



Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Reintegration

**REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
ACTION PLAN FOR
TOLERANCE AND CIVIC INTEGRATION**

May-December, 2009

In summer 2008, *Division of National/Ethnic Minority Issues* and *Division of Civil Integration* were established under the Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Reintegration. It is noteworthy that the staff members of these two divisions are the representatives of national minorities in Georgia (Azeris, Armenians, and Chechens).

Prior to this, the *Civil Integration and Tolerance Council* functioning under President of Georgia has been working on the elaboration of the **“National Concept for Tolerance and Civic Integration”** and its five-year **Action Plan**.

Several on-site visits in the regions compactly settled with national minorities (Kvemo Kartli, Kaspi district of Shida Kartli region settled compactly with ethnic Azeris, Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kakheti regions settled with ethnic Ossetians, Azeris, Armenians, Assyrians, Udins, Lezghins, Roma, Kists) have been organized with a purpose to make more effective the functioning of the Office and to enhance competence. During on-site visits in the regions, several meetings have been conducted with the representatives of the local self-governments as well as with the local population. On-site visits enabled us to get information on the existing condition and considerably promoted our effective involvement in the elaboration of the National Concept.

With the cooperation of the *Civil Integration and Tolerance Council* functioning under President of Georgia the **“National Concept for Tolerance and Civic Integration” and Action Plan has been approved by the governmental decree №348 of 8 May 2009**. According to the National Concept, the Office of the State Minister has been entitled for the elaboration and coordination of the policy as well as for the presentation of the annual reports (on December of each year) on the implementation of the *Action Plan for Tolerance and Civic Integration* to the Government of Georgia and *Civil Integration and Tolerance Council* functioning under President of Georgia.

With a purpose to coordinate implementation of the Action Plan and the National Concept, the *Inter-institutional Commission* has been established by the Decree №14 (3 July 2009) of the State Minister of Georgia for Reintegration. The Commission encompasses the staff-members of the State Minister Office as well as the representatives of the public agencies and organizations. The *Commission* is effectively cooperating with the *Committees of the Parliament of Georgia, Public Defender’s Office, NGOs and international organizations*. In addition, with our initiative, the official representatives of the Office of the State Minister have been appointed in Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo Kartli regions.

About 60 on-site visits in different regions of Georgia have been organized by the staff-members of the Office of the State Minister. All stakeholders responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan were provided with the information obtained during our visits for further response. It should be noted, that all responsible agencies responded in a timely manner to alleviate problems presented by the Office of the State Minister.

The Office of the State Minister has been cooperating with international organizations and donors to solve several problems. For instance, due to our recommendation the Embassy of Japan allocated funds for the rehabilitation of Azeri school in Marneuli district. The issue to provide funds for the rehabilitation of Akhalkalaki Armenian school and Udin School in the village of Oktomberi in Kaheti region is under discussion.

On 15 December 2009, a decision has been made at the Government’s meeting based on Kurd-Yesids request about granting 1600 square meters of land (the land has been sold with a symbolic price – 1 GEL) to built cultural-educational center. In addition, based on the request of Pankisi Gorge residents and due to the intercession of the Office of the State Minister, first ethnographic museum will be opened in Pankisi Gorge on January 2010.

One of the priorities of the Office of the State Minister is to pay particular attention to the villages compactly settled with ethnic Ossetians. Therefore, several on-site meetings have been organized during the 2008 August war and onwards in order to figure out if the situation was stable there. There was no clash between ethnic Ossetians and Georgians despite tragic situation in the country on August 2008. Herewith, the issue of migration of ethnic Ossetians is worth mentioning. Migration of Ossetians began earlier in 1990s and persisted until 2008. One of the reasons of migration was the willingness to get back to their separated families since the younger members of many Ossetian families had moved in earlier years to North Ossetia. The migration has become the acute problem especially for the villages of Akhmeta and Lagodekhi districts (Dumasturi, Kvemo Khalatsani, Tsinubani, Qoreti, Kutsakhta, Pichkhovani, Akhshni and Areshperoni). The Office of the State Minister will further continue to pay special attention to compactly settled ethnic Ossetians.

In order to avoid assimilation, the Office of the State Minister puts a special emphasis and promotes the preservation of cultural identity among small group national minorities (Udins, Lezghins, Kists, Roma people, Assyrians, Kurd-Yesids, etc).

This report purposefully does not cover the issue of Meskhetians forcefully exiled from Georgia during the Soviet Union since their repatriation process has not been launched yet. Despite the fact that they do not represent national minorities of Georgia, the Office of the State Minister is planning to conduct several activities for the promotion of their further adaptation and integration into the society.

For the peaceful development of the country, it is of utmost importance to restore and maintain historical connections with North Caucasian people. For that reason, the Office of the State Minister tries to build and deepen connection with them with an intense cooperation of the “Caucasian Foundation.”

During on-site visits, we identified that due to the lack of knowledge of the state language, local population in “non-Georgian” regions live in informational isolation; do not know much about on-going events in the country and the legislative or other changes regarding ethnic/national minorities of the country.

With the initiative of the Office of the State Minister and the financial support of the USAID, the National Concept and Action Plan has been translated into Azeri and Armenian languages in order to meet the interest of the local population. The translated documents have already been presented in Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti regions; it is envisaged to have an official presentation of the document in Samtskhe-Javakheti and Shida Kartli regions as well.

The Office of the State Minister has also paid special attention to the integration of people forcefully exiled from Kodori and Liakhvi gorges currently settled in Marneuli and Bolnisi municipalities.

The Office of the State Minister has also been involved in the activities organized by the national minorities in Georgia. With the initiative of the Office of the State Minister and through the cooperation with the Governor of Kvemo Kartli, a joint event dedicated to the independence days of Azerbaijan and Georgia has been held.

The Government of Georgia has to pay special attention to the traditional religious confessions of the country. Our Office often meets the representatives of different religious groups in Georgia. During these meetings one of the major problem has been identified, i.e. the representatives of different religious groups do not agree with the amendments made in the Civil Code of Georgia in 2006 according to which traditional religious confessions should be registered as non-governmental organizations. It is required to register as legal entities of public law.

Regarding the afore-mentioned issue, the Office of the State Minister regularly conducts meetings with the *Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia*, *Ministry of Justice* and the representatives of traditional religious confessions in order to figure out a balanced and acceptable legal formulation with regard to assigning the status.

Our Office effectively cooperates with diplomatic corps, especially with the *Embassies of Azerbaijan and Armenia* republics as well as with international donor organizations.

With the support of donor organizations, one working meeting in Tbilisi and two meetings in Gudauri and Bazaleti have been conducted. The working meetings have been attended by the representatives of Public Defender’s Office and other stakeholders. It is envisaged to further intensification of the cooperation with international organizations.

All the afore-mentioned meetings, on-site visits and the analysis of conducted work clearly demonstrated the efficiency and aptness of the main direction of the Government of Georgia. However, some problems need further attention of the government:

- Lack of State language competence
- Lack of information
- Unrepaired public schools
- Lack of qualified teachers in non-Georgian schools
- Roads in the villages
- Water supply problem
- Migration of youth.

The Office of the State Minister proceeds working on different projects to contribute to the alleviation of the above-mentioned problems. Special attention is made on the youth living in the regions compactly settled with national minorities. In this regard, the Office of the State Minister worked out and distributed a questionnaire in

Azeri and Armenian languages. The aim of the questionnaire is to identify among youth the level of competence about legislative base and its usage in order to meet their opportunities and interests. Based on the results, we are planning to organize focus groups and conduct seminars/trainings by the experts. We do hope that this initiative will further facilitate the integration of youth in the wider community of Georgia.

This brochure covers the detailed report of the state agencies on the implementation of the Concept for Tolerance and Civic Integration Action Plan, including the activities conducted from May to December 2009.

Based on the comprehensive analysis of the worked done by our office, other state agencies and local self-governments, we see the necessity to work out specific and detailed plan of the Action Plan for 2010. More detailed and complete annual plan would reveal strong and weak parts of the worked done and if necessary would expose the need for possible amendments in the Action Plan.

Mr. Temuri Yakobashvili,

Vice Prime-Minister of Georgia,

State Minister of Georgia for Reintegration

Note: This annual report was adopted on the Georgian Government's session on

29 Till the December 2009(Proceedings #43 of the Government session)

Report on the Implementation of the
Action Plan for Tolerance and Civic Integration
May-December 2009

EDUCATION AND STATE LANGUAGE				
OBJECTIVE №1	Name of the Program/Activity		Implementing Organization/ Partner	Timeframe
Improvement of the quality of preschool education by the Government	1.1	Development and piloting of needs-based pre-school programs to improve the accessibility of pre-school education for ethnic minorities and enhance the quality of their integration	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009-2014
Implementation	<p>On March 31, 2009, the Georgian Language Program has been approved by the Decree of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. In 2009, the MoES has been implementing the subprogram "Enhancement of the Georgian Language Teaching and Learning at Pre-School Level in Regions Populated by Minority Communities." The purpose of the subprogram is to improve Georgian language skills among children by providing quality language programs for pre-school students.</p> <p>Within the framework of the sub-program, 6 pre-school education centers are established in public schools (Dmanisi public school №3, Nakhiduri public school of Bolnisi district, Marneuli public school №6, Ninotsminda public school №4, Akhalkalaki public school №2, Akhaltsikhe public school №1) of Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe_Javakheti Regions. The selected experts are being worked out pre-school education program based on the principles of teaching Georgian as a second language in early years and cognitive, social and emotional development of pre-school students.</p>			Including December 2009
	1.2	Development of a special program to increase school readiness among pre-school students in regions densely populated with ethnic minority communities. Increase awareness of parents of minority representatives about preschool education and programs	Early Child Care Parliamentary Assembly; Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; National Curriculum and Assessment Center	2009-2014
Implementation	<p>The №5 strategic point of the National Strategic Action Plan of the Early Child Care Alliance under the Parliament of Georgia stipulates: "awareness raising of the families and the society; improving their attitudes and practical skills toward the issues of early childhood development."The strategic plan considers development and distribution of informative-educational materials for parents about early childhood development and school readiness. The strategic plan envisages elaboration of the program for national minorities, modification of the materials and their translation and distribution for the whole population of the country.</p>			Including December 2009

OBJECTIVE №2				
Improved Quality of Public School Education for Ethnic Minority Students	2.1	Translation of the National Curriculum and provision of professional training programs on its implementation	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; National Curriculum and Assessment Center	2009
Implementation	In 2009, translation of the National curriculum into Azeri, Armenian and Russian has been provided by the National Curriculum and Assessment Center (NCAC).			Including December 2009
	2.2	Translation of textbooks into minority languages in alignment with the language of instruction in public schools	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; National Curriculum and Assessment Center	2009-2014
Implementation	<p>In the first stage of the "Textbooks Translation Project" of the NCAC, textbooks were translated into Russian, Armenian, Azeri, Ossetian and Abkhazian languages for non-Georgian schools.</p> <p>Piloting of translated textbooks was provided in 10 Azeri, 10 Armenian and 10 Russian schools. In 2009, in the framework of the afore-mentioned project translation of 51 different subject textbooks for III, IX and XII grades has been provided.</p> <p>In 2009, Minister of Education and Science of Georgia has provided 6025 9th graders of non-Georgian schools with the textbooks of the History of Georgia, Geography, and Civic Education translated into their native languages –Russian, Armenian and Azeri.</p>			Including December 2009
	2.3	Targeted support for reform initiatives in schools for minority students development and implementation of relevant programs	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009-2014
Implementation	By the end of 2009, the MoES provided rehabilitation of 23 non-Georgian schools in Samtskhe-Javakheti, 12 schools in Kvemo Kartli, 12 schools in Tbilisi, 7 schools in Kakheti, one school in Guria, Shida Kartli and Imereti regions.			2009
	2.4	Improvement of multilingual education policy, its piloting and implementation	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; National Curriculum and Assessment Center; Teachers' Professional Development Center (TPDC)	2009-2014
Implementation	<p>On March 31, 2009 "Multilingual Instruction Support Program" has been approved by the Ministerial Decree. The ultimate goal of the program is to develop a sustainable mechanism for multilingual education introduction for all schools in Georgia.</p> <p>In the framework of the program, a regulation document for the introduction of multilingual instruction at schools has been worked out.</p> <p>With the support of two OSCE experts, 4 trainings for the MoES multilingual education working group have been conducted on August-September 2009. OSCE expert provided training of trainers for 10 local experts selected for the program. In addition, OSCE experts conducted trainings for 40 pilot school principals, 30 staff-members of educational resource centers and 64 accreditation experts.</p> <p>Over 400 teachers of 40 pilot schools have been trained by local trainers in multilingual instruction (models of bilingual/multilingual instruction, methodology of bilingual instruction, working out bilingual instruction programs and lesson plans, conducting bilingual/multilingual classes).</p>			Including December 2009

	2.5	Publication of the bimonthly journal “Teacher” in the Armenian and Azeri languages	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; Teachers’ Professional Development Center (TPDC)	2009-2014
Implementation	In 2009, with a purpose to improve access to information among teachers of non-Georgian schools, Teachers Professional Development Center (TPDC) and NGO “Center for Civil Integration and Intercultural Relations” translated the journal “Teacher” into Armenian and Azeri and distributed its 1290 samples in non-Georgian schools.			2009
	2.6	Translation of the “Teacher Supplementary Textbook” (three parts) and other supplementary materials into the Armenian and Azeri languages	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; Teachers’ Professional Development Center (TPDC)	2009-2014
Implementation	In 2009, “Theories of Teaching and Development” and “Teaching and Assessment” have been translated into Armenian and Azeri and 1290 samples distributed in non-Georgian schools of Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions. These publications are supplementary materials for teachers aiming at helping teachers in the preparation of certification exams and improving teaching practices. In 2009, Teacher professional development standards have been translated into Armenian and Azeri. The 900 copies of the publication have been distributed among schools and educational resource centers.			Including December 2009
	2.7	Targeted professional development training programs for school teachers and administrators	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; Teachers’ Professional Development Center (TPDC)	2009-2014
Implementation	In 2009, the Ministry of Education and science of Georgia and Teacher Professional Development Center have been implementing 3 different programs in the above-mentioned direction: 1. The Qualified Georgian Language School Teachers in Regions Densely Populated by Ethnic Minorities” is a state program that aimed at attracting highly professional teachers of the Georgian language and literature in regions heavily populated by ethnic minorities. Competition prioritized selection of teachers having native language skills and at the same time able to deliver instructions for quality teaching of the Georgian language and literature. Selected teachers have been provided with high monthly salary (1000 GEL). Within the framework of the program in 2009, 28 Georgian language teachers in Kvemo Kartli and 17 teachers in Samtskhe-Javakheti were assigned to instruct in non-Georgian schools. 2. The program “Teaching and Learning Georgian” provided professional trainings for all Georgian Language and Literature teachers at non-Georgian schools. 3. The program “Teach for Georgia” aimed at sending/attracting qualified teachers to different regions of Georgia (in mountainous and remote villages). Within the framework of the program, 8 teachers in Kvemo Kartli and 4 teachers in Samtskhe-Javakheti were assigned to instruct at non-Georgian schools.			Including December 2009

OBJECTIVE №3				
Provision and Facilitation of Access to Higher Education for Ethnic Minority Students	3.1	Development, piloting and implementation of a preparatory integration course in higher education institutions	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; National Assessment and Examination Center; Higher Educational Institutions	2009-2014; Legislative amendment
Implementation	With a purpose to promote access to higher education for ethnic minority students, the MoES initiated legislative amendment.			Including December 2009
	3.2	Development and implementation of the Social Grant Program and other purposeful programs	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009-2014
Implementation	In the framework of the "Social Grant Program," the state provides funding for the students graduated from Azeri and Armenian schools. In 2009-2010 academic year, it set the quota of 30 students from each region, i.e. Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti. In 2009, minority students had an opportunity to take General Aptitude Tests in their native languages. To this end, the NAEC provided translation of General Aptitude Tests into Armenian and Azeri languages. Starting 2009, student manual for the United Admission Examinations is issued in Azeri and Armenian languages. In addition, the NAEC conducted orientation meetings for entrants in Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions.			Including December 2009
	3.3	Sending national minority representatives abroad to study on Bachelor's and Master's programs	Development and Reform Fund	2009-2014
Implementation	In line with Presidential Decree, from 2007 Development and Reform Fund offers funding of higher education programs abroad for successful minority students. During the last 3 years, 15 successful minority students were sent for studying at undergraduate level programs in the leading universities of the US and Europe: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7 students in 2007;• 6 students in 2008;• In 2009, the total number of students equaled to 12.• Currently, 9 students in the US and 3 students in Hungary pursue their study at undergraduate level.			
OBJECTIVE №4				
Promotion of State Language Teaching and Learning	4.1	Implementation of a special program to enhance teaching Georgian as a second language in minority schools	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; OSCE	2009-2014
Implementation	In 2009, the MoES elaborated Georgian as a second language subject program for all 12 grades. Subject programs of Georgian as second language for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades have been approved. In addition, Georgian as a second language textbooks for 1-4 grades have been developed and approved by the MoES. In 2009, Minister of Education and Science of Georgia has approved a sub-program „Improving Availability of Textbooks for Non-Georgian Students." Within the sub-program all minority schools (including those with minority language sectors) has been provided with the textbook "Georgian as a Second Language" for 6024 third graders.			Including December 2009

	4.2	Development and improvement of Georgian language textbooks and other teaching resources	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009-2014
Implementation	Within the framework of “Multilingual Instruction Support Program” the MoES worked out samples of multilingual instruction programs at schools. Furthermore, MoES with National Curriculum and Assessment Center is working out Multilingual Education handbook and other supplementary materials for teachers.			Including December 2009
	4.3	Professional training programs for Georgian language teachers in minority schools located in Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo Kartli (special professional vouchers for teachers of Georgian as a second language and teachers of Georgian as a language of communication)	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; Teachers’ Professional Development Center (TPDC)	2009-2014
Implementation	The process will launch from the year of 2010.			
	4.4	Development and implementation of special out-of-school programs and projects focused on educational and civic integration	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009-2014
Implementation	<p>From 2009, the MoES has been involved in the program “Lets Live Together.” The administrative support of the program is ensured by the British Council with the assistance of the European Council. Program aims at fostering tolerance and intercultural dialogue throughout Europe. The program would involve representatives of 27 countries in the debates about tolerance building, equality, cultural diversity, religion, conflict resolution and migration. In the framework of the program, teaching materials and 5 lesson plans have been worked out according to which lessons have been conducted in 30 schools of Georgia, including schools in Kvemo Kartli region.</p> <p>In 2009, funding for Ossetian Sunday School at Tbilisi Public School #11 has been provided within a sub-program - “Protection of Minority Languages.” In Ossetian Sunday school, students had an opportunity to acquire Ossetian language, culture, history, folklore, literature, mythology, ecology, Caucasian dances and songs.</p>			Including December 2009
	4.5	State language acquisition programs for school-aged and adult learners	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia through partnership with NGOs	2009-2014
Implementation	<p>In 2007, adult education centers “Language Houses” were established in Akhalkalaki and Ninotsminda. The centers serve teachers, public servants, the military personnel, social workers, business representatives and representatives of other social groups. In 2009, the MoES provided funding for “Language Houses” (30000 GEL for each) for the honorarium of teachers, textbooks, visual aids, stationery and other costs. Nowadays, each center serves 6 groups of attendees. In addition, within the Georgian language program Georgian language centers have been established in Bolnisi and Dmanisi municipalities (at Dmanisi public school №3 and Bolnisi Educational Resource Center). Within the scope of the program and with the support of the USAID the centers were equipped and provided with necessary textbooks, visual aids, audio-video techniques and stationery. In addition, two Georgian language teachers were hired for each center. They provide setting of the groups and deliver lessons for them.</p>			Including December 2009

	4.6	Development and implementation of initiatives to attract Georgian language teachers to perform in regions	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009
Implementation	<p>In 2009, the Ministry of Education and science of Georgia and Teacher Professional Development Center have been implementing 3 different programs in the above-mentioned direction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Qualified Georgian Language School Teachers in Regions Densely Populated by Ethnic Minorities" is a state program that aimed at attracting highly professional teachers of the Georgian language and literature in regions heavily populated by ethnic minorities. Competition prioritized selection of teachers having native language skills and at the same time able to deliver instructions for quality teaching of the Georgian language and literature. Selected teachers have been provided with high monthly salary (1000 GEL). Within the framework of the program in 2009, 28 Georgian language teachers in Kvemo Kartli and 17 teachers in Samtskhe-Javakheti were assigned to instruct in non-Georgian schools. 2. The program "Teaching and Learning Georgian" provided professional trainings for all Georgian Language and Literature teachers at non-Georgian schools. 3. The program "Teach for Georgia" aimed at sending/attracting qualified teachers to different regions of Georgia (in mountainous and remote villages). Within the framework of the program, 8 teachers in Kvemo Kartli and 4 teachers in Samtskhe-Javakheti were assigned to instruct in non-Georgian schools. 			Including December 2009
	4.7	Software, Internet programs, web-portals and educational games for studying Georgian language	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009
Implementation	<p>Division of Georgian Language of the MoES developed new website of Georgian language. It is intended to put on the website Georgian-Armenian, Georgian-Azeri, Georgian-Ossetian phrasal books, Multilingual Education Glossary, Guidelines for Public Servants and other materials for the acquisition of Georgian language.</p>			Including December 2009

MEDIA AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION				
OBJECTIVE №1	Name of the Program/Activity		Implementing Organization/ Partner	Timeframe
Provision of public broadcasting in the regions densely populated with national minorities	Rehabilitation of GPB's coverage system		Georgian Public Broadcaster (GPB)	2009-2014
Implementation	It is intended to create Russian channel within broadcasting system of Georgia for Russian-speaking communities of Georgia, Caucasus and the world. The aim of the channel will be provision of impartial and objective information about on-going events in the region, cultural heritage of people living in Georgia, peaceful co-existence, and future development perspectives for the promotion of peace and development in the Caucasus region.			Including December 2009
OBJECTIVE №2				
Provide information in minority languages	2.1.	TV news programs	Georgian Public Broadcaster (GPB)	2009-2014
	2.1.1	"Moambe" in Abkhazian (frequency: once a week)		Including December 2009
Implementation	News program "Moambe" in Abkhazian language was on air with 26 minutes duration. The first part was a newscast covering socio-political events in Georgia (duration -10 min); the second part encompassed mainly social and educational issues – problems, region, and voice of people, and the youth.			
	2.1.2	"Moambe" in Ossetian (frequency: once a week)		Including December 2009
Implementation	News program "Moambe" in Ossetian language was on air with 26 minutes duration. The first part was a newscast covering socio-political events in Georgia (duration -10 min); the second part encompassed mainly social and educational issues – problems, famous people, region, voice of people, and the youth.			
	2.1.3	"Moambe" in Armenian (frequency: once a week)		Including December 2009
Implementation	News program "Moambe" in Armenian language was on air with 26 minutes duration. The first part was a newscast covering socio-political events in Georgia (duration -10 min); the second part encompassed mainly social and educational issues – problems, famous people, region, voice of people, and the youth.			
	2.1.4	"Moambe" in Azerbaijani (frequency: once a week)		Including December 2009
Implementation	News program "Moambe" in Azerbaijani language was on air with 26 minutes duration. The first part was a newscast covering socio-political events in Georgia (duration -10 min); the second part encompassed mainly social and educational issues – problems, region, and voice of people, famous people, and the youth.			
	2.1.5	"Moambe" in Russian (frequency: once a week)		Including December 2009
Implementation	News program "Moambe" in Russian language was on air with 26 minutes duration. The first part was a newscast covering socio-political events in Georgia (duration -10 min); the second part encompassed mainly social and educational issues – problems, region, voice of people, famous people, and the youth.			

	2.2.	Radio news programs	Georgian Public Radio FM 102.4	2009-2014
	2.2.1	News program in Abkhazian (frequency: daily)		Including December 2009
Implementation	Daily news program was on air with 10 minutes duration.			
	2.2.2	News program in Ossetian (frequency: daily)		Including December 2009
Implementation	Daily news program was on air with 10 minutes duration.			
	2.2.3	News program in Armenian (frequency: daily)		Including December 2009
Implementation	Daily news program was on air with 10 minutes duration. In addition, weekly radio-bridge Tbilisi-Yerevan was on air.			
	2.2.4	News program in Azerbaijani (frequency: daily)		Including December 2009
Implementation	Daily news program was on air with 10 minutes duration. In addition, weekly radio-bridge Tbilisi-Baku was on air.			
	2.2.5	News program in Russian (frequency: daily)		Including December 2009
Implementation	Daily news program was on air with 10 minutes duration. In addition, weekly newscast in Russian language with 40 minutes duration was on air.			
	2.2.6	News program in Kurdish (frequency: daily)		Including December 2009
Implementation	Daily news program was on air with 10 minutes duration. In addition, weekly news-musical program in Kurdish language was on air(duration – 20 min).			
OBJECTIVE №3				
Ensure representation and participation of national minorities in GPB's TV programs	Talk-show „Italian Yard”		Georgian Public Broadcaster (GPB); United Nations Association of Georgia (UNAG); USAID - in the framework of Civic Integration Program for National Minorities	2009-2014
Implementation	In 2009, TV talk-show “Italian Yard” was on air of the Georgian Public Broadcaster (GPB) once a week. The project was implemented for ethnic minorities living in Georgia. The weekly talk-show conveyed information to GPB viewers about Georgia's various ethnic or religious minorities, their cultures, religions, and contribution of the public figures to the development of Georgia. In 2010, the talk-show “Italian Yard” will broadcast with a new name - “Our Yard” and with renewed format.			Including December 2009

OBJECTIVE №4				
Support to electronic and print media in minority languages	4.1.	Periodicals published within the frames of a Support to Literature Program:	Ministry of Culture, Monuments Protection and Sport of Georgia	2009-2014
	4.1.1	Armenian newspaper “Vrastani”		Including December 2009
Implementation	The state funding for the Armenian newspaper “Vrastani” has increased in 2009 and equaled to 50,000 GEL.			
	4.1.2	Azerbaijani newspaper “Gurjistan”		Including December 2009
Implementation	The state funding for the Azerbaijani newspaper “Gurjistan” has increased in 2009 and equaled to 40,000 GEL.			
	4.1.3	Russian newspaper “Svobodnaya Gruzya”		Including December 2009
	Russian newspaper “Svobodnaya Gruzya”has been published weekly with self-funding.			
OBJECTIVE №5				
Promote tolerance building and cultural pluralism in the media	5.1.	Series of documentaries - Multiethnic Georgia	Georgian Public Broadcaster (GPB); United Nations Association of Georgia (UNAG); USAID - in the framework of Civic Integration Program for National Minorities	2009-2014
Implementation	9 documentaries have been prepared about the history and culture of the national minorities living in Georgia (the Armenians, the Azeris, the Jews, the Greeks, the Kurds, the Kists, the Udins, the Ukrainians and the Ossetians).			Including December 2009
	5.2.	Private Show “Chveni Sakartvelo” [“Our Georgia”]	Georgian Public Radio FM 102.4	2009-2014
	Weekly private radio program was on air with 15 minutes duration (Wednesday: 16:35) and recurred the same day (Wednesday: 21:35).			2009

POLITICAL INTEGRATION AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION			
OBJECTIVE №1	Name of the Program/Activity	Implementing Organization/ Partner	Timeframe
Ensure equal electoral rights for national minorities	Translate ballot papers in minority languages	Central Election Commission of Georgia; International Organizations	
Implementation	CEC ensured translation of election documentations into Russian, Ossetian, Armenian and Azerbaijani languages; In addition, Code of Election has been worked out in Russian language. Also, the electoral list, special form of the list, form of list attachment, election notebook, ballot papers, instruction of election day, a book, electoral notes, instruction of chairman, instruction for filling up ballot paper, posters representing election procedure and the guidelines for election procedure in Russian, Ossetian, Armenian and Azeri languages have been published. CEC also conducted presentation of translated materials prior to the election that were attended by the representatives of national minorities and NGOs. During election period, audio and video advertisements have been prepared in Armenian and Azeri languages. The ads were broadcast in television channels in the regions compactly settled with national minorities.		Including December 2009
OBJECTIVE №2			
Improve minority participation in the decision-making process	2.1. Memorandums of mutual cooperation between the Ethnic Minorities' Council under the Public Defender of Georgia and the following ministries have been signed:	Government of Georgia	2009
Implementation	a)	Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Reintegration	Including December 2009
	On December 14, 2009, a Memorandum of Cooperation between the State Minister and Public Defender has been signed.		
	b)	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway.		
	c)	Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure	
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway.		
	d)	Ministry of Justice of Georgia	
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway.		
	e)	Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia	
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway.		
	f)	Ministry of Economic Development of Georgia	
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway.		
	g)	Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation of Georgia	
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway.		
h)	Ministry of Culture, Monument Protection and Sport of Georgia		
Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway.			

	2.2.	Conclude memorandums of mutual cooperation between the Regional Ethnic Minorities Council and Governors offices in the following regions:	Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure; Civil Integration and Tolerance Council functioning under the President	2009
Implementation	a)	Governor's Office in Kvemo Kartli		Including December 2009
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway			
	b)	Governor's Office in Samtskhe-Javakheti		
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway			
	c)	Governor's Office in Kakheti		
	Regional public council has been established by the decree of the Governor (№133, 01.10.2009); Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway regarding adopting of memorandum.			
	d)	Governor's Office in Imereti		
	Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway			
	e)	Autonomous Republic of Adjara		
	Tolerance and Civil Integration Council has been established by the decree of the Government of Autonomous Republic of Adjara (№78, 15.09.2009). Consultations, preliminary works and negotiations are underway regarding adopting of memorandum.			
OBJECTIVE №3				
Promote Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities	Print and distribute Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities		Office of the State Minister for Reintegration; Civil Integration and Tolerance Council functioning under the President of Georgia	2009-2014
Implementation	<p>National Concept for Tolerance and Civic Integration and Action Plan has been translated into Armenian and Azerbaijani languages with the initiative of the Office of State Minister for Reintegration in cooperation with the United Nations Association of Georgia and with the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in the framework of the National Integration Program.</p> <p>On October 30, 2009, presentation has been held in the House of Culture of Marneuli district. The translated document has been distributed among representatives of local self-governments of 7 municipalities and representatives of different NGOs. The presentation of translated document has also been held in Kakheti region on December 3, 2009. The document has been distributed in Georgian and Azerbaijani languages among representatives of the governors of all municipalities and villages of the region.</p>			Including December 2009

SOCIAL AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION				
OBJECTIVE №1	Name of the Program/Activity		Implementing Organization/ Partner	Timeframe
Further development of infrastructure in the regions settled with national minorities	1.1.	Samtskhe-Javakheti road rehabilitation project	Millennium Challenge Georgia Foundation	2006-2010
	1.1.1	Rehabilitation of road and transportation network in Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo Kartli regions		
Implementation	The Samtskhe-Javakheti Road Rehabilitation Project has been implementing during the year of 2009 with a total budget of 203,515,000 USD. The project aimed at restoring 221 km road in Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions. The road construction-rehabilitation works started in spring of 2008 and will be over by the end of 2010. 185 local residents are being employed in the Samtskhe-Javakheti Road Rehabilitation Project.			Including December 2009
	1.2.	Energy infrastructure rehabilitation project	Millennium Challenge Georgia Foundation	2006-2010
	1.2.1	Rehabilitation of the damaged sections of North-South main pipeline		
Implementation	Millennium Challenge Georgia Foundation conducted rehabilitation works of pipelines for 22 sections.			Including December 2009
	1.3.	Regional infrastructure development project	Millennium Challenge Georgia Foundation	2006-2010
	1.3.1	Improvement of municipal services		
Implementation	In 2009, rehabilitation/renovation of water supply and sewage systems has been conducted in Borjomi and Bakuriani with the funding of Municipal Services Development Foundation of Georgia.			Including December 2009
OBJECTIVE №2				
Provide professional training for national minorities and promote their employment opportunities	2.1.	Presidential program for the rehabilitation of vocational education centers	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009-2014
	2.1.1	Rehabilitation of several vocational education centers in the regions densely populated by national minorities		
Implementation	The works toward the afore-mentioned direction have not been started yet.			
	2.2.	Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration and retraining of public servants	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009-2012
	2.2.1	Promote involvement of representatives of national minorities in public sector		
Implementation	In 2009, rehabilitation works have been started in Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration for further improvement of the school learning environment and infrastructure. In addition, OSCE experts have worked out recommendations for further improvement of Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration. Based on the OSCE recommendations, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia is intending to make substantial changes in school's mission, curriculum and selection procedure of the students.			Including December 2009

	2.3	Implement vocational education policy and programs that are oriented to the needs and peculiarities of the regions densely populated by national minorities	Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia	2009-2014
Implementation	The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia with the active support of the social partners has worked out Vocational Education and Training Strategic Document for 2009-2012. The strategic document envisages specific policies and activities for the representatives of national minorities. Namely, the strategic document intends provision of special teaching grants for vocational training in the regions compactly settled with national minorities.			Including December 2009
	2.4.	Making small production a profitable agro-business. Agro-business development project	Millennium Challenge Georgia Foundation	2006-2011
	2.4.1	Primary production		
Implementation	The following number of projects have been implemented in the regions of Georgia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtskheta-Mtianeti - 13 • Samtskhe-Javakheti - 18 • Kvemo Kartli - 38 			Including December 2009
	2.4.2	Establishing service centers for farmers		
Implementation	The following number of projects have been implemented in the regions of Georgia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samtskhe-Javakheti – 4 • Kvemo Kartli - 3 			Including December 2009
	2.4.3	Small scale processing		
Implementation	The following number of projects have been implemented in the regions of Georgia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtskheta- Mtianeti - 1 • Samtskhe-Javakheti - 1 • Kvemo Kartli - 1 			Including December 2009
	2.4.4	Creation of production network		
Implementation	The following number of projects have been implemented in the regions of Georgia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtskheta- Mtianeti - 1 • Samtskhe-Javakheti - 2 • Kvemo Kartli - 3 			Including December 2009
Implementation	In the framework of Agribusiness Development Project, grants are allocated through the principle of co-funding and the open competition for developing small scale processing plants, establishing service centers for farmers, creating production networks and developing primary production in the regions of Georgia. These projects facilitate development of agribusiness and creation of new employment opportunities in the villages of Georgia. By October 1, 2009, 236 projects have been approved in the framework of Agribusiness Development Project with a total budget of 11,993,448 USD. This is presumably is a precondition for the creation of 3,057 new working places in the regions of Georgia. Out of 236 approved grants, 13 grants belong to the representatives of national minorities of the country.			Including December 2009
	2.5.	Georgia's Regional Development Fund's project: "Investing in small and medium-size plants"	Millennium Challenge Georgia Foundation	2006-2011
Implementation	In 2006-2009, the Fund financed and successfully implemented innovative projects for 10 small and medium-size plants mainly in the field of tourism and agribusiness. The budget for the above-mentioned projects equaled to 21,480,000 USD.			Including December 2009

CULTURE AND PRESERVATION OF IDENTITY				
OBJECTIVE №1	Name of the Program/Activity		Implementing Organization/ Partner	Timeframe
Support to the preservation of cultural identities of national minorities	1.1.	Program for the Support of Cultures of Georgia's national minorities	Ministry of Culture, Monuments Protection and Sport of Georgia; Tbilisi City Hall	2009-2014
	1.1.1	Supporting LEPL (legal entity of public law) Davit Baazov Georgia's Jews historic and ethnographic museum		
Implementation	In 2009, the budget for the funding of the museum equaled to 79,000 GEL. The scientific research has been conducted in the museum about history, ethnology, cultural heritage of Georgian Jews and Georgian-Jewish historical connections. In addition, it is being prepared publishing of the afore-mentioned research in four books. The museum often hosts events by different organizations.			Including December 2009
	1.1.2	Supporting the activities of Georgia's cultural relations center - the Caucasian House		
Implementation	In 2009, the budget for the funding of the Caucasian House equaled to 20,000 GEL. Throughout the year of 2009 several events and activities have been held in the Caucasian House: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special night dedicated to Sergo Parajanov's 85th jubilee; • Meetings with students; • Seminars about religious and political issues; • The meetings dedicated to Azerbaijani, Slavic, Russian scripts; • The nights dedicated to the poetry, culture and folklore of national minorities; • Movie nights. 			Including December 2009
	1.1.3	Supporting the activities of LEPL Mirza Patali-Akhundov's Azerbaijani cultural museum		
Implementation	In 2009, the budget for the funding of the museum has increased and equaled to 29,400 GEL. Throughout the year of 2009 several events have been held in the museum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with the representatives of Azerbaijani elite; • Poetry nights; • Concerts; • Presentations of the movies; • With the support of the museum, students of Marneuli schools organized excursion to Tbilisi. 			Including December 2009
	1.1.4	Supporting the activities of the Russian Cultural Center of Georgia		
Implementation	In the 1 st quarter of 2009, the Ministry ensured funding for the center with 1,259 GEL; later, the funding has been halted.			Including December 2009
	1.1.5	Supporting LEPL Tbilisi Petros Adamiani State Drama Theatre		
Implementation	In 2009, the funding of the theatre has increased and equaled to 130,000 GEL. 39 performances have been presented in the theatre, including two premieres. The theatre cast has presented theatrical performances in Marnueuli and Bolnisi municipalities. Currently, the cast is working on new performances.			Including December 2009

	1.1.6	Supporting LEPL Tbilisi Azerbaijani State Drama Theatre		
Implementation	In 2009, the funding of the theatre has increased and equaled to 130,000 GEL. 30 performances have been presented in the theatre, including two premieres and three retreat performances. The cast of the theatre also conducted charity performance in the villages of Marneuli municipality.			Including December 2009
	Additional activities: Supporting LEPL – Al. Griboedov Tbilisi Russian Drama Theatre			
Implementation	In 2009, the budget for the funding of Al. Griboedov Tbilisi Russian Drama Theatre equaled to 370,000 GEL. 87 performances have been presented attending by 9,963 people. Two premieres have been presented ("The Angel of Our Family," "Dostoewski.ru").			Including December 2009
	1.2.	Provide assistance to regional libraries, clubs and art schools		2009-2014
Implementation	In 2009, in the framework of the National Program of the President of Georgia 939,651 GEL have been allocated for 120 libraries; new literature, computers and library equipment (special desks, shelves, chairs) have been purchased for the libraries. On 25-26 July 2009, the Ministry has organized exhibition of new books, where the Ministry has procured new editions of books for each municipality (within 1,000 GEL).			Including December 2009
	1.2.1	Supporting Baghlojani school of music in Kvareli	Governor's Office of Kvareli	
Implementation	It is intended to provide support to the music school from 2010. The residents of three villages settled with Lezghins and one village with Ossetian population have an access to the library services in the adjacent village of Akhalsopeli.			2009-2014
	1.2.2	Supporting music and art schools, 14 clubs (10 of them is Armenian) and 4 libraries (2 of them is Armenian) in Akhalkalaki	Governor's Office of Akhalkalaki	2009-2014
Implementation	The libraries of Diliski and Khando villages of Akhalkalaki municipality settled with Armenians have been repaired and equipped. Furthermore, the following works have been implemented in Akhalkalaki municipality: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Akhalkalaki School of Music has been repaired;• Akhalkalaki Culture House has been repaired;• The clubs (in Kartika, Diliska, Kartsakhi, Gogasheni, Alastani, Orja, Azarveti) have been repaired.			Including December 2009
	1.2.3	Supporting a music school, 21 libraries (18 of them is Armenian) and 20 clubs (18 of them is Armenian) in Ninotsminda	Governor's Office of Ninotsminda	2009-2014
Implementation	Gandza and Didi Kondura libraries of Ninotsminda municipality have been repaired and equipped. Additionally, the following works have been implemented in Ninotsminda municipality: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rehabilitation of Mamtsvari Armenian school;• Rehabilitation of Epremovka Armenian school;• Rehabilitation of Armenian Eshti №1 school;• Rehabilitation of Armenian Eshti №3 school;• Rehabilitation of Rodionovka Armenian school;• Rehabilitation of Armenian night school;• Rehabilitation of Patara Khanchali Armenian school;• Rehabilitation of Spasovka Georgian school;• Rehabilitation of Ninotsminda kindergarten water supply system.			Including December 2009

	1.2.4	Supporting a music school, 18 libraries (11 of them is Azerbaijani, 4 of them is Armenian) and 4 rural clubs in Marneuli	Governor's Office of Marneuli	2009-2014
Implementation	The library of Sadakhlo village of Marneuli municipality settled with Azeris have been repaired and equipped. Furthermore, the following works have been implemented in Marneuli municipality: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building of Azerbaijani school in village Molaoghli;• Rehabilitation of Armenian school in village Algeti;• Rehabilitation of culture house in Tsopi;• Rehabilitation of Tserakvi Museum;• Rehabilitation of heating system in Shaumiani public school;• Procurement of books, computers and furniture for Sadakhlo library.			Including December 2009
	1.2.5	Supporting a music school, a library (for the Armenian population) and a cultural house in Tsalka	Governor's Office of Tsalka	2009-2014
Implementation	The library of village Kizil-Kilisa of Tsalka municipality has been repaired and equipped with necessary facilities and books.			Including December 2009
	1.2.6	Supporting Eredvi musical school and 18 libraries (five of them Ossetian) in Gori	Governor's Office of Gori	2009-2014
Implementation	It is intended to provide support to the music school from 2010. The library is functioning in Azerbaijani village Lerditan.			
	1.2.7	Supporting 19 libraries (one of them is Azerbaijani) and one club in Gardabani	Governor's Office of Gardabani	2009-2014
Implementation	The following works have been implemented in Gardabani municipality: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rehabilitation of the club in village Karajalar;• Libraries are functioning in two Azeri villages (Jandara, Agtakila) and in one mixed village Vakhtangisi.• Procurement of computer technique, furniture and books has been ensured.			Including December 2009
	1.2.8	Supporting 9 libraries in Bolnisi (two of them is Azerbaijani)	Governor's Office of Bolnisi	2009-2014
Implementation	The following works have been implemented in Bolnisi municipality: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renovation of city and children libraries in Bolnisi;• Opening of the library in village Tandzia;• Renovation of Kazreti, Tamarisi, Rachisubani and Kveshi libraries.			Including December 2009
	1.2.9	Supporting 4 libraries in Dmanisi (one of them is Azerbaijani)	Governor's Office of Dmanisi	2009-2014
Implementation	The library of village Amamlo of Dmanisi municipality has been repaired and equipped with computer, furniture and other facilities.			Including December 2009
OBJECTIVE №2				
Protect cultural heritage of national minorities	2.1.	Protection of material and nonmaterial cultural heritage of national minorities		
	2.1.1	Registration and making on inventory of cultural monuments of national minorities	Ministry of Culture, Monuments Protection and Sport of Georgia	2009-2014

Implementation	<p>According to the Law of Georgia on Cultural Heritage, the Ministry conducts registration of cultural monuments in Georgia with a purpose to ensure their further protection. Several cultural monuments of national minorities have already been registered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 50 Gregorian (Armenian) churches; • 10 mosques; • 5 synagogues. <p>In 2007, a joint three-year international project "Inventory of Ottoman Monuments" of the Ministries of Culture and Foreign Affairs of Turkey and Georgia was launched. At the first stage of the project, the study was conducted about the materials in Tbilisi Museum and Archive as well as about Ottoman monuments in Samtskhe and Adjara, and dozens of monuments of Ottoman architecture (Mosque Jame, Abano, etc).</p>			Including December 2009
	2.1.2	Monuments' restoration	Ministry of Culture, Monuments Protection and Sport of Georgia	2009-2014
Implementation	It is planned to have restoration works for historically treasured buildings.			Including December 2009
	2.1.3	Program for supporting pantheons in Tbilisi and care of cultural monuments: Protection and care of pantheons in Tbilisi, including those of Armenian writers and public figures	Tbilisi City Hall	2009-2014
Implementation	<p>The opening ceremony has been held on November 9, 2009 at Khojevni Pantheon after the rehabilitation conducted by Tbilisi City Hall and Armenia.</p> <p>In 2009, the pantheon was provided with electricity and modern system of power, green plants, flowers and other decorative plants. Tbilisi City Hall ensures protection of the pantheon on a daily basis. Namely, the City Hall provides its cleaning, reimbursement of honorarium for the staff members and other costs.</p> <p>In addition, new webpage has been set in the framework of public web-portal (Tbilisi.gov.ge).</p>			Including December 2009



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Publication has been prepared in frame of the *National Integration and Tolerance in Georgia Program of the United Nations Association of Georgia* with the financial support of the *United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*.