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Baseline data analysis in Khulo Municipality within the framework of ENPARD II project – “Promotion of rural development and diversification in Khulo Municipality”.

Milestone 2: Survey Report

BLACK SEA ECO ACADEMY (BSEA)

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1. AN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

Through the ENPARD II programme the main goal of which is to promote agriculture and rural development policies and reforms and to improve the delivery of related services to address basic needs of the rural population in Georgia, as well as e to improve employment and living conditions in poor rural areas of Georgia, with subsequent impacts on poverty alleviation and growth **Caritas Czech Republic (CCR)**, which is in charge of implementing the Programme in Khulo Municipality has contracted Black Sea Eco Academy to conduct Social Economic Study in the Municipality.

The objective of the study was to collect and analyze baseline data in the Khulo Municipality, also to determine baselines for major project indicators:

- increase in employment rate;
- increase in monthly average income per household
- increase in number of active businesses in Khulo Municipality.

1.1 Main findings and recommendations

1.1.1 MAIN FINDINGS

The following subchapter has been developed based on the information that has been retrieved by the project team during the project implementation. Key findings have been reached as a result of a detailed analysis of the following sources of information:

- Official information provided by state agencies;
- Reports prepared by the project team of experts (legislation, biodiversity, tourism / agro-tourism);
- Surveys of target community population;
- Focus group meetings
 - With the participation of Guesthouses and catering (Tourism Sector)
 - Agricultural Cooperatives (Agricultural Sector)
 - Local Active Citizens Groups (AMAGI) (Civil Sector)

The below findings related to the Human Wildlife Interface in Ajara have been based on the analysis of the information obtained from the sources listed above.

Key findings are grouped in the following main topics:

- Overall situation
- Environmental risks
- Most perspective directions revealed
- Baseline for the indicators

Overall situation:

The overall economic situation in the framework of employment is quite poor in Khulo Municipality. As the research revealed the government employs mostly people and the average income is 500 Gel. The low number of people who are self-employed in small business and have their household agricultural business depicts the results that the entrepreneurship/business is not developed in Khulo Municipality and the population is still depended on public sector/government jobs.

Of course the average income does not cover the living needs of the population such as education, resting and entertainment. Those respondents who are engaged in household and small business reveal that their income is seasonal that makes their living somehow more difficult.

The representatives of guesthouses and cooperatives recognize the importance of trainings in business administration, finances and marketing and English language. The farmers also need professional consultations regarding land use, chemicals/pesticide dozes and how to manage their business. Moreover, land laboratorial analysis is obviously very important for planning the land use and there does not exist relevant service in Khulo Municipality. Also the research revealed that there is lack of professional agronomists and veterinaries and there is no local professional college oriented to give people the knowledge in order to improve the rural services.

Household income and number of cash earners, play a supportive role to the ability and willingness to invest in agricultural development. With 43% of monthly household incomes lower than 1500 GEL (600 US\$) most households willing to invest will likely need significantly subsidized investment rates and/or, will aim to access finances for co-investments.

Yet very low % of the population has information about the state agricultural investment support programmes and it is important to help them in better access to these kind of funds.

Lack of information on the available extension support prevails as reason for not utilizing the available extension capacities, providing another indication for the relevance of the projects outreach and information dissemination activities.

The project needs to carefully consider the training preferences of the target group, the corresponding the technical levels and their additional logistical needs in order to deliver appropriate and appealing training packages and activities.

Environmental risks

The following environmental risks are having influence on the local economy

- Natural disaster risk;
- Lack of irrigation water (particularly considering ongoing hydropower station development projects);
- Climate change;

- Logging;
- Unsustainable use of agricultural land (arable, pasture);
- Poor waste management

Most perspective directions revealed are:

Agriculture:

- Open ground gardening;
- Development of bio farming
- Potato production;
- Development of trout farming;
- Meat production;
- Honey production;
- Production of milk and milk product;
- Greenhouse farming;
- Cold-storage farming;
- Cultivation of perspective fruit species;
- Collection and procurement of medicinal plants;
- Support of local farming fairs;
- Support to manage new diseases.

Tourism:

- **Eco-tourism** – This direction implies recreation in the mountain resorts of Khulo Municipality. Potential places- Beshumi resort, Green lake, Goderdzi forest and fauna etc. Ecotourism also includes the development of equestrian tourism;
- **Agro-tourism** – villages of Khulo Municipality is important potential of agro-tourism development This involves organizing one or more days tours (visiting several places), within which the tourists will be able to participate in agricultural activities, prepare a variety of traditional dishes and where it will be possible go hunting and fishing. For children it is possible to develop special programs on how to get milk and cheese, see domestic animals (live sheep, cows, , chickens), walk on horseback. The factors contributing to the development of agro-tourism include the tolerance of the rural population, existence of attractive natural rural landscapes, existence of ethnic peculiarities and material culture, existence of life elements.
- **Cultural-cognitive tourism-** Construction of **hydro power plant** is underway in the territory of Khulo Municipality, which covers several villages – Tsablana, Skhalta, Vashlovani, Diakonidzebi, Gurta and Didadjara. Operating company ltd “Adjaristkali Georgia” (donors – World bank, Asian bank) employed local population from villages.

Baseline for the indicators

Also based on the survey carried out with the Khulo population and local small businesses the baselines have been determined for the project indicators::

- unemployment rate is – 11.3%
- relative poverty rate - 23%
- monthly average income per household is – 385 GEL
- number of active businesses in Khulo Municipality– 58¹

1.1.2 RECOMMENDED MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

Based on the revealed information we are offering the following recommendations in three directions:

- agriculture development;
- tourism development;
- environment protection:

In terms of agriculture development

Agriculture sustainable development focusing on support of private sector in Khulo Municipality:

- ✓ Development of the low percentage bank credits;
- ✓ Development of the knowledge and skills in farming and business administration;
- ✓ Development of the agronomy and land laboratory educational institutions;
- ✓ Development of the agronomy and business counselor services;
- ✓ Development of Infrastructure (roads water supply, sewages, gas supply)
- ✓ Establishment of soil survey and monitoring system
- ✓ Creation of soil cadastral maps;
- ✓ Introduction of new and improved agricultural crops;
- ✓ Mechanization of agrarian sector; Development of cattle breeding;
- ✓ Promotion of the creation of cooperatives and farming unions;
- ✓ Development of agriculture infrastructure;
- ✓ Support of the population to have better access to state agricultural investment support programmes (distribute information, train population and support to prepare proposals for submission);
- ✓ Support to summer pastures;

¹ The number is based on the information received from official sources – Public Registry, Department of Tourism and Resorts of the Achara A.R. (please see the list of businesses in the amendment). Plus we have also added the milk processing enterprise - Ltd "Natural Product".

In terms of tourism development

- ✓ Developing tourism infrastructure;
- ✓ Formation of qualified staff for tourism sector;
- ✓ Delivering set of trainings to interested households;
- ✓ Promotion of tourism potential and development of action plan of advertising-information activities.
- ✓ Development of municipal infrastructure (roads, water, sewage, gas supply)
- ✓ Improve access to new technologies (internet, etc)
- ✓ Development of Infrastructure (roads water supply, sewages, gas supply)

In terms of environment protection

- ✓ Increase of steadiness against natural disasters – in particular:
 - Improved river catchment management (for DRR purposes);
 - Taking measures for prevention of land (pasture and hay) degradation;
 - Cooperation with the Forestry Department on reforestation projects;
 - Improved drainage infrastructure;
 - Capacity building and institutional improvement activities for upgrading community resilience;
 - Accurate database about the natural disasters and the damage cause to the communities
 - Support to preparation of municipal contingency plans.
- ✓ Development of new technology practices (energy-efficient stoves; solar heaters; house heating;
- ✓ Improved water management;
- ✓ Use of appropriate agricultural technologies and practices;
- ✓ Sustainable use of pastures;
- ✓ Improved waste management (using composting technology, etc);

2. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY

1. Objectives and scope of work

As assigned in the TOR, the objective of the study was to collect and analyze baseline data in the Khulo Municipality to determine baseline for:

- increase in employment rate;
- increase in monthly average income per household, and;
- increase in number of active businesses in Khulo Municipality.

2. Data collected

The data shall be collected in Khulo Municipality, Adjara AR. The data shall be quantitative whenever possible and disaggregated by sex. Data collected shall cover the following topics:

- i) Living conditions:
 - employment rate, state or big businesses hired excluded;
 - household monthly income, state or big businesses hired excluded;
 - poverty rate, and;
 - statistical data from the revenue service on income taxes paid in 2015 – 2016.
- ii) Data base and overview of active local enterprises/sectors (size, performance, bankruptcy rate, access to finance, level of entrepreneurial skills, access to professional consulting services);
- iii) Data base of active local small manufacturers;
- iv) Data base of active Civil Society Organizations;
- v) Potential for new economic activities;
- vi) Environmental risks having influence on the local economy and those being aggravated by the ongoing economic activities.
- vii) Development projects (overview of those currently implemented and completed in the last 5 years, size, scope of work etc.).

As a result the Black Sea Eco Academy has carried out:

1 General baseline description

Desk study for collection of the information available on Khulo Municipality – demography, income, taxes, main economic activities, reports, strategic development plan paper.

2 In depth interviews with population

Interviews have been carried out with 708 individuals and 236 household to reveal levels of education, level and sources of income, seasonality of income, poverty rate, unemployment rate.

3 Interviews with the small local businesses

To reveal the economic situation and challenges of the small businesses.

4 Interviews with the CBOs

To reveal the economic situation and challenges of the local CBOs

(For detailed methodology used please see Annex 1)

3. ENUMERATION OF KEY FINDINGS AND THEIR ANALYSIS

3.1 General baseline description

Demographic information

According to the latest census (2016) the number of Khulo Municipality population is 23.4 thousand. Population density is 47.1 mp / km², which is lower than the country's average indicator (67 mp / km²). 96.5% of the population lives in rural areas, 3.5% is concentrated in Daba Khulo. As for the number of families, Municipality has 4 952 families, 4,783 out of them live in rural areas. Majority of the population is settled in the river valley and foothills, the resettlement area is extended within 1000-1400 m above sea level. The density of population on agricultural lands on 1 sq. km is 150 people per km.

Approximately 70% of population are Muslims and 30% Christians

Migration

The migration over the past few years has reached 31% (As compared to the 35 500) according to the 2014 Census. One of the main reasons for migration is erosion and high density of population. Also, low economic revenues from the agriculture sector.

The seasonal migration is also quite high - approximately 30% of families leave the highest mountainous villages of the Municipality in the Winter months. (Mainly because of high natural disasters risks and low economic conditions).

Administrative-territorial division and local self-governance

Municipal arrangement system

Khulo Municipality is a self-governing unit and its administrative center is Daba Khulo.

Local self-government bodies of Municipality are municipal assembly and local government.

The local assembly is an elective body, it consists of ten members elected by proportional system and members elected by majoritarian system (one member per community). The total number of members of Khulo local assembly is 28.

Head of the local assembly is the head of the self-governing unit and local self-government representative body.

For reparation of the issues in local assembly, promotion of enforcement of decisions, for controlling executive body of local self-government and its structural entities **five permanent commissions are created:**

1. Finance and Budget Issues Commission
2. Spatial Material Planning and Infrastructure Commission
3. Property Management and Resources Issues Commission
4. Mandate, Procedure Issues and Ethics Commission
5. Social Issues Commission

Territorial Body

Khulo Municipality consists of 13 territorial bodies:

1. Daba Khulo territorial body;
2. Agara territorial body;
3. Dekanashvilebi territorial body;
4. Didachara territorial body;
5. Dioknisi territorial body;
6. Vashlovani territorial body;
7. Txilvani territorial body;
8. Riketi territorial body;
9. Satsikhuri territorial body;
10. Skhalti territorial body;
11. Pushrukuali territorial body;
12. Gorjoma territorial body;
13. Khikhadziri territorial body.

Municipality has 85 settlements – Daba Khulo and 84 villages – Agara, Adadzeebi, Akhaliubani, Akhalsheni, Bako, Begleti, Bogauri, Bodzauri, Ganakhleba, Gelauri, Geladzeebi, Godgadzeebi, Giorgadzeebi, Gudsakho, Gurdzauli, Danisparauli, Dekanashvilebi, Diakonidzeebi, Didachara, Dioknisi, Duadzeebi, Elelidzeebi, Vanadzeebi, Vashakmadzeebi, Vernebi, upper Tkhilvana, Upper Vashlovani, Tago, Iakobidzeebi, Iremadzeebi, Kalota, Kvatia, Kortokhi, Kurtskhali, Labaidzeebi, Maniaketi, Makhalkauri, Mekeidzeebi, Merchkhети, Mekhelashvilebi, Mtisubani, Mintadzeebi, Namonastrevi, Okruashvilebi, Oshanakhevi, Pantnari, Paksadzeebi, Rakvta, Riketi, Satsikhuri, Skvana, Stepanashvilebi, Skhandara, Tabakhmela, Tunadzeebi, Uchkho, Pachkha, Pushrukauli, Kedlebi, Lower Khilvana, Lower Vashlovani, Kurduli, Gorjomeladzeebi, Gorjomi, Gruta, Kinchauri, Kishla, Shuasopeli, Shurmuli, Chao, Dzirkvadzeebi, Dzmagula, Tsablana, Tsintskladzeebi, Chakhauri, Cheri, Khikhadziri, Jvariketi, Gobadzeebi, Didi Riketi, Upper Dekanashvilebi, Tkhiladziri, Nadaburi, Namonastrevi.

Current social economic processes

Revenues

Nowadays revenues of Khulo Municipality are provided mainly by agriculture (potato planting, cattle breeding, fruit-growing) and small businesses. Agriculture is historically the leading area for the Municipality.

With the help of Ministry of Agriculture population started cultivating hazelnut and producing honey. However, should be noted that knowledge of the population in this fields is low.

The income from seasonal employment comes in May-September.

Until 2004 year population has been using forest resources – they were selling firewood and wood for material without permission. There are certainly plans for gasification in the Municipality, yet we could get no clear information about the deadlines, the area to be covered and the route for the project.

In Soviet period the main occupation was tobacco-cultivation and cattle breeding. Milk receiving factory was functioning in village Dioknisi. The enterprise has been revived in 2015 with the support of Mercy Corpse, Now it is called Ltd “Natural Product” and is producing 5 types of cheese, mostly sold on Batumi market. They recently purchased new equipment to produce other productions like - Matsoni, Sour Cream and Yogurt. About 3 800 households supply the enterprise with milk, the average daily amount varying from 2 to 20 tonnes (the amount is seasonal).

As for tobacco production, though it is no longer widely spread in the Municipality, tobacco has been identified as one of the main products with import replacement potential and has been recommended as one of the areas of main emphases for local production to the Government².

Crop production contributes with more than 43% while livestock production contributes with more than 24% of the household income to less than 20% of the households, which indicates that agricultural investments are more a development opportunity for most households complementing their diverse household incomes.

Taxes paid for 2015-2016

According to the official information received from the Revenues Service the total amount of taxes paid in 2015 was 2,459,179.8 GEL, while in 2016 the amount increased to 2,918,363.0 GEL.

| Period | Region | Total |
|--------|---|-----------------|
| 2015 | 0072- Self-governing Community of Khulo | 2,459,179.8 GEL |
| 2016 | According to the declarations submitted or/and location of tax recordings - Self-governing Community of Khulo | 2,918,363.0 GEL |

Income tax paid by small businesses in 2015 was 73,682.6 GEL. The amount was higher than the amount paid by large businesses:

| | Income Taxes | | Corporate income taxes | |
|------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Large Businesses (official status) | Small Businesses (official status) | Large Businesses (official status) | Small Businesses (official status) |
| 2015 | 70,100.8 GEL | 73,682.6 GEL | 395,667.1 GEL | 23,777.6 GEL |

² “Social – economic Development Strategic Plan for Khulo Municipality – 2012-2022” prepared by Young Scientists Association – Intellect in 2014.

The taxes are not segregated by the types since 01.01.2016, they are all paid to the same account. Also, Law on “Development of Mountainous Regions” became effective on January 1, 2016. Since then the population of high mountainous regions (including Khulo population) enjoys tax privileges – they do not pay income tax for the amount up to 6 000 GEL of annual income. This does not affect the statistic of the gross income, but certainly has an effect on the net income of the population.

Despite of the high rate of economically active population (50.7 %) employment level in Khulo Municipality is very low. Majority of population is self-employed and does not consider themselves to be employed. The main employer in the Municipality is public sector (education sector, healthcare sector, police department, local government, local assembly etc.). About 5-6% of population is employed in public sector. The number of labour migrants is not officially known, about 30% of population goes to work in different regions of Georgia (also for construction works in Batumi) and seasonally in the republic of Turkey. Industrial production does not exist in the Municipality.

General description of agriculture in Khulo Municipality and statistical data

96% of Khulo Municipality population is engaged in agriculture and development of this sector is very important for the Municipality.

Land registration issue remains a big problem, only 20% land holders have registered agricultural land in the public agency. From August 2016 till the 1st of July 2018 the citizens were offered free of charge simplified registration process – the citizen was only obliged to submit a land registry maps and documents from archives. Public registry was responsible for correction of overlaps). Since 1st of January 2018 citizens have to pay minimum 50 GEL (depending on the square meters) for the land registration maps. At the moment the rest of the documents are prepared by the Public Registry free of charge till 1st of July 2018. After that the documents will cost citizens 42 GEL.

Privatization of agricultural lands has impacted development of agricultural sector in the Municipality, despite the fact that in last years changes held in agro sector and support from government have positive impact, farmers still have some barriers e.g not developed infrastructure, absence of factories and cold storages, lack of agricultural equipment.

In Khulo Municipality mostly dominate small family and farm businesses, in field is employed majority of diligent population.

For development of agricultural sector establishment and further development of cooperatives is important.

Khulo Municipality belongs to the number of municipalities with small lands where the majority of small farmers own less than 0.05-1 hectares agricultural lands and these lands are separated.

The number of agricultural lands is 23,760 hectares. Among them are: arable lands 2,463 hectares, meadow lands 4,379 hectares, pastures 16,873 hectares, perennials 45 hectares. The number of cattle is 31,798, the number of sheep and goats is 190: the number of sheep is 116, goat- 70, pigs – 4. Birds 7037, hen – 6603, turkey- 113. There are 1 662 bee families.

Small farms – approximately 407 farmers. The number of equipment is 10, among them are: Non-profit legal entity center of agricultural service “Dioknisi” – 3, Non-profit legal entity center for agricultural service „Didachara”- 1, comradeship “Starti” – 3, Ltd “Mekanizatori” “Brigade of Khulo” - 3. In the spring 30.6 hectares agricultural lands were ploughed and mostly was sown potatoes. In Khulo Municipality the majority of agricultural lands is processed with small technique (moto blocks). The farmers have been supplied with small technique through the program of the Ministry of Agriculture of Autonomous Republic of Adjara - 152 moto blocks have been brought for Khulo Municipality.

Land use and land issues

Land fund

As of January 1, 2017 land fund, 24 032 thousand sq. m land plots were used for agricultural and living in Khulo Municipality, which consists 34% of the whole territory of Municipality. Low index of land use is mainly caused by relief. The main parts of the relief are mountains and steep slopes, that is why it is difficult to use land plots.

Information on the condition of using land fund in Khulo Municipality is given on the table.

| N | | | Private property lands (hectares) | Owned lands, among them: | | Total area(hectare) | Lands outside of administrative border (hectare) | Lands inside of administrative borders (hectare) | Total area (hectare) |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|--|----------------------|
| | | | | Agricultural lands (hectares) | Non- agricultural lands (hectares) | | | | |
| 1 | Agricultural lands | | 6029 | 15659 | 207 | 21895 | 611 | 2476 | 23760 |
| | 1.1 | Arable lands | 2311 | 148 | 4 | 2463 | | | 2463 |
| | 1.2 | Perennials | 41 | 4 | 0 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 45 |
| | | 1.2.1 | Fruit gardens | 41 | | 41 | | | 41 |
| | | 1.2.2 | Vineyards | | 4 | 4 | | | 4 |
| | 1.3 | Mowing lands | 3355 | 821 | 203 | 4379 | | | 4379 |
| | 1.4 | Pastures | 322 | 14686 | | 15008 | 611 | 2476 | 16873 |
| 3 | Forests | | | 20413 | 15414 | 35827 | | | 35827 |
| 4 | Bushes | | | 1639 | | 1639 | | | 1639 |
| 5 | Waters | | | 234 | 441 | 675 | | | 675 |
| 6 | Lands occupied by roads | | | 309 | 108 | 417 | | | 417 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|-------|
| 7 | Lands occupied by buildings | 118 | 69 | 85 | 272 | | | 272 |
| 8 | All other unused lands | | 7648 | 66 | 7714 | 7 | 703 | 8410 |
| total | | 6147 | 45971 | 16321 | 68439 | 618 | 3179 | 71000 |

Opportunities and potential of socio economic development

Cattle-breeding

Cattle-breeding is one of the main agriculture areas, nowadays leading breed of neat cattle in the Municipality is Adjarian, as for the breed structure of recent period more than 50% is received by unsystematic cross-breeding. Unidentified origin of livestock and low productivity is the reason. In Khulo Municipality there are functioning three artificial insemination centers led by Agro service center, they are implementing fecundation of high-quality breeds with sperm, it will help population to improve existing breeds.

It is advisable to select breeds which are adapted to environment, it will help to replace old breeds with new, high-quality breeds. According to geographical location and climate in the Municipality it is advisable to bring breeds such as British "Jersey". It is one of the smallest cultural breeds, mass of cows is 360-450 kg, mass of bullocks is 650-850 kg. Animals are characterized by fast maturity, milk has high content of fat (5.5-6.0%) and albumen (3.6-3.9%). They have ability to adapt to strict climate conditions, have dense consistent construction, is stable against diseases and also it is advisable to bring new breeds which conformable with the geographic and climate conditions of our region.

29% of the population is involved in livestock production. Livestock production averages around few various animals kept as substance production and mainly complementing the household incomes. Few commercial producers mainly of small and large ruminants are notable. Generally the number of livestock is gradually reducing due to less interest of the younger generation in shepherding.

70% of the household involved in livestock production owns cattle.

The average number of cattle per household is 6.7

Neat cattle spread in Khulo Municipality

| Breed | Quantity (head) | Small description |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Georgian mountain (Adjarian) breed | 31798 | The Georgian mountain cow is the oldest breed of Georgian tribes, which is well adapted to the strict climate and scarce nourishment conditions, it uses easily pastures of steep and rocky slopes which are not easily reachable for other breeds. Georgian mountain cow is milker type. Cattle is very small. |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | <p>Its average height is 96-108 cm, body length is 120-126 cm, mass of fully grown cow is 200-250 kg, mass of bullock- 300-350 kg. It has different colors, mostly white, red, black, black-colored, red-colored and has chestnut-colored stripe on the back.</p> <p>Productivity of cows by standard is 900-1150 kg; In extensive conditions 650-800 kg, with 4-5% fat and 3.6-4.4 % albumen, in better conditions- 1700-2200 kg. Certain good cattle is milking over 4.0 thousand kg and more, fat content is 6.0-6.5%. If productivity increases so does fat content. Lactation of cows is short and lasts for 230 days, after the end of pasture period and moving to scarce nourishment it stops. In Georgian mountain cow are described many bio population: from Khevsureti, from Racha, Adjarian, Osetian, from Pshavi etc.</p> |
|--|--|---|

Beekeeping

Beekeeping is traditional field in Khulo Municipality, which has transformed from old wooden troughs to modern cultural beekeeping.

As for today's condition, 77 farmers in Municipality are beekeepers. In total they own 1750 bee families. Average honey production is 26700 kg. The number of beehives per farmer varies between 6 and 70. Average number per farmer being 5.8.

The quality of commodity- the main beekeeping product honey depends on conditions of flora and climate. Geographical zone of Georgia is unique with its climate and profitable for development of beekeeping. It has rich variety of wild and cover of cultural melliferous plants, which gives opportunity to produce different kind of honey with high-quality organoleptic, physical and chemical features. Khulo Municipality is not an exception, where subalpine and alpine flora gives unique opportunities for extending bee families and producing environmental-friendly, competitive and with high-quality monofloral and polyfloral honey.

Chestnut honey: Is dark-colored, has unique bitterish sweetish taste, weak aroma and very specific smell of chestnut flower. It crystallizes slowly, it can stay liquid during whole winter and become dark brown mass only in spring

Small-petalled linden: Gives light-colored honey, has pleasant taste and smell. After crystallization creates solid homogenous mass. Crystallized linden honey is white or beige, has tender taste.

Alpine meadow honey: Has pleasant aroma. Its coloration is between slightly tinted white and light yellow amber-colored. In most cases it crystallizes with small-grained structure, into white or slightly yellowish greasy mass. Researches revealed that gray bee which is spread in Caucasus is preserved with its features only in mountainous areas or foothills of Georgia, that was provided by features of mountainous zones of Georgia and melliferous variety of plants. Georgian bee is adapted to unstable and harsh winter climate conditions. Georgian bee is distinguished with important advantage: It stands out with the proboscis

length and meekness, has well developed ability of finding nectar, has moderate reproduction, protects nest actively, consumes food for winter economically. It uses effectively weak and medium nectar supply which increases the result beekeepers work. For those features it has gotten recognition and spreading in the whole world, because of this it in several years (international gardening exhibition “Erfuit” – Germany in 1961; XX anniversary congress of Apimondia in Bucharest-Romania in 1965 year; XXIII congress of Apimondia in Moscow in 1971) three times was awarded with golden medal.

Average index of Georgian bee:

| № | Index | Features |
|------------|--|--|
| 1 | colour | gray |
| 2 | Length of proboscis (mm) | 6,8-7,2 |
| 3 | Cubital index (%) | 50-55 |
| 4 | Length of wing, mm wifth, mm | 9,2-9,6 3,2-3,3 |
| 5 | Maximum egg-laying capacity of mother bee During day-night, piece | 1600-1800 |
| 6 | Possible strength of the family (bee on the frame) | 15-19 |
| 7 | Productivity of honey (common income, kg) | 18-25 |
| 8 | Productivity of alteration (making honeycomb, piece) | 4-5 |
| 9 | Preserving honey | wet |
| t10 | Cold-resistance | satisfactory |
| 11 | meekness: a) while opening nest b) while attempting honeycomb | meek |
| 12 | Mass of: one-day worker bee Unfertilized mother bee Fertilized mother bee | 90-100 mg 170-180 mg 200-250 mg |

Crop production

Crop production is practiced by all agriculturally active households and engages 52 % of the total population. Average land scarcity (0.19 hectares per household) clearly provide for some of the limitations in agricultural incomes and expected developments, further complement the findings on the average low incomes from agricultural activities.

Vegetable-growing

As for vegetable-growing we have to note that during last years population of Municipality used to sow mainly potato and corn. The little harvest taken amid absence of proper knowledge from farmers' side, accessibility of species of high quality chosen for Municipality conditions and multi-reproductive sowing materials, used to be mainly for self-sufficiency.

Climate conditions of Khulo Municipality enables to augment yield per hectare considerably by proper using modern technologies and agricultural rules and realize potato and corn produced in Municipality inside the country as well as outside. Based on unique climate conditions of Khulo Municipality it is very important to develop bio farming and producing environmental friendly products.

It is necessary to arrange producing sowing materials of mentioned chosen species in Khulo Municipality targeting supplying population by seeds of high quality.

It is notable initializing producing non-traditional crops in Municipality, such as lettuce and greens of various sorts. Climate of Municipality is unique for cultivation of abovementioned crops in open ground. It must be also mentioned that these crops used to be harvested three times per year and they are of high quality. This production is demanded very much all over Georgia as well in Russia.

In Khulo Municipality there is widely cultivated production of various vegetables: cucumber, tomato, beet, garlic, pepper, onion, carrot, eggplant etc. Farmers cultivate mentioned crops for self-sufficiency as well for realization at the market of Batumi city.

For raising developing of vegetable crops at the upper level it is necessary to assist cooperation of farmers and introduce such technologies as drip system, arranged farms of grafts, modern technologies etc. Also must be organized proper trainings for vegetable-growing farmers. 100% of the vegetables are grown by households.

It is also notable that 32 farmers of Khulo Municipality have constructed greenhouses of simple construction where they are able to harvest mentioned crops frequently in closed grounds. Farmers received them by target program of Ministry of agriculture of Adjara.

Potato-growing

Potato-growing is the main field of plant cultivation in Khulo Municipality. It is the traditional field.

In 1994-95 in Khulo Municipality were probed and introduced many foreign species: Colete, Velox, Caratop, Marabell, Felistass, Agria, Desiret, Palma, Pamir, Sierra, Alvara, Cosmos, Inpala, Sante, Marfona, Condor, Nevski and Picasso.

As of today they produce around 31 200 tons of potato in Khulo Municipality.

It is needed to deliver to Municipality sowing materials of potatoes of promising species of potato from foreign countries as well as from other potato-growing regions of Georgia every year to renew potato crops species.

Potato crop is the main source of income for the population of Khulo Municipality.

Potato-growing is the promising field for the Municipality. For its farther development it is necessary to arrange potato processing enterprises. It will contribute to realization of farmers' harvest.

Areas where potato, corn and vegetable are grown in Khulo Municipality

| Culture | Area (hectares) | Remark |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Potato | 1200 | In Khulo Municipality there is a big tradition of cultivating potato |
| Corn | 1050 | In Khulo Municipality there is a big tradition of cultivating corn |
| Tomato | 45 | Mostly is cultivated on personal plots for personal consumption and realization |
| Cucumber | 40 | Mostly is cultivated on personal plots for personal consumption and realization |
| Garlic | 12,2 | Mostly is cultivated on personal plots for personal consumption and realization |
| Pepper | 17,3 | Mostly is cultivated on personal plots for personal consumption and realization |
| Eggplant | 8,6 | Mostly is cultivated on personal plots for personal consumption and realization |
| Lettuce | 05 | Can be cultivated three times per year, for personal consumption and realizatin |
| Beet | 5,3 | Can be cultivated three times per year, for personal consumption and realizatin |
| Carrot | 5,5 | Can be cultivated three times per year, for personal consumption and realizatin |
| Other vegetable | 8,1 | Mostly is cultivated for personal consumption |

Fruit-growing

Fruit trees occupy 398 hectares in Khulo Municipality. About 4300 tons of fruits used to be produced. 2970 units of American blue cranberry saplings have been delivered and distributed among farmers in 2013-2014. The demonstrating lots of walnut and cranberry have been arranged in Municipality by UN program in 2013. There were cultivated 450 units of cranberry saplings at 0,29 hectares and 130 units of walnut saplings at 0,26 hectares.

At the territory of 4 agricultural farms operating in Khulo Municipality have been arranged walnut gardens at 1,3 hectares by target program of Ministry of agriculture of Adjara.

There is a great opportunity to produce various species of fruits in Municipality, in particular, cranberry and walnut.

According to abovementioned, it is needed to build enterprise for receiving and processing fruits in Municipality for farther development of fruit-growing. Municipality has the opportunity of this and it will assist farmers to realize their production.

Collection and procurement of medicinal plants

Collection of wild forest bilberry, immortelle, sweetbrier, ragwort is the big potential and perspective for Khulo Municipality. Approximately 70-80 t dried mass per year.

Municipality also has big potential of procurement and collection of immortelle, ragwort and sweetbrier. 5 tonnes of dried immortelle is being produced annually, 10-15 tonnes dried mass of sweetbrier and 150 tonnes dried mass of ragwort.

Above-mentioned crops have wide use in medicine because of their medicinal features.

For collection and procurement of abovementioned crops (wild bilberry, sweetbrier, immortelle, ragwort) in Municipality has to be created receiving and processing factory which will help farmers for realization of their production.

Access to funds

Practically all the banks and financing institutions operating in Georgia are functioning in Khulo Municipality – 16 in total. They mostly work on retail lone and issue consumer loans (which are very accessible and are available online).

72 % of Khulo Municipality household has access to finance – of which 61% comes from Banks and 24% from friends and relatives.

Credo Bank is issuing credits up to 5 000 GEL for also commercial purposes. Although in general bigger credits for agriculture and tourism sector development are not accessible due to low income and problems with the real estate (land) registration.

Also very low percentage of the population has information about the state agricultural investment support programmes - 20% of households are aware about preferential agro credits, while 38% have heard about the Produce in Georgia programme.

Access to training

The survey showed that there is definitely need for training of professionals in Khulo Municipality. In particular the following skills are needed in order to develop local infrastructure, agriculture and tourism:

- doctors;
- constructors;
- agronomists;
- guides;
- tourism management and other service delivering staff;
- IT experts;
- foreign languages.

The share of the households in Khulo Municipality that has received extension services and training in order to improve agricultural production is very low - only 15% in the last three years .

3.2 Household and individual survey results

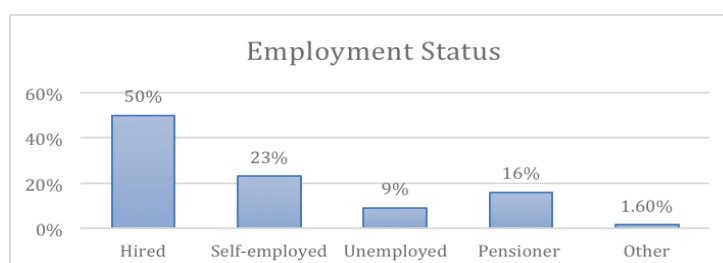
As you can see from the Annex 2 we have prepared to types of questionnaires – for individuals and household. As a result we carried out 708 individual and 236 household interviews.

Our interviewers paid special attention at the level of awareness of Khulo population regarding the ENPARD project in the Municipality. As a result it was revealed that 41% of respondents were aware of the project, while 56% had no information about it, the other 3% refrained from answering.

INDIVIDUAL SURVEY (708 INTERVIEWED):

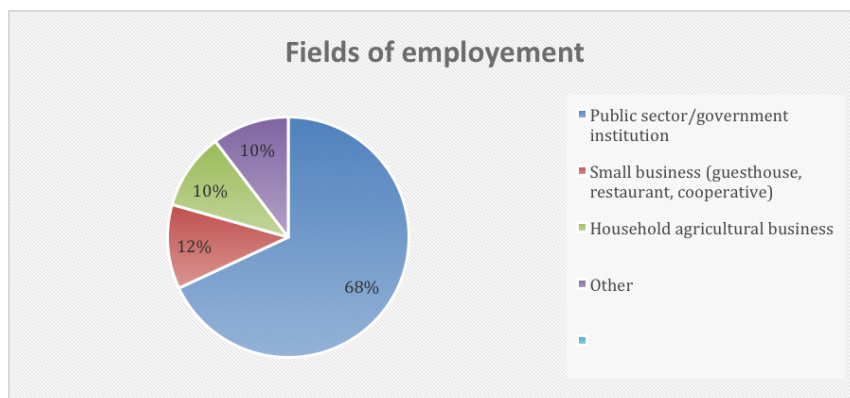
- The demographical survey revealed that 59% of respondents are male and 41% - female. In terms of education - the majority of Khulo population (58%) has secondary education, while 42% of the respondents have higher education. At the same time 51% of the surveyed population with the higher education are women (It should be mentioned that families would normally prefer to chose the family member with higher education level to deal with the interviews – this is why the level revealed during the survey might be higher than average).
- As you can clearly see in the **Chart N1**, 73% of the respondents are employed (50% are hired and 23% are self-employed). Of the hired population the majority - 51% are women (the same is the rate of women hired in public sector, which is in line with the statement that the majority of the hired population in Municipality is hired by the public sector, as you can see later in the assessment). 9% of respondents are unemployed, while 16% are pensioners. The unemployment rate is 11 % (as compared to the average rural unemployment rate of 5%, and urban unemployment rate of 21.1 %, or combined 11.8% average for the country in 2016, according to National Statistics Office of Georgia). So this ratio shows that the situation in Khulo Municipality in terms of unemployment is worse than average rural area, while is better than the combined (urban/rural) average for the country.

Chart N1



- It is worth mentioning, that the high percentage of employed population is working in government institutions - 68%, as compared to the country average of 75%³. According to our study, as you can see in the **Chart N2**, 11% is employed in small businesses such as cooperatives, guesthouse, restaurant and etc (of which 54% are men). Also 10% of respondents are employed in household agricultural field (nearly equal men/women). Another 10% of the respondents answered they work in Other sector (not specified)

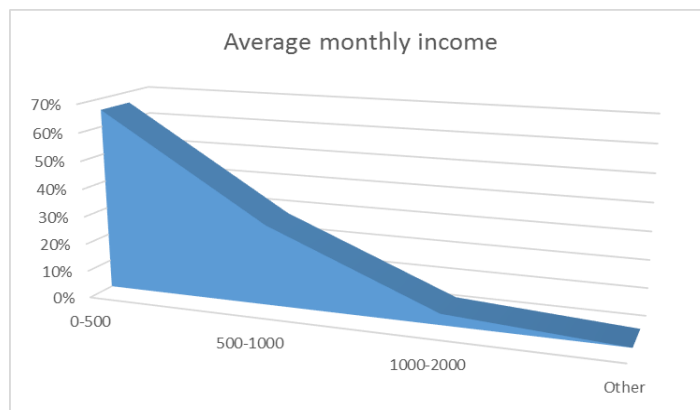
Chart N2



- It is worth to mention that 93% of respondents work in Khulo Municipality (most of the people working outside Khulo Municipality were still not back during the period of interviews). Only 7% said they work outside the Municipality in Batumi or Turkey (mostly men (82%)).
- As you can clearly see on the Chart N3, distribution of the respondents by the average monthly income is the following: 500 Gel is an average monthly income for the majority of respondents – 66% (with equal distribution between men and women), while 29% of the respondents receive average monthly income between 500-1000 Gel. It should be mentioned that the higher the average monthly income is lower the women's share is in the total number of respondents.

³ According to the findings of the research on "Education Return, Labor Market and Job Satisfaction in Georgia" conducted by the Center for Social Sciences (CSS) in the whole country according in October 2017.. So, the study revealed that although in Khulo Municipality the main employer for the population is still the government (Gamageoba/Sakrebulo, educational institutes, Health institutes) , the average rate of employment by the public sector is still lower in Khulo Municipality.

Chart N3



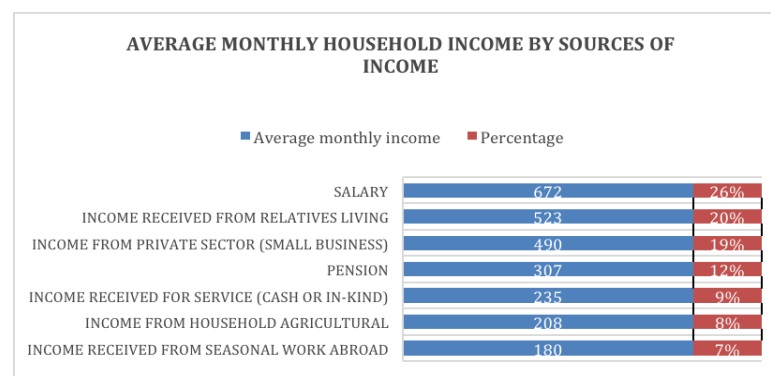
- The majority of respondents (76%) said that their income is not seasonal as the majority of respondents are working at public/government institutions. But the respondents who mentioned that they are employed in household agricultural field and in guesthouse/restaurant or cooperative (24%) say that their monthly income is seasonal.
- People who run seasonal business think that seasonality creates some financial and economic problems for them – in particular 33% of them mentioned seasonality problems.
- In case of unemployed respondents we were interested to investigate the reason for their unemployment and 44% say that they could not find the work suitable for their qualification and skills (of which majority - 88% were men). The other major reasons were temporarily unemployed (24%) – or being a pensioner (29%).
- 46% of the unemployed respondents say that they are financially supported by their spouses or the parents. It should be noted that the responses were nearly equally distribute between the men and women (58% women and 42% men).

HOUSEHOLD SURVEY (236 INTERVIEWED):

- In terms of different sources for the average monthly household income (cumulative for all the household members) the biggest share (29%) by the **number of respondents** came on salaries (varying between the min 42 GEL and maximum 2 725 GEL per household); 27% accounted for pensions (varying between 30 GEL and 670 GEL), while 21% accounted for income received from selling the household agricultural products (varying between 12 GEL and 2000 GEL per household); 11% accounted for the income received from seasonal employment abroad (varying between 25 GEL and 1500 GEL). Monthly average income per household is – 385 GEL.

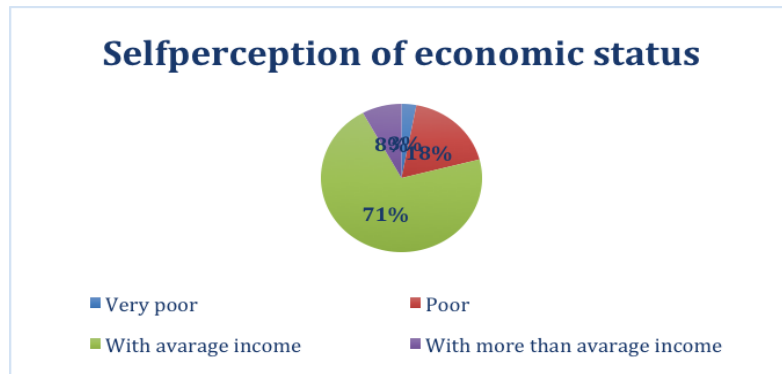
- In terms of sources for the average monthly household income **by average amount** from different sources the biggest share comes again on salary (26%), than support received from family member living and working in other countries (20%) and profit received from private – small/medium size businesses (19%). (Please see Chart 4 for the average monthly household income distribution by sources of income).

Chart N4



- Majority of the respondents (92%) mentioned that their income is not enough for entertainment and holidays. While 44% mentioned that alongside with entertainment and holidays, their income is also not enough for giving quality education to their children. About 24% of the respondents (the answers were not restricted to 1 choice) mentioned the income was not enough for getting medicaments. This is more or less in line with the statistics for the next questions – regarding the poverty rate, as compared to average municipal household.
- As demonstrated on the Chart N5, 5% of the respondents rates their household as very poor and 18% as poor (or 23% in total) – as compared to the national wide indicator - relative poverty 20.6%, while 69 % thought their status was of average wealth and 8% rated their household as over the average.

Chart N5



- At the same time it should be noted that when asked about their poverty status only 15% of respondents mentioned that they were beyond the poverty threshold.

3.3 Focus group discussions

For the discussion the main active sector representatives were invited – eco-tourism and agriculture businesses - guesthouse owners, agriculture cooperatives, local active people group (“AMAGI”) member and local government.

The goal of the meetings was to find out situation of the different sectors, the problems seen by them in appropriate sector and their vision of problem solving/opportunities.

Guesthouses and catering (Tourism Sector)

For the focus group we invited 9 persons:

Owners of Guesthouses and catering :

Tsiuri Bolkvadze – Guesthouse – “Khulo” – Daba Khulo – 598096545

Taliko Shantadze – Guesthouse – “Mate” – Daba Khulo - 598095649

Eteri Rizhvadze – Guesthouse – “Toma” – Daba Khulo - 577206364

Zurab Shantadze – Guesthouse – “Meteo” – Goderdzi pass - 598095016

Ramin Papidze – Guesthouse “Nadimi” – village Danisparauli – 591714506

Irma Shavadze – Guesthouse – village Didachara – 598091567

Kako Kakatsidze – Catering business – Daba Khulo – 591716687

Badri Abashidze – Café – Daba Khulo – 577224949

David Bolvadze – Restaurante– Daba Khulo - 598090961

The complete and full statistic does not exist officially. The information on guesthouses, restaurants and hotels was collected from the “touristic product development agency in Khulo Municipality”. The offered list has been prepared by them and as they explained it is updated on annual basis (representative of the mentioned agency contacts the owners by phone and re-checks their status). New emerging guesthouses address the agency and are enlisted into the database. (Annex 3)

Most of the guesthouses on the offered list are not officially registered with the Public Registry. They are functioning mostly seasonally - in winter and summer time. The focus group members - guesthouse owners are quite satisfied with the amount of tourists they receive. They mentioned that they have local and international seasonal tourists.

Guesthouse business is not their main source of income. Beside guesthouses they also do farming.

Average turnover for guesthouses in Khulo is 2 704 GEL (Maximum turnover being 15 000 GEL and minimum 250 GEL). Average amount of expenditures for guesthouses in Khulo is 1 000 GEL (Maximum being 9 000 GEL and minimum 50 GEL). Average profit for guesthouses in Khulo Municipality is 1 703 GEL (Maximum being 6 000 GEL and minimum 200 GEL). (For this information we contacted all the guesthouses identified in Khulo Municipality- see Annex 3)

The total amount of tourists visiting guesthouses in Khulo Municipality in 2017 have been identified as 2 869 persons, average being 84 persons, minimum number of visitors 3 persons and maximum 300 persons.

Most of the catering businesses in Khulo Municipality are situated in the Centre – Daba Khulo. They serve both tourists and local population.

Average annual turnover for catering in Khulo Municipality is 15 187.5 GEL (Maximum turnover being 50 000 GEL and minimum 2 000 GEL). Average annual amount of expenditures is 8 988 GEL (Maximum being 30 000 GEL and minimum 600 GEL). Average annual profit for catering in Khulo Municipality is 6 200 GEL (Maximum being 20 000 GEL and minimum 1 400 GEL).

The total amount of tourists visiting catering businesses in Khulo Municipality in 2017 have been identified as 2 160 persons, average being 270 persons, minimum number of visitors 70 persons and maximum 700 persons. (For this information we contacted all the catering identified in Khulo Municipality- see Annex 4).

The main challenges for development of their guesthouse business, needs and problem solving recommendations can be described as follows:

| Needs | Training/support to be delivered | Responsible Stakeholder |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Registration of guesthouses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness raising on advantages of legally registered businesses; - Give information on how to get registered. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Public Registry; - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; etc) |
| Lack of knowledge to manage business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business plan writing - Accountancy - Public relations - Media broadcast - Foreign languages - Touristic product development (entertainment of the guests, horse riding) - Hospitality services - Marketing - Study tours - Guiding - Visibility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tourism Department of Adjara Autonomous Republic - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - WWF eco-corridor program - Riketi "Village House" (set up by thgouh ENPARD 1 |
| Pure Conditions of the buildings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appropriate accommodation terms - Bath/Latrine condition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Banks (TBC, BOG) - MOESD programme |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| | | (Enterprise Georgia) |
| Lack of Access to the finances | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To make available low interest credits - Eco tourism support programs (governmental or non-governmental) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Banks - Government of Adjara - MOESD |
| No Promotion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in information coverage by Media - Including information about the existing guesthouses into Tourism Department printed materials and promotion activities - Support them to join online networks (ebooking, b&b, etc), use social media (Facebook, instagram) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adjara Tourism Department - Local Mass Media - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| Poor waste management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste management plans support - Closer of informal landfills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LG - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| Lack of proper sewage system | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of new systems - Support to manage guesthouses with new systems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LG - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - IFAs - Banks (low interest rates) |
| Potable water quality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support to rehabilitate old or construct new systems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LG - IFAs |
| No competition motivation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of good guesthouses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Adjara Tourism Department |
| Transport availability to the villages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional transport working seasonally | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LG |
| No evaluation skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring and Evaluation trainings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| Lack of knowledge on eco and agro tourism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trainings - Printed materials - Media involvement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Adjara Tourism Department |
| Low developed cultural tourism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support to rehabilitate infrastructure/roads to the historical/cultural places | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Adjara Tourism Department |

Particular recommended underlined:

- Create free counseling/advisory system or service for local business representatives in management, budgeting and etc.
- Establish educational institutions/services/courses for local young people in order to motivate them to stay in the rural areas and employ them as business counselors for villages;

Motivation/interest of the representatives of this group is high to make their businesses better and learn/get skills and earn additional income for their families. The problem is that new generation migrates to the town (Batumi, Tbilisi) and village population average age becomes higher than 40. That's why supporting development of new businesses in Khulo Municipality villages will have much more results than just increase of economic conditions of the households.

Agricultural Cooperatives (Agricultural Sector)

For the focus group we invited :

Cooperative Members

Guram Kochalidze – cooperative “Riketi” – village Riketi - 593230587

Maguli Chogadze – Cooperative – “Kedlebi” – village Kedlebi - 598031150

Ramaz Mikeladze - Cooperative “Savaneti” – village Mekhalashvilebi - 595502752

Bidzina Shavadze- Cooperative “Velati” – village Didachara - 591954641

Megi Dzirkvadze – Cooperative “Nugi” – village Dioknisi - 555417697

Majority of the cooperatives in Khulo Municipality have been set up within the framework of the UNDP implemented project for “Promotion of Agriculture Development in the Adjara Autonomous Republic” (under ENPARD) and Mercy Corps implemented project “Alliances Lesser Caucasus Programme (ALCP)”. Only few of them have been set up on the initiative of the member farmers . (Annex 5)

The situation with the operation of cooperatives in Khulo Municipality differs significantly from case to case – some are active and are officially registered with the Public Registry, some are suspended on temporary basis. Some cooperatives have strong assets and are actively involved in the business processes, while the others have been created only with the purpose to participate in various programs and its' members are close relatives and have little experience of managing business and dealing with agricultural products.

Average turnover for cooperatives in Khulo Municipality is 13 720 GEL (Maximum turnover being 60 000 GEL and minimum 3 000 GEL). Average amount of expenditures for cooperatives in Khulo Municipality is 6 140 GEL (Maximum being 50 000 GEL and minimum 800 GEL). Average profit is 7 580 GEL (Maximum being 10 000 GEL and minimum 2 200 GEL).

The average number of persons working in cooperatives is 4. Mostly members of the cooperatives.

The main challenges for development of cooperatives, needs and problem solving recommendations can be described as follows:

| Needs | Training/support to be delivered | Supporter stakeholder |
|--|---|---|
| Status certificate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise awareness how to regain status | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agricultural Cooperatives Development Agency (ACDA) - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| Lack of knowledge to manage business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Render support to become member of LAG - Business plan writing - Trainings on business administration - Training on Accountancy - Training on Public relations - Media broadcast - Deliver Agro trainings/consultation - Support with New tendencies and market analyses - Deliver printed materials on agriculture issues - Marketing - Strategy planning for their businesses - Raise awareness on proper usage of pesticides and chemicals - Foreign languages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of agriculture of Adjara - "Agro Service Centre" - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| Lack of Links with dealers and market players | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize meetings with stakeholders - Establish center – clearing corner - Organize forums - Fairs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara - UNDP |
| Lack of ;mists and trainers (in agro issues) locally | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vocational trainings for agronomists; - Create agronomist services and counselors for farmers ; - Improve extension services; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc); - Agroservice Centre - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| Lack of technical equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support with purchasing technical equipment for agriculture activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support creation of associations/coalitions of cooperatives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| No collective centers and entities (fridges, storages, processing) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of collective centers locally - Cooperatives open different type of service centers - Support processing businesses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| Training center in the Municipality center to get knowledge locally | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support creation of information/training center | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| Limited access to the laboratory to test soil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support easier access to soil analysis (the only laboratory is in Batumi) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| Lack of Access to the finances | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To make low interest rate credits available - Deliver programs (governmental or non-governmental) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Banks - Government of Adjara - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| No Promotion activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support information Media coverage - Support them to work trough ibooking (facebook; instagram;) - Fairs/festivals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara - Local Mass Media - Social Media |
| Low motivation/interest to create coalition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support to be members of LAG - Creation of cooperative associations, - Awareness raising trainings for the benefits of larger scale cooperation's | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| Land registration process has not been finalized in the Municipality and reduce chances to | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support to register lands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Registry |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| participate in various programs. ⁴ | | |
|---|--|--|

The individual needs of the Cooperatives involved

- The cooperative “GAU”, needs drying-room for their products, precisely for garlic.
- The cooperative “Didadjara 2015” , needs the specific packing material for damp hay in order to preserve the hay.
- The cooperative “Didadjara 2015”, needs special equipment for bee transportation.
- The cooperative “Lurdji Motsvi”, needs financial support in order to produce jams and buy technical equipment for producing dried-fruit.
- The cooperative “Nigvznara 2015”, needs financial support to buy 100 beehives. Also they need consultations regarding sales and marketing, and second hand car for taking beehives from one place to another.
- The cooperative “Dioknisi”, needs equipment in order to produce hay.
- The cooperative “Ritchikhtela”, needs the equipment for producing wine, e.g. filter for wine.
- The cooperative r “Ritchikhtela”, need nuts clearing machine.

Local Active Citizens Groups (AMAGI) (Civil Sector)

For the Focus Groups we invited

Members of AMAGIs

Bidzina Shavadze – community Didachara - head of AMAGI – 591954641

Bezhan Bolkvadze – community Didachara - member of AMAGI - 598093315

Zviad Kakhadze – community Dioknisi - member of AMAGI - 591714774

Badri Shainidze – community Tsablana-Khikadziri - member of AMAGI - 595891835

Tengiz Tavartkiladze – community– Okruashvilebi-Dekanashvilebi - member of AMAGI - 591717264

Badri Bolkvadze – community Ganakhleba-Dekanashvilebi – member of AMAGI - 598091720

⁴ Only 20% of the lands have been registered by now. From August 2016 till the 1st of July 2018 the citizens were offered free of charge simplified registration process – the citizen was only obliged to submit a land registry maps and documents from archives. Public registry was responsible for correction of overlaps). Since 1st of January 2018 citizens have to pay minimum 50 GEL (depending on the square meters) for the land registration maps. At the moment the rest of the documents are prepared by the Public Registry free of charge till 1st of July 2018. After that the documents will cost citizens 42 GEL.

“AMAGI”s have been established under the program of Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara. “AMAGI” is the union of local active citizens who are actually volunteer/contact persons and represent villages in Municipality administration in field of rural and village development. The members discuss on the main needs of their villages. There are 8 “AMAGI”s today in Khulo Municipality.

| Needs | Training/support to be delivered | Supporter stakeholder |
|--|--|--|
| Are not registered officially | - Give consultations on registration issues | - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| Have no development strategy/action plan/budget | - Support to prepare action plan/strategy paper | - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| Low competency of members - Lack of knowledge to manage business | - Render support to become member of LAG - Business plan writing - Trainings on business administration - Training on Accountancy - Training on Public relations - Deliver consultation services for farmers; - Prepare and distribute printed materials on agriculture issues; - Marketing | - Ministry of agriculture of Adjara - Agroservice Centre - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) |
| Low interest/motivation of members | - Organize meetings with stakeholders - Involve “AMAGI”s in decision making process - salaries | - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| No chance to participate in ongoing programs | - Support to gain legal status - Training of project writing | - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| Lack of functions | - Support to create coalitions - Involve in LAG | - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Unstable composition | - Motivation of members (trainings, salaries...) | - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |
| No available Training center in the Municipality center to get knowledge locally | - Support creation of information/training center | - Ongoing programs (ENPARD; Mercy Corps; UNDP; etc) - Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara |

Recommendations for agriculture development:

- Support development of fruit processing enterprises (juice, jam).
- Develop more cattle breeding as it is quite widespread in Khulo Municipality and there is more demand for Georgian natural milk products on Georgian market.
- Support farmers and business persons from Khulo Municipality in getting access to the markets in other regions of Georgia;
- Support access of Georgian products on local markets/ put certain import restrictions on product import from e.g. Turkey;
- From governmental side create more supportive business environment for local farmers and business persons;
- Have access to bank credits with low annual interest rates;
- Create jobs for young people in Khulo Municipality in order to avoid migration from villages e.g to Turkey.
- Create agronomist services and counselors for farmers/improve extension services.

Giving the recommendations in details, the activists think that Georgian products cannot compete Turkish products on market and because of this fact Georgian Government should take some steps and impose certain restriction on the amount of foreign products on the market. Many farmers stopped growing potatoes/tomatoes in Khulo Municipality as a result. So, they think the government should control type and quantity of the imported product.

The participants mentioned, that they also have their own household farming and they do not have possibility to develop their agricultural activities because, they do not have access to bank credit as the rates are very high.

Also, another big problem for rural development is migration, young people are leaving Khulo Municipality and do not have interest to participate in agriculture. Young people prefer to work in Turkey rather than try to start their own business in Khulo Municipality.

The participants named several needs of farmers and business representatives in Khulo Municipality. The main problem is the lack of the laboratory for soil tests accessible for the village, which would give more help them to select the cultures that could be more profitable to develop in Khulo Municipality.

Also there is a big gap in professional consultants such as agriculturists and veterinaries. There are several professionals in Municipality of Khulo Municipality but there is no developed service of consultation which could give farmers guidance what kind of pesticides are relevant, what kind of cultures have the chance to be developed, what kind of standards should be protected to avoid viruses. Also there is a lack of knowledge in business administration which implies marketing, finances and the team building. There is no professional college to raise new professionals in agricultural field.

Municipality Administration (Local Government)

For the Focus Groups we invited

Representatives of Khulo Municipality LG

Nodar Mikeladze – Deputy to Khulo Municipality Gamgebeli – 599287041

Ednar Bolkvadze – Head of Infrastructure and public service and amenities department at Khulo Municipality Gamgeoba - 598091001

Malkhaz Katamadze – assistant to Khulo Municipality Gamgebeli - 598092020

Jumber Dimitradze – head of Juridical Commission at Khulo Municipality Sakrebulo – 598003528

Iago Abuladze – specialist at Infrastructure and public service and amenities department in Khulo Municipality Gamgeoba – 598093835

Zaza Abuladze – head of Infrastructure Department at Khulo Municipality Gamgeoba - 577613313

The focus group meeting with the participants of the Local Government revealed main function of local Municipality administration is to renovate roads/develop infrastructure which connects the villages with each other.

There is a resource center – Disaster Risk Reduction center (center supports with recommendations/trainings to the interested groups of people on disaster risk management, agriculture, risk issues) as well. Also Municipality administration ensures Eco migrants with accommodation, as eco migration became a very important problem in mountainous Adjara region. Municipality administration works on the project to provide villages with water supply system, to create drainage canal systems in order to protect villages from the flood/landslide.

The Municipality administration at this moment does not have special programs on developing agriculture and tourism as The Ministry of Agriculture of Adjara Autonomous

Republic and The Department of Tourism and Resorts have the supporting programs in these fields.

Actually, they have supporting programs to help the farmers with finances whose cattle experiences epidemic. Also the Municipality administration supports financially the farmers who have cattle and created slaughter house where the farmers can kill the animals with low price (but it's located in the center of the Municipality and for remote villages it's no comfortable to transport).

The representatives of Municipality administration also underline the gap in professional personnel in field of agriculture and entrepreneurship/business administration, e.g. agronomists, veterinary. They mentioned that there is no professional college where people could upgrade their skills in agriculture.

Recommendations

Taking into consideration the results of focus groups we think that there is an urgent need to developed the following services on Municipality level:

- Develop trainings/capacity building porograms for farmers/businessmen in order to develop their business skills and knowledge;
- Develop agronomist/veterinary services
- Improve extension services
- Develop service for soil tests and fertilizers.

4. ANNEXES: DATABASE OF THE DATA GATHERED

4.1 Annex 1 – Methodology used for the presented survey

General baseline description

For preparing baseline research, assessments and reports available on Khulo communities, local livelihood, local business and CBOs have been studied. Main sources of the available information are:

- Government of Autonomous Republic of Adjara (including Department of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance and Economy) and Khulo Municipal administration.
- International development organizations and local NGOs / community organizations, working in the region, with which Black Sea Eco-Academy has a good experience of practical cooperation in different thematic projects and programs.
- Georgian National Statistics Office, which holds significant updated socio-economic information after the population census carried out in November 2014.
- National ministries- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs. Proposed Group of Experts retrieved information and data related to potential for new economic activities, environmental risks having influence on the local economy and those being aggravated by the ongoing economic activities and development projects (overview of those currently implemented and completed in the last 5 years, size, scope of work etc.),

The desk study includes retrieving available information on living conditions of the Khulo population (employment rate, household monthly income, poverty rate and statistical data on income taxes paid in 2015 – 2016).

The desk study also included review of the following documents:

“Social – economic Development Strategic Plan for Khulo Municipality – 2012-2022”, prepared by Young Scientists Association – Intellect and “Assessment of rural agricultural investment capacities and corresponding extension needs” for Georgia prepared by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

During the study our team also identified the active local enterprises/sectors as well as active local small manufacturers and CBOs, obtained officially available statistical information.

The General information has been collected for assessing the potential for new economic activities, also on environmental risks having influence on the local economy and those being aggravated by the ongoing economic activities and development projects (we did the overview of those projects currently implemented and completed in the last 5 years, size, scope of work etc.).

Methodological Instruments

- Desk study – search / review of existing (including literary) information
- Cooperation with governmental, non-governmental and international organizations in terms of information retrieval
- Analytical Tools
- Comparative analysis
- Legislative Analysis
- Cartographic method of research and analyses.
- Meetings and focus groups with representatives of local community / government.

2. In depth interviews with population

Goal

The goal of the activity was thorough research for identification of the socio-economic status of the Khulo communities (the total sum of incomes/expenditures, structure, employment rates, monthly average income, etc.), identifying specific community level development issues and household level livelihood issues.

Ways to achieve the goal

Community assessment questionnaire was developed (See Annex 2). The questionnaire covers socio-economic issues. The questionnaire was used to conduct in-depth interviews in the target communities – both on household and individual level. The research served identification of the main income sources and average income of the local population, calculation of the mentioned income by sectors of economic activity and analysis of income seasonality. The income grouping was made by activities inside and outside the Municipality. Local community members were categorized based on involvement in entrepreneurship activities (tourism, production of agricultural products, food and commercial service industry, transport, etc.). A separate group of local population was identified represented by pensioners and socially vulnerable families financially supported by the government. The information excluded information on the rates related to the persons employed by state or big businesses.

We also observed the methodology of the National Statistics Office of Georgia.

It produces labor force statistics from the quarterly Integrated Household Survey (IHS). Under the IHS, household members aged 15 and above are interviewed except for those members who at the moment of an interview:

- 1. Lived outside the household for more than 12 months;***
- 2. Lived at a military base;***
- 3. Stayed in prisons, psychiatric clinics, retirement homes and other types of specialized institutions.***

According to the country specifics and recommendations provided by the UN's International Labor Organization (ILO), the upper age limit is not defined, as the rate of economic activity for the Georgian population in the post-retirement age is high.

The following criteria and explanations used by the Geostat are based on the ILO methodology.

Economically Active – is a person at the age of 15 or above who works or offers his/her labor for production of the services or products, that fall within the frame of domestic product as determined in the national accounts system of United Nations (UN).

Employed (hired or self-employed)- is a person at the age of 15 or above who worked 7 days prior to the interview process (for at least one hour) to generate income (salary, profit or other compensation in kind), or helped other household members for free, or was formally considered employed but for some reason did not attend the work.

Hired – is a person at the age of 15 or above who performed certain type of work during the accounting period in order to generate income or other compensation in cash or in kind. Also, a person who has a job but is temporarily released from the job due to leave, sickness, temporary suspension of working process of the employer, temporary suspension of labor activities of the employee or other similar reasons.

Self-employed – an owner of personal enterprise during the accounting period, in order to generate profit or family income (cash or in kind) or a person working for free in family enterprise/holding.

Unemployed – a person at the age of 15 or above, who was not employed (even for one hour) 7 days prior to the interview process, was looking for a job for the last 4 weeks time and was ready to start working within the next 2 weeks time.

Economically Inactive – is a person at the age of 15 or above, who was not employed (for at least one hour) 7 days prior to interview process and did not look for a job within previous 4 weeks. Also, a person who was looking for a job within previous 4 weeks, but was not prepared to start the work within the next 2 weeks time.

Unemployment Rate – is the ratio of unemployed population to the number of the economically active population, expressed as a percentage.

A person is considered to be employed not only when he/she is hired in a private or government sector and generates income as a salary, but also when he/she performs jobs with the view to gain profit, income (in cash or in kind) or other kind of benefits.

Self-employed is a person who works at his/her own enterprise or household and has his/her own income. According to the ILO methodology, it is not necessary to have a long-term contract or to be hired by someone in order to be considered employed. Although a certain part of self- employed people faces a difficult social situation and may seek for some extra job, according to the above-mentioned methodology, a person is considered to be employed if he/she generates income through self-employment.

An absolute majority of self-employed people work in rural areas, at their private (rural) farms. For example: a self-employed may cultivate land or/and breed cattle for the purposes of own consumption or for sale.

The classifiers used for the interviews are the following:

- Distribution of population by sectors – Public, Non-public, self employed, big business, small business, etc
- Distribution of population by economic status (employed-hired – unemployed)
- Average monthly salary of employees by economic activity and sex -2017
- Average monthly salary in non-business sector

- Average monthly salary in business sector (differentiating big and small businesses, self employed)
- Level of education
- Monthly income/expenditure of households.

The number of the interviewees identified are as following:

| N | Name of the community | Population | Interviewees- individual | Interviewees – households |
|-----------|--|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Khulo Community</i> | <i>1,000</i> | <i>30</i> | <i>10</i> |
| 2 | <i>Agara Community</i> | <i>500</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>5</i> |
| 3 | <i>Dekanashvilebi Community</i> | <i>4,142</i> | <i>1,381</i> | <i>42</i> |
| 4 | <i>Didachara Community</i> | <i>1,549</i> | <i>516</i> | <i>15</i> |
| 5 | <i>Dioknise Community</i> | <i>3,205</i> | <i>1,068</i> | <i>33</i> |
| 6 | <i>Vashlovani Community</i> | <i>2,327</i> | <i>776</i> | <i>23</i> |
| 7 | <i>Tkhilvana Community</i> | <i>1,031</i> | <i>33</i> | <i>11</i> |
| 8 | <i>Riketi Borough Community</i> | <i>1,788</i> | <i>596</i> | <i>17</i> |
| 9 | <i>Satsikhure Community</i> | <i>648</i> | <i>21</i> | <i>7</i> |
| 10 | <i>Skhalta Community</i> | <i>2,749</i> | <i>84</i> | <i>28</i> |
| 11 | <i>Pushrukaula Community</i> | <i>836</i> | <i>27</i> | <i>9</i> |
| 12 | <i>Gorjomi Community</i> | <i>2,818</i> | <i>84</i> | <i>28</i> |
| 13 | <i>Khikhadziri Community</i> | <i>830</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>8</i> |
| | <i>Total</i> | <i>23,422</i> | <i>708</i> | <i>236</i> |

Methodological Instruments

- Review of the existed data
- In-depth interviews
- Comparative analyses
- Participatory community meetings
- Participatory GIS and mapping
- Spatial analyses

3. Interviews with the local businesses

Goal

The goal of the activity was research for identification of the active businesses in Khulo Municipality, revenues, expenditures and potential for their growth and development.

Ways to achieve the goal

Local business assessment questionnaire was Developed (See Annex 3).. The questionnaire includes information on the areas of activity, experience, size, number of employees, revenues/expenditure structures. One of the main results was identification of potential for the new economic activities and the businesses that could contribute generally to improvement of the Khulo Municipality livelihood. Also important result was to identify the businesses that could be used as a part of the support measures under the ENPARD programme, through the grants to improve rural development, based on the adoption of more competitive and climate resilient agricultural practices, promotion of viable off-farm economic activities and the sustainable management and protection of environmental resources.

The classifiers to be used for the interviews were the following:

- Economic activity
- Turnover
- Number of persons employed
- Average monthly remuneration of employed persons
- Personnel costs
- Investment in fixed assets
- Access to financial sources
- Access to professional consulting services

Methodological instruments

- Review of the existed data
- Interviews
- Comparative analyses
- Meetings

4. Interviews with the CBOs

Goal

The goal of the activity was to identify CBOs working in Khulo Municipality and interview them for their potential of working with ENPARD project and generally the perspective of their involvement in the process of improvement of the Khulo Municipality livelihood.

Ways to achieve the goal

Questionnaire was developed for interviews with CBOs (See Annex 3). The questionnaire included information on the fields and period of experience, size, number of members. One of the main results would be to identify the CBOs that could be used as a part of the support measures under the ENPARD programme, through the grants to improve rural development, based on the adoption of more competitive and climate resilient agricultural practices, promotion of viable off-farm economic activities and the sustainable management and protection of environmental resources.

Methodological instruments

- Review of the existed data
- Interviews
- Comparative analyses

4.2 Annex 2 – In-depth Interview Questionnaire

Questionnaire N _____

Village _____

Employment and Revenue Questionnaire

The date of the interview

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
|--|--|--|

Day Month Year

The time when interview: has started ____/____ has ended ____/____

*Hello! I am (interviewer's name, surname) from the organization- Black Sea Eco Academy (BSEA), which is conducting research ENPARD II under the project of Khulo Municipality development, specifically **For getting information on employment and revenue of the population in the Khulo Municipality, which will promote economic development and agriculture in Khulo Municipality in the future.** The study is confidential and received answers will be analyzed in a general way, so please answer our questions frankly. Participation in the study is voluntary and of course, there are no right and wrong answers, so feel free while you will answer questions.*

The duration of the interview is about 20 minutes.

Name and Surname of the interviewer: _____/

Name and Surname of the respondent: _____/

Age of Respondent: _____/

Gender of the respondent: _____/

Respondent's education: _____/ Number of family members: _____/

1. Have you heard about EU **ENPARD** project ?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I do not know
4. Other _____
99. No answer

A. Individual Questionnaire

A 1. Please, inform us about your **job status**.

(To interviewer: If the respondent replies [unemployed] → **go to the question → A7**. In case of pensioner ask the respondent does he work additionally. In case he does, **continue** and in case he does not **go to the question → A7**)

(To interviewer: self-employed is a person who creates workplace himself, does not work for the concrete employer and earns his salary himself. For example, self-employed is a person who is the contractor and does not work for one concrete employer: physician, lawyer, trainer, worker etc. Self-employed is a businessman, farmer, who realizes everyday work, is busy every day for his business, farm and is not only the owner of the stock)

1. Self-employed
2. Unemployed
3. Pensioner
4. Other _____
99. No reply

A2. Where is you **working place**? **(To interviewer:** this question replies the respondent who is employed or self-employed)

1. In Khulo Municipality
2. In neighboring Municipality
3. In Batumi
4. Other _____
99. No reply

A3. Please, name the **field** of your working. **(To interviewer:** this question replies the respondent who is employed or self-employed)

1. Public/state institution
2. Private business (big company)
3. Small and medium business (cooperative, family hotel, restaurant)
4. Family agricultural business.
5. Non-governmental organization.
6. Other _____
99. No reply

A4. Please, inform us what is your **personal income from your work during last month**. **(To interviewer:** this question replies the respondent who is employed or self-employed)

1. 0-500
2. 500-1000
3. 1000-2000
4. More than 2000
5. Pensioner
99. No reply

A5. How seasonal is monthly income from your work?

(To interviewer: this question replies the respondent who is employed or self-employed. In case if income of the respondent is seasonal do to the next question, if it is non-seasonal go to the question...)

1. Seasonal
2. Non-seasonal
99. No reply

A6. Does seasonality of your indome create **financial and economic problems to you?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. 99 No reply

A7. In case if you are not employed, inform us about the reason of your unemployment.

1. I do not want to work in general
2. I was not able to find work suitable for my knowledge and possibility
3. I am temporally unemployed.
4. I am pensioner
5. Other _____
99. No reply

A8 . In case if you **do not work, who is your bread winner?**

1. Spouse
2. Parents
3. Relative
4. Other _____
99. No reply

B. Questionnaire of Household (Families)

B1. If you can, tell us Total approximate amount of average monthly monetary income earned by each member of the family: (To interviewer: under family member are meant everyone who have income. Read it. If they do not have listed income, input – 0. If respondent does not give answer, input 99. If income is naturally-shaped (product, etc) ask respondent to turn into a monetary unit.)

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | Salary / all sorts of paid work | |
| 2. | If you are in private sector (if you have small/medium business) income from business / dividend | |
| 3. | Pension / help (social) | |
| 4. | The amount of money you have received from your products | |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 5. | Price paid for service (by nature or money) | |
| 6. | Remuneration received from temporary work abroad | |
| 7. | Money sent from family member/ relative who lives abroad | |
| 8. | Other (name) _____ | |
| | Total | |

B2. Please chose from the following points, on which is your monthly income not enough in your family? (Several answers can be chosen)

1. Food
2. Utility bills
3. Education
4. Entertainment
5. Vacation
6. Other _____
99. No reply

B3. Is your family socially vulnerable? – Beyond the poverty line?

1. Yes
2. No
99. No reply

B4. Compare your family to other families from your community, to which following group belongs your family? **(To interviewer: read possible answers, mark only one)**

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Very poor | |
| 2. Poor | |
| 3. With average income | |
| 4. With more than average income | |
| 5. With high income (rich) | |
| 99. No reply | |

Thank you for your cooperation!

4.3 Annex 3 – Focus Group Questionnaire

Guideline for Focus Group

Hi, I'm a researcher, sociologist Sopo Vasadze

Thank you very much for participating in the study. The study concerns the development of agriculture in Khulo Municipality. Please answer our questions frankly because there are no right and wrong answers.

Thank you for cooperation!

1. Please, briefly introduce yourself, tell us about your professional experience and current work. In which field do you work? What is your commitment to your business?
2. Tell us where did you get your education. Do you want to get in-depth knowledge in your field of working? What do you want to study concretely for managing your work better?
3. In your opinion, which sphere should develop in Khulo Municipality for creating more workplaces and improving economic condition of population?
4. What should develop in your field of working for making improving your spehe in Khulo Municipality?
5. Coukd you please indicate you total annual income and expenditures?
6. Could you please indicate the number of persons working in your business?
7. Is income from your work enough for you and your family? Do you have some unsatisfactory needs and necessities?
8. What barriers and complications have you faced when you started business? How did you solve these problems? Which issues are still not solved?
9. In your opinion, which agricultural field has necessities, which should be rapidly solved? In which agricultural field can you see lack of professionals?
10. In your opinion, lack of which infrastructural resources has Khulo Municipality?
11. What is the role of population, government and non-governmental sector in problem solving processes in Khulo Municipality?

4.4 Annex 4 – List of Guesthouses Operating in Khulo Municipality

1. Teimuraz Milekadze , Village Danisparauli -599241842
2. Nukri Geladze, Village Danisparaul - 599013462
3. Zaza Papidze, Village Danisparauli
4. Ramin Papidze, Village Danisparauli - 591981292
5. Otar Papidze , Village Danisparauli - 598093521
6. Valeri Paksadze, Village Danisparauli
7. Minuri Paksadze, Village Danisparauli
8. Gocha Paksadze, Village Danisparauli
9. Ramaz Paksadze, Village Danisparauli -591714506
10. Badri Paksadze , Village Danisparauli - 595005102
11. Jimsher Paksadze, Village Danisparauli - 593967539
12. Amiran Papidze , Village Danisparauli - 595912997
13. Tsiuri Bolkvadze – Guesthouse – “Khulo” – Daba Khulo – 598096545
14. Taliko Shantadze – Guesthouse – “Mate” – Daba Khulo - 598095649
15. Eteri Rizhvadze – Guesthouse – “Toma” – Daba Khulo - 577206364
16. Zurab Shantadze – Guesthouse – “Meteo” – Goderdzi pass - 598095016
17. Irma Shavadze – Guesthouse – Village Didachara - 598091567

4.5 Annex 5 – List of Catering Businesses Functioning in Khulo Municipality

| | Municipality | Name of the cooperative | Contact information of shareholders of cooperative | Legal address of shareholders of the cooperatives |
|---|--------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Khulo | Restaurane | 595220788 598626390 | Daba Khulo |
| 2 | Khulo | Catering - Kako Kakatsidze | 591716687 | Daba Khulo |
| 3 | Khulo | Café - Brolia | 577224949 577176771 | Daba Khulo |
| 4 | Khulo | Café - Khareba and Gogia | 598090961 | Daba Khulo |
| 5 | Khulo | Catering - Salkhino | 577147271 | Daba Khulo |
| 6 | Khulo | Café - Levani Dukani | 598092855 558578819 | Daba Khulo |
| 7 | Khulo | Catering - Sakhachapure | 598092982 | Daba Khulo |
| 8 | Khulo | Catering - Sakhachapure | 598096208 598092520 591717263 | Daba Khulo |

4.6 Annex 6 – List of Cooperatives Functioning in Khulo Municipality

| | Municipality | Name of the cooperative | Contact information of shareholders of cooperative | Legal address of shareholders of the cooperatives | Cooperative activities |
|----|--------------|-------------------------|---|--|---|
| 1 | Khulo | „Riketi XXI" | Number: 598-09-45-28, e-mail: ucha.shantadze.87@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Riketi | Beekeeping, gardening |
| 2 | Khulo | „Tetrati" | Number: 591-95-67-87, e-mail: ucha870@gmail.com | Khulo, Gorjomeladzebi | Cattle breeding, horticulture |
| 3 | Khulo | „Gau" | Number: 593-20-01-00, e-mail: givi.gabaidze@gmail.com | Khulo, Khikhadziri | Fruit-growing, Chandler walnuts |
| 4 | Khulo | „Dioknisi" | Number: 593-14-76-79, e-mail: giadzirkvadze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Dioknisi | Dried apple, dried bilberry production |
| 5 | Khulo | „RC Napudzari" | Number: 591-71-65-73, e-mail: tamazshantadze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Riketi, 6 th , III dead-end, N 3 | Cattle breeding, horticulture |
| 6 | Khulo | „RC Danisparuli 2015" | Number: 577-15-01-94, e-mail: ramogeladze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Danisparuli | Cattle breeding, beekeeping |
| 7 | Khulo | „RC Dioknisi 2015" | Number: 551-09-60-00, e-mail: dioknisi2015@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Dioknisi | Cattle breeding, horticulture. beekeeping |
| 8 | Khulo | „RC Karti" | Numer: 598-09-17-76, e-mail: ruslanshantadze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Elelidzebi 1 st St. N33 | Cattle breeding, horticulture |
| 9 | Khulo | „RC Navanebi" | Number: 598-09-59-32, e-mail: bolqvadze.zurab1983@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Uchkho V St. N3 | Horticulture |
| 10 | Khulo | „RC Lodnari" | Number: 591-71-48-43, e-mail: otariakobadze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Kortokhi | Beekeeping |

| | | | | | |
|----|-------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| 11 | Khulo | „RC Nigvzara 2015 | Number: 598-09-41-02, e-mail: levanmaxaradze2013@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Dzmagula | Beekeeping, gardening (Chandler walnuts) |
| 12 | Khulo | „RC Gutneuli 2015" | Number: 591-71-82-72, e-mail: badrigeladze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Danisparauli | Cattle breeding, horticulture (status is suspended) |
| 13 | Khulo | „RC Tsikhkela" | Number: 599-94-77-45, 591719506, e-mail: otarbolqvadze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Ganakhleba 1 st St.N3 | Viticulture, cattle breeding, beekeeping, horticulture |
| 14 | Khulo | „RC Neru" | Number: 599-89-89-71, e-mail: malxazsolomonidze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Diakonidzebi III St. I dead-end, N6 | Cattle breeding, horticulture |
| 15 | Khulo | „RC Shailuri" | Number: 551-09-82-92, e-mail: xozrevanidze. zaur@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Didadjara 5 th St. N2 | Cattle breeding |
| 16 | Khulo | „RC Sapileti" | Number: 599151368, e-mail: ornikezoidze1990@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Dekanashvilebi | Hazelnut production |
| 17 | Khulo | „RC Arnauli" | Number: 598094959, e-mail: gobadze57@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Didadjara | Cattle breeding |
| 18 | Khulo | „RC Samziari" | Number: 577995176, e-mail: giakobadze@mia.gov.ge | Khulo, Village Iakobadzebi 1 st St.N20 | Cattle breeding, horticulture |
| 19 | Khulo | „RC Kepauri 1917" | Number: 598094590, e-mail: kefauri1917@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Kedlebi | Cattle breeding |
| 20 | Khulo | „RC Shavkedi" | Number: 595901968, e-mail: temurrominadze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Kurduli, 4 th I dead-end, N3 | Cattle breeding |
| 21 | Khulo | „RC Didadjara-2015" | Number: 577150134; 599915802, e-mail: datowulukidze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Didadjara, 3 rd , III dead-end, N2 | Compressing hay |

| | | | | | |
|----|-------|-------------------|--|---|---|
| 22 | Khulo | „RC Nugi" | Number: 598099144, 555417697, e-mail: nugidzirkvadze@gmail.com | Khulo, Dioknisi, 7 th St N1 | Production of raspberry seedlings, Production of vine seedlings, cattle breeding, jam from Dioknisi, jams (3 types) |
| 23 | Khulo | „RC Bedi" | Number: 591955535, e-mail: shavadzekhasan@gmail.com | Khulo, Didadjara, 8 th , III dead-end, N1 | Cattle breeding |
| 24 | Khulo | „RC Kalmakhi" | Number: 577520838, e-mail: gurambolqvadze7@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Uchkho 1 st III dead-end, N2 | Fish-breeding |
| 25 | Khulo | „RC Vardtsikhe" | Number: 598094994, e-mail: a.khalvashi1@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Khikhadziri | Fruit-growing, horticulture |
| 26 | Khulo | „RC Savaneti" | Number: 595502752, e-mail: tamazmiqeladze2@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Mekhalashvilebi 2 nd St. N10 | Cattle breeding |
| 27 | Khulo | “RC Anri- 2016" | Number: 591957536, e-mail: wulukidzerobi@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Didadjara | Milk production |
| 28 | Khulo | „RC Begeli" | Number: 595504259, e-mail: mr. kakhadze@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Begleti, 6 th St. N2 | Cattle breeding |
| 29 | Khulo | „RC Tskarotvali" | Number: 598091150, 598091151, e-mail: magulichogadze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Kedlebi 3 rd St. N8 | Milk production |
| 30 | Khulo | “RC Lomebi" | Number: 593230587, e-mail: guram-kochalidze@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Riketi | Cattle breeding, horticulture, beekeeping |
| 31 | Khulo | „RC Tabi- 2016" | Number: 598096036, e-mail: otartavartqiladze@gmail.com | Khulo, Village Dzirkvadzebi, 2 nd II dead-end N1 | Cattle breeding |
| 32 | Khulo | „RC Kalota- 2016" | Number: 595158485, e-mail: amiranmamuladze@mail.ru | Khulo, Village Kalota | Fruit-growing (hazelnut, walnut), horticulture (garlic) |

4.7 Annex 7 – List of the projects implemented in Khulo Municipality within the last 5 years:

Ongoing projects

1. "Institutionalization, Replication and Dissemination of ECHO DRR Interventions in South Caucasus", Funded by EU/DIPECHO; Implementing agency Black Sea Eco Academy. Period of Implementation 2017 – 2018. Budget 350,000 Euro.

Capacity building and advocacy on DRR ownership, mainstreaming and implementation by government institutions and local authorities in Adjara

Programme goals:

- Establish DRR Resource Centers and make them and DRR Coordinators as part of the municipal structure and operations (plans and budgets) and are maintained by them.
- Increasing capacity of municipal authorities and Gender Advisors of the three target municipalities of Adjara (Keda, Shuakhevi and Khulo municipalities) on Inclusive DRR, Gender in DRR, Common Tool for Vulnerability Assessment (CTVA), including a ToT training on the tool for the key stakeholders;
- Ensure project sustainability through a dialogue on inclusion of the project volunteers, community initiative groups, lobbyists and other stakeholders engaged in the project;
- Stimulate the local municipalities to invest resources in maintaining periodical training for community volunteers and other project DRR stakeholders as well as engage in further investments in disaster preparedness and mitigation.

Tools and approaches

- Meetings and Discussions
- Trainings/capacity building

Target groups

- LGs, local communities in Keda, Khulo and Shuakhevi municipalities.

2. "To launch employment-oriented education and development system in Ajara Autonomous Republic." Funded by EU, Implementing agency Institute of democracy. Period of Implementation 2015 – 2017. Budget

Employment-oriented education and development services will be formed in Ajara Autonomous Republic, supporting elaboration of various skills and abilities necessary for employment among the job-seekers; Tools for short-term speedy learning will be formed, practically introducing the best samples for development and employment of the individuals unemployed for longer period in practice, being later passed to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Ajara Autonomous Republic;

Programme goals:

- To introduce the practice of recognizing non-formal education in vocational institutions functioning in Ajara;

- Innovative tools will be introduced in the schools located in Ajara region, assisting the pupils in reasonable selection of the future profession.

Tools and approaches

- Meetings and Discussions
- Trainings/capacity building

Target groups

- Educational sector in Afjara

3. " Regional Civil Society Organizations, as Vectors of Regional Economic Development.". Funded by EU, Implementing agency People in Need. Period of Implementation 2017 – 2020. Budget

The project aims to render small and medium size rural enterprises consultations with the purpose to support the process of integration of Georgia into the European markets, through local civil society organizations.

Programme goals:

- To strengthen the Regional Civil Society Organizations;
- To render consultations to the rural small and medium size businesses on the regulations and requirement in the process of joining the free European Market.

Tools and approaches

- Meetings and Discussions
- Trainings/capacity building
- Consultations

Target groups

- Small and medium size rural businesses, Regional Civil Society Organizations;

4. " Institutionalization of climate change adaptation and mitigation in Georgian regions". Funded by USAID, Implementing agency - National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia. Period of Implementation 2012 – Ongoing. Budget

Aim of the Programme is fostering of climate change adaptation measures in regions of Georgia through institutionalization of climate change adaptation and mitigation at the local and national levels by building of capacities of local authorities.

Programme goals:

- Fostering climate change adaptation and mitigation through establishment of institutional and organizational capacities for the local authorities;
- Promotion of climate adaptation and mitigation measures at the local level and consideration of climate change related local problems in related national policy;
- Involvement of local authorities of Georgia in discussion and decision-making on climate change at the local, national and international levels;

- Ensuring sustainability of existing climate change adaptation and mitigation measures at the local level.

Tools and approaches

- Meetings and Discussions
- Trainings/capacity building
- Consultations
- Surveys

Target groups

- Local and national NGOs
- International organisations and donor agencies

5. “The Alliances Lesser Caucasus Programme” (ALCP); Funded by SDC; Implementing agency Mercy Corps; Period of Implementation 2014 – 2019. Budget 7,180,000 Swiss Franc.

The Programme is working for the market systems development in three Regions (Samtskhe Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Adjara). with different stakeholders (central and local government, local NGO's, private sector, etc.) to enable effective functioning of livestock market system. The Programme is run and structured using the M4P Making Markets Work for the Poor Approach funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) partnering with local NGO's; ICCN on gender, ethnicity, governance & DRR and IAAD on livestock

Programme goals:

- Farmers (cattle) promotion
- Revenue growth
- Gender equality promotion

Tools and approaches

- Financial assistance;
- Training

Target groups

- Small Scale Livestock Producers (SSLP's) the poor, as identified in our Focus Group Survey as people owning 10 or fewer female cattle and/or 40 or fewer female sheep and generally earning under 350GEL/month

6. “Improving the resilience of forest ecosystems through adaptive forest management in Georgia”; Funded by BMZ; Implementing agency WWF; Period of Implementation 2015 – 2017. Budget .

The project is implemented in Autonomous Republic of Ajara, Georgia. It aims to incorporate climate adaptation issues in forest management, in order to ensure the resilience of forest ecosystems.

Programme goals:

- Decreasing the levels of forest degradation through adaptive forest management and more efficient use of wood.
- Contribution to the conservation of forest ecosystems and their services

- Identification and mapping forests with High-Conservation Values.
- Improvement of the livelihoods of local population.
- Conducting awareness-raising activities for the general public, including schoolchildren.

Tools and approaches

- Financial assistance;
- Trainings/capacity building

Target groups

- Relevant forestry authorities in Ajara; general public; youth,

7. “Promotion of Eco Corridor in the Southern Caucasus” ; Funded by KFW/BMZ; Implementing agency WWF; Period of Implementation 2015 – 2019. Budget.

Project aims at establishing an “Eco-regional Corridor Fund”(ECF) as an instrument for promoting sustainable land use practices in ecological corridors. Long-term land use plans will be developed first with the participation of the beneficiaries; the plans aim to support the ecologically sound use of natural resources. Based on these land use plans, concrete “Conservation Agreements” will be agreed with the beneficiaries.

Programme goals:

- Implementation of FPA (Financial Participatory Approach)
- Develop long-dated land use plans with participation of the beneficiaries; the plans are aiming to support the ecologically sound use of natural resources.
- Develop and sign Conservation Agreements. These Conservation Agreements between the beneficiaries and the Recipient shall ensure that the beneficiaries receive compensation payments (long term measures) for not applying land use practices, which are not compatible with the principles of ecological corridors.

Tools and approaches

- Financial assistance;
- Trainings/capacity building

Target groups

- Communities living alongside the Eco-corridor;

8. “Improving the situation of migrants in Ajara region” ; Funded by EU; Implementing agency Young Scientists’ Union “Intellect”; Period of Implementation 2015 – 2017. Budget 417,000 Euro.

Project aims at supporting establishment of decent living conditions in the long term perspective for the returned, potential and ecological migrants, connecting issues of the migration and development and raising the level of migrants' involvement in the processes of the region’s economic development

Programme goals:

- Development and implementation of mechanisms for strengthening the economic capabilities of migrants living in the social houses located in the municipalities of Ajara;

- Shaping the healthy and safe environment in the spontaneous settlements of ecological and migrant workers, supporting their social integration;
- Supporting such groups of returned and potential migrant workers (including women), who have the desire and the opportunity to start their own business in Georgia, to be involved in the processes of economic development of their own Municipality and region.

Tools and approaches

- Establishment of social enterprises;
- Promotion of vocational training;
- Construction of the houses of hygiene;
- Legal assistance to migrants;
- Formation of migrants' (including ecological migrants) CSOs

Target groups

- Representatives of eco-migrant families which will be able to work in social enterprises and having source of income for their families;
- The part of ecological and labour migrants which will be able to acquire new vocational skills and abilities or to improve existing skills and abilities, to work and improve socio-economic conditions;
- Migrants who will be able to improve sanitary-hygienic conditions and reducing risks of dissemination of infectious diseases;
- Labour migrants residing in the communities of Ajara region, who will participate in public lectures and will increase the awareness level regarding the issues of the migration and protection of their own rights.

9. “Sustainable Agriculture ” ; Funded by Government of Adjara Autonomous Republic ;
Implementing agency UNDP; Period of Implementation 2016– 2017. Budget 530,395.76 USD

Project aims to drive the regional and agricultural strategies ahead and help farmers of the region run successful, profitable and high-yielding farms.

Programme goals:

- Improvement of the quality and results of extension services provided to farmers;
- Increased number of business oriented small farmers groups, associations and other forms of profit-based collaborative unions
- Enhanced productivity and commercial effectiveness of individual farmers’ and their cooperatives through high value-added supply chains in the agricultural sector;
- Ministry of Agriculture of Ajara Autonomous Republic strengthened to implement the regional development strategy and related programmes through conducting strategic/structural studies to investigate performance effectiveness and deepening partnerships with academia, civil society and other

Tools and approaches

- Support to cooperatives
- Financial support.

Target groups

- Farmers, Cooperatives

10. “Support to Rural Development in Georgia” ”; Funded by Government of Georgia/ EU- through ENPARD ; Implementing agency UNDP; Period of Implementation 2016– 2016. Budget 2,622,591 Euro

Within the project, UNDP works with the Government of Georgia to continue assistance to rural development in the country. The project aims to establish and implement Rural Development Strategies for Georgia and its Adjara region respectively, with associated capacity building for institutions administering rural development in Georgia. The project also contributes to enhancing the capacity within the public sector and stakeholders to effectively deliver rural development policy.

Programme goals:

- Improved democratic governance;
- Economic Development;
- Environment and Energy;
- Crisis Prevention and Recovery.

Tools and approaches

- Meetings, discussions
- Capacity building/trainings
- Financial support.

Target groups

- Farmers, Cooperatives, Government of Georgia.

11. “Promotion of Rural Development and Diversification in Khulo Municipality“; Funded EU/through ENPARD ; Implementing agency Caritas Czech Republic ; Period of Implementation 2017– 2021. Budget 2 000 000 Euro

The project is to contribute to the reduction of rural poverty in Georgia. The specific objective of the action is to improve employment and living conditions in Khulo Municipality through diversification of the rural economy.

Programme goals:

- A Local Action Group to be formed and made operational.
- A local development strategy to be formulated by the LAG, based on the LEADER approach.
- Local beneficiaries (potential sub-grantees) to improve their business management skills and strengthened visibility and sustainability of their products and services.
- Local beneficiaries to launch rural development projects with the funding from a Rural Development Fund.

Tools and approaches

- Meetings, discussions
- Surveys
- Capacity building/trainings

- Financial support.

Target groups

- Farmers, cooperatives, local businesses, small businesses, LGs

12. “Support of vine and fruit tree nursery in Khulo Municipality “; Funded by Czech Development Agency (CZDA); Implementing agency Environmental NGO “Ipani” ; Period of Implementation 2017–2017. Budget

The project serves to contribute to development of agricultural sector in Khulo Municipality,

Programme goals:

- Develop local cooperatives;
- Support packaging
- Support nurseries

Tools and approaches

- Capacity building/trainings
- Financial support.

Target groups

- Farmers, cooperatives, local businesses, small businesses, LGs

13. “Support of Agro Development in Mountainous Areas of Georgia”, Funded by Slovak Aid, implementing agency Agro Stud Javorie s.r.o.. Period of implementation 2016-2017. Budget 70,000 Euro

The project trained veterinary physicians in Slovakia.

Programme goals:

- To improve skills of veterinary physicians

Tools and approaches

- Capacity building/trainings

Target groups

- Veterinary physicians; farmers

14. “Regional Development in Georgia through support of Small Size Agro Business “; Funded by Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs ‘. Period of Implementation 2017. Budget

The project was to contribute to development of farming through financial support and capacity building,

Programme goals:

- To support regional development
- To support small agro businesses

Tools and approaches

- Study tour
- Financial support.

Target groups

- Farmers, cooperatives;

Completed Projects

15. “Ajara Support to Agriculture Development Project” ; Funded by Government of Adjara Autonomous Republic/EU – through ENPARD ; Implementing agency UNDP; Period of Implementation 2013– 2016. Budget 4,324,579.55 USD

Project aims to work hand in hand with the Government of Ajara Autonomous Republic to drive the regional and agricultural strategies ahead and help farmers of the region run successful, profitable and high-yielding farms.

Programme goals:

- Development of the Profit Oriented Small Farmers’ Groups
- Extension Service and Training
- Demo Projects in Modern Farming
- Knowledge Products
- Strengthening the Ministry of Agriculture of Ajara (MOA)

Tools and approaches

- Training/Capacity building;
- Financial support.

Target groups

- Farmers, cooperatives, Ministry of Agriculture of Ajara (MOA)

16. “ Popularization of the Agency Activity” ; Funded by LEPL Employment Agency of AR of Ajara ; Implementing agency the Young Scientists Union Intellect ; Period of Implementation 2016– 2016. Budget 40 000 GEL

Aim of the Project is to raise awareness about the activities of Employment Agency of Ajara

Programme goals:

- Registration of employers and job seekers in the united data base of the agency;
- Supporting the process of making inventory during the formation of the data base of the agency;

- Consulting and informing companies and job seekers effective on the territory of Ajara in order to popularize the agency activity and its services, conducting a presentation; Assisting them in the process of registration;
- In order to raise awareness about the professional trainings by conducting presentation in the pre-school and secondary education institutions: about professional education, carrier planning and targeted programs;
- Participation (questionnaire distribution, filling) in the labor market researches organized by the agency in case of the requirement of the employment agency;
- In the scope of administrative territory of AR of Ajara finding a job independently / providing data for the agency and offering efficient staff from the united data base to the employer with the prior agreement with the agency.

Tools and approaches

- Meetings
- Surreys
- Trainings

Target groups

- Employers and job seekers of the AR of Ajara

17. “ Pilot program for Rural Development” ; Funded by EU through ENPARD; Implementing agency UNDPt ; Period of Implementation 2016– 2016. Budget 361 000 GEL

Aim of the Project is to establish the Local Action Group (LAG) in Riketi community; Develop the methodological guideline on establishment of LAG. To build “Community House” and equipped it. It has a room for exhibiting local craft’s enterprise; ethnographic exhibits; tourism information center; Guest-House. Pomote healthy life-style in Riketi community public schools.

Programme goals:

- LAG establishment;
- Working out the medium-term strategy of the community development;
- Working out sub-programs;
- Project implementation.

Tools and approaches

- Meetings
- Surreys
- Trainings

Target groups

- Employers and job seekers of the AR of Ajara

18. "Creation and Support of a Rural Service Centre in the Khulo Municipality, the Autonomous Republic of Adjara, Georgia". Funded by - Czech Development Agency (CZDA)/ the Grassroots Grant Program of Japan Embassy in Georgia. Period of Implementation 2011 – 2014, Implementing agency ABCO; Period of Implementation 2016– 2016. Budget 164,800 EUR.

Aim of the Project was to provide for the establishment, development, technical equipping and capacity building of Rural Service Centers in the communities of Dioknisi and Didachara of the mountainous district of Khulo Municipality in Adjara region. In the component of technical equipping of the rural service centers, necessary agricultural machinery (tractors and various attachable devices) were acquired through.

Programme goals:

- Establishment of Rural Service Centre
- Technical equipment of the Centre

Tools and approaches

- Meetings
- Financial support
- Trainings

Target groups

- Dioknisi and Didachara communities

19. "Programme for Strengthening the Population of 10 Villages in Shuakhevi and Khulo municipalities". Funded by Adjaristsqali . Period of Implementation 2015 – 2016, Implementing agency - Institute of Democracy. Period of Implementation 2016– 2016. Budget 164,800 EUR.

Aim of the project is support of the families living in target villages will be supported in elaboration of the skills for self-employment and formation of the family business. The program will issue grants to the families living in target villages (Formation of family enterprises, elaboration vocational skills, purchase of inventory, hiring a specialist, etc.).

Programme goals:

- Support of the population of 10 villages
- Issuing grants
- Improving skills

Tools and approaches

- Meetings
- Financial support
- Trainings

Target groups

- Community of the 10 Villages in Shuakhevi and Khulo municipalities (Shuakhevi Municipality: Akhaldaba, Chanchkhalo, Makhalakidzebi; Khulo Municipality: Didachara, Diakonidzebi, Gurta, Iakobadzebi, Vashlovani, Tsablana, Tsabliani).

