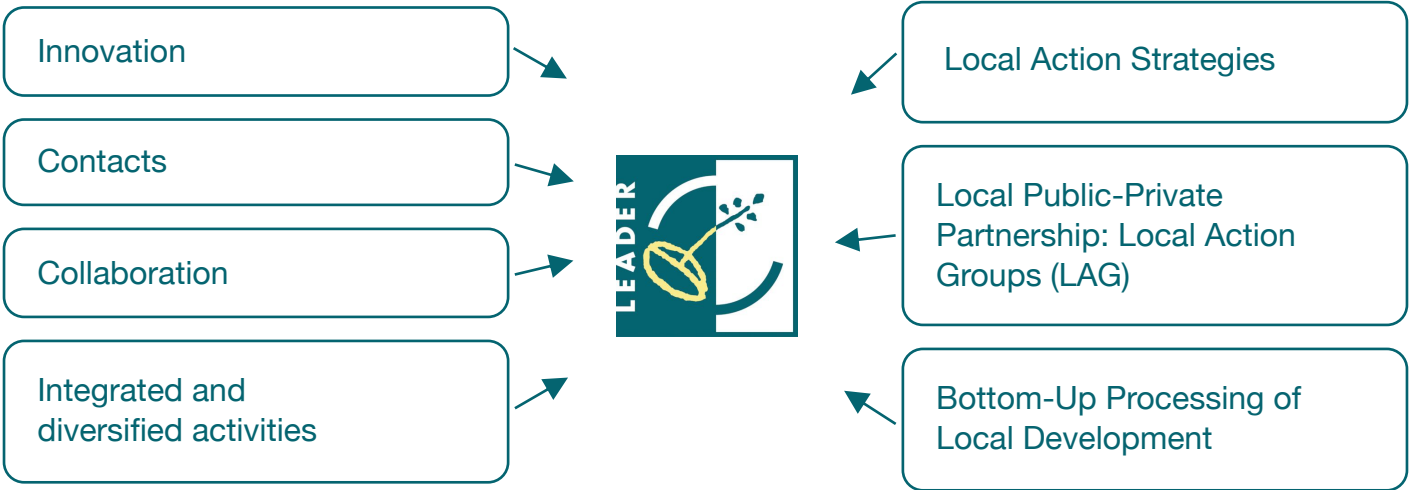




# Rural Development of Akhalkalaki within the European LEADER approach



## Key Sectors:

Agriculture	Tourism
Social and Rural Infrastructure	Environmental Protection
Sport and Recreation	Cultural Heritage
Engagement of women, youth and people with special needs	

## Planned Activities within the Project's framework:

40 initiatives for rural development	Developing Local Action Group	Developing Akhalkalaki Development Strategy
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Developing diversified economy is vital for sustainable development of municipality and generating income source for the population. In order to achieve abovementioned goal, GIPA will share West Cork's experience and will do its best to maximize engagement of women and youth, introduce sustainable system for natural resources and promote tourism development in the rural area. Project "Promoting New Rural Development Approach in Akhalkalaki" is financed within the framework of The European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development and is implemented by GIPA with Mercy Corps and ELVA.

The European Neighbourhood Programme aims to promote introduction of LEADER's components for Agriculture and Rural Development in order to elaborate a clear plan for rural development.

We could discuss LEADER as joint activities which is directed towards development of the municipality and elaborating an appropriate strategy. European experience clearly demonstrates how LEADER has been changing everyday life of people living in the rural areas. Since 1991, LEADER has done its best to introduce innovative approach for Rural Development in Europe, which plays an important role in maximizing population engagement to determine strategy for Municipality Development.



Through ENPARD, we intend to support introduction of LEADER principles, which has been successfully implemented throughout Europe in regards of agricultural development. I invite Akhalkalaki Population and local authority to engage in developing strategy of the municipality.

**Alvaro Ortega Aparicio**

Attaché, Programme Manager for Environment and Rural Development, Delegation of the European Union to Georgia



Akhalkalaki is quite interesting municipality. Therefore, we have got high expectations in regards of the activities implemented here. Our goal is to encourage people to generate ideas by themselves that is crucial for further development of the municipality. Our program is designed to maximize engagement of minority groups and to consider their ideas as well regarding the development of Akhalkalaki Municipality.

**Nana Kashakashvili**

Head of Rural Development Department of GIPA

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