



Gender Assessment of Agriculture and Local Development Systems in Georgia

The Assessment Aimed at:



- **Gender analysis** of policies, programmes and services related to agriculture and local development implemented by national and local governments, as well as development partners in Georgia.
- **Recommendations** for policy-making, and institutional, programmatic and service provision improvements in Georgia.

Geographic Coverage



- Autonomous Republic of Adjara
- Kakheti
- Samtskhe-Javakheti
- Kvemo Kartli
- Shida Kartli
- Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti

Key Policy Documents Analyzed:



- **The Strategy of Agricultural Development of Georgia 2015-2020 and a corresponding National Action Plan (NAP).**
- **Regional development strategies and action plans.**
- **Gender Equality Law and Action Plan 2014-2016.**

Findings



- **Gender equality is not mainstreamed** in the analyzed national, regional and village level policies.
- There is a **lack of coherence between** the Gender Equality Law and NAP and policies related to agriculture and rural/economic development.
- Ministries lack gender-sensitive **outreach strategies** and often do not collect **sex disaggregated data**.

Findings



- Gender equality issues/ dimensions are almost completely absent from the **regional development strategies 2014-2021**.
- The gender activities to be undertaken to reach the goal are not specified.
- The corresponding **action plans** are very much alike: none of the plans include collection of sex disaggregated data.

Recommendations



- **Inter-sectorial institutional mechanism on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)** in the executive branch of the government.
- **Gender analysis** of policies, operations and capacities of Ministries resulting in concrete actions for gender mainstreaming and capacity development.
- Collection and use of **sex-disaggregated data**.

Programmes and Services Analyzed at Local Levels



- Village support programs
- Small land owners' program
- Local budgets

Access to:

- Agricultural education
- Extension services
- Veterinary services
- Social infrastructure

Findings



- Local development programmes and budgets rarely take into account the potentially **different needs of women and men.**
- There is a limited access to agricultural education, and women are under-represented in **veterinary and farming VET.**

Findings



- Access to **extension services** is limited: 1 out of 10 heard of them. 1.4% report to have attended trainings. Less women than men are informed (almost by 20%).
- Access to **veterinary consultation**: costs - 2.38 GEL per year, other expenditures are far more with 10-316 GEL (fodder for animals).



Limited Access to Kindergartens

- 30.8% of respondents **lack access to kindergartens**, and there have been minimal new investments in the past 5 years - 96.9% report that the kindergartens have been in existence for more than five years.
- Construction of kindergartens is minimally present in **village budgets and/or village support programs** - the construction or rehabilitation of kindergartens and schools amounted to **7.18%** of all planned investments in **2014**.

Recommendations



- Support the work of **gender advisors** by municipal authorities and enforce **gender responsive budgeting** at local levels.
- **Actively include women** in small land-owners' programme, extension services and agricultural education.
- **Improve access to kindergartens**, e.g. through Village Support Programme to free women's time for income-generating and local development activities.

Findings: Target Groups



- Only 12% of the population is involved in local decision-making processes.
- **Average representation of women is 9% in City Councils (legislative branch) and 34% in Municipalities (executive branch) of targeted regions.**
- There is a wide-spread understanding shared by women and men that a **woman's place is at home.**

Findings: Target Groups



- The absolute majority of the population produce for household consumption.
- **90% of the surveyed population experiences financial difficulties**; households where the main breadwinner is a woman are more affected by poverty than those with male breadwinners.
- **Women are engaged in agricultural activities more days than men across all regions**; the average gap is 80.33 days per year. **Uneven distribution of household tasks** increases the gap even more.

Gender Equality Principle in Time-use/Time Budget



	Adjara		Kakheti		Shida Kartli		Kvemo Kartli		Samtskhe-Javakheti		Samegrelo – Zemo Svaneti	
	Crops	Animal husbandry	Crops	Animal husbandry	Crops	Animal husbandry	Crops	Animal husbandry	Crops	Animal husbandry	Crops	Animal husbandry
Men	85,5	162,96	91,34	166,82	146,86	198,22	106,31	187,02	118,13	237,37	69,17	94,31
Women	92,2	279,56	54,76	294,54	88,45	262,61	111,78	323,50	114,86	323,50	65,07	144,97

Findings: Target Groups



- **Access to fertilizers, irrigation water and land** are the main challenges in land cultivation and experienced to similar extent by women and men.
- **Access to markets** is identified as a problem primarily in Adjara (by 16.6% of respondents). Access is complicated because of bad roads and lack of money for transport and renting stalls to sell products in the markets.
- Only 0.8% of the surveyed population is engaged in a functioning cooperative. Women constitute 25% of the membership base of **agricultural cooperatives**.

Findings: Target Groups



- 15.2% of women and 14% of men report owning **farm buildings**.
- 5.7% of women and 6% of men report owning a **tractor**.
- 80% of the surveyed women are involved in **farming activities** (farmers).
- Some 63% of them have access to various facilities (**buildings, storage**) and **machinery** (tractor).
- Out of that 21% of female farmers **own** various facilities, and 79% **rent or use facilities for free**.

Recommendations



- **Promote agricultural development through** increased qualification of farmers, improved quality of and access to extension services, resources and cooperatives.
- **Promote women's roles in public life,** local development and agriculture, as well as men's roles in unpaid care and household work.
- **Empower women (and men) at the grassroots level** through support to self-help groups and other initiatives aimed at skills-strengthening, access to services, resources and markets.
- **Institutionalize Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB)** at the local level and support local groups' knowledge and advocacy skills.