

Year-in-Review Newsletter

CARE International in the Caucasus



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VALUE OF OTHERS THRIVING

In this newsletter, you will meet a handful of women and men who are affecting change in their communities and inspiring others to act. Nothing is more potent than the dreams of a better future that originate among marginalized people who have the courage to take action.

Recently on a visit to Armenia, I reflected on the remoteness of villages in border regions between Georgia and Armenia. The winter conditions can be harsh and their rural economies are removed from the more vibrant markets found in and around Yerevan. Yet people like Gayane and Artash are finding specific ways to improve their communities through activities to encourage women to come together or through fostering entrepreneurship in agricultural sectors.

The most important work that CARE undertakes is to support the dreams, ideas and aspirations of poor people as they seize opportunities to improve their communities. This is the essence of our programmatic approach.

I immensely enjoy what I do at CARE. I enjoy striving for greater equity for marginalized people. I feel a sense of joy when people, like Lily Bregvadze, describe how they are doing something they have never done before. To know that CARE supports women in remote and economically challenged areas to do something new and to experience a greater sense of empowerment is very satisfying.

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Our vision of the future foresees sustainable rural development and peace and stability in the South Caucasus region. Profound change such as this is only possible with the widespread participation of responsive government, representative community based organizations, engaged civil society and a thriving, inclusive private sector. We anticipate working with many strategic partners and allies over the next decade.

Thomas Reynolds

Mission Director
CARE International in the Caucasus

CARE in the Caucasus is Changing!

Our programme goal

“Rural poverty, vulnerability and social injustice in the South Caucasus decreased and conditions for sustainable development improved thereby contributing to peace and stability in the region”

The Impact Population in the South Caucasus region

Rural households with income below the poverty line and at risk of falling below :

Specifically it includes:

the socially and economically marginalized people and/or those cut off from markets and basic services;

people affected by or vulnerable to political hazards (conflict, closing borders, etc.) and/or environmental risks;

young people aged 18-31;

women.

New sources of funding, new opportunities for impact groups, new types of partnership – this is just part of what the programmatic shift is expected to bring along to the CARE International in the Caucasus.

CIC is gearing up for its strategic redesign process which will reshape the way the Country Office concentrate its efforts and resources to create the change it desires.

A business model which will be finalized this year will define CARE's relationship with the greater ecosystem; the systems view and CARE's value chain and partner network; and ultimately, CARE's arrangement of work around its competencies.

Four strategic foci were identified to guide this thrust:

- Diversify CIC's funding, to reduce risk and improve reach, relevance and impact
- Attract a wide range of great ideas which can be converted into initiatives to change peoples' lives, and can be funded from the new sources of investment
- Develop a broad, innovative and exciting partnership across the ecosystem, backed by a strong communications face
- Convert fixed costs into assets and seek fees for service for ecosystem transactions

Moreover, CIC ranked various stakeholders and identified key ones with which it will invest its time and resources: communities first, the private sector second and civil society partners third.

The Programme approach has helped the CIC to develop a longer term commitment in the Caucasus, a commitment that CARE will contribute to along with many other actors. The development of the programme thinking has been informed by ecosystem research on the underlying causes of poverty, the social positions, human conditions and the prevailing governance environment.

“Pleased to Help”

Mobilising women to work for themselves and for the community

“When thinking about what it meant to empower women, the first thing we needed to do was to find out what are their main interests and concerns.”

So reflects Gayane Simonyan, a community activist from Sisian, a town with a population of around 17 000 people in the southern Armenian province of Syunik.

“There were many things we needed to find out, if we were to really come up with an effective strategy on how to mobilise these women, and, most importantly, how to raise their stature in the eyes of other people in the town, so that they feel needed, feel capable, and continue to be active participants in community life.

Getting acquainted with the women of Sisian and of surrounding villages proved to be revelation for Gayane and the group of activists that had gathered around her, under the project “Strengthening women's capacity for Peacebuilding in the South Caucasus region”, implemented by CARE and the Helsinki Citizen's Assembly - Armenian Committee.

“What we found, was that there are a lot of skilled, educated and talented women, for whom the town offers no opportunity to demonstrate their ability. This, we thought, was one of the reasons that women don't take an active part of community life. All of their potential remains unrealised as they spend all of their time at home”.

The response from Gayane and her team was twofold. In the first place, they organised events at which women could showcase their skills, giving the opportunity to women from the entire region to display (and sell) their work. Having benefitted from training on how to build a team, how to be a leader, and how to organise a civic initiative, the group attracted the media, the local authorities and the attention of the entire town.

At the same time, the team opened a resource centre at which women could go for assistance from people with training in law, psychology and economics. All of these consultants are permanent members of the Sisian active group and all of them provide their assistance free of charge.

One year on their approach is yielding results. Argine Sahakyan is one of Sisian's citizens who has benefitted from the assistance, and who has since herself joined the active group and become a more active member of Sisian's community.



Gayane Simonyan, a community activist from Sisian

Photo credits: Hayk Manvelyan/European Union

“There are a lot of skilled, educated and talented women, for whom the town offers no opportunity to demonstrate their ability. This, we thought, was one of the reasons that women don't take an active part of community life.”

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On the picture: a town square restored with the help of the local community and local government; the children from the local community attending the opening event of the square.

Photo credits: Hayk Manvelyan/European Union

Strengthening Women's Capacity for Peace-building in the South Caucasus" is funded by the European Union (EU) and Austrian Development Cooperation and Cooperation for Eastern Europe (ADC).

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"I received help on an issue of family law, which made an immediate difference to the problems I was experienced at the time. What was important was not only the fact that the legal consultation was provided for free, but also for the fact that it was provided in an atmosphere of trust and by a woman. In our country most lawyers are men".

Further down the road, Argine also became a member of the active group. Her husband, who was suspicious at first about the group's work has also started to participate. With the help of the local community and local government the group organised the restoration of the town square, which gave them a sense of accomplishment, provided the community with a pleasant public space in which to spend their time and, again, spread the word about the group's work.

"Now, many people in the town recognise me and the other people in the group, and they turn to us with questions or problems that they might have", says Gayane. "It is always pleasant to be approached, and even more pleasant whenever we are able to help."

FACTSHEET

- Participative learning and action exercises in six conflict-affected communities across the South Caucasus region to research the barriers to women playing an active role in community life;
- 20 women's activist groups have been set up across the whole of the South Caucasus region and given training in leadership, team building, planning civic initiatives and advocacy;
- 30 local events have been planned and implemented by women's activist groups in order to mobilise local communities and meet local needs.
- More than 200 people have benefitted from legal and psychological consultations delivered by the project partner organisations. In addition, many more have benefited from assistance and advice delivered by the women's activist groups themselves;
- More than 1 500 people have taken part in trainings, cross-visits and activities on the theme of tolerance and peace, emphasising peaceful coexistence in the South Caucasus.

CSO Promotes Organic Farming in Spitak - Aims to Boosts People's Incomes



“The land cultivation with bio-humus improves yields and the production cost is far cheaper. Therefore, the demand on this type of fertilizer is high here,” says Artash.

Now I will show our heroes. Here they are – the Californian worms,” Artash buries scoops up a pile of soil and brings it closer to our faces.

About ten red worms are making strange tunnels in the soil mixed with manure. But more than just tunneling, what the worms are actually doing is to process the manure and produce and organic fertilizer, which, as Artash explains, known as bio-humus.

Artash Karapetyan is project manager at the Spitak Farmers’ Association (SFA), which received a grant from CARE to launch a bio-humus production pool in Spitak, Armenia.

Spitak is a small town in Tavush, a region near Armenia’s border with Georgia. The regions along the Georgian-Armenia border lag behind urban centres in terms of economic activity and the development of democratic institutions. Outdated and damaged rural infrastructure exacerbated by inadequate transport connections with larger urban settlements result in limited possibilities for trade. A major part of the population is self-employed in the agricultural sector but can barely make a living out of this activity.

While opportunities for income generation are scarce, the Spitak Farmers’ Association seeks to contribute to poverty reduction in the region through promotion of biological farming practices.

This seems an ambitious intention but the SFA contends that the application of bio-humus in agriculture is more cost-effective compared to chemicals. Moreover, bio-humus allows easy and low-cost reproduction and will encourage a host of other farmers to replicate the method for producing the fertilizer and thus increase their harvests and earnings.

“One kilogram of bio-humus is equal to eight kilogram of chemical fertilizers. Moreover, the land cultivation with bio-humus improves yields and the production cost is far cheaper. Therefore, the demand on this type of fertilizer is high here,” says Artash.

So far the SFA has trained around 40 women in the community interested in this organic farming practice. The groups of women are now collecting manure and agricultural waste from their gardens for bio-humus production. Lamara, 38, is one of those involved in the initiative. Her family life looks like that of thousands of others in her community – a jobless husband, small children, low incomes, and lots of hard work.

“I am a nurse by profession but could not find a job,” she says. “I worked on land before but using the bio-humus I think our vegetable harvests will improve and so will our incomes.”

The SFA is just one of the seven Civil Society Organizations (CSO) that received a small grant under the project Poverty Reduction and Confidence-building in Border Areas of Georgia and Armenia by Strengthening Civil Societies in Sustainable Rural Development (STAGE II).

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Through this small-grant scheme CARE aims to build the capacity of the CSOs in the border regions and help them address the needs of local communities.

As the needs of the communities were different, so were the projects proposed by the CSOs. Repairing a drainage system, restoring an irrigation channel, organizing a summer youth camp, constructing a play ground and square – these were just some of the initiatives implemented under STAGE II.

On top of funding the local initiatives CARE facilitated the partnership of CSOs and local government officials across the border so that they integrate efforts in solving common problems. A series of joint workshops, trainings, trade fairs and cross-visits were organized to strengthen cross-border linkages and encourage the exchange, learning and co-operation on effective responses to rural development challenges.

“Let me bring one example why the cross-border cooperation is important,” Artash says while putting bio-humus in a greenhouse next to the pool. “In a month’s time this seed will blossom into a green onion. But the price on onion seeds is 2.5 lower in Georgia. Should we import it from there we will be able to sell it a lower price. That’s why we really need these connections.”



Lamara, 38, produces biohumus with CARE’s help in Spitak, Armenia and hopes to increase the family’s earnings .

FACTSHEET

- Project-target Civil Society Organizations(CSOs) implemented seven projects in Georgia and Armenia meeting local community needs;
- The project promoted and created an environment for networking and coalition building for ten Civil-Society organizations in bordering regions of Georgia and Armenia and provided opportunity to implement joint projects;
- CARE and its partners conducted a series of trainings and workshops to build the capacity of the CSOs and Local government members across the border allowing them to better address the interests of the local communities;
- Study visits, joint trade fairs and workshops strengthened the links between the CSOs and the local government members and allowed them to explore opportunities for future mutual co-operation.

“I am a nurse by profession but could not find a job,” she says. “I worked on land before but using the bio-humus I think our vegetable harvests will improve and so will our incomes.”

Poverty Reduction and Confidence-building in Border Areas of Georgia and Armenia by Strengthening Civil Societies in Sustainable Rural Development (STAGE II) is funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation.

“Chain of knowledge links community



To become demonstration farmers, community members agree to share information and a percentage of their yield with another farmer.

Bees, garlic and chickens have helped three women in Usakhelo village strengthen the bonds of community.

As participants in CARE’s COMBI project, Tamila Kurashvili, Marika Koberidze and Tvaradze Zhana received materials and training to become demonstration farmers, learning new ways of beekeeping, growing garlic and raising chickens.

Officially titled Strengthening community-based initiatives for poverty reduction in Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti region of Georgia, the COMBI project targets marginalized rural communities, especially focusing on women.

The COMBI project included the establishment of more than 118 demonstration plots of apples, nut, plural raspberries, potatoes, corn, along with garlic, chickens and bee-keeping. The demonstrations were set up alongside control plots to allow visual and measurable comparison.

Using a new breed provided by COMBI, Tvaradze Zhana planted 10 kg of garlic and collected 80 kg—a record harvest.

COMBI also provided special training, chemicals to prepare the garlic for seeding and metal netting to fence the plot. Zhana went on cross visits to other successful demonstration farmers in Tsageri, Samegrelo, Akhaltsikhe and Kutaisi. From them, she learned how to fertilize, apply herbicides, collect, store and market the garlic.

Zhana plans to sell her garlic as planting seed to earn more money than if she sold it as food. She will also save seed from this crop because it will produce high yields for five years. This year, she plans to plant 20 kg, which she hopes will yield 160 kg.

To become demonstration farmers, community members agree to share information and a percentage of their yield with another farmer. Zhana is providing garlic to her neighbor Tamila Kurashvili, who herself is raising a demonstration breed of Brahma chickens, which are prized for their large size and unusual strength. Kurashvili, in turn, will share with neighbor Marika Koberidze, who plans to share her demonstration bee hives with other villagers.

On a day CARE’s team visited, Koberidze’s bees were buzzing in Kurashvili’s flowers nearby while the ladies laughed and chatted together.

Koberidze had beehives before, but because of a lack of knowledge the bees died or disappeared. Through the COMBI project, she learned new techniques for caring for them.



Before the project, Zhana said, the women were friends and neighbors. Now they are linked by a common incentive to better their lives. "Now, we are going to every training and activity together," she said.

Koberidze agreed. "In this community, we are sharing information among each other," she said. "In the future, we are not

"In the future, we are not going to leave this project as it is. We are going to extend our activities."

going to leave this project as it is. We are going to extend our activities."

"Everybody is going to be involved in the project," Zhana said. "These projects are stimulating the life of households. Children, as they are involved in this project, they are

more interested, because it brings income."

Kurashvili said the farmers have one request: "Support for continuation of the project."

"Not only for us," Kvoberidze added. "For others in the village. They will grow themselves."

Strengthening Community-based Initiatives for poverty reduction in Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo-Svaneti Region of Georgia (COMBI) was implemented by CARE Austria and CARE International in the Caucasus from March 2009 to October 2011. The project is funded by European Union (EU) and the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC).

FACTSHEET

- *In total 121 on-farm demonstration plots have been established, 78 percent of the affected communities say they heard about the demonstration plots;*
- *5 capable CBOs were formed which started networking with other CBOs and established linkages with the local government;*
- *With the project's support 5 community development plans were produced for the Local Government;*
- *The project co-funded 5 community level poverty reduction initiatives which benefitted 1,120 farming families;*
- *Community Resource Center established under the project provided information services to 660 individuals and Community-based organizations per year;*
- *The project provided various trainings for 50 CBO members and 25 Local Governance officials for pro-poor development planning and implementation;*
- *Only 3 percent of the interviewed households say their economic situation is very poor, down from 12.6 percent 3 years ago. Those saying they are doing OK rose from 45 percent to 62.5 percent.*

Dreams Grow Bigger

Lily Bregvadze raises a small herd of cattle in the mountain village of Skhvava, tucked high in the upper Rioni river valley of the Racha region in western Georgia.

The area is remote, and transportation is iffy. Bridge and road rehabilitation is an ongoing struggle with the area's landslides. A local minibus travels to the regional capital only a few days a week. There's no school nearby, so several of the village's few children walk the 9 km to town every day.

In wintertime, Lily makes cheese, which she packs in brine so it will keep until one of the village's 114 families stops by to buy some. In the summer, she sells fresh milk to families vacationing from the city.

The mountain's thick pine forest provides a stunning backdrop, along with an element of danger. The evening before the CARE team visited, Lily had gone

to the pasture to round up her 13 cows, only to come face-to-face with a pack of wolves.

She ran home to fetch a neighbor. It's illegal to keep a gun at home in Georgia, so the women used firecrackers to scare away the predators.

"I can't kill them, but I can make them afraid," Lily said.

Lily, who's 50, seems like she could handle just about anything. Indeed, she said, since becoming a CARE program participant, she has a new attitude about challenges.



Lily owned three cows when she received a grant in October 2010 from CARE's Rural Development in Racha-Lechkhumi Region project to buy two more. After seeing how profitable the cattle business was, she used money from her cheese production to buy more cows, and some gave birth, bringing her herd to 13.

"The project gave me big enthusiasm," Lily said. "After participating in the project I started selling cheese. I never sold before. People started coming to my house."

After participating in cross visits and trainings in cattle care, breeding and veterinary services, Lily started to feel like she could do just about anything. Indeed, she cares for her cattle herself, only calling the CARE veterinarian in Ambrolauri for consultations and advice if she has a major problem.

As her herd grew, so did Lily's dreams. She hopes that by next summer she'll have 20 cattle, and in a country where few women know how to drive, she

"Rural Development in the Region Racha-Lechkhumi, Georgia" (RDRL) Project is funded by the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC).

FACTSHEET

- Overall 130 farmers of various profiles were selected for demonstration and provided with grants;
- Over 600 farmers were involved in cross-visits to exchange information and experiences to different parts of Georgia. Some of them started their own business after the visits;
- Around 250 farmers were trained in business basics and new methods and technologies in agriculture;
- Various disaster-risk reduction projects - (repairing bridges and footbridges, construction of bypasses and protection gabions, enlarging and cleaning roads, repairing drainage systems etc) were implemented in 20 communities. This will improve people's access to pastures and hay fields and is expected to increase the number of cattle, its productivity and ultimately people's incomes;
- A guide on Development of Methodology for Economic planning has been printed for Oni and Ambrolauri municipalities to help local governance develop pro-poor economic policies;
- Over 250 people were involved in community meetings on discussion of municipal development strategies. These practices have promoted participatory approach in development planning.

Taking Responsibility for their Own Lives and Community



“People continue polluting the Lopota River with waste. Lopota is a primary concern for us,” Tamaz Sozashvili, age 16, and a group of his fellow students at Napareuli eco-club are sharing their worries with the visitors.

Twice a week 32 students at public school in Napareuli, Eastern part of Georgia, gather in the eco-club to discuss environmental issues and the ways to tackle them.

The eco-club which was established four years ago made a fresh start under “Integrated Natural Resource Management in Watersheds of Georgia – INRMW” Program.

- 20 eco-clubs have been established in Kakheti and Racha Regions (the upper watershed areas of Alazani and Rioni River basins), Georgia;
- The eco-clubs’ network will be a strong instrument to develop consolidated effort and be responsive towards environment related challenges;
- The students of the eco-clubs as well as the eco club friends use Facebook blog “Ecoclubboom” for sharing and blogging various environmental and program related issues.

The Napareuli eco-club won in a project competition and was awarded with a micro laboratory which allowed them to make water tests in the River Lopota.

“The tests did not show serious pollution so far,” says Khatia Papuashvili, another student of the eco-club. “Nevertheless, we will continue monitoring and keep informed local community of the test results. Since no legal waste dump exists in Napareuli, the river is contaminated and often becomes a source of waterborne diseases that affect villagers,” she added.

The ecoclub is now de-signing a public awareness plan to get the local community involved wider in green actions.

“Last year we conducted a host of clean-up activities and realized soon that such actions are not sufficient since people continue throwing waste on a site near the river. As it was revealed the main challenge, at present, is to change behaviors through fostering new thinking in people,” says Khatia.

A Christmas concert, a water conference in summer and Napareuli village festival are some of the events which the eco-club plans to use to mount a community awareness campaign.

The members of the eco-club are planning to design another issue of an environmental magazine during vacation this winter. “It’s ‘business as usual’ for us. Nature does not know vacations,” says Khatia.

The 4-year program is being implemented by GLOWS’ Consortium (Global Waters for Sustainability), headed by Florida International University (FIU) other partners of which are UNESCO-IHE; CARE International; Winrock International; CENN (Caucasus Environmental NGO Network).

Its primary goal is to improve the current and future lives of people in Georgia by utilizing and managing natural resources more sustainably, including water, soil, vegetation, and the ecosystem that encompass them.



The US Ambassador to Georgia John R. Bass visiting the Napareuli eco-club on Dec 14, 2011.

“One of the most important things about these eco-clubs is the extent to which you are going out and investigating the land you are living on and quality of water and impact you are having on this environment...You are taking responsibility for your own lives and your communities and that’s really important,” Ambassador John R. Bass told the students at Napareuli eco-club.

Small Businesses for Big Changes



CARE continues providing small business start-up grants to create an independent source of income for rural poor. With that the scheme particularly focuses on women with the aim to improve their economic and social conditions and empower them for positive change.

Under the project Community Development Initiative, 77 more individuals received grants and launched small businesses. An average amount of grant is 1000 USD while the profile varies including different types of businesses, including agriculture initiatives and various services.

The Community Development Initiative is funded by BP and its co-venturers in Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC), South Caucasian Pipeline (SCP) and Georgian Pipeline Companies (GPC).

Its goal is to enhance positive relations between BP and communities along the BTC/SCP pipeline route by investing in communities that demonstrate a commitment to become models for sustainable community development.

The project has two specific objectives : increased capacity of local NGO's improving social positioning of the pipeline communities and improved economic opportunities in pipeline communities allowing for the development of small and medium enterprises. In order to fulfill these objectives the project implements two types of activities: one type brings direct and quick benefits to the communities while another creates conditions for the community development in the future, including community infrastructure development schemes, structural changes for creating a more conducive environment, the nationalization of the CDI and more grants for small entrepreneurs to develop businesses, building demonstration farms and agriculture consultation services which will increase household incomes etc.

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On the photo: Tsiola Gugeshahsvili opened a food shop in the village of Ivanovka with the grant of 1000 USD. See a story about her in the previous issue of the newsletter.

Small Businesses - for Big Changes

Key results:

- 36 more people were employed by the financed businesses, 16 out of them are women;
- 70% of the grant recipients say their families' economic conditions have substantially improved;
- The revenues from financed businesses make up almost 25% of family incomes;
- 35% of the grant recipients say the business gave them an independent source of income;
- 85% of the grant recipients say they are going to expand business;
- 44% of the grant recipients say they are applying basic accounting principles;
- 70% of the grant recipients say they have not been engaged in any kind of business before;
- 9% of the grant recipients say they have reinvested in the business;
- 70% the grant recipients say their self-confidence has improved as well as the attitude of family members to them;
- 72% of the grant recipients say small business is very important for rural communities.

Marneuli Dairy Carries On Business, Brings Benefit to Farmers



Our village to Tbilisi and it was too hard to carry milk to Tbilisi. Now the dairy representatives collect milk right from my house and pay good price. This is a big relief for my family - Leila Kenkebashvili

Leila Kenkebashvili, from the village of Marabda, has been selling milk to Marneuli dairy for two years already. Last summer she sold about 500 liters of milk to the dairy. Milk production drops in winter but Leila is looking to spring with high hopes. She used to carry milk to Tbilisi stores to sell her produce before this chance appeared.

“There is no public transportation functioning from our village to Tbilisi and it was too hard to carry milk to Tbilisi. Now the dairy representatives collect milk right from my house and pay good price. This is a big relief for my family,” says Leila.

Born and raised in a town called Rustavi, Leila’s neighbor Tamriko Alikhanashvili has good connections there and thus chose the Rustavi market before. But now she too sells her milk to the dairy. “For me it was particularly important that they ordered milk and paid me in advance. I bought school books for my children with this 150 GEL [around 90 USD],” says Tamriko.

With co-financing of business partner “Farmers to Market” project facilitated formation of Marneuli Cheese processing Factory, one out of the six Consolidation Centers formed within the project. The consolidation centres encourage farmers to fully focus on primary production, stimulate quantity and quality of the agricultural produce and thus boost the farmers’ incomes. The consolidation also centres provide various trainings and consultations to the target farmers to improve their knowledge and marketing skills.

The Marneuli enterprise collects milk from neighboring villages and produces cheese which is sold locally and in Marneuli Restaurants.

“It was very important for us to collaborate with the project,” says Mamuka Asanidze, Director of Marneuli Consolidation Center. “We were planning to launch a dairy but were unable to do it due to lack of funding.”

Currently 20 farmers sell milk to Consolidation Center. Mamuka Asanidze notes that the Consolidation Center continues to operate successfully.

“We are going to expand the production and produce ice cream; we want to upgrade the equipment first,” he added.

In June 2011 CARE International in the Caucasus officially wrapped up Farmers to Markets (FtM) project which was a part of CARE’s existing Community Development Initiative funded by BP and its co-venturers in Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC), South Caucasian Pipeline (SCP) and Georgian Pipeline Companies (GPC).

FtM worked along the eastern and western parts of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan and South Caucasus pipeline routes. The project aimed to bridge identified gaps in the value chain between farmers and markets in Georgia, improving livelihood security in pipeline communities through agricultural services and better access to markets.

FACTSHEET

- 792 farmers directly received both financial and non-financial benefits from engagement with Consolidation Centers (CCs) like Marneuli dairy;
- Farmers earned around \$268,000 in sales revenue through selling their produce to CCs;
- 89 percent of target farmers reported an average of 19 percent increase in annual family incomes.

THANK YOU to OUR DONORS!

We gratefully acknowledge the steadfast and continuous support of these organizations, whose financial commitment to CARE enables us to work toward a world of hope, tolerance and social justice.

Austrian
Development Cooperation

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European Union



BP and its co-venturers in Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC), South Caucasian Pipeline (SCP) and Georgian Pipeline Companies (GPC)



The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



USAID
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The United States Agency for International Development



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
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The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Swiss Development Cooperation

THANK YOU to OUR PARTNERS!

We are also grateful for partners who have joined and followed our lead in making for some real and sustainable change:

- ABKHAZINTERCONT(AIC)
- Association of Women of Abkhazia
- Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (CENN)
- Centre for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD)
- Centre for Training and Consultancy(CTC)
- Centre for Civilian Initiatives
- Civil Development Agency (CiDA)
- CONSTANTA Foundation
- Florida International University (FIU)
- Helsinki Citizen's Assembly - Armenia
- IDP Women's Association Consent
- The National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG)
- Rural Development Association
- UNESCO Institute of Water Education (UNESCO -IHE)
- Winrock International (WI)
- Women's Problems Research Union