

Evaluation of Local Gender Groups' needs
of Senaki

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Presented report is prepared by the Fund “Sukhumi”. Ema Kamkia worked on the report. Research of needs was conducted by Senaki Gender Advisory Council.

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The content of the research is the sole responsibility of author.

“NGOs have important role in creation of social, economical political and intellectual climate based on gender equality. Women organizations must be actively involved in implementation and monitoring of the policy, directed to reaching gender equality”.

Beijing Action Platform, paragraph 289

Studying of gender needs on local level and their envisaging in local policy and programs, introduction of gender directed local budget practice, is important basis of state gender policy.

By generally accepted opinion, the main direction of state gender policy should be establishment of gender parameters in the process of socio-economic development, which means promotion of gender equality on labor market, development of small business and encouragement of women enterprisers, elaboration of state employment policy envisaging gender parameters, implementation of gender sensitive social protection and demographical policy. An urgent task also is creation of domestic violence protection system and enactment of relevant legal mechanisms.

One of the most important directions in gender policy implementation is promotion of **gender budget** principle establishment while formation of state as well as local budget.

Notion of gender budget is comparatively new and foresees gender analysis of the budget, which shows different influence of budget costs on men and women and promotes planning of a budget in a way which makes budget resources equally acceptable for both genders.

As gender specialists explain, gender budget envisages demand and needs of different social groups' representatives. “Gender sensitive budget does not mean separate budget for men and women. On the contrary, it provides establishment of gender awareness in separate polices and in the budgets of different instances”.

Presented research is aimed at Senaki gender groups (women, IDPs socially unprotected families, youth national minorities and etc.) needs research and presenting suggestions and recommendations to local government.

Research goals and objective, methodology, target groups and respondents were defined by women’s NGO – Cultural-Humanitarian Fund “Sukhumi”. Fieldwork of the research was conducted by Senaki Gender Advisory Council.

Dates of conducted research - results of quantitative and qualitative analysis are presented below.

Quantitative Research

Research Methodology

The research was conducted by the method of quantitative research, through inquiry techniques.

Totally 100 respondents were interviewed

Timetable#1

Research method	Quantitative research
Research technique	Face-to face interview (inquiry)
Target segment	IDP women, socially unprotected people, youth, ethnical minorities, members of Women Voters’ Club, Small Entrepreneurs
Research area	Senaki
Size of selection	100 persons
Method of selection	Preliminary/targeted selection

Selection fault	2 %
Average duration of the interview	15-20 minutes
The date of the research	April 2014

Inquiry was aimed at: target groups' (so called gender groups residing in Senaki – women, youth, IDPs, Socially unprotected, members of the voter women's club) interviews for revealing their gender needs.

The inquiry was conducted by 4 member group of Senaki GAC.

The inquiry was carried out in April 2014, totally 100 persons were interviewed. Selection was carried out in pre-defined groups. The gender (mostly women) and age (16-above 50) were pre-defined.

Inquiry comprised of 13 questions and so called demographic part, which was aimed at gaining information about respondents. (Age, type of accommodation, marital status, education, type of activity, number of family members (children among them), monthly income of the family.

Inquiry results

Demographic block

Age of the respondents was from 18 to 73, which finally was disseminated in 3 age groups.

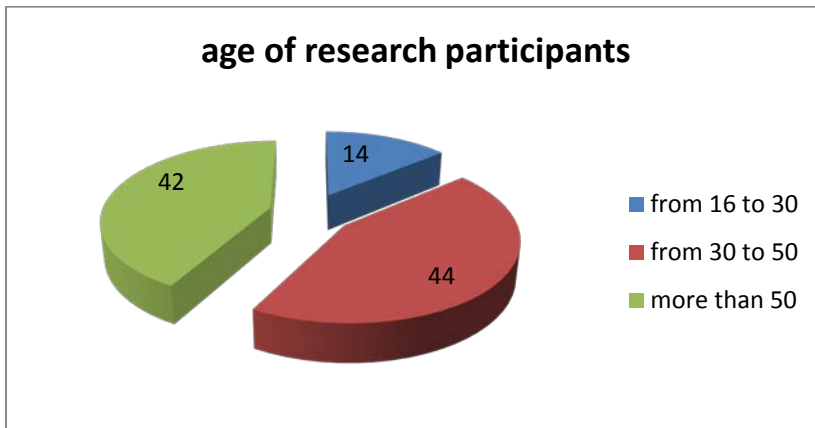


Diagram N 1

The research showed that majority of the respondents live in IDP collective centers. (24% of general amount) only 7 of 30 IDPs have own accommodation. 3 of them live by rent.

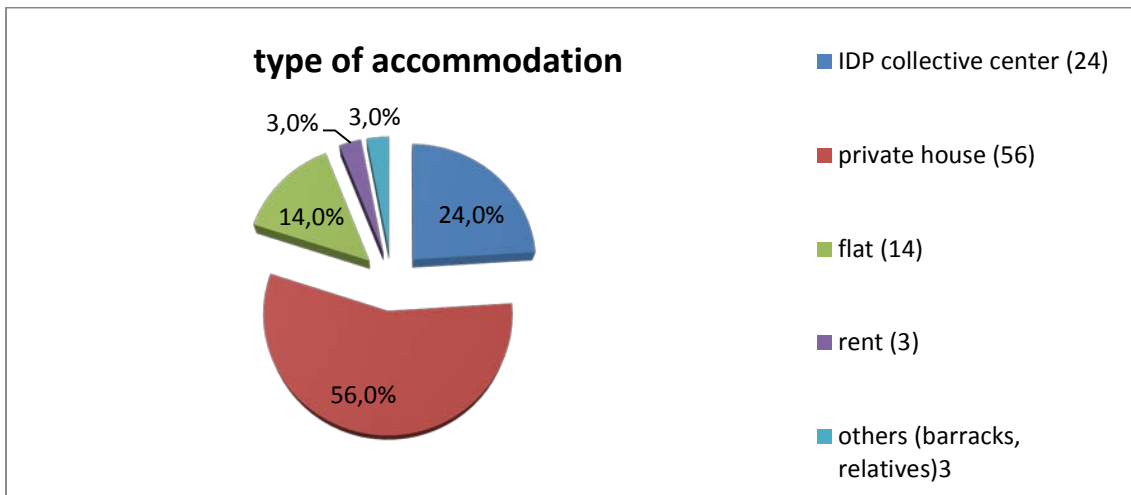


Diagram N2

Marital Status

Demographical block defined marital status of the interviewers. 6 of the interviewers out of 100 inquired are widows, 8 – divorced. There were 2 single mothers among the respondents

Schedule N1

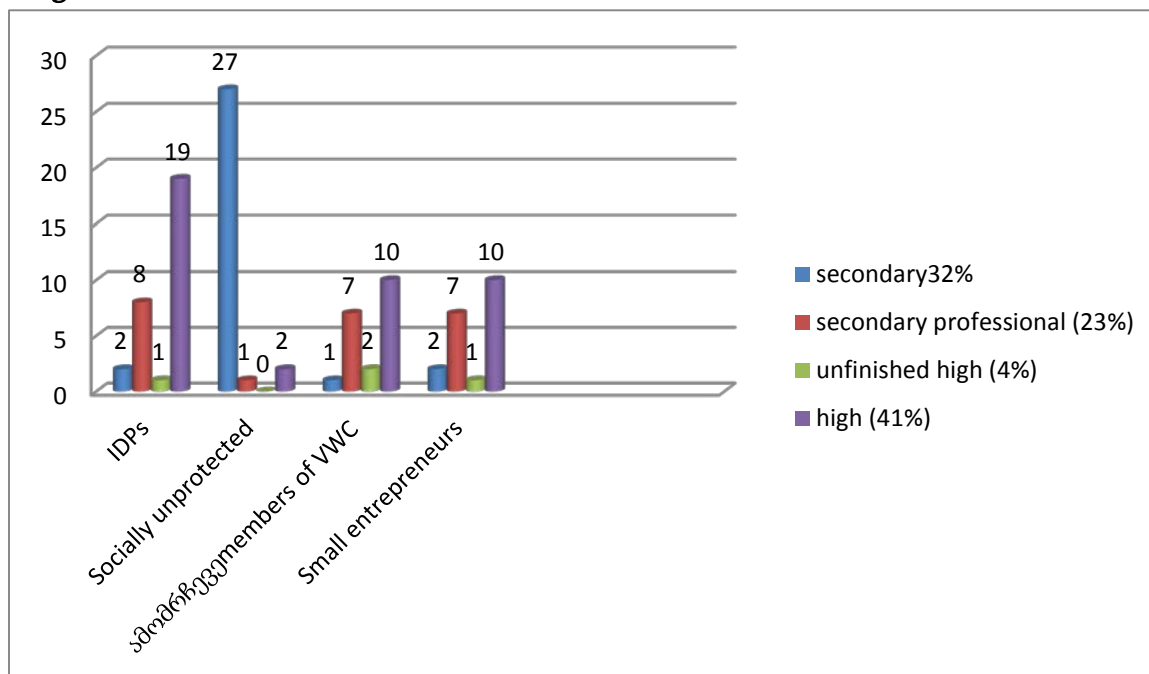
	a) Married	b) not married	c) divorced	d) Widows
IDPs	22	6	0	2
Socially unprotected	25	5	0	0

Voter Women's Club, Small entrepreneurs	10	6	3	1
	13	3	1	3
General amount	70	20	4	6
Totally	100			

6. Education

Statistics of interviewers' educational level shows that, most part of target groups have definite level of education (41%) . most of them are in the IDP group (19 out of 30 respondents). 32 of 100 respondents have Secondary Professional Education, 41 have high education. 10 % of the respondents mention that they have unfinished secondary education, most of them are socially unprotected, least of respondents with high education are also in the group of socially unprotected ones.

Diagram N 3



7. Type of activity

Inquiry showed that the problem of unemployment is quite high in target groups: more than half (57%) of 100 inquired are unemployed, most obvious among them are socially unprotected (100% of them). Number of self-employed respondents (17%) 4 respondents in private sector.

8 members of Voter Women' Club is employed in state sector, there are 10 IDPs in the state sector, which is quite high indicator.

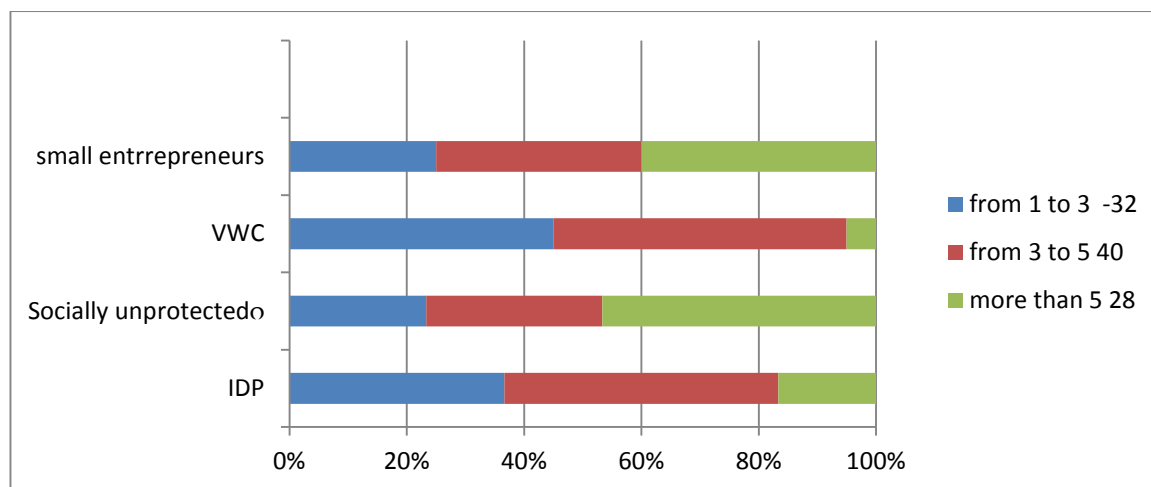
Answers in the schedule (N2)

	a)employed in the state sector	b) private sector	c) self-employed	d) unemployed	e) student
IDPs	10	3	0	17	0
Socially unprotected	0	0	0	30	
Voter Women's Club	8	1	1	10	0
Small entrepreneurs	0	4	16	0	0
General amount	18	8	17	57	0

8. Number of family members

Statistics of family members' number showed that nearly half of the respondents are from the families with 3-5 members. 28 interviewers are from large families. Majority of large families are in the group of socially unprotected people. Also more than 3 children were fixed in socially unprotected families.

Diagram N 4



Children among them

Schedule N3

a) 1-3 b) 3-5 c) more than 5-

IDP	11	0	1
Socially unprotected	8	11	2
Women Voters' Club, Small Entrepreneurs	6	3	0
	12	1	1
General amount	37	15	4

9. Middle monthly income of families

Monthly income of majority of inquired respondents' families is at 300 GEL. 24 respondents indicate that their monthly income do not exceed 150 GEL. 43 respondents say that their average monthly income is not above three hundred GEL. Segregation of dates according the groups is following: (schedule N4)

schedule N4

	a) about 150;	b) about 300;	c) above 300
IDP	7	9	14
Soc. unprotected	8	11	11
VWC	5	5	10
Small entrepreneurs	4	8	8
General amount	24	33	43
totally 100			

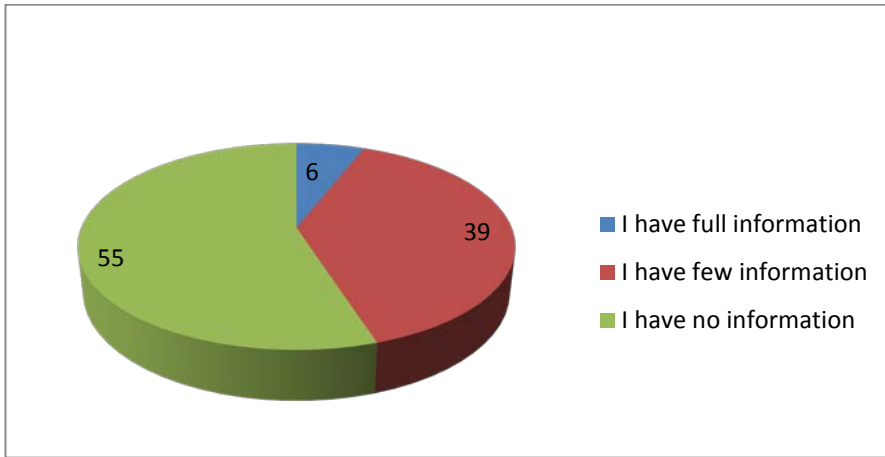
Main Block

The main block comprised 13 questions.

Question: **Do you have information regarding assistance program of mothers and children from the budget?**

Least informed about mothers' and women's assistance program are the members of the Voter Women's Club. 13 members of the IDP group have few information and 17 of them have no information at all.

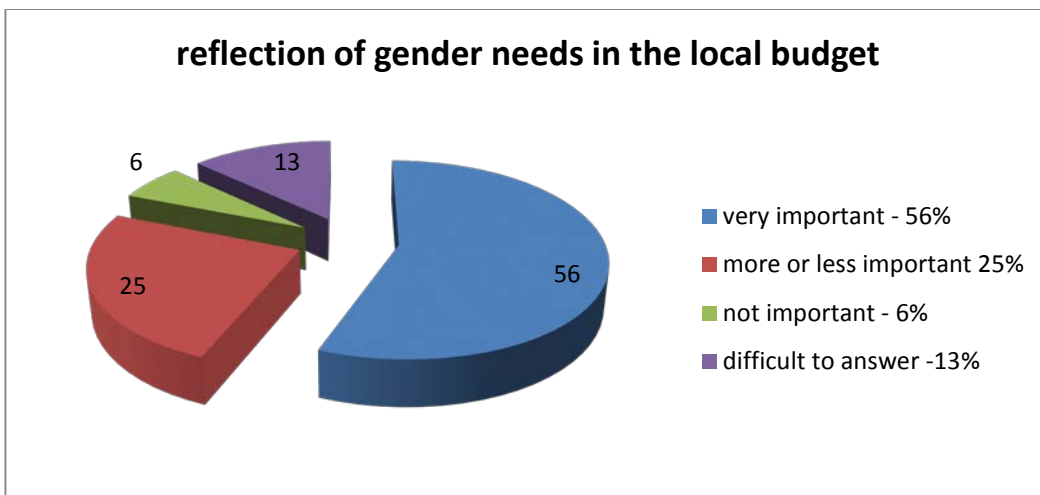
Dates are reflected in the diagram N5



2. Question: to your opinion, how important is to equally envisage the problems of women and men (other specific groups of society) while elaborating local budget?

The question aimed at revealing respondents attitude regarding gender allocation of budget. There was revealed that the interviewers give to high importance to equal solution of the problems of women and men and different gender groups of society, while composing local budget. 25% of them consider that this case is more or less essential. 6 % do not realize importance of this issue. 13% of respondents do not have a definite opinion.

Answers are shown in the diagram (N6)



N6

3. Question: to your opinion which sphere must be prior through financing out of the following ones on local level? (choose three most important ones). A) health care, b) education, c) social security, d) public order and safety, e) others. Respondents prefer programs of health. The answers were about the same regarding social security, public order and safety, education. (schedule - 5)

	a	b	c	d	e
IDP	29	25	17	18	0
Soc. unprotected	25	16	25	23	0
Women Voters'	16	13	14	9	0

Club, Small Entrepreneurs						
Women Voters'	18	11	14	16	0	
Club, Small Entrepreneurs						
General amount	88	65	70	66	0	
totally	289					

(schedule - 5).

4. Question: Envisaging of whose needs are more important in local budget? (Choose three more important ones) a) young families, b) IDPs, c) pregnant women, d) care less children, e) socially unprotected families, f) ethnical minorities, g) elderly, others. Most of the answers were given to the sector "elderly people"

See segregated schedule (N6)

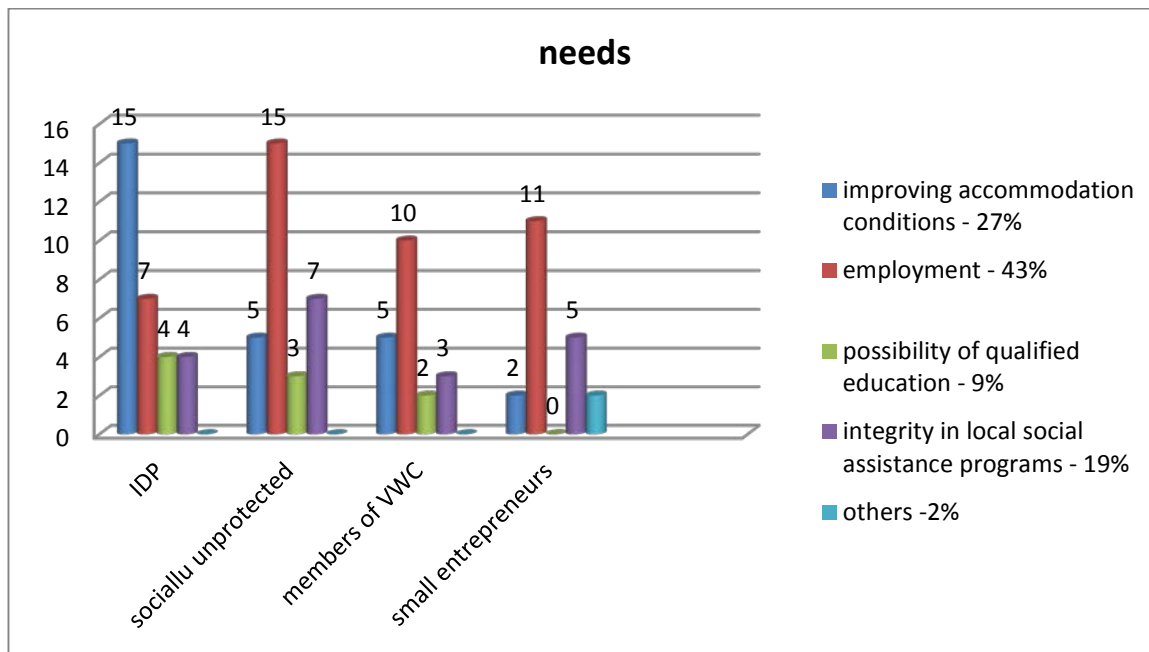
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
IDP	14	3	12	20	17	0	24
Soc. unprotected	23	0	14	13	16	2	22
Women Voters'	4	1	3	12	14	1	12
Club, Small Entrepreneurs							
Women Voters'	4	0	4	18	16	0	16
Club, Small Entrepreneurs							
General amount	45	4	33	63	63	3	74
Totally							

Question 5: Name your most important need, which is necessary for improvement of socio-economic development

43 % of respondents name unemployment as the most necessary for life. 27% - improvement of accommodation conditions, the respondents see less important receiving education (9%). Receiving of qualified education was not mentioned in the group of small entrepreneurs. At the same time 55% of them name employment as most vital need. 19% of the respondents consider necessary to be integrated in the social programs.

The answers were the following:

Diagram N7.



6. Question: which of these is the main obstacle of economical development?

50 % of interviewers name absence of start capital, the answer “I have no profession” was mostly indicated in the group of IDPs (19 of 30 respondents). 75% of the respondents in the groups of VWC and small entrepreneurs name this factor as main obstacle of their economical development. (16 out of 30 inquired) in the group of socially unprotected persons, indicated same answer. Barrier from the side of family was fixed only in 4 cases, 2 among them in the group of small entrepreneurs. Answers are given in the schedule (N7)

Schedule (N7)

	A	b	c	d	e
	I have no start capital	I have no knowledge in legal and tax issues	I have no enough knowledge in business management	I have barrier from the side of family members	I have no profession
IDP	19	2	7	1	1
Soc. unprotected	1	10	3	0	16
VWC	15	1	1	1	2

Small entrep.	15	0	3	2	0
General amount	50	13	14	4	19
totally	100				

7 Question: what kind of work is an income of your family?

Received answers show quite high level of reproductive work. This answer is mainly indicated in the IDP and small entrepreneurs group. Share of reproductive labor is fixed in more than half of socially unprotected group. General dates are given in Diagram (N8)

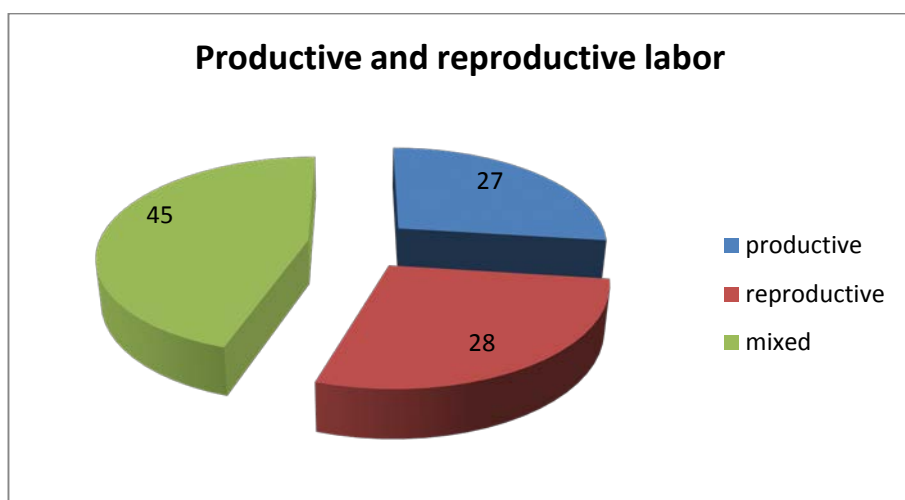
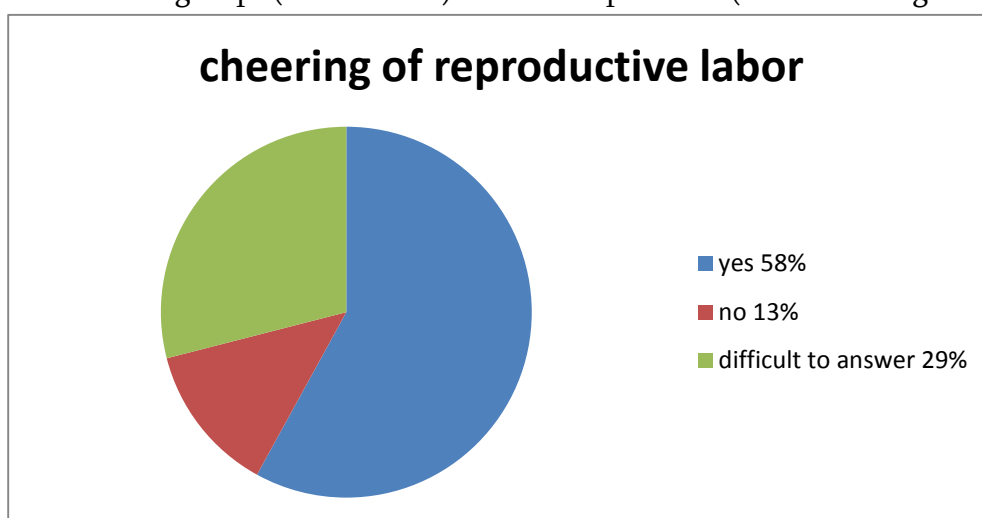


Diagram N 8

8. Question: Do you think unpaid labor (reproductive labor - care of children, the elderly, the sick, household activities) should be encouraged

Encouragement of reproductive labor activities is essential by the opinion of 58 % of respondents; 13% of them think that it is not necessary. 29 % are difficult to answer. Received answers show that majority of inquired women do not recognize importance of their contribution in family. Socially unprotected group is stricter in this case.

About half of IDP groups (14 out of 30) have same position. (Answers are given in Diagram



(N 9).

9. Question: In your opinion, what will contribute to the reduction of unemployment among women?

Probable answers were: a) informational centers of employment and unemployed persons, b) creation of more comfortable social infrastructure, (for example: kindergartens), c) development of tourism, d) create of concrete municipal programs of small business development, e) creation of jobs.

Inquiry answers make obvious attitude of those respondents, who think that reduction of unemployment among women is possible through creation of working places. Most of the answers were fixed in this direction (72 inquired). Comparatively concrete – importance of municipal programs of small business development was fixed by 7 %. Only 3 respondents name creation of social infrastructure for decreasing unemployment. The attention was paid to necessity of informational activity. 18 % of respondents underlined importance of “employment and unemployment”. **Answers are given in the schedule (N8)**

	a)	b)	c)	d)	e)
IDP	4	0	0	3	23
Socially unprotected	6	1	0	0	23
VWC	6	1	0	2	11
Small entrepreneurs	2	1	0	2	15
General amount	18	3	0	7	72
totally	100				

Schedule N8

10. Question: Do you have a need to enhance education, what are the programs you need out of following ones:

Among the interviewers there was revealed necessity of professional re-training courses 33%. (Mostly socially unprotected group). Long-term professional courses was fixed in 29 answers. Necessity of special trainings was named by 29 % in all enquired groups. Programs of computer and foreign languages was indicated mostly in the VWC group. The group of socially unprotected ones was not mentioned at all. The answers in the diagram (10).

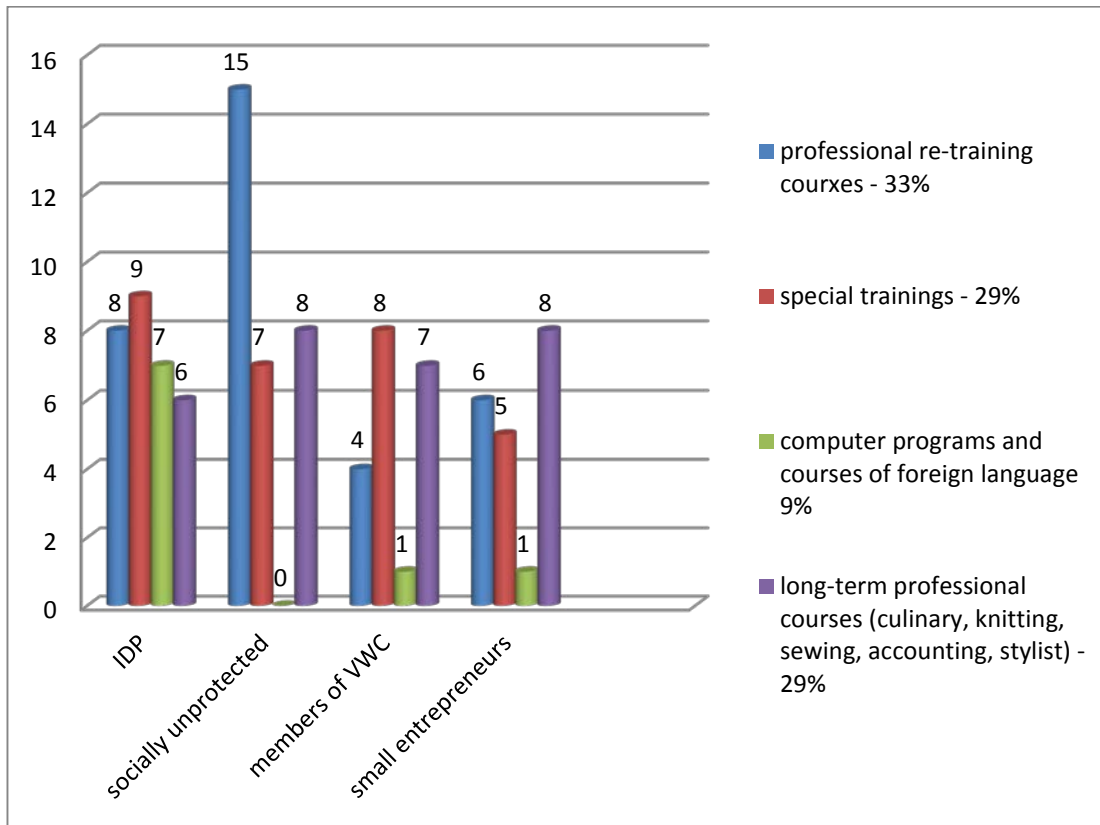


Diagram N10

11. Question: To your opinion, what must be done on local level for promotion of education and development of the youth?

In the 11-th question of the questionnaire there was especially mentioned possible activities for the support of the youth – as most gender sensitive group’s in their education.

In most cases, in target groups there was fixed the answer: financing of students from unprotected families on local level (61 answers). This was most frequent answer among IDP women group (20 out of 30 respondents). 32 out of 100 respondents considers that local support of successful students for promotion od education and development of the youth. Mostly these answers were indicated in the group of socially unprotected people.

Answers on the diagram (11)

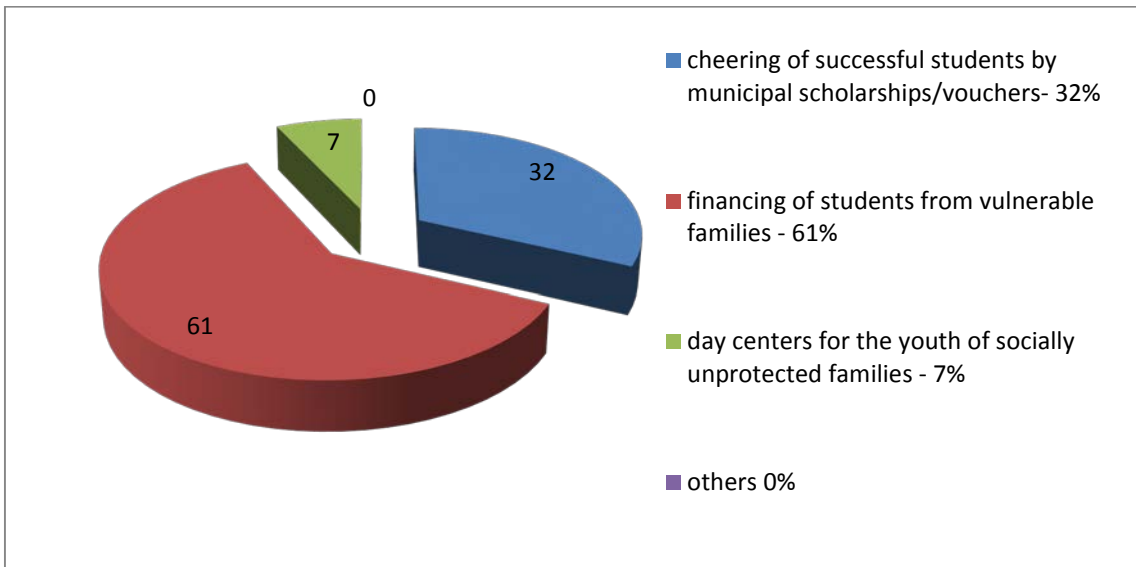


Diagram N11.

12. Question: How will you appreciate collaboration between local self-government, society and NGOs in assistance of social groups with exceptional needs?

12-th question of the questioner reflects exceptional social groups' evaluation towards collaboration of state structures, society groups and NGO sector regarding their needs satisfaction. Attitude of inquired target groups regarding the issue show that they mostly negatively appreciate local multidisciplinary work regarding protection of different social groups (51%), 15 % considers mentioned cooperation as unsatisfactory. General dates (Diagram 12)

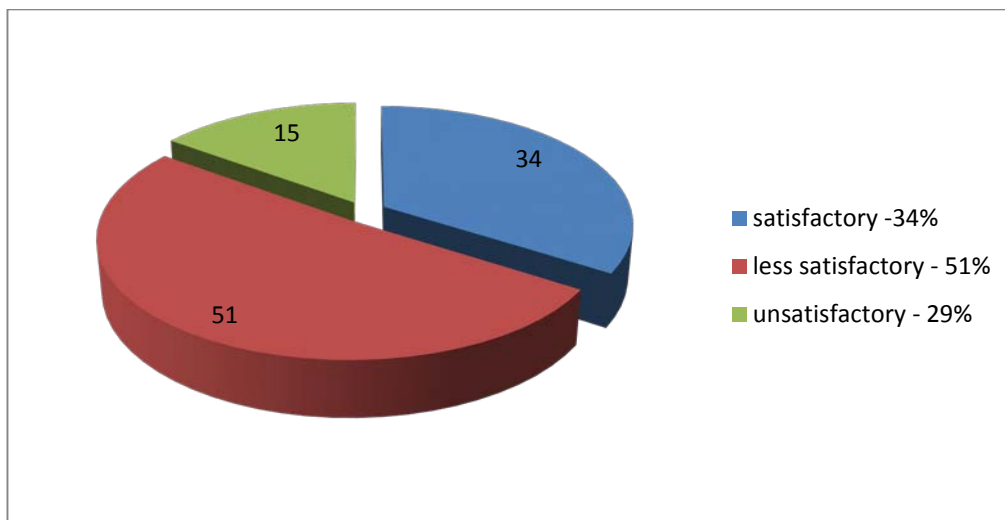


Diagram N12

13. Answer: To your opinion what structures should be involved in prevention and avoiding of domestic violence? The answers to choose: a) social services, b) law protecting structures, c) educational premises, d) healthcare structures, e) NGOs, f) local government, g) all above mentioned.

The answers received from target groups are presented in the diagram and reflect their attitude towards this issue.

Schedule N9

a b c d e f g

IDP	3	1	4	0	0	7	15
Socially unprotected VWC	4	7	0	0	2	8	9
Women entrepreneurs	2	4	0	1	2	2	9
general	14	16	4	2	4	18	42
totally	100						

Received answers showed that respondents – who are the representatives of one of the most socially sensitive groups, consider coordinative involvement of all mentioned structures in solution of domestic violence problem (42% of all inquired) mostly these answers were indicated in the IDP women group (60% of them) the answer “law protecting structures” was chosen was chosen by 16% of research participants.

Function of the NGOs is important for 12, 5% of respondents.

Part of the respondents sees the role of social services and local self-government through direction of violence prevention (accordingly – 16% and 18%) small part of the respondents mention separate role of NGO sector (4% of them).

Conclusion : results of quantitative research, “Evaluation of Local Gender Groups’ needs of Senaki Municipality”, conducted by the order of the fund “Sukhumi” in Senaki, proved the first theory: In the context of local development there are social, different gender groups, who have exceptional needs and envisaging of them in local policy and programs will promote social, economical, cultural development of these groups. The research divided issues, envisaging of which is the most important by the opinion of the respondents for promotion of their development.

Part II

In the second part of the research there is a report of qualitative research conducted by the order of the fund “Sukhumi”.

Report of the qualitative research

The qualitative research was conducted with the method of focus group and in-depth interview.

Research method	Qualitative research
Research techniques	Focus group, in-depth interview
Target segment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Groups, the needs of which are researched 2. Groups, which have information regarding research groups. 3. Experts

Research areal	Senaki
Selection size	29 persons totally (3 in depth interviews, 26 in focus-groups)
Selection method	Previous target selection
Selection fault	1%
Average duration of the interview	Focus-group - 1,5 – 2,5 hours In-depth interview - 1 – 1,5 hours
Dates of conducting fieldwork	April 1-25, 2014

As a result of qualitative research there were revealed opinions of experts (educational and self-government issues, social security and health care, economical issues), regarding local gender needs and self-government gender policy. The theories fully coincided with the results received by conducting focus-groups.

There worked the groups who possess information regarding local gender groups: (Senaki media sources and NGO sector, representatives of intelligentsia), or they themselves represented these groups (in case of the youth). By collecting qualitative information, gender needs of the beneficiaries were revealed and several conclusions were made. Directions, which will promote formation of local policy, were defined.

The question which was learned by focus-groups participants', mainly - **informing about self-government budget program**, revealed different levels. In most part of the youth there was shown high level of informing regarding local programs, though it was said that this information is not reachable for everyone. The sources of information were: informational board of Sakrebulo, demanding public information officially, private contacts with Sakrebulo and Gamgeoba stuff, it was said that more transparency of the budget would be better. *"The budget may not be fully published and aired, but the part regarding directly social costs, infrastructure, must be known by the media"*.

There was a question - needs of what civil groups must be more envisaged while composing local budget and how?

Part of the focus-group participants considers it necessary to finance infrastructural projects for the residents of the villages. *"It will be stimulation for the village residents, especially for the youth and a chance for them to stay in the village"*.

The problem of the patients under the program of dialysis was underlined and the issue of transportation for them was raised.

By the other opinion, it would be better to elaborate assistance program for the war participants and promotional programs for the mothers of many children.

One of the participants raised a question regarding teaching with modern methodology programs in the kindergartens. As they know the Ministry of Education has several programs of this kind. It would be better if the government work more to this direction and fill the vacuum, which stays regarding raising qualification of the kindergarten stuff, despite the activities of the self-government.

Part of the youth thought that different target program should be prepared and supported, also importance of youth involvement in agricultural activities was underlined.

“It would be great to envisage opinions of the village residents while composing programs and define priorities by relevant researches”.

Traditionally ordinary people mostly ask to support social projects, but besides the budget must be directed to long-term projects, without of this it would be impossible to develop those groups, who are fully depended on state support.

There was raised a question of protection of mothers and children, especially the period of pregnancy. By the opinion of the respondents, special attention should be paid to the single mothers, widow and elderly women.

Specific gender needs of different groups were seen by the respondents of in-depth interviews. *“Senaki is a small town and all specter of the problems is seen. The problems of water supply and gas still exist, which belongs to the women’s needs and has a gender character.”*

While composing the budget it is necessary to envisage IDP issue. Some of them live in awful conditions, for example – sanatorium “kolkhida”, the elderly people, women and children have no elementary living conditions. The same problem was obvious after inquiring IDP women group, when majority of them named improvement of accommodation conditions as one of the most vital things needs.

The question of kindergartens was named as the problem of local importance. The kindergartens are far from villages and it is problem for mothers to take the children on such a long distance.

Successful was the step of financing school pupils’ transportation by the Ministry. *“It economises time, energy, the pupils actively use it.”*

It was said that sometimes it is very difficult to define social priorities while composing the budget as the budget, because of its small amount cannot cover all social needs and it is not also envisaged under the law. Though sometimes it must be envisaged that *“majority of residents are socially unprotected, the main source of their income is state social assistance, and the pension for the elderly people.”* That’s why the costs, which are foreseen for the social assistance, should be allocated maximally fair and directly and for that research of citizens’ needs is essential.

Experts mention that social costs in the central budget were increased, that made condition of vulnerable groups somehow easy, but the local budget cannot get free of social costs. “Local budget envisages annual assistance of mothers with many children, socially unprotected elderly, orphans and disabled persons. To say the truth, social costs are not enough, but in this case we must envisage possibilities of the budget”.

Financing of what sphere will be more relevant to the needs of gender groups? What kind of program should assist them in the development?

It was said that number of social problems is high, so it is important to define the priorities. Important issue is development of social infrastructure, mainly suitable situation in kindergartens, which would save the time of mothers and help them to use it for own and professional realization.

The issue of providing disabled people with infrastructural projects is also worth noting.

Promotion of re-socialization of the former prisoners must be prior for the local self-government.

Majority of the respondents considered it necessary to create educational courses and underlined the issue of employment of these people. Allocation of long-term loans for the small entrepreneurs was considered as pre-condition of problem solution.

Inquiries proved correctness of this position. Absence of starting capital, as obstacle for their economical development was noted by the group of small entrepreneur women.

Part of the respondents considers that small business must be supported and local programs must be prepared for that. *“Agricultural development programs would be relevant, there is a college of this type in Senaki and it will be great to employ the students in agricultural sector, which will stimulate other youth that they also will be employed by their professions. Priority must be given to financing of educational and cultural youth programs.”*

By the opinion of one expert, *assistance should be given not only to socially unprotected youth, but generally talented young people must be chosen and cheered by scholarships and paying their educational taxes in universities. They must not be depended only on their social condition, so it is important to employ and support them.*

Promotion of sanitarian education, financing of educational programs, popularization of sanitarian norms, ecological culture, prevention from dangerous diseases, fighting against bad habits was also underlined in the discussions.

Qualitative research revealed positions of the respondents regarding what activities must be carried out in the local policy for improving social condition (for example – decreasing unemployment) in long-term perspective?

It was said that while forming and fulfilling the budget it was not envisaged by long-term perspective till nowadays, there is no relevant policy and practice. *“local budget costs are mainly of social character financing is carried out in one and the same direction and no one tries to plan and implement new interesting programs”*.

Priorities should be divided according municipalities and opening new enterprisers must be carried out. *“Local resources should be used correctly. Manufacturing industry and agriculture must be stimulated; low-percentage loans must be allocated.”*

“It is necessary to create a good investment environment and attract banks by development of small business.” *“There is a precedent in Senaki- for example - the nut factory. Similar enterprises can help to avoid migration and labor migration”*.

Involvement of the women in small business, it will give them opportunity to improve social condition and be involved in decision-making process. For majority of women it is essential to be the member of society and it is necessary to conduct fair and transparent competitions.

The budget must envisage needs of different social levels, but one-term social assistance cannot change existing hard situation. *“The most important thing for the people is future outlook, faith in their future, which will be achieved by hard work and not someone’s so called “assistance” social assistance is a reality today, it would needs to be grown and expanded.”* (N.G.)

Participants of the discussions touched the law on self-government, which will give the population possibility to implement some kind of enterprise work.

By the position of the respondents budget of local self-government, socio-economical development priorities, municipal programs and plans must be elaborated in such a way, to exclude any kind of discrimination.

Local self-government implements activities for revealing discrimination and elimination of it. This is directly mentioned in Georgian law on “gender equality” and while composing local budget, relevant structures are obliged to envisage and solve the problems of men and women on equal level.

“Unemployment is a problem for both: men and women. Natural resources of Senaki (thermal waters, soils and etc.) give opportunity to have potential of tourism, resort and industrial development; it would be possible by attracting investments. Promotion of employment is under self-government competence and the activities must be planned to this direction”.

The following question was regarding respondents’ position – which is the most vital need for stable development of research groups? Which concrete activities will help in solution of them?

First of all there were revealed respondents opinions regarding needs of women groups. One of the main obstacles for development of women is early marriage, which hampers women’s social activeness.

Majority of the respondents named woman’s economical independence – as a stimulation for development. It was mentioned that exact contingent of women needs basic education in different activities:

“I think that educational premises does not teach vital skills of reproductive health and there is no exact information reachable in accordance with the age. There must be conducted lectures, meetings and discussions about healthy life-style among the youth and about harmfulness of alcohol, drugs and nicotine. It is essential to plan cultural and sport activities, conducting competitions in schools, districts and streets, with involvement of different gender groups”.

Study and use of local resources was considered as essential. “There is a resort “Menji” in our municipality, which at one time was a resort of international importance and now it is inactive. Effective measures must be taken by the local self-government to revive it. Development of the resort would increase local resources and create jobs”.

There was a question – which is the main obstacle for economical development of these groups and what concrete assistance should be given to them?

“By the opinion of the participants, unfortunately during last 20-25 years, the main income for the families was a household, enterprise work, it because a fact that professional re-trainings of the social groups, which we call gender ones, was not carried out. Accordingly, until we start enterprising, we must study the needs of local municipality, regarding producing of different kinds of products and then accordingly re-trainwomen and youth, only after that it will be possible to involve the municipality”.

“According the law on self-government, soon they will have chance to open separate factories, become the subjects of these enterprises and at the same time invite donor organizations, which will promote employment of women groups in small enterprises”.

How and by whom must be cheered labor in unpaid sector on local level?

There was an opinion that local budget must envisage such kind of assistance. NGO sector must be also interested in it. “It is essential to popularize and evaluate reproductive work in family; representatives of different sectors must be interested in their assistance”. First of all local self-government must care about these people”. It will be great to create an agency or a fund. “To this direction we cannot divide only one side. Responsibility must not be taken only by the state. There are funds abroad. The state, NGOs, donor organizations must find ways and means to implement assistance programs for such category of people.”

Unlike qualitative research, the survey in the women's groups, showed that many of them do not realize the importance of reproductive labor and it is hard for them to imagine its encouragement.

The experts were asked: how will you evaluate coordination of local self-government, society and NGO sector by the side of local needs satisfaction? What must be done for improvement of this situation, especially by the gender side?

They defined their position that international and local NGOs closely cooperate with the local government. Activities of any NGO covers necessary issues for the society and in most cases it manages to satisfy local needs as it is possible in frames of the budget. *“The example of your organization shows that it is essential to have close cooperation between the NGOs and local authority regarding actual issues for the society.”*

I regularly attended the meetings of the Fund “Sukhumi”. There were meetings with representatives of local government, different parties, NGO sector. I was assured that no single organization is indifferent to any problem, especially on issues related to violence, regarding which sharp, interesting dialogue took place. Frequent relationships, objectively expressed view, exchange of opinions, will overcome any problem. Position like - "that is not my job," "It does not concern me", is always a loss, unreliable and detrimental to the public.

Respondents emphasized the importance of local government, public and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of joint programs in terms of local needs. According to them, there are number of examples of such cooperation in Senaki. Many projects have been carried out in the villages, which were designed for the needs of the local population.

How is the women protected from domestic violence and in what way must be built collaboration between the sectors for prevention of domestic violence and avoiding of its results?

By the position of the respondents, it is essential to involve all circles in prevention of violence. It is necessary to make decisions on state level for solution of the problem. The violence must be left as a problem of a person or a family; it must be a problem of all society.

“Collaboration of social service, police and self-government in this direction is important. Self-government must include village attorney institution and also create a rehabilitation center, where it would be possible to conduct psychological and legal assistance to victims of violence.”

Respondents mention necessity of informational-educational activities. *“In addition, for prevention it is recommended to conduct awareness campaign against domestic violence in the schools. The younger generation should know their rights, so they could better understand their own responsibilities and role in family and society.”*

It was said that domestic violence is a delicate issue, Violence is met in all the layers, in all directions, but domestic violence is obvious very late when alienation among family members is at its peak.

"I think Fund" Sukhumi" does a very good job. Propaganda, psychological conversations, seminars showed the women that they are not alone; the best result will be if conversations, dialogues, discussions on similar topics will be continued. In this case, none of the victim women will hide that she was under pressure, under aggression; on the contrary, she will resist and call others to raise their voice against violence for the protection of their children's future.

To their opinion the leading role in it has media. *“Different events must be carried out, educational of preventive, accordingly, to my opinion, exceptional attention should be paid to communicative sources. Each person should know his rights so it will be desirable if the media sources and the TV allocate more time to this problem”*

By the opinion of the respondents, different preventive measures should be carried out, but Georgian mentality also should be envisaged, when we do not want to involve law enforcement structures and administrative services in solution of our family problem. Coming out of Georgian reality, in most cases, domestic conflicts are regulated by the advices of relatives. It is desirable to have a centre, where each citizen should have advice and assistance and representation of relevant organization will protect their rights and interests in different structures.

How important are the local activities for protecting from socially dangerous diseases (Tuberculosis, hepatitis, HIV / AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, etc.) what other activities should be carried out except of existed ones.

Respondents mention that prevention and treatment of these diseases are financed from central budget, though different activities for prevention are also reflected in many local programs. It was said that relevant structures existing in Senaki municipality implement activities to this direction.

From the side self-government different events are carried out against socially dangerous diseases, but consider that more educational work must be carried out to this direction. *“It must be established in the society that we should be tolerant to the people with these diseases, because none of us is immune from such cases.”*

“To tell the truth, preventive measures of local government are not enough. Monitoring of sanitarian-hygiene situation of dental offices, beauty salons, fast food restaurants should be implemented as these are the objects which may be dangerous as hepatitis may be transmitted.”

By the opinion of the participants, local budget must finance also exclusive programs, which will give opportunity to “Public healthcare center” to visit the villages and conduct preventive activities in case of finding new hotbed of tuberculosis. *“We have a hope that the programs, presented by our centre will gain financing in exclusive frames of self-government”.*

The conversation touched establishment of healthy values among the youth. *“We must take preventive measures from the very early age, conduct activities, discussions, debates, training-seminars; invite medical staff, psychologists, people, who will show the youth correct way and direction to live healthy life-style”*. The participants mentioned that the schools conduct interesting event to this direction.

What preconditions should be created for the women (and other social groups) for equal participation in the local self-government?

If a woman wants to be active, leader, she will achieve it. *“Old stereotypes are ruined step by step, but according own observations and experience, majority of women prefer to have calm, stable quiet working area and not the way of permanent opposition, obstacles and problems. Being involved in local self-government activities means high energy, family support, intellect, educational level. Leader-women always were and will be by our side.”*

Majority of the respondents do not see any kind of obstacles for the women and other social groups for their equal participation in local government. The most important is to have motivation, will and education. There was an opinion that as a result of planned local government reform, balance of gender equality should be carried out in the local authorities, mainly among Sakrebulo members as well as in structural units of Gamgeoba.

“Involvement of women and other social groups in local government of our municipality and whole Georgia is quite passive. It is noticeable that the women are less involved in the mentioned processes. There are very few gender sensitive women – motivated to work on women issues, who will manage to raise women and gender problems Georgian political discussion”.

“Women's participation in politics would make them less rigid and more compromise, culture of dialogue and debate would be increased. In this respect, I think that political parties should protect men and women balance in their representations.”

Conclusion and recommendations

Conclusion and recommendations

The analysis of the research conducted by the fund “Sukhumi” showed that the first theory of the research regarding policy and practice of social groups under exceptional needs was strengthened by the dates of qualitative and quantitative research.

The research showed that different social groups of citizens consider local government as possibility of their local services, socio – economic development, security ensuring. Besides, they consider local structures, as guarantee of social justice, civil interest’ protection and wish it to be more actively involved in monitoring of existing state programs’ fair implementation and protect civil interests.

The research showed common tendency – to see more sophisticated local municipal target programs and they must be directed to promote local long-term projects, which in final report will minimize number of citizens waiting for state allowance and will be directed to their development.

As a result of research analysis it got possible to elaborate recommendations and suggestions for local self-government, which are presented below.

Equal participation in local self-government

- While composing the budget and defining budget priorities, from its very early stage, providing of different social groups; equal participation, for maximal envisaging the needs of these groups
- Conducting or relevant researches or envisaging already existing information through direction of citizens’ social protection

Protection of mothers and babies

- Local activities for support of pregnant women, infants, maternal and child care. Assistance for concrete category of the families (students) in post-natal period
- reproductive health care, support of preventive measures of feminine organ diseases (including cancer)

Local gender groups' vital needs satisfaction

- Full informing of local gender groups regarding local budget programs
- Responsibility in IDP social-economical integration issues and close collaboration with relevant structures (The Ministry of Internal Displacement, Abkhazian Governmental Structures).
- Support of special programs for social protection of the elderly people, benefits on local transport.
- Promotion of the students from socially unprotected families, cheering of successful students.
- Supporting special programs for social assistance of single mothers and widows

Local multidisciplinary collaboration

- Settling of local gender statistic system together with the interested groups
- Close cooperation with Sakrebulo GACs (according agreement with the fund "Sukhumi")
- Settling of gender practice, gender monitoring of the budget for evaluation and analysis of its influence on men and women and different groups of society.
- Strengthening of local inter-sector collaboration according rights and obligations of law: "Gender equality law", "law on domestic violence prevention, victim protection and assistance", local obligations of the law action plan.
- Ensurance of local budget transparency and accountability, study of its influence on the population.
- promotion of raising awareness in gender economical policy, planning and budget processes of self-government representatives and other local institutions.

Decrease of unemployment and promotion of socio-economical development

- Creation of relevant climate for women small business and support of its development programs. Ensuring of informational resource centers
- Long-term social projects, which will replace assistance programs for certain groups by the economical development supporting programs.
- Periodic analysis of the effectiveness of social expenditures in local budget. Creation of monitoring system.

Support of reproductive labor

- Creation of such employment programs, which will give the housewives (who cannot leave families, because of infants, disabled elderly) chance to be involved in enterprise business without leaving homes (traditional handicraft)
- Benefits on local taxes for those representatives of private sector, who will cheer reproductive work
- Cheering and support of reproductive work (sick, disabled children care)

Promotion of social infrastructure development

- Enlarging of preschool premises according needs of population
- Support of qualification raising programs in preschool premises for medical service (logopedists, psychologists).
- Promotion of Physical and psychological health of the preschool contingent. Promotion of periodical inspection program of Orthopedist, children's eye specialist
- Discussion of increasing salaries for the teachers of kindergartens

Enlarging of local competence issues

- Stimulation of women (teachers, stuff or art sphere, enterprisers and etc) by allocating them small targeted grants (exhibitions, publication of works and so on).
- Fulfilling of social protection as one on the main functions of local budget, preparation of local suggestions for improvement of social justice level of state programs' regulations
- Implementation of according policy for disabled groups for creation of relevant infrastructure for them
- Creation of professional activity centers according the research of market demands, training of women and other gender groups for their professional growth.

Prevention of socially dangerous diseases on local level

- Creation of statistics system of social diseases, studying of scale of socially dangerous diseases
- Creation of maximally comfortable sanitarian service on local level
- Involvement of qualified specialists in prevention of socially dangerous diseases on local level (TB, hepatitis "c", HIV - AIDS, etc.)
- Support of educational programs and projects in schools and kindergartens (informing, prevention direction)
- Insurance of product control local activities

Youth educational and development programs

- Creation of self-government youth policy strategy, promotion of healthy life-style, support of their education and development, cultural and sport activities
- Support of the sanitarian culture and sexual education programs in schools
- Making basis for youth training system in local authority, stimulation of private enterprises through this direction
- Cheering of successful students (integrity in educational programs abroad, publishing of the works), assistance in realization of their possibilities (exhibitions, re-trainings in desired professions).

Prevention of gender side domestic violence and collaboration in protection of the victims

- Creation of violation statistics in family,
- Training of self-government stuff, law structures, social workers, journalists through cooperation with NGO sector
- Insurance of local social services for violence victims
- Providing of victim assistance in frames of local government competence together with the other subjects of violence prevention referral mechanisms