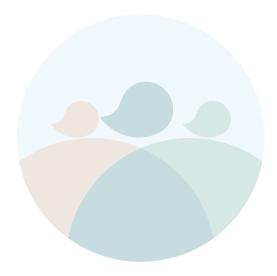






Supporting IDP women's sustainable livelihoods through entrepreneurship in Georgia





With the support of Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonian Refugee Council, together with the organization Mtskheta-Mtianeti Regional Hub implemented the project in order to support IDP women's sustainable livelihoods through Entrepreneurship in Georgia.

The overall goal of the project was to develop entrepreneurial and transversal skills among women living in five IDP settlements in Georgia: Tserovani, Tsilkani, Prezeti, Shavshvebi, and Khurvaleti.

As a result of the project, in total 40 business ideas were financed in targeted locations. Each of the business ideas with the amount of 1000 EUR, in case of joint ideas – 2000 EUR. Together with the financial support, selected participants had a chance of a 6-month long mentorship program in order to get proficient advice from experienced consultants regarding business management.

The project derived from the Georgian assistance request in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic and contributed to the priority sectors highlighted by the Georgian government.

An information brochure has been developed with the support of the Estonian Development Agency and Estonian Refugee Council (ERC) as part of the project "Supporting IDP women's sustainable livelihoods through entrepreneurship in Georgia". Responsible for the content of the brochure is N.N.L.E. Mtskheta-Mtianeti Regional Hub (MMRH) and it may not reflect the views of the Estonian Development Agency and the Estonian Refugee Council (ERC).



Tamar Berianidze

Tserovni IDP settlement -551 76 20 40 - Mobile ceramic workshop "Beriana"

We are inspired by them, who think and care about Improving the motoric function of the children, raising self-esteem, and self-perception. That's what motivates us, To create new and modern

Art therapy course for children and not only, in order to reflect thoughts and perspectives in ceramics and most importantly - to feel free



Tserovni IDP settlement - 571 08 31 40 - Tibatve, bags woven with rope

I am only 22 and already suffered from two wars together with my family: the War of August and the Covid Pandemic. All the bad sides have light and colorful sides as well. AS a result of August 2008, I met my business partner - Nino. During the pandemic, we started to implement common aims and desires. Today we have an online shop that offers different styles of knitted handicrafts. Our aim is to convey individual emotions through our product. We want our customers to feel the way we feel.



Village Khurvaleti -551 14 67 12 - Beauty salon

I love my job because it is necessary for women and not just for women. Even from the childhood, I was interested in this profession and I am glad that it is my source of income today.



Tserovani IDP Settlement – 691 11 01 74 – Global Business Solutions

I graduated from the village Ikoti Public School. Later on, I chose Journalism as a profession. The war changed my plans and my profession too. I studied accounting and later I took two courses in internal auditing. The idea of creating a company is a desire to work on my own schedule. Currently I am working on awareness rising towards my company. It is quite difficult and long-term process but I believe that my company will be the leading audit company in the region, in near future.





Khurvaleti IDP Settlement – 595 46 48 75 – Small shop

Before 2008, I have been living in Ksuisi and had a small shop there. After the war, I continued life in IDP settlement. We had no source of income, only pension. As I already had experience in the trade, decided to start over the small shop. I started with a very little assortment and only later started to widen my activity. That's how it became the main source of income. Later on, I registered with the tax office and I am individual entrepreneur now.

Khurvaleti IDP Settlement – 599 21 22 28 – Fruit dryer

I got married in Khurvaleti IDP settlement. My husband is IDP since 2008 and I am IDP since 1990's. Always wanted to achieve success and project gave me that pssibility. I really want to develop my business and become sucessful in future.



Tserovani IDP Settlement-591 44 85 87 – Livestock (Pig Farm)

I have a husband and four children, also, nine grandchildren. I and my husband decided to start a business a few years ago because I love to take care of animals. The favorite activity became the source of our income. My profession helps me with their treatment and I believe I found my favorite activity.





Shavshvebi IDP Settlement - 574 22 28 47 - Illustrated posters

I love my job because I am fulfilled while working on posters, and I believe that business is successful if you do what you love. In my case, it is the same. At this stage, I added another direction to my business but I am still in the field of graphic design - it's the profession of the future and there will always be a need of creating interesting graphic visuals. I am not sure where will I be in five years, but definitely in the sphere, where there are lots of development possibilities.

Tserovani IDP Settlement – 558 92 51 16 - Shoe Atelier in Tserovani

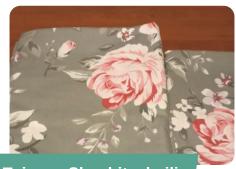
After settling in Tserovani, I and my husband decided to have a small shoe atelier in order to have a source of income. It is already ten years since we operate in this field and it is worthy to mention that the atelier develops very fast.



Tserovani IDP Settlement – 595 70 03 79 – Print House Tserovani

I was 15 years old when we settled in Tserovani. Like many others, I also believed that living here would last a few weeks and months, and then we would simply go back, but we still live here. After years, people started to adapt and integrate into a new environment. Step by step, small businesses appeared and it was a more comfortable place to live because people did not have a need to go to Tbilisi about small details. After enrolling at the university, I often needed the printed materials and later I came up with the idea to buy a printer and also offer this service to the inhabitants, as this service did not exist in Tesrovani. In 2018 I participated in the project "Enterprise Georgia" and improved the quality of service. I realized that my business activity was very important for my settlement and felt the responsibility to continue development.

Recently I participated in the project "Supporting IDP women's sustainable livelihoods through entrepreneurship in Georgia" which helped me to improve the quality of service and to provide additional services to the inhabitants, such as printing on the mugs and on the keychains.



Tsisana Shoshitashvili

Khurvaleti IDP Settlement – 598 56 23 57 – Sewing workshop

Sewing was my favorite activity since childhood. My mom was always buying materials for me in order to sew. At the age of 18, I started to learn it as a profession. After 2008, as we settled in Khurvaleti, we had no source of income, just emptiness. The first year was extremely difficult, but there is something that gives you the strength not to stop and fight to achieve your goal. Since 2012, I took part in many trainings and development programs, and as a result of your program, I started a business activity and now I have a stable source of income and now my hobby is my profession.



Khurvaleti IDP Settlement – 599 03 25 21, 598 62 99 26 – Second chance

- Social Enterprise, Recycling clothes

We love our job because, in our spare time, we have been occupied with that hobby. At this stage, everything goes smoothly as planned. As for the war, it was a hard period for everyone and for us as well. We started everything from the new beginning, but it really had an effect on our personal development. I believe this is the reason why we never stop.

Our enterprise takes its first steps and if everything goes as planned, after several years, we will be the successful social enterprise that provides employment possibilities for IDP women.



Tserovani IDP Settlement– 599 75 32 04 – Beekeeping

It is several years since I became interested in beekeeping and was getting familiar with the news in that field. I participated in different development training and as a result of your project, I had a chance of developing my business activity and creating an additional source of income.

I think I will double product production for the next year and will add other products like flower dust and Dingel.



Prezeti IDP Settlement - Bakery 591 00 44 25

I worked in bakery for 4 years. After 2008, when our Life changed, We moved out with 3 little ones from Akhalgori. At first, it was very difficult for me to leave children and work in Bakery, so I decided to stop working until my own bakery was built. Then I received funding in the form of a grant and I built a bakery in Prezeti. I try to offer a new and also high quality product in the settlement and surroundings.



Tserovani IDP settlement 598 20 57 44 – Enamel jewelry

I live in Tserovani IDP settlement, it has been 4 years since I studied enamel jewelry, after that I bought the necessary, but low-quality inventory on my own and began to work on jewelry in my house, for three years. With the help of the project, I bought better inventory, improved my business activity, and made a lot more jewelry. I want to develop more, expand my business activity and create more products.



Shavshve IDP settlement – 599 31 83 19

I started my business in 2018. I have different categories and sizes of linen in the sewing shop. With the help of the project I expanded the business and increased the product. I started making canvas bags and seat covers. My business operates in Shida Kartli Region.



Tserovani IDP settlement – 595 35 89 49 – Family wine

After the war of 2008, my family started living in the Tserovani IDP settlement. In the first year we planted different varieties of grapes. After I got familiar with the project, I had the idea to turn my family activities into a source of income. Our wine production technology is based on family traditions. In addition I try learn more about wine production, in order to offer my customers high quality of wine.



Tsikani IDP settlement -598 136 655 – Beauty salon

After August 2008, we were relocated to the Tsilkani IDP settlement. We tried our best to create a living environment. Only my husband worked from the family and the salary was quite low. The extra income would be great for our family so I started thinking to have my own salon, but I thought it was just my dream. When I heard about this project, I believed I could make my dream come true and when I got the program support, my life definitely changed for the better.

A beauty salon is not only a source of income for me it's also a job that gives me pleasure. I also plan to further develop my knowledge in this field and will try to do my best in my work!



Tserovani IDP Settlement – 593 44 89 90 – Mokargula – მოქარგულა – Handicrafts

I had an experience in handicrafts even before the war. After the program I actively worked on diverse collections and the demand increased on the market, therefore more souvenir shops and tourism spots in Tbilisi are ready to collaborate with me,



Prezeti IDP Settlement – 571 07 26 74 – Bakery

I was working as a consultant in Furniture shop, later on I decided to try my strength in Baking. This grant programs supported me on my way of fulfiling my dream and now I have family type of bakery shop in Prezeti IDP Settlement.



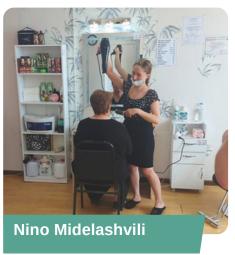
Tsilkani IDP Settlement – 598 00 35 24 – Nail Salon

I was very little in 2008 and will never forget the empty villages, which were full of people once. Unfortunately, we had to leave out homes and settled in a totally new place, we continued our life there. As for my business activity, it was my hobby, in the beginning. later on, I decided to get familiar with the technique in-depth, but still, could not manage to buy proper technique. When I have heard about the project, I felt like I wanted to try and make it my profession. I am very happy now because I am doing what makes me feel happy and I am sure I will expand my business in the future.



Prezeti IDP settlement – 593 30 67 09 – Enamel jewelry workshop

We lived in Akhalgori before the August 2008 war. I am a teacher by profession. After the war, everything changed, first of all, our activities and housing changed. I was trying to learn some new profession. I always liked enamel jewelry and this activity caught my attention. But there was some financial problem and for this reason, I could not make my wishes a reality. Then I heard about the project, filled out an application, and my business was funded. In the future, I will definitely present my works in counters and shops.



Prezeti IDP settlement – 577 69 33 19 – Beauty salon

I was born and raised in village of Midelaani in Akhalgori, after the August 2008 war, I live in a Prezeti IDP settlement. In 2010, I studied the profession of stylist and I am still engaged in this field. I love my profession and try to learn more about it every day. I also love to communicate with people and the satisfaction of my customers means a lot to me.

The grant competition helped me to start small business and I have a hope that my business will improve even more in the future.



Tsiklani - 598 22 09 69 - Poultry

My activities are related to egg incubation, raising and selling chickens. I started this business activity in 2012, but before, I decided to get familiar with the field itself. I used to go to the training and now this profession is my hobby and a source of income at the same time. We all had psychological trauma after the war, but then I adapted to the situation with my family. I am from Gori and my husband is an August war veteran from Akhalgori. One thing that I hope for future is to have a chance of visiting his hometown together with our children.



Prezeti IDP settlement - 555 26 55 56 – Greenhouse

When the war of August 2008 started, my family and I lived in a village in Baalani, Akhalgori. We left our home and nowadays we live in the Frezeti IDP settlement. I decided to grow lettuce in a greenhouse. This project helped me to implement this idea. I think I will expand the greenhouse even more in a few years and this will increase my income.



Tserovani IDP settlement – 599 45 25 39 – Sewing workshop

After the war of 2008, we live in Tserovani IDP settlement. It was very difficult to get used to the new reality, we all were confused about what to do in a new and unfamiliar environment. Then I started working, but the income was not enough for me and my family, so I started to look for an additional income. Later on, I had the idea to create a small sewing workshop. I always wanted to start a business like this, but I had financial challenges and this project supported me to do what I love and to get an income from that.



Rusudan Gabitashvili

Tsiklani IDP settlement -595 74 80 70 – Pastry

When I was a child, I really loved baking different sweets. For this reason, I did not think much about my business plan, when I heard about the project, I saw it as an opportunity for me. I try to develop my skills as well, so I am learning even more details about my activities. Next year, I plan to further develop my workspace. I plan my products to be one of the best in the region for future.



Shavshvebi IDP Settlement – 568 34 30 10 – Cotton candy and popcorn machine

It is already two years since I have a coffee grounding machine in the settlement. As a result of your program I bought cotton candy and popcorn machine, which is very popular among the children in Shavshvebi. My family suffered physically and financially after the war and just wanted to contribute in economic well-being of the family. I really love my job and am extremely proud when I see a happy faces of the children. I want to prove that being an IDP is not a verdict and everyone should feel realized into the society.



Prezeti IDP Settllement- 598 98 98 82 -Small shop

Since 2008. I live in Prezeti IDP Settlement and have a small family shop here. Shop is very small and also it was very difficult for me to maintain products in conditions. In 2011, with my own resource, I built the shop and due to the very convenient location, I had many costumers. As a result of the program, I bought shelves, scale, air conditioning and most importantly generator, which ensures the proper conditions for my product when the electricity goes off, which is a very problematic issue in the settlement. I believe that with your support, I create liable and comfortable place for my costumers.

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Tserovani IDP Settlement -598 50 53 62 – Handicrafts/Embroider

I always wanted to take part in such program. my current occupation was my hobby since childhood, even though I have totally different profession. I am 90's generation and since we had not a lot to have fun, I started embroidering from a very young age. My history with regards to the war started even before I was born and continues until now. Since 1991, my family is displaced and I believe that raising me in such difficult socio-economic situation was not an easy job. After 2008, we had to overcome the war difficulties again. Even though I have not lived in my hometown, I am still there in my dreams. I am not sure where will I be in future, in several years, but if I had a chance to choose, I would go in my hometown and would continue my activities there.



Prezeti IDP Settlement- 599 62 20 68 - Pastry

War is devastating for everyone, it kills not only material, but other values as well. I wanted to do something for my family but a mother of three children without permanent job can not do a lot in the settlement. So I decided to start baking. After participating in the program I definitely see my future in this field.



Prezeti IDP Settlement– 557 50 29 66 – Diary products.

After 2008, we had to live in new place and it was connected to many challenges. Fighting difficulties was ending up with defeat and with the victory as well. In order to increase the economic stability of my family, I decided to start diary production. For me, it is very interesting, but time consuming as well. That's why I decided to take part in your program, and as a result, I bought necessary techniques and it lightened my everyday work. This type of work is very familiar for me even since the childhood so I am happy that I managed to improve our economic conditions.



Ketevan Kuljanishvili

Tserovani IDP Settlement – 593 10 85 74 – Dry cleaning

Since 2008, me and my family live in Tserovani. We have a small carwash. When we saw the demand of furniture cleaning, I decide to have a try of cleaning service in the settlement. There was no such service in the settlement so the demand is quite high and the profit is also good for the startup business. I think this will be a stable source of income in future as well.



Shavshvebi IDP Settlement – 593 20 03 82 – Diary production

My business activity is the diary production. Through your project, I bought the technical equipment, that would help me to save time and physical resources. Currently I produce milk, cheese and butter not only in the settlement, but in the surroundings as well.



Natia Maisuradze

Tserovani IDP Settlement-598 24 48 42 - Beekeeping

I am Natia Maisuradze, from Tskhinvali. Since 2008, I live in Tsrovani. I got familiar with the Beekeeping in 2009 and started this activity later on. I believe, through your program I will have growing and sustainable business.



Tsilkani IDP Settlement-598 54 59 50 – Dog hotel

I always had so many dogs and loved to spend time with them. This is how I came up with my business idea. I believe this will be a very succesfull business in future.



Shavshvebi IDP Settlement– 598 52 24 93 – Grain mill

My business activity is to produce grounded cereals for the cattle. Costumers bring their own cereals and get the them grounded. This business is the only source of my personal income and I am very happy about it.



Prezeti IDP Settlement– 557 12 14 50 – Diary production

Everything change since 2008 August war.

We had to overcome hard days and adapt new environment. My family started to produce diary products and about a year ago I participated in your program in order to expand my business activity. Through your help, I minimized the physical work and saved time gave me the chance to concentrate more on the product development.



Rusudan Valishvili

Tserovani IDP Settlement – 558 34 04 37 – Cottage cheese production

I am producing cheese and diary products from the day we live in Tserovani. The idea of cottage cheese was very spontaneous. I wanted to try something different, something that would increase my income. Producing cottage cheese is not an easy process, through you project I managed to buy proper technique and materials to develop my activity. Even though it is seasonal work, I believe that in future it will bring more income.



Tserovani IDP Settlement– 598 45 37 51 – Goat milk production

When I heard about so many positive features of goat milk, I decided to buy the goat. Step by step, through your program, I managed to have small business activities in my settlement.



Tserovani IDP Settlement – 599 38 03 99 – Dentist room

After the war, when we were settled in Tserovani and had no chance to enter Akhalgori, I decided to open dentist room in Tserovani. I have been working with my profession before and always preferred to provide high quality service to my costumers. As a result of Covid pandemic, I had a lack of the most important sanitizing equipment which was very expensive for me. Through the project, I managed to survive and continue my favorite activity which is the main source of my income.



Tserovani IDP Settlement – 571 23 72 52 – Bakery

I was living in village Kemerti. Since December 2008, I am living in Tserovani. Baking is my favorite hobby and also had this business for several years. Due to the pandemic situation, I had to close the shop and continued to get orders at home. In 2021, as a result of your project, I purchased the necessary techniques in order to improve the quality of my product.



Tsilkani IDP Settlement – 598 90 99 94 – Printing on mugs and T-shirts

My name is Ani and I am 22 years old. Since 2008 we live in Tserovani, where youth have many possibilities for skills development. Me and my friend already started the business activity in Tsilkani but through your project, we improved the service and added other components like printing on mugs and T-shirts.

N.N.L.E. Mtskheta-Mtianeti Regional Hub

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