

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:

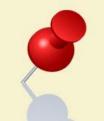
- Agricultural education
- Extension services
- Veterinary services
- Social infrastructure

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 underrepresented in veterinary and farming VET.





- 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 landowners' 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.

- 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.



- 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 Timeuse/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	91,3 4	166, 82	146, 86	198, 22	106. 31	187, 02	118, 13	237, 37	69,1 7	94,3 1
Wom en	92,2	279, 56	54,7 6	294 <i>,</i> 54	88,4 5	262, 61	111, 78	323, 50	114, 86	323 <i>,</i> 50	65,0 7	144 <i>,</i> 97

- 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.

- 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.