



სამოქალაქო ინტეგრაციისა და ეროვნებათშორისი  
ურთიერთობების ცენტრი

Center for Civil Integration and Inter-ethnic Relations  
CCIIR

# ANNUAL REPORT 2015

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## About Us

Centre for Civil Integration and Inter-Ethnic Relations (CCIIR) is a non-governmental, non-commercial organization established in 2005 and since then it has been working for achieving positive state development through education and capacity building in Georgia. The main goal of the organization is to support the integration and re-integration process of minority groups and underprivileged population of the country through empowerment, participation, advocacy and capacity building. We support our beneficiaries to become equal participants of social, cultural, political and economic life of the country. The diverse and multilevel approach including development of teaching, learning and methodological resources, training courses and workshops for teachers and educators, development of university programs and courses, mobilisation of local population and awareness raising campaigns, study tours and exchange programs - this is an incomplete list of those interventions the organization is undertaking regularly. Today the organization is one of those 16 analytical organizations and one of those three organizations focusing of education issues which are operating in Georgia and which signed an Ethical and Quality Standards Document. The document presents comprehensive standards to guide the work of Georgian think tanks and establishes principles to ensure that the think tanks meet the highest possible professional standards.

## Since 2005

- More than 45 projects
- 10 teachers professional development programs
- Teachers' bilingual language and intercultural education programs
- More than 150 academic, methodological, instructional materials, textbooks
- E-platform for improvement of reading literacy
- Rigorous studies in the field of Education and Development

## Mission & Objectives

- Develop and implement projects and programs striving at civil integration, democratisation and inter-ethnic relations
- Protect and advocate rights of ethnic minorities, refugees and IDPs, disabled, repatriated, deported and economically disadvantaged population
- Strengthen tolerance and respect to diversity, support intercultural dialogue
- Support educational reform and fight for equality of rights and opportunities during this process
- Facilitate growth of well-educated young people with strong civic conscience and democratic vision
- Promote and encourage life-long education, early and adults' literacy
- Facilitate the process of formation of language policy, support bilingual education and advance state and minority language teaching processes
- Building capacity of those who are deprived from the state goods and empower them for equal participation and prepare for informed decision-making processes
- Facilitate peace building and reconciliation, ethnic conflict prevention

## Programs & Priorities

Multilingual/Multicultural  
Educational Projects

Policy study & Analysis

Teachers' Education

Higher Education Programs

Youth Development

Literacy and bi-literacy

# Projects of 2015



➤ "Innovative Action for Gender Equality"

➤ "Incorporation of Multicultural Education Approaches in Teacher Education Programs"

➤ "Development of an International Model for Curricular Reform in Multicultural Education and Cultural Diversity Training" DOIT



➤ Other activities

➤ Ongoing work and future plans

*Project title: “Innovative Action for Gender Equality”*

*Donor: UN Women; European Union*

*Location of the action: Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti Regions*

*Dates: 2014/15*

AIM

Empower teachers of non-Georgian schools for meaningful inclusion into the professional development processes, making them well-informed and accountable for providing equal educational and development opportunities to future generations.

Objectives

- Raise awareness of education society of minority schools on ongoing education reform and its potential positive implications while providing them with relevant informational materials and space for active discussion of those challenges they face in their professional path.
- Ensure equal rights for professional development and carrier growth to 7 000 teachers of non-Georgian schools through an effective advocacy of positive education policy changes in teachers’ professional standard and scheme for professional growth.
- Promoting equal education and development opportunities for all students of 213 non-Georgian schools while equipping teachers with valuable knowledge and effective approaches for unbiased, gender sensitive instruction in the classroom.

## Activities & Achievements

### ✓ Development of informational materials.

Informational materials for raising awareness of local school society on education reform, teachers' new standard and professional development scheme were compiled. More specifically the following materials were developed:

- 1.1. Teachers new professional standard was translated into Armenian and Azerbaijani languages. The bilingual materials were published in both Armenian-Georgian and Azerbaijani-Georgian and distributed among the participants of the meetings;
- 1.2. The informational booklet includes valuable information on teachers' professional development and career growth opportunities under the scheme of teachers professional development. At the same time the booklet includes a rubric FAQ, where all those issues which are of interest of teachers and pedagogical staff generally are covered. The informational booklets were also translated into Armenian and Azerbaijani languages. Informational materials in all three languages were published and distributed among the education society during the informational meetings.

### ✓ Arrangement of informational meetings in Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions. Totally 16 informational meetings were held for ethnic minority school teachers. The meetings aimed to acquaint the minority school teachers with the new standard for teacher professional development. Worth mentioning is that all the meeting were attended by the senior management and experts of the TPDC, including the director and deputy directors of the center. The representatives of the TPDC made presentations for the participants of the meetings and answered all the questions related to teachers' new standard and professional development scheme.

*The video collage of the meetings was compiled*

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/8gseti0erbxy7ve/video-collage.wmv?dl=0>



✓ Organization of the training sessions on gender issues

Training module and program agenda for training of minority school teachers' in gender balanced education were developed and the full package of training materials was prepared. The gender training aimed to raise gender awareness and sensitivity among national and regional educational practitioners, that on the other hand would provide new educational strategies, new gender approaches for gender sensitive and gender positive school environment.

Totally 232 minority teachers participated in gender sensitivity training.



✓ Preparation and publishing of the policy document and holding of the advocacy campaign

The policy document on equal opportunities of ethnic minority teachers on professional activities and development was developed. The work on the policy paper included deep analysis of those data and documentation which are relevant for making conclusions about the system, its operation, strength and weaknesses generally and with regard of the non-Georgian school teachers and their professional opportunities. The situation analysis is provided and key recommendations are developed.

*E-version of policy document*

<http://cciir.ge/upload/editor/file/jurnali%20%20bilingvuri%20/axali%20dokumenti.pdf>

✓ Presentation of the project results

The representatives of CCIIR talked about the issues related to the gender equality in Georgia and evaluated the education policy from gender perspective. The policy document which was published by the organization was also presented at the event. The donor organization, representatives of Teacher Professional Development Center and Ministry of Education and Science and some organizations working on gender issues attended the event.



*Participation in Radio talk-shows within the advocacy campaign*

<http://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/media/video/gender-stories-10-09-2015/27237523.html>

<http://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/media/video/genderuli-ambebi/27112380.html>



*Project title: "Incorporation of Multicultural Education Approaches in Teacher Education Programs"*

*Donor: Open Society Georgia Foundation (OSGF)*

*Location of the action: Kutaisi State University, Batumi State University, Gori State University*

*Dates: 2015 (over a one year period)*

AIM

Prepare future multiculturally sensitive teachers with the ability to manage diversity in the classroom through improving the teacher education programs at the universities of Kutaisi, Batumi and Gori.

Target universities

- Kutaisi State University
- Batumi State University
- Gori State University

## Workshops & Events

At each target university (Kutaisi, Batumi and Gori) seminar-workshops were organized for the faculty of teacher education programs on how to develop intercultural curriculum and how to develop culturally relevant syllabi and learning/teaching recourses in order to develop tolerance and multicultural sensitivity in students.

As a result

- ✓ multicultural education strategies/intercultural aspects were incorporated in teacher education program syllabus
- ✓ multicultural education course/module was created for teacher education programs at target universities
- ✓ raised qualification of in-service teachers through their professional development.



# Intercultural Events

Intercultural events were organized and promoted in order to create tolerant and multiculturally sensitive environment at target universities. Totally 6 cultural events were held:

1. Public lecture on "democratic values in Georgian culture" - Levan berdzenishvili, philologist and deputy of Parliament of Georgia; venue: Kutaisi State University;
2. Intercultural event: "Integrity of Diversity" - BSU's Georgian, Turkish, Armenian, Russian and Azerbaijani students presented their cultures, reflecting multicultural characteristics. venue: Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University;
3. Joint event at Kachagani public school (Marneuli district) - the faculty and the students of Gori State University visited Kachagani public school #1, where they met school administration, students, graduate students and others. This was an experience-sharing meeting that provided the opportunities to introduce multiculturalism of the country;
4. Share experience and deepen the cooperation between the universities - ethnic minority students of TSU one year Georgian language program met the faculty of Pedagogics and the students - future teachers of Kutaisi State University;
5. Public lecture at Batumi State University - Professor Oliver Reisner was invited to give a speech on "European experience in intercultural education" to students and the faculty of teacher education program;
6. Support and raise the integration process and civil engagement of ethnic minorities of Georgia - teachers and the students from different public schools of Marneuli district visited Gori State Teaching University, where they met the faculty and the students of teacher education program. All of the intercultural events/meetings were followed by the sightseeing tours.



*Project title: "Development of an International Model for Curricular Reform in Multicultural Education and Cultural Diversity Training" DOIT*

*Donor: TEMPUS program; European Commission*

*Location of the action: Ilia State University, Tbilisi State University,*

*Sokhumi State University, Telavi State Univeristy, Samtske-Javakheti State Teaching University*

*Dates: 2014/15*

#### About TEMPUS

TEMPUS is the European Commission's program, which supports the modernization of higher education in the EU's surrounding area. Tempus promotes institutional cooperation that involves the European Union and Partner Countries and focuses on the reform and modernization of higher education systems in the Partner Countries of Eastern Europe, Central Asia, the Western Balkans and the Mediterranean region.

#### About DOIT

DOIT's vision and aim is to promote multiculturalism, diversity and children's rights in academic programs at higher educational institutions in general and for teacher-training programs in particular. For this purpose around 100 academics from 21 different institutions collaborated and developed five different courses. The aims and objects of these courses is to provide students with the knowledge, skills and values that promote the objectives of the program. In addition DOIT's program involved students in six of their universities who worked with their faculty or members of NGOs to develop extra-curricular activities aimed to promote inter-cultural relations on campus or a deeper understanding of the issues of multiculturalism and diversity in their society.

## The Consortium



### Israeli & European Partners:

- Gordon Academic College of Education
- Sakhnin Academic College
- Kaye Academic College
- Interdisciplinary Center of Herzliya
- Sapir Academic College
- Ben Gurion University
- Student Union of the Interdisciplinary Center of Herzliya
- University of Koblenz-Laundau
- Brighton University of London
- Institute of Education, University of London
- University of Education of Upper Austria
- Han University of Applied Sciences
- JaanTonisson Institute
- Israel Encounters Association
- Students of at Gordon Academic College of Education, Sakhnin Academic College

### Georgian Partners:

- Civic Development Institute (CDI)
- Centre for Civil Integration and Inter Ethnic Relations
- Ilia State University
- Tbilisi State University
- Sokhumi State University
- Telavi State University
- Samtskhe-Javakheti State University
- Students of Ilia State University, Telavi State University and Samtskhe-Javakheti State University



## Activities & Achievements

- ✓ Design and piloting of new innovative courses for BA, MA students and in-service teachers in five of the Georgian HEI (Ilia State University, Tbilisi State University, Sokhumi State University, Telavi State University, Samtske-Javakheti State Teaching University). These culturally relevant and specific courses are aimed to promote multicultural education and human rights for Georgian region. Each course includes a variety of materials such as syllabi, teaching and learning materials, and model lesson plans for the different target groups of the program (BA, MA and in-service teachers). The key courses that have been developed are: *Children's Rights in and Through Education*, *Pedagogical approaches that promote intercultural-ethnic understanding in the classroom*, *Identity Formation in a Multicultural Environment*, *Multiethnic Georgia*.
- ✓ Developing and Implementing Faculty Workshops: CCIIR trained academic faculty of Georgian HEIs to teach and implement DOIT's courses and have an understanding of multicultural education and principles and of human and children's rights. In addition, teaching manuals were developed. So, these faculty workshops and published manuals provided the faculty with the necessary tools to implement and disseminate the new curriculum.





- ✓ Development of Out of the Classroom Activities: Program of outside of the classroom activities for students aimed to promote positive inter-cultural relations. Center for Civil Integration and Inter-ethnic Relations together with three student unions in Georgia that are members of DOIT's HEI developed the list of possible activities to promote campus diversity, develop intercultural sensitivity in students and increase their social involvement. Basically the activities that were discussed and suggested by CCIIR included film screenings for discussion, invitation of guest speakers, seminars, excursions, support initiative on creating student club, multicultural events etc.
- ✓ DOIT's portal <http://tempus-doit.sapir.ac.il> was launched and enabled the collaborative work process, communication among members, dissemination of DOIT's work and the sustainability of the program.

## Other Activities

*[The following CCIIR activities conducted within “Promoting Integration, Tolerance and Awareness Program in Georgia [PITA], implemented by the UN Association of Georgia with financial support of USAID]*

- ✓ On September 14, the new academic year 2015/16 has started in Georgia. On that day Center for Civil Integration and Inter-ethnic Relations conducted orientation day for the first-year ethnic minority students of TSU Georgian language program. 250 Armenian and Azerbaijani students who have been enrolled in the program through quota system attended the orientation meeting. The students got acquainted with project goals and objectives and the activities which are planned within the project. Students were also provided with the brochures - orientation guides that include all the necessary and useful information about academic requirements, learning process, university life etc. Brochures were prepared and published by CCIIR and were translated in Armenian and Azerbaijani languages.



- ✓ The moodle platform of one year Georgian language program was developed. The Moodle platform aims to share and exchange educational resources between the program staff and university faculty members. The platform is based on the existing platform of Tbilisi State University. The developed moodle platform for the program can serve as a model for other universities. Except the moodle platform, the web-site for one year program was also developed and is integrated to the TSU web-site.
- ✓ In order to begin students attitudes and perception research on quality of one year Georgian language program in 2016, the following activities were undertaken: a) Secondary data were obtained from higher educational institutions of Georgia; (b) Secondary data were analyzed statistically; (c) Databases for sampling were developed for research; (d) Questionnaires for students were piloted in Samtskhe-Javakheti State University. Further Activities in this direction are planned for the next phase of the project.
- ✓ The experts' group of education started working on the strategic document and action plan to improve academic and social support of students, create inclusive environment, promote interactions of students, academic and administrative staff members. The draft of concept and strategy will be finalized for the next phase of the project.
- ✓ The database of the members of TSU Youth Center was created and thematic sub clubs were identified and established (sub clubs of education, human rights, gender, diversity, advocacy, tolerance etc.) Each sub club will work on the issues relevant to its filed/direction.

## TSU Youth Center Events

### *Youth Component*

*[The events were organized within “Promoting Integration, Tolerance and Awareness Program in Georgia [PITA], implemented by the UN Association of Georgia with financial support of USAID. One of the partner organizations of the program are Center for Civil Integration and Inter-ethnic Relations and TSU, which provide functioning of TSU Youth Center]*

- 1) TSU Youth Center grand opening - on December 2, "TSU Youth Center" has officially opened at Tbilisi State University (block 7). TSU Youth Center was established on the base of one-year Georgian language program for ethnic minorities and it is focused on their needs, on enhancing students' civic engagement and integration process in Georgian community. The center ensures that the students' university life would become more interesting and diverse. The representatives of donor organizations, CCIIR, Ministry of Education, Office of Public Defender of Georgia, the State Minister of Georgia for Reconciliation and Civic Equality, TSU rector and academic personnel, TSU students and representatives of some non-governmental organizations attended the event.

There are various activities that are planned to be carried out by the center. According to the interests of beneficiaries there are many topics and themes that they will address: public awareness campaigns, advocacy campaigns, protection of human rights, inter-cultural dialogue, challenges of education and diversity management, cooperation with the private sector etc. The training sessions and discussions will be also provided. In addition, the center will assist their beneficiaries/members in fundraising, prepare them to participate in funding competitions. The improvement of employment opportunities for students will also be an important issue for the center.



- 2) Meeting with the members of TSU Youth Center - Anna Buianova , the representative of the United Nations Association of Georgia (UNAG) visited TSU Youth Center and conducted the introductory meeting with its members. She introduced them the PITA Program ("Promoting Integration, Tolerance and Awareness Program in Georgia") and talked about the youth component of the program. The meeting was followed by a Q&A session and discussion between the participants involved in the program.
- 3) Introducing tutoring system at Tbilisi State University - the meeting with the representatives of Ilia State University and the members of TSU Youth Center was held. Ivrita Lobjanidze, coordinator of Tbilisi Youth Center at Ilia State University introduced an ongoing tutoring program at Ilia state University. The tutors from Ilia state University shared their experience on tutoring system and discussed about the advantages and disadvantages of being tutor. The members of TSU Youth Center will involve actively in tutoring program designed to provide one-on-one assistance and small group support to undergraduate students. Tutors are expected to assist them to achieve academic excellence and deal with academic challenges faced by new students.
- 4) The members of TSU Youth Center - Azerbaijani and Armenian students organized a cultural event - "Our Galaktioni". At Galaktion Tabidze's House Museum they presented the correspondence between Galaktioni and his wife and read the poems of Galaktioni.





- 5) Meeting with the guest speaker Irakli Tabliashvili, who gave a speech on "the effect of mass media on society".
- 6) The members of TSU Youth Center met up with Georgian filmmaker George Ovashvili to talk about his films *Corn Island* and *The Other Bank*. Both films feature ethnic conflict.
- 7) The sub club of education organized its first meeting with children outside of family care. The meeting aimed to raise awareness of these children about the importance and accessibility of education in Georgia and in addition, promote their integration process in society.
- 8) Event campaign "everyone will get old" was organized by the students who visited Tbilisi old people boarding home and together with its beneficiaries arranged pre-new year celebration and Christmas party.
- 9) TSU Youth Center hosted partners from Gori. The volunteers of Gori Center for Civic Engagement and Photographers Club arranged photo exhibition and performance devoted to the gender violence.

*FB page of TSU Youth Center*

[www.facebook.com/tsuyouthcenter/](http://www.facebook.com/tsuyouthcenter/)





## Ongoing Work and Future Plans

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*#1*

*Program title: "Promoting Integration, Tolerance and Awareness in Georgia" (PITA)*

*Donor: UNAG; USAID*

*Location of the action: Tbilisi, Kvemo-kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kakheti*

*Dates: June 2015 - May 2020*

*PITA partners: 11 NGOs; 14 Youth Centers in 13 cities of Georgia*

### AIM

- enhance interaction between minorities and the Government of Georgia (GOG)
- increase levels of civic engagement and integration among and between youth of diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds, and
- increase public awareness and education on diversity.

### **Component 1: Development of strategic and administrative tools:**

1. Development of Strategy and action plan for student support for higher educational institutions
2. Establishment and Conduction of Student Orientation Days
3. Introducing tutoring system at Tbilisi State University
4. Development of database for lodging opportunities
5. Development of Students recruitment action plan
6. Capacity building of universities for guidance of student career development and consultancy strategy
7. Networking platform and strategy for higher educational institutions
8. Development of Moodle platform and e-resources for One Year Georgian Language Program

### **Component 2: Research and development:**

1. Affirmative action policy research in 2017 and 2019-20
2. students attitudes and perception research on quality of one year Georgian language program in 2016
3. Needs assessment survey of students enrolled through quota system at undergraduate level program in 2016
4. Research of Employment opportunities and career growth of graduates enrolled through quota system
5. The relevance of vocational educational programs and labor market requirements in the regions of Kvemo Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kakheti

## **Description of CCIIR Activities for PITA program**

### **Component 3: Professional development of faculty members and administrative staff of the program**

### **Component 4: Youth Component – Establishment of TSU YOUTH CENTER**

## #2

*Project title: "Development and Introduction of Multilingual Teacher Education Programs at Universities of Georgia and Ukraine" DIMTEGU*

*Donor: TEMPUS program; European Commission*

*Location of the action: Georgia and Ukraine*

*Dates: 2013/16*

The project aims to develop and implement BA and MA programs in multilingual education at Georgian and Ukrainian universities.

Specific Project Objectives are:

- To prepare the University faculty members of Georgia and Ukraine to apply modern pedagogical methods in MA programs in multilingual education.
- To prepare HEIs of Georgia and Ukraine to deliver modern MA and in-service teacher's certificate study programs in multilingual education.
- To prepare the Bologna Process compatible up to date frame-curriculum as well as syllabuses for MA and in-service teacher's certificate programs in multilingual education in Georgia and Ukraine.
- To provide public schools of Georgia and Ukraine with qualified teachers and teaching materials to enable them to meet the demand of globalization and local community.
- To equip the universities of Georgia and Ukraine with sufficient, up to dated teaching materials and equipment.

## Project outputs and outcomes

Frame curriculum for BA and MA Teacher education programs in multilingual and international education

Courses, syllabi and teaching materials for BA and MA Teacher education programs in multilingual and international education

Moodle platform for BA and MA Teacher education programs in multilingual and international education

60 faculty members trained and prepared to develop modern syllabi and apply modern teaching methods in classroom on BA and MA Teacher education programs in multilingual and international education in Georgia and Ukraine

Web-site for the project

20 textbooks on multilingual education translated in Georgian and Ukrainian languages. 200 copies published in each language

Libraries equipped with computers and modern teaching materials in targeted universities to implement effectively BA and MA Teacher education programs in multilingual and international education

6 volumes of e-journal “bilingual education” developed and posted on the web-site in Georgian, Ukrainian and English languages



CCIIR is grateful for generous funding from donors and partners:

For More Information

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