

Brot
für die Welt



INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN



Together for Our Rights

TBILISI
2018

The Informational Bulletin is published by IDP Women Association “Consent”
under the framework of the project “**Together for Our Rights**”
with the financial support of „Brot für die Welt“

IDP Women Association „Consent“

Address: Georgia, Tbilisi, 20 Queen Tamar ave.

Phone/Fax: +995 32 234 49 82

E-mail: admin@idpwa.org.ge

www: idpwa.org

Facebook: IDPWAConsent

IDP Women Association “Consent”

Association “Consent” has been operating in Georgia for the twenty-third year already and during these years the organization serves IDPs, women and young people affected by the conflict as well as other vulnerable groups of the society.

During this period, German organization “Brot fur die Welt” (before – “Ewangelischer Entwicklungsdienst”) has been and still is one of the most important partners and supporters of the organization. Currently, with the support of this partner, the organization is being implementing the project “Together for Our Rights” which has three main components:

- Services provided in the country are available for refugees including recently displaced IDP women;
- Rights of the persons affected by the conflict are protected, including their physical security and livelihood;
- Women and youth are actively engaged in peace building activities.

Civil Forum “Together for Our Rights”

Civil forum “Together for Our Rights” was dedicated to discussion of expected reform regarding IDP allowance.

Invited experts from state as well as international organizations analyzed current situation.

The expert Irakli Ujmajuridze (Ministry of IDPS, Refugees and Accommodation) pointed out that the ministry is considering several models of the reform, more precisely:

Lowering current marginal number of 1250;

Following generations shall not receive IDP allowance;

Direction of accommodation: those who have already been provided with the accommodation by the government, will no longer receive allowance and in case of necessity, they will be included in the social programme.

These models were analyzed and problem was presented; after this the representatives of the ministry together with UN are holding





meetings with IDPs in order to find out their opinion. They have a very interesting feedback. After this process, implementation will be applied. No law will be adopted unless IDPs give relevant agreement.

Mr. Vakhtang Kholbaia, the chairperson of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia welcomed the forum. He spoke about the importance of the aforementioned problem and expressed hope that taken decision will affect neither

IDPs nor the state.

After this, the audience through the group works with the experts and facilitators of the association worked out some recommendations regarding this extremely important issue.

After the presentations of group works, a joint approach and recommendations were developed.

Ms. Julia Kharashvili summed up the meeting – while summing up the results of group works, the necessity of serious research of needs was revealed; also, it is necessary to increase the level of awareness. Reform's financial result shall be defined. It was revealed that the issue of coordination is considered as a very important issue. Besides, all the funds (state and international) shall be mobilized. The



coordination group has been formed at the Ministry that will unite the staff of the Ministry, the representatives of NGOs and international organizations and will analyze the reform.

On May 30, 2018, IDP Women Association “Consent” held a round table meeting within the frames of the project “Together for IDPs’ Rights”. The event was preceded by developing the recommendations oriented on real needs of IDPs; these recommendations were based on the information and data gained at



civil forum from IDPs as well as through the meetings with civil society, international organizations and decision-taking structures. At the event these recommendations were presented to the representatives of the Ministry of IDPS, Refugees and Accommodation.

Leaders’ Academy

Trainings and trainings of trainers are one of the most important strengths for Women Association “Consent”. We are constantly training our activists in the regions, however, there has always been feeling of lack of regional trainers or merely teams of trained activists which would be trained under the similar programme.

Gradually, some other challenges also rose; it was necessary to increase the potential of the representatives of women and young people so that they could work in the civil sector as well as to promote and lob the ideas of democratization and Euro integration.



Due to this, we decided to form a Leaders’ Academy within the frames of the project “Together for Our Rights” with the financial support of a German organization “Brot fur Die Welt”. This implies: to strengthen women and young people affected by the conflict in the target community; it also implies the possibility of receiving profit from localized plan: Women/Young people, Peace and Security.

Leaders' Academy is an intensive educational programme which is meant for the activists of local communities, as well as for the women, young people and IDPs affected by the conflict, for NGO sector, for the representatives of local self-governance and for the people interested in the issues of democracy.

Listeners of the courses learn: basics of verbal and non-verbal communication, they gain listening skills and refine body language; they will receive information about violence, about UN Resolution 1325 and Georgian legislation regarding gender issues; they will study efficient management of conflict situations, also strategies of behavior in conflict situations; they will develop the skills of efficient management of conflict situations through analysis; they will learn negotiation techniques and means; the listeners of the programme receive information and knowledge about such important documents as an agreement with EU, principles of visa liberalization.



The listeners learn the means of reinforcement of economic potential; they will be ready for communicating with the representatives of local self-governance, they will be aware of the means of gaining public information; they will learn various characters and habits of a leader, they will develop skills that will help them to discover their own potential, to discover and develop their own strengths; it will help them to be free from clichés, frames, restricting paradigms, complexes as well as to fully realize themselves in order to achieve success in private, professional or public activity; they will find out more and will realize what Euro integration is, what EU Association Agreement means for a Georgian citizen and what it will bring to Georgia; as well as what influence it will have on the country.

Teaching of each module is oriented on increasing the level of the student's knowledge about each topic as well as on realizing received information and tailor-making it on personal needs in order to put it into practice.

Within the frames of the project, the training cycle has already been delivered in four locations of Georgia – Lower Kartli (Tsitskhkaro), Samegrelo (Zugdidi), Middle Kartli (Gori), Imereti (Tskhaltubo).

Due to high demand, training of a new group started in Zugdidi on December 10, 2018. Thematic trainings will last there for the following three months.

Successful participants are awarded certificates as a result of tests.

Certificates were issued according to the test results.

Registration of Land

Nowadays, personal security and protection of the rights of the people residing close to the occupation line is one of the most urgent issues. These people are the ones least protected; due to current situation, it has become complicated to care for their security; along with this, so called borderization i.e. advancing the barbed wires and capturing of lands takes place on everyday bases. Unfortunately, pieces of land the locals have been using for a long time, are not officially registered in the possession of the vast majority of the locals which creates serious problems in terms of legislation.

Since 2017, Association “Consent” has been actively trying to assist the residents of occupation line with the registration of land. With this aim, meetings are held with the locals once in very three months; during the meetings locals are provided with detailed information regarding ongoing state reform of land. As a result, the level of locals’ awareness increases and they are aware who to address for the registration of land, which documents are necessary, what is the fee for registration of land, etc.

Along with legal consultations, in 2018 the association selected several families in 4 villages of Middle Kartli: Ergneti, Mereta, Zardiaantkari and Nikozi and “Consent” will assist them with preparing measurement drawings and completion of land registration procedures. Following were the criteria for selection of the families: vulnerability, female being the bread-winner of the family; besides the family was to use registered piece of land purposefully later so that to receive additional income.

In total, pieces of land of 10 families were registered with total space of approximately 60 000 square meters. Finishing of land registration procedures will allow the population to use their real property more actively, to engage in state programmes (“Plant the Future”, “Produce in Georgia”), to insure their harvest and receive additional income.

Forum Theatre

One of the main directions of IDP Women Association “Consent” is working with young people, increasing their awareness, presenting to them modern democratic principles. Working with the young people is applied through integrative approach; they are taught how to take part in debates; they are delivered seminars and trainings.





A youth wing is formed at the association. This is an organization “Let’s Start Now”, that unites young volunteers – students, psychologists, lawyers, theatre actors. “Let’s Start Now” mainly works in the regions with different vulnerable groups – minorities, IDPs, probationers, people affected by the conflict. As it turned out, in order to increase interest among the young people of this category, it is necessary to use innovative and interactive forms and Forum Theatre has become one of such forms. The staff of “Let’s Start Now” writes a script and later they prepare performance together. The main method of the Forum Theatre is as following: to demonstrate the problem first and later to offer the audience to take part in the performance and change development for the better. So far, such an approach works quite well – the audience actively engages to change the performance, due to this, jointly it is possible to search for the resolution of the problem. Using this method, “Let’s Start Now” has already staged several performances in the regions: “Probationers’ Fate”, “Family Violence”, “Early Marriage”, “Vocational Trainings”, “Bulling at Schools”, etc.



Through one of the forum theatres, young people get to know with the problems that are urgent among society. Along with this, they have the chance to search for the problem resolution themselves and to change the situation drastically.

The troop of the Forum Theatre that is comprised of active young people, pays visits to the regions offering to the wide audience to discuss the problem that is considered as the most important one currently and that applies to the young people immediately.

Performances were staged on the topics of bullying and violence.

Forum Theatre covered almost all the regions (Middle Kartli, Lower Kartli, Imereti, Samegrelo, Tbilisi).

Kazreti Day Center

Within the frames of EU project, IDP Women Association “Consent” was implementing a project “Honorable Old-Age” in the small town of Kazreti; the project served elderly people. Unfortunately, the project finished and the elderly people, who have been so happy for two years, suddenly faced the problem of closing down of the center.

However, with the effort of Association “Consent” and local government – Bolnisi Municipality, the center continued operation. With the help of Bolnisi Municipality special rooms were allocated for some courses thus allowing elderly people to hold additional activities. It is noteworthy that Kazreti has extremely active, creative and hard-working elderly people.

Hence, handicraft training courses were opened in the small town of Kazreti; the courses were funded by a German organization “Brot fur die Welt” within the





frames of the project “Together for Our Rights”. Ana Kokhi, one of the most creative and active ladies of the elderly day center of the small town of Kazreti is the facilitator of the courses. Classes are delivered twice a week, for two hours (However, interest is so high that sometimes they stay even longer after agreeing this with the group leader).

On December 20, 2018, the items of Kazreti handicraft courses were exhibited at a Christmas exhibition in Tbilisi and they deserved great approval.

International Day of Peace

International Day of Peace with the participation of peace clubs in the village of Ganmukhuri

On September 20-22, Ganmukhuri Peace Club hosted the members of Nikozi and Gardabani Peace Clubs. They celebrated September 21 – International Day of Peace together in the village of Ganmukhuri, the village adjacent to Abkhazia, a conflict border line. 21 young persons



(11 girls and 9 boys) and mentors took part in the event which was held with the financial support of “Bread for World”.

The programme of the event included a conference about UN Resolution 1325 and brief presentations about the activities of the youth of Nikozi and Gardabani; besides, youth clubs worked on future plans. Later a Forum Theatre was shown and the event ended up in the evening with flying kites and balloons as a symbol of peace and friendship.



Gardabani Integration Center

Armed conflicts in Georgia left over 278 000 IDPs in the country; majority of them were displaced from their own houses during the conflicts in the regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali in 1990s. As a result of the war in August, 2008 over 26 000 persons had to leave their houses.



The state placed part of the IDPs in collective centers – the premises belonging to the state, while the vast majority stayed with their relative or rented and mortgaged apartments.

For “new IDPs” of 2002, the state constructed settlements with cottage-houses while part of them were placed in dormitories and various premises. Gardabani settlement is among them – “new IDPs” were placed in two buildings which were reconstructed in a speedy mode and IDP families were provided apartments. Local resident Azerbaijanians were residing in the same buildings, consequently their language, religion, habits were different; due to this, initially, they found it difficult to find something in common. From the very first days Association “Consent” supported IDPs – it helped them with the issues of privatization and fencing the land; also, the organization refurbished a community room where now children and young people gather. Indeed, “Green Room” is of great importance.



A Sunday School has been operating in the “Green Room” for the seventh year already – through these lectures Georgian and Azerbaijanian children and young people became closer and this is where mobilization of the community started. Women are rendered many educational trainings, legal consultations and prophylactic medical examinations are held.



Starting from 2017, Youth Peace Club was founded in the “Green Room”. At the initial stage, organization “Care” in the Caucasus through the support of “Bezos Family Foundation” provided assistance to the club. At this stage, the young people continue activities independently. Little children are actively involved in the events of the Sunday school – in concerts and exhibitions. A library is functioning in the room and children actively read books there which nowadays is so rare a phenomenon. A community organization “Peaceful Co-existence” has been founded in the community which assists with holding all the events and is actively cooperating with “Consent”.