health Program 2016-2020
25. The State Veterinary Control Service of the Ministry of Agriculture of Azerbaijan vet.gov.az/
26. World Organization for Animal Health - <http://web.oie.int>
27. The State Service for Food Safety of the Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia - <http://snund.am/en/>
28. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Armenia - <http://www.fao.org/armenia/en/>
29. Government Programme 2017-2022 of Armenia
30. The Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia - <http://minagro.am>
31. Animal Identification-Registration Requirements and Current Stance in Georgia, Economic Policy Research Center, 2017

ANNEX 7: KEY INFORMANT TABLE

#	Key Informant	Date	Organization/ Specialization	Location and Link to Project
Georgia				
KI 1	Lia Nadaraia	August 2017	Women's Political Resource Centre, a member of the CEDAW	Tbilisi, Georgia: Lia is a Gender Expert and is the director of the Women's Political Resource Centre, the Chairperson of the South Caucasus Women's Congress and the President of the Caucasian Feminist Initiative. In 2014 she was elected as a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Lia was the one of the EEG conference speakers and she is ready to support the Women's Room model in South Caucasus. She is ready to support the expansion of the W's Room model in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.
KI 2	Nino Chitorelidze	Sept. 2017	Civil Development agency (CiDA)	Kvemo Kartli Region, Georgia: Nino was the manager of CiD's project Cross-border Economic Development (CED) in 2015-2016. The goal of the CED was to improve the living conditions of bordering communities in the Georgia's Kvemo Kartli and Armenia's Tavush regions.
KI 3	Megi Ediberidze	Sept. 2017	Dmanisi municipality	Dmanisi municipality, Georgia: Megi worked to implement the Women's Rooms service in Dmanisi and in Kvemo Kartli. She also has good connections with her colleagues in bordering municipalities of Armenia and is ready promote the W's Room model in Armenia.
KI 4	Tamar Chugoshvili	August 2017	The First Vice-Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia; The chairperson of the Gender Equality Committee of the Parliament	Tbilisi, Georgia: Tamar is a Georgian politician with valuable education background in Law and public Administration. After gaining experience in the civil sector working in leading positions in non-governmental organizations, she worked with the Prime Minister of Georgia on Human Rights and Gender Equality Issues. She extended her knowledge on equal participation in decision making process' in Harvard Kennedy School while taking the course on Women's Participation in Politics. She took the patronage of the ALCP EEG event and also is a supporter of the Women's Room model.
KI 5	Irakli Kadagishvili	July 2017	The State Representative – Governor of Kakheti Region	Telavi, Georgia: The Governor initiated creation of 10 Women's Rooms in Kakheti. He is a well-known politician in Georgia and can influence on the colleagues from other regions of Georgia
KI 6	Grigol Nemsadze	June 2017	The State Representative – Governor of Kvemo Kartli Region	Rustavi, Georgia: He became a governor of KK in May 2017 and one of his first meetings was on the Women's Rooms. He proposed the programme to cooperate in future on gender and DRR and also is interested to be involved in cross-border initiatives facilitated by the programme.

KI 7	Lasha Avaliani, 555524664	Oct 2017	The Head of the Veterinary Department of the NFA of Georgia	Tbilisi, Georgia: The NFA provides the legal and institutional improvement of food safety sphere and the implementation of a solid food safety system relevant to the EU and international standards in Georgia. The ALCP – NFA 6 years' cooperation was resulted by construction of 5 Biosecurity Points on the Animal Movement Route to date. In spring 2016, the Veterinary Department of the NFA took responsibility for the management of BSP's. The programme continues work on the BSPs' management issues and Lasha is the key contact person together with his deputy David Godergzishvili
KI 8	David Goderdzishvili 574 407 417	Oct 2017	The Deputy Head of the Veterinary Department of the NFA of Georgia	
KI 9	Phiruz Otarashvili 981442423760	Sept 2017	A State vet Qakh district, Azerbaijan	Phiruz is a sate vet in Azerbaijan who was interviewed during market research and he provided information on existing state free vaccinations in Azerbaijan and other animal disease related issues
KI 10	Mikheil Sokhadze 599961880	Oct 2017	Head of NAITS Project	NAITS Project is 4 year FAO funded project in National Animal Identification and Traceability System implementing in Georgia, by now 2,5 mill. cattle have been already identified. Cattle registration have been running since 2015 in Georgia, since now 1.5 mill. cattle have been registered in electronic database, which enables government to control animal health in the whole country. Georgia is the first country in the region starting implementation of Animal Identification and Registration System.

Armenia

KI 11	Gohar Shahnazaryan	August 2017	A Director of Yerevan State University Center for Gender and Leadership Studies; A Co-founder of the Women's Resource Center (WRC), NGO.	Yerevan, Armenia: The main goal of the Center is to promote gender equality and leadership in the Armenian society. The Center provides comprehensive research, training, and outreach functions engaging Armenian higher education institutions, local NGOs and international agencies in training women for career promotion and professional leadership. Gohar, as a director of the Center and at the same time co-founder of the WRC, has good contacts with the government, media organizations and other NGOs. She explained us, that the words 'Gender' and 'Gender equality' are not accepted and shared by Armenian society and these terms are replaced in the laws with 'women and men' to avoid the negative reactions. Gohar could serve as one of the main gender experts from Armenia while implementing the Women's Room model in the rural municipalities.
KI 12	Naira Harutyunyan	August 2017	Syunik-Development NGO	Vayots Dzor and Syunik Provinces, Armenia: Syunik-Development NGO was founded in 1995 and is one of the largest non-governmental organizations in southern Armenia. Our projects aim to develop and strengthen local communities primarily in Vayots Dzor and Syunik provinces, but also throughout the Republic of Armenia, and we work in partnership with organizations from all over the world. Our partners have included such local, foreign and international organizations as the Armenian Social Development Fund, the Armenian Support Union, the Red Cross, GTZ, Save the

				Children, Agape and World Vision. Syunik NGO also implements cross-border projects in collaboration with our South Caucasus partners in Georgia.
KI 13	Sasun Khechumyan	Sept. 2017	The Governor's office of Lori province	Lori Province, Armenia: Sasun is a head of Family, Youth and Women Division at Lori Governor's office. The ruling party has nominated Sasun as a candidate of Alaverdi Mayor for the local self-government elections 2017.
KI 14	Anush Evoyan,	Sept. 2017	Public Environmental Information Aarhus Centre Alaverdi	Alaverdi municipality, Lori Province, Armenia: Anush works with Georgian partners on cross border environmental issues. Also she visited Dmanisi municipality Women's room two years ago and is very interested to see the same service in her municipality
Azerbaijan				
KI 15	Novella Jafarova	August 2017	The Association for the Protection of Women's Rights [APWR]	Baku, Azerbaijan: Novella Jafarova is a chairperson of the APWR of D. Aliyeva, a member of International Council of Women, The winner of the International "Marshall" prize of the USA and the EU, International Women of Courage Award of the US Department of State. She is a key interviewee of our Gender research on Azerbaijan. The APWR is the most influential NGO in the country which works on women's rights and has close contacts with the governmental bodies.
KI 16	Aygun Jan Albert	Sept. 2017	Azerbaijani Gender Expert	Aygun is a women's rights activist. She was a project manager for Kvinna Til Kvinna 2014-2016, based in Tbilisi, Georgia.
KI 17	Rahila Mehdiyeva	Sept. 2017	Gender Expert	Rahila is a women's rights activist. She has managed trans-border projects in Georgia and Azerbaijan on women capacity building and empowerment.
KI 18	Nurana Mamodova	Sept. 2017	Young Women Peace Academy Group	Nurana is a women's rights defender and a member of Young Women Peace Academy Group
KI 19	Xanim Mukhtarova	Sept. 2017	Young Women Peace Academy Group	Xanim is a women's rights defender and a member of Young Women Peace Academy Group
KI 20	Rigina Bakhshaliyeva	Sept. 2017	Women's association for Rational Development	WARD is a women's NGOs working since 2002 to contribute to the development of Azerbaijan through women's empowerment and participation. WARD has 4 priority programs: Gender Equality, Healthcare, Economic Development and Peace-building.
KI 21	Chinara Sharifzade	Sept. 2017	A Founder and Director of Freewomenia	Free Woman International Organization (Freewomenia) is NGO established in 2016 to reaffirm faith in Fundamental Human Rights, promote the quality of life of the Caucasian women and young girls, promote social progress and better standards of life Website: www.freewomania.com E-mail: freewomania@yahoo.com ; ifreewoman@yahoo.com