




## EQUITABLE EMPOWERMENT IN GEORGIA

**An event celebrating community responses to equitable local government initiatives empowering women and men in communities of three regions of Georgia will be held at Hualing Hotel in Tbilisi under the patronage of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia.**

Up to 500 delegates - National, Regional and Local Government decision-makers, Women's Rooms managers and villages reps, civil society and private sector and the women and men of the communities themselves - will present their motivations, methods and achievements. Likeminded people from the worlds of sport, culture, business and entertainment who seek to enrich the lives of women and men and boys and girls in Georgia in their work will speak and share their view about why this matters. Showcase stands from communities, enterprises, private sector, media and civil society will add colour and interest framed by the photographs of the municipal photo competition.



**ALCP** Alliances Lesser  
Caucasus Programme

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
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Swiss Cooperation Office  
South Caucasus

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**HUALING HOTEL, TBILISI**  
**EVENT DATE: 17TH OF MARCH 2017**

Duration	Theme	Keynote Speakers / Presenters/Moderators	Position
09:15-09:45	<b>Registration / Welcoming coffee-tea</b> Stands showcasing community initiatives, charity work, cultural, arts, environmental groups civil society and private sector are in the lobby and a photo exhibition to enjoy during coffee breaks and lunch		
09:45-09:55	<b>Welcome</b>	Shorena Lortkipanidze,  Demetre Ergemlidze	Gender and Civil Society Expert  TV Anchor, Perma
<b>1st session – Opening Section Key Note Speeches</b>			
09:55-10:10	<b>Introduction to the event - What Do We Mean by Equitable Empowerment</b>	<b>Helen Bradbury</b> , Keynote Speaker	Development Professional
10:10-10:20	<b>Why Equitable Empowerment Matters to Georgia and the Regions</b>	<b>Tamar Chugoshvili</b> , Keynote Speaker	The 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia, Chairperson of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament
10:20-10:30	<b>Georgia's International Obligations Towards Equality</b>	<b>Lika Nadaraia</b> , Keynote Speaker	The Member of CEDAW Committee
10:30-10:40	<b>Equitable Economic Empowerment</b>	<b>Keti Bochorishvili</b> , Keynote Speaker	Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
10:40-10:50	<b>How Gender Balance Enriches Life</b>	<b>Giorgi Kekelidze</b> , Keynote Speaker	Director of the National Parliamentary Library of Georgia, a writer
10:50-11:00	<b>A Short video showing women's success stories from the rural Georgia</b>		
The moderators announce a coffee break and 2 <sup>nd</sup> session			
11:00-11:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> session – Community Section</b>			
11:30 – 11:40	<b>Opening the session - We Support Women's Empowerment</b>	<b>Dimitri Tskitishvili</b> , Keynote Speaker	Member of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia, Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee
11:40-11:45	<b>I'm from the Region</b>	<b>Duta Skhirtladze</b> , Keynote Speaker	Actor
11:45-11:55	<b>Business in Rural Georgia</b>	Nanuli Bolkvadze	Directot of Tsezai Dairy Products, Tsalka, Khulo
11:55-12:05	<b>Woman Leaded Family Agro -Tourism Business</b>	Shushana Putkaradze,	Shuakhevi, Mareti guesthouse
12:05-12:15	<b>New Kindergartens Initiated by the Women</b>	Eka Akobashvili	Dmanisi, Boslebi
12:15-12:25	<b>Water for the Village</b>	Maka Kapanadze	Tetritskaro, Tskhrakudiani
12:25-12:35	<b>Language Courses for Rural Women</b>	Tamar Papiashvili	Borjomi
12:35-12:50	<b>The Women's Rooms Forming a Community Entry Point</b>	Giorgi Khimshiashvili,  Sophia Bakuridze	Georgian Young Lawyers Association (Ajara), For Each Other Association

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**EVENT DATE: 17TH OF MARCH 2017**

12:50-13:00	Q & A session, Wrap-up of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> session & announce lunch and the lobby activities	Shorena Lortkipanidze, Demetre Ergemlidze	Moderators
13:00-14:00	<b>LUNCH</b> During lunch the stands and photo exhibition will be open in the lobby <b>with coffee and tea</b>		
<b>3 session – Making it Happen on Local &amp; Regional Levels</b>			
14:00-14:05	<b>Introduction to next segment</b>	Shorena Lortkipanidze, Demetre Ergemlidze	Moderators
14:05-14:15	<b>Equitable Rural Society, Governance and Economics</b>	<b>George Bakradze,</b> Keynote Speaker	Economist & Thinker
14:15-14:25	<b>Introducing Equitable Empowerment in Kvemo Kartli</b>	Paata Khizanashvili	Governor of Kvemo Kartli
14:25-14:35	<b>Good Political Sense - Engaging Women Voters</b>	Gogi Barbakadze,	Gamgebeli of Dmanisi Municipality
14:35-14:45	<b>Putting it into Action - Municipal Gender Action Plan</b>	Davit Sherazadashvili, & Fatima Tvildiani	Gamgebeli of Bolnisi Municipality & Gender Adviser
14:45-14:55	<b>Introduction to Next Segment - Making It Happen</b>	Shorena Lortkipanidze	Gender and Civil Society Expert
14:55-15:05	<b>The Guidelines in Practice - The New Generation of Outreach</b>	Levan Verd zadze, Iana Beriani	Village Representatives, Keda and Bolnisi Municipalities
15:05-15:15	<b>Informing the Use of Funds - The Civil Budget Project</b>	Merab Topchishvili, & Rima Otarashvili	Gamgebeli of Marneuli Municipality, Women's Room Manager
15:15-15:25	<b>A Day in the Life of a Women's Room Manager</b>	Natia Surmanidze, Tea Sharashidze	Women's Room managers
15:25-15:40	Q & A session Brief wrap up and introduction to closing speech	Demetre Ergemlidze Shorena Lortkipanidze,	Moderators
15:40-15:50	<b>Moving Forward - Rolling out Equitable Empowerment</b>	<b>Tamar Khulordava,</b> Keynote Speaker	Member of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia, Chairperson of the Committee on European Integration
15:50-16:10	<b>Wrap-up of the conference: Plenary Session inviting questions and comments to speakers</b>	Shorena Lortkipanidze, Demetre Ergemlidze	Moderators
16:10-17:00	<b>Networking:</b> The participants join the lobby activities with <b>soft drinks and snacks</b>		

## MODERATORS OF THE EVENT



**Shorena Lortkipanidze**  
 Expert in Good Governance,  
 Democracy and Gender Issues



**Demetre Ergemlidze**  
 TV Presenter at Georgian Public  
 Broadcaster

Public figures and likeminded people from the governmental and non-governmental spheres speak and share their view about why this matters.



**Helen Bradbury** is a development professional and long term resident of Georgia committed to integrated and equitable sustainable development which enriches rural and urban lives.

Her career spans market system approaches to solving problems ranging from the welfare of working horses in Ethiopia and natural resource based livelihoods in the Middle East, to early economic recovery in post-tsunami Indonesia. She is Team Leader of the Swiss Development Cooperation's long running Alliances Programme, Mercy Corps flagship market systems programme in Georgia which starting in 2008 has impacted over 600,000 rural households across Georgia in dairy, meat, wool and honey sectors. Its next four year phase has a regional and international focus looking at cross border linkages, trade and export with Armenia, Azerbaijan and beyond. Helen advises on market systems development and women's economic empowerment (WEE) and has a strong interest in applying market systems thinking with government and operationalizing gender and WEE at scale with Alliances serving as a case study in a global community of practice for generating practical working methods for making this happen.



**Tamar Chugoshvili** is the First Vice-Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia and the Head of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament.

A young 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. Tamar took part in developing the first national strategy and Governmental action plan on human rights protection in 2014. During the same period, she served as Government's focal point to the EU Special Representative to Georgia on Legal and Constitutional Reforms and Human Rights.



**George Kekelidze** is a writer, poet and essayist, who has contributed much to the popularization of books and has given new life to library culture in Georgia. Since March 2012 he has been Director of the National Parliamentary Library

In 2015 he published his most popular book Guruli Diary which became a bestseller. A special tour was established in Guria region based on the book, the Route of the Guruli Diary.

Giorgi has led a modernization process of Georgian libraries, created the Digital National Photo Gallery of old photos and opened new libraries in rural areas of the country, as well as Georgian library corners in Istanbul, Kiev and Vienna.

In addition to his main job, George is a presenter of various literary-critical programs literary columnist and founder of weekly art-events. He delivers lectures on classical literature and the history of art in several universities of the country. George is a founder of charity fund, unifying students and leading educational and social activities.



**Giorgi Bakradze** – is an economist, thinker, lecturer, advisor of the President of the National Bank of Georgia and board member of computer literacy community.

Giorgi is a preeminent intellectual best known from the TV game: What Where When. He has an incredible mind holding knowledge on wide variety of topics in science, literature, music, cinematography, information technologies etc.

Giorgi Bakradze has an MA in Economics from Williams College, USA and from Georgetown University and an MSc in Physics from Tbilisi State University. Over the years he has extended his professional knowledge (attending seminars) in the world's leading economic institutions: in the Bank of England, Banque de France, Swiss National Bank, Joint Vienna Institute, IMF Institute, etc. He is an author of numerous scientific works, research and publications. Since 2004 he has been a lecturer at

top Georgian universities. Giorgi has a significant experience of working in the public sector as well as with the non-government sector, starting his professional career in a World Bank project for the development of municipal services.



**Lia Nadaraia** – is a Gender Expert and is the director of the Women's Political Resource Center, 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).

For two decades she has worked on gender equality issues supporting women's participation and initiatives through educational work, publications and events aimed at raising awareness on Women and Local Governance, Gender, Politics and Law and Election issues. The Anti-Domestic Violence Law (2006), Gender Equality Concept of the State, the Gender Equality Law (2010) and a number of legislative recommendations concerning the need to increase women's representation in decision-making and politics - is a short list of the topics she works on.



Public figures and likeminded people from the governmental and non-governmental spheres speak and share their view about why this matters.



**Ketevan Bochorishvili** is the Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia. Ketevan gained a Master's degree in International Public Management in Milan, Italy. She started gaining experience and leadership skills when she was a student and her first job was with American Councils for International Education. Later she continued her career in the Millennium Challenge Georgia Fund, then in management consulting company in Rome, Italy and in 2010-2012 worked as a Director of Invest in Georgia, at the National Investment Agency. Since 2012 she has been the Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and one of the main figures leading several successful programmes for supporting economic development of the country such as Produce in Georgia that benefited more than 200 enterprises to date.



**Tamar Khulordava** is the Chairperson of the Committee on European Integration of the Parliament of Georgia and the member of the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament.

Tamar has gained education at several European and American universities: in 1995 she won US Government's Future Leaders Exchange Program Scholarship and studied in Hartford High School of State of Wisconsin, USA. Afterwards she graduated Tbilisi State University and obtained qualification of a lawyer. In 2014, she raised her qualification within the program Transparent Public Administration and Management in Lund University, Sweden. She has also passed the lawyer qualification exams in civil law and prosecutor qualification exam in criminal law.

Before being elected in the parliament of Georgia, she was a First Deputy Minister of Corrections, she also worked as a lawyer at the EU Delegation in Georgia and at American Bar Association as well. Together with it she led the number of professional training courses in Procedural Skills, Legal Spelling and Legal ethics for the students of the universities and the members of Bar Association of Georgia.



**Dimitri Tskitishvili** is a member of the parliament of Georgia, Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, the member of the Gender Equality Council and also the member of the Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee.

He gained a master's degree of Art in International Studies, Foreign Policy in the University of Wyoming, USA. During several years he had been a Vice President of the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY) and coordinated Black Sea regional cooperation issues.

Dimitri is a member of the political party Georgian Dream and manages international relations of the party with European political parties and organizations.

He is a lecturer and leads the course of Foreign Policy Analysis at Law, Social Sciences and Diplomacy School of Georgian-American University for the students of Master's level.



**Duta Skhirtladze** is an actor, showman and TV personality with good sense of humor whose popularity has spanned more than two decades.

He was born and spent his childhood in Kakheti, Telavi municipality and always tries to express his love and interest toward countryside life and the rural population publicly.

He started career as a theatre actor and worked in Rustaveli National Theatre, in Theatrical Basement and currently he is an actor at Marjanishvili State Academic Drama Theatre. Besides his theatrical career he has starred in up to 20 movies.



**Paata Khizanishvili** is a State Representative-Governor of Kvemo Kartli Region. His career is mainly linked to finances, administration, education and policy. For the past several years he had been working at different decision making positions at Cartu Bank JSC. Previously, he also worked on the managerial positions at several ministries.

Mr. Khizanishvili is a practitioner psychologist and has many years of working experience in education: he worked as a Head of the Operative Psychology Department at the Academy of the Ministry of State Security of Georgia, where he gained a substantial teaching experience.

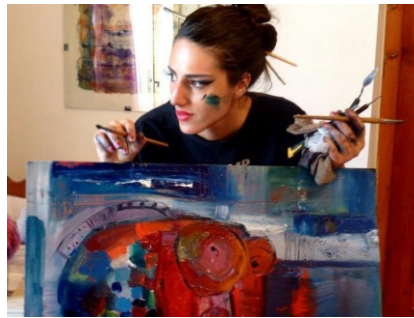
Mr. Paata is actively engaged in sports. He is the Vice President of the International Weightlifting Federation of Georgian and the President of Jiu-Jitsu National Federation.

Be inspired by the people driving change



**Ajara Psychiatric Hospital**

Ajara Psychiatric Hospital presents beautiful handicrafts, paintings and delicious candies on their stall made by the hospital patients. All funds from the selling will be used for launching the social enterprise PIA (People in Action) at the hospital.



**Culture House, Gardabani**

Gardabani Municipality presents unusual style paintings, crafts, jewelry, wool paintings as well as clay products made in a modern and national way. All funds from the selling will be used for launching an art school in Norio village of Gardabani municipality.



**Georgian Cheese from three Regions**

Dairy Products Company Tsezari, Milkeni, Cheeseline, Tsipora, Akhali Meskheti and Lia Demetrashvili - will present different taste, types and unique packaging cheeses. Taste and buy the excellent Georgian cheese including the exported ones to New York and Los Angeles, US.



**Culture and Art House, Dmanisi**

Dmanisi Municipality Non-commercial Legal Entity Culture and Art House presents beautiful handicrafts, toys and amazing paintings made of fabric, wool and wood on their stall. All the received money from selling will go for establishment of a new municipal Tourist Information Center in Dmanisi.



**Private Entrepreneur Omar Skhulandze**

Omar Skhulandze, an artist from Borjomi municipality presents the unique iron handmade souvenirs, which reflect national culture, symbols and nature. The funds from selling will give the artist an opportunity to diversify production and expand his business.



**Ethno Museum, Kobuleti**

Kobuleti Municipality Museum will present on its stall delightful iron and wooden kitchen utensils, which represent Georgian ancient culture and support an idea of opening Ethno-café in this municipality. This stall will also present appetizing sweets, wine and honey that are typical only for this municipality.



**Tetrtskaro Art**

Four talented artists from Tetrtskaro municipality will offer the event participants their amazing handicrafts, toys, paintings, and ceramics and wooden production. The amount received from the selling will be spent on increasing the diversity of their production and the needed working materials.



**Integration Center, Akhalkalaki**

Integration Center of Akhalkalaki municipality "Reas" will present on its stall various kinds of woolen and paper handicrafts and paintings, made by disabled children from this center. All funds from selling will be used for buying new materials for future work, food and transportation of children from villages to the Integration center.



**Youth Center, Keda**

Keda municipality Culture Center will catch event participant's attention with its wonderful handicrafts - wooden figures, woolen paintings, sewed and woolen clothes and other souvenirs from Ajara. Through selling of this production the center will financially support opening of a new municipal studio of Georgian national crafts and traditional art in Keda.



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**ROKI and Momavlis Fermeri**

22 distribution crews of company Roki serve more than 300 vet-pharmacies and Farmers' Service Centers across Georgia; The company distributes and produces 1 000 different veterinary inputs. Roki's Momavlis Fermeri serve more than 25 000 female and male farmers.



**Culture department of Shuakhevi Municipality**

A Culture department of Shuakhevi Municipality presents various handmade products and traditionally embroidered fabrics. Handmade jewelry will be also presented on their stall. The funds from selling will be spent on buying new materials.



**Art Salon, Khulo**

The Art Salon from Khulo municipality presents astonishing paintings reflecting nature and views of Ajara region. The salon is willing to expand its business and all the received amount from selling will be spent on marketing and diversification the salon's products.



**Crafts and Embroidered Products, Khulo**

Non-commercial Legal Entity Culture Center of Khulo municipality presents wonderful wooden production and various kinds of knitted and embroidered products. All the money from selling will be used for materials for artists' future work and popularization of craft work.



**ABBA (Ajarian Beekeeping Business Association)**

ABBA will present beautifully decorated hexagon shape stand with association honey and by products, promotional brochures and banner. ABBA collects and sells the honey of association members and all the generated income goes back to the farmers.



**Georgian Wool on Export**

The Georgian Wool Company is the first enterprise in Georgia doing export of Georgian sheep wool to the Europe. the company will present the samples of Georgian wool which are in high demand and accepted by the wool processing factories producing carpets and mattresses in different countries.



**Batumi Botanical Garden**

One of the biggest and richest botanical gardens in the world - Batumi Botanical Garden will display unique honey flowers from Ajara region and sell various type of honey made on the garden's territory.



**Eco Tours & Eco Films**

The corner of wildlife conservationists and nature lovers, Eco tours, with motto to develop sustainable tourism in Georgia, will advertise tours across the country, and the Eco Films will invite the visitors to enter the magic of Jara, an upcoming documentary.



**Artisans, Khelvachauri**

Artisans from Khelvachauri municipality and the Municipal Cultural Center will present their beautiful handicrafts. All funds from the selling will be spent on new handicrafts making.

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**Fascinating Handicrafts, Bolnisi**

Artisans from Bolnisi municipality present fascinating handicrafts: wooden production, wool and batik products, tapestry and paintings. The participants will taste apples, cheese and wine from Bolnisi. All the money from selling of the handicrafts will be used for procurement of the materials for artists' future work.



**Artisans from Marneuli municipality**

Marneuli municipality presents amazing handicrafts of local artisans: various dolls, unique souvenirs made of beads, handmade jewelry and woolen paintings. Money received from selling the paintings will be used for procurement of raw materials and expansion of production.



**Eye-catching art, Akhaltsikhe**

A nurse from Akhaltsikhe Guliko Khutsishvili is a self-taught artist from Akhaltsikhe Municipality whose eye catching art made of feathers and specially embroidered paintings are presented on the event. Money received from selling the paintings will be used for new artwork.



**Regional Broadcasters (GARB)**

The Georgian Association of Regional Broadcasters formed in 2004 by independent journalists to represent and advocate for regional TV media unites 21 local TVs throughout Georgia. Gender equality, rural people's life, equitable economic empowerment, agro businesses, social initiatives, participation in decision making are the main topics for the member TVs.



**Perma**

Perma, one of the popular programmes of the Public Broadcaster, is the only national agro TV programme in Georgia. Trust in the TV programme has increased as the programme started to portray local rural farmers, rural life and challenges farmers face: animal diseases, lack of livestock nutritional resources and finances, wild animal attacks on cattle, etc.



**Regional Newspapers**

The Georgian Regional Media Association was formed in 2002 and unites 22 local newspapers 19 web portals with rural audience throughout Georgia. Gender equality, rural people's life, men and women equal economic empowerment, agro businesses, social initiatives, participation in decision making are the main topics of the newspaper articles of the association members.



**Business Development Services**

3 Companies providing Food Safety and Hygiene, Business and Marketing Consulting and Environmental Assessment Services will introduce their services to conference guests. Companies – Star Consulting, First Consulting and DARTS Group will share their business cases and experience working with different types of businesses nationwide.



**Georgian Farmers Association – Junior**

The young farmers from the regions of Georgia, who are the members of the Georgian Farmers Association, will offer their products to the participants of the event. It will be the opportunity for the new generation interested in agriculture to promote their production and increase motivation for innovation and creativity in the sector.





Photographs showcasing rural life from municipalities across Georgia



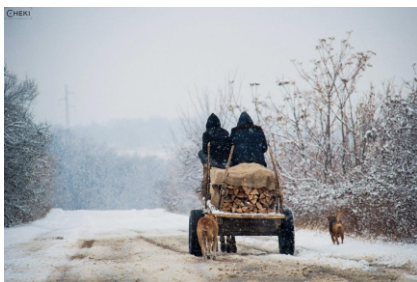
**BORIS KARSLYAN**  
Ninotsminda Municipality



**DUDU ALAGEZOVI**  
Marneuli Municipality



**PHATI SHAVADZE**  
Tetritskaro Municipality



**GIORGI CHEKURISHVILI**  
Telavi Municipality



**MARIA CHE**  
Khulo Municipality



**GIORGI CHEKURISHVILI**  
Telavi Municipality



**GIORGI VERULIDZE**  
Kobuleti Municipality



**GIORGI CHEKURISHVILI**  
Telavi Municipality



**JEMAL MEGRELIDZE**  
Khulo Municipality



**KRISTINA MARABYAN**  
Akhalkalaki Municipality



**MAIA KALABEGASHVILI**  
Gurjaani Municipality



**KRISTINA MARABYAN**  
Akhalkalaki Municipality



**MARIAM CHILAIA**  
Bolnisi Municipality



**MARINA BEROSHVILI**  
Sagarejo Municipality



**MARIAM CHILAIA**  
Bolnisi Municipality



Photographs showcasing rural life from municipalities across Georgia



**OTAR TSINARIDZE**  
Shuakhevi Municipality



**SOPHIO KHAZAZI**  
Keda Municipality



**ROIN BERIDZE**  
Gardabani Municipality



**SHUSHANA SHIRINYAN**  
Akhalkalaki Municipality



**PHATI SHAVADZE**  
Tetritskaro Municipality



**EKA BARAMIDZE**  
Khulo Municipality



**GIORGI CHEKURISHVILI**  
Telavi Municipality



**LEVAN MAKHARADZE**  
Khulo Municipality



**MARIA CHE**  
Khulo Municipality



**MARIA CHE**  
Khulo Municipality



**GIVI NAKHUTSRISHVILI**  
Batumi



**MARIAM POTSKHVERASHVILI**  
Aspindza Municipality



**NATALIA TSISKARASHVILI**  
Telavi Municipality



**SOPHO BURCHULADZE**  
Khelvachauri Municipality



**MARIAM CHILAIA**  
Bolnisi Municipality

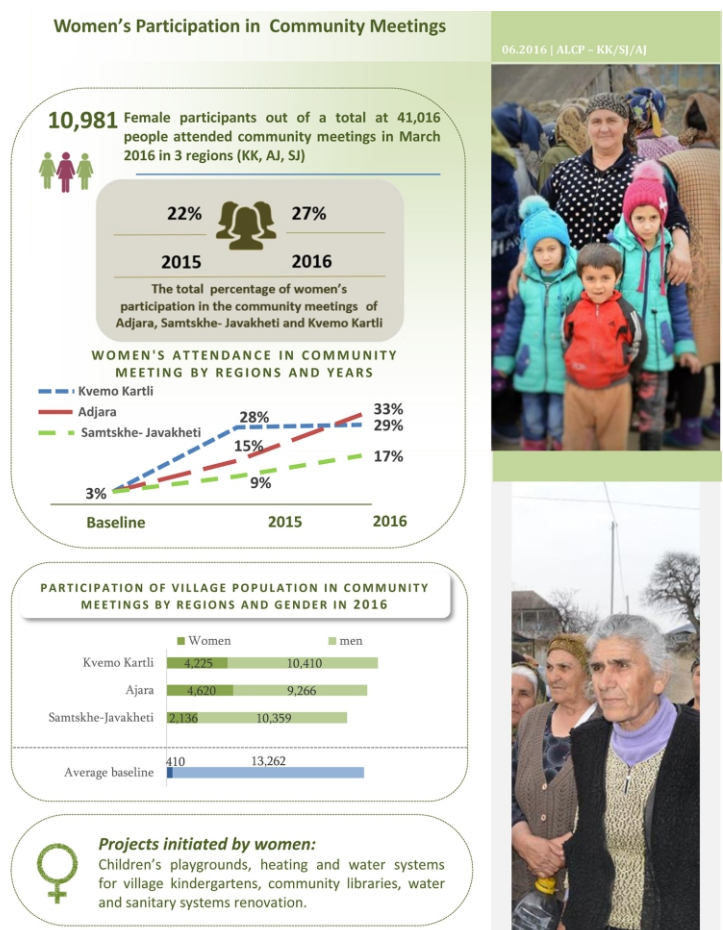
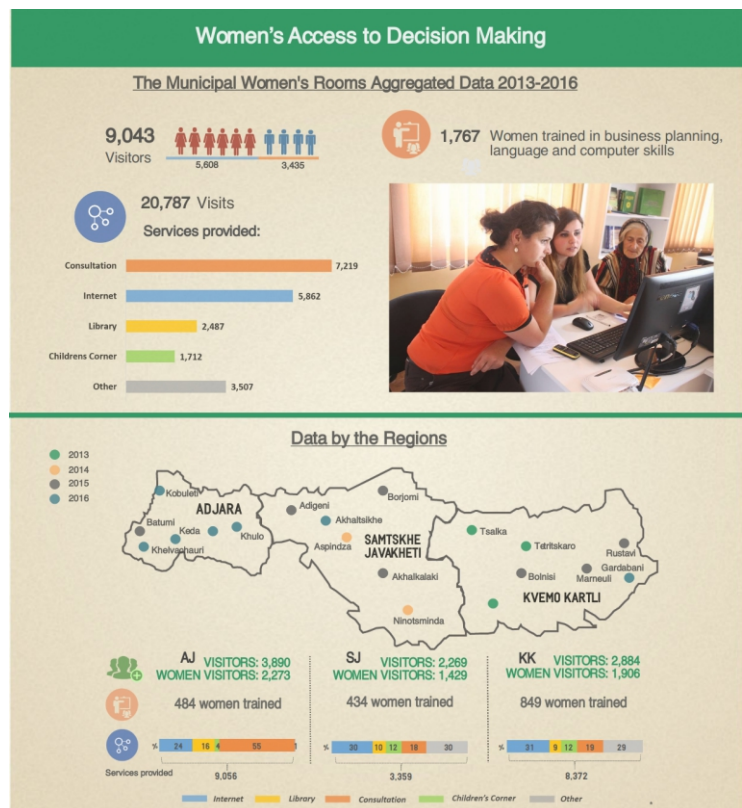


## Working with the Rules: Gender and Governance: Women's Access to Decision Making

In 2011 a pilot project was started in Tsalka, Dmanisi and Tetritskaro Municipalities aiming to grant access to women to public goods in local government, to pensions, consultation, benefits and to make them feel welcome in the government building. Three municipally run women's rooms were opened and village representatives trained in how to include women in community meetings. Five years on in these three regions the percentage of women's participation at community meetings has increased from 3-5% to up to 30%.

17 rural Women's Rooms (The Women's Room is a new municipal service, open and free information-consultation space for the rural population, especially women) open to women and men have been opened in 17 municipalities, two urban Women's Rooms have opened in Rustavi and Batumi linking town to country, with 9000 visitors, 38% of whom are men. The establishment of Women's Rooms were funded by SDC (in 9 municipalities) and by USAID (in 10 municipalities). The rooms are used regularly for community based functions, for the library and consultation with the women's rooms managers and up to 1800 rural women have accessed skills training in Language courses, computer lessons, business plan writing and business management.

30 MOU's have been signed between the women's rooms and NGO's and organisations who wish to reach rural people equitably. 350 village representatives have been trained, dozens of women have started or upgraded small businesses in rural areas, and 68 women's initiated community initiatives voted on in community meetings or initiated through women's rooms were funded by the local governments to the value of 266,651 USD. 19 business plans from mountainous Ajara were funded by Produce in Georgia to a value of 57,000 USD.





## Working with the Rules: Gender and Governance: Women's Access to Decision Making

**Entry Point:** The local government is a key market player. The gender analysis revealed that women lacked access to decision making fora at both community level and municipal level. Furthermore, Gender Laws brought into effect in 2010 for municipalities which included measures such as gender sensitive budgeting, were not being enacted at the municipal level. Women are key actors in the livestock value chain in a wide range of roles and responsibilities in livestock husbandry. Fully inclusive and representational decisions cannot be made without their voices, perspectives and experiences.

### Intervention at a Glance

**Name:** Women's Access to Decision Making and Women's Room

**Description:** A new municipal service a library and resource space for rural women and children who visit the municipal building, facilitated by local government, local women and civil society. The "Women's Room" – is the focal point of an intervention which aims to improve the access of rural women to local government and decision making processes in tandem with the work being done to mainstream national gender policy requirements into local government.

**Date started:** February, 2012

**Key Constraints:** Women's restricted participation in decision making in municipal and local fora.

**Programme Entry Point:** Facilitation with local government to develop guidelines and training for local government representatives with a focal point provided by a 'Women's Room' in each municipal building offering a resource space and informational services for rural women.

**What we did:** Gender Survey conducted, key constraints identified; meetings for implementing the 2010 Gender Equality Law at the municipal level held; linkages facilitated between the "Women's Room" staff member and private/NGO sector to ensure the efficiency of the informational flow and resources for Women's Room. TOT Training course for the "Women's Room" staff members developed for training of village reps, provision of practical guidelines/toolkits on Gender Equality and Good Governance to municipal and Village Reps.

### Investment Breakdown for one municipality:

Project Cost	Amount (GEL)	Percentage
Total Cost of the Project	20821.00	100.00%
"Alliance KK" Investment	12831.00	61.63%
Local Government Contribution	7990.00	38.37%

### Targets:

50 % of local government representatives with access to gender equality and good governance guidelines.

30 % of decisions made and implemented with women's active participation at municipal level.


10 Gender sensitized activities/services provided by the municipality during the year.

20% participation of women in community meetings.

## About the Implementer Programme

The Alliances Lesser Caucasus Programme funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and implemented by Mercy Corps Georgia has supported equitable market development and improved livelihoods for rural women and men since 2008. For more go to: [www.alcp.ge](http://www.alcp.ge) and [www.eda.admin.ch/georgia](http://www.eda.admin.ch/georgia)

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 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
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