



Innovative Greenhouse in the Village of Murjakheti

Samtskhe-Javakheti is a high mountainous region and so establishing greenhouses is not a popularly done enterprise. Enok Babajanyan, a native of the village of Murjakheti, challenged this stereotype and constructed an innovative greenhouse.

Enok Babajanyan came up with this idea during a study tour to Northern Ireland in which he participated. The study tour was organized within the European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (ENPARD) through the Promoting New Approaches in Rural Development in Akhalkhalaki project which was organized for members of the Akhalkhalaki Local Action Group (LAG). The project is being successfully implemented by the Department of Rural Development and Vocational Education (DRDVE) of the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA) in coordination with the West Cork Development Partnership.



Employees: 3 locals
Total budget of the project: GEL 50,000
Co-financing: GEL 17,500

“I have witnessed the ways in which to produce and use biogas during the study tour in Northern Ireland. I have an educational background in civil engineering and have some experience in working with electricity as well and so I always believed that I would implement my plan from a technical point of view but I needed financial resources. I drafted a project proposal, addressed the LAG and since I am a member of this action group, I was well aware of the strategy and the priorities,” said Enok Babajanyan.

The European Union financed the project which enabled him to construct a power plant and start biogas production. He set up a 200-square-meter greenhouse and planted Belford tomatoes.





Enok Babajanyan sells the energy from the solar power station to Energo Pro Georgia for 11.5 tetris in the summer and buys it back for 18 tetris in the winter. At present, the company owes GEL 180 to Energo Pro. Mr Babajanyan believes that his project is unique and innovative in Georgia as he is the very first to use a solar power station for a greenhouse. Currently, he is offering advice and recommendations to other people interested in the enterprise.

Enok Babajanyan also gets biogas from manure which is kept in a special tank for producing natural gas. He uses biogas for the greenhouse and his household and the rest is sold as a bio-fertilizer.

He collected five tons of tomatoes during the harvest in summer. Enok Babajanyan intends to grow herbs for sale as well. His product is natural and does not use any chemicals.

Mr Babajanyan is thinking of expanding his business and introducing it to the new market for distribution. He says that the region is working towards creating and implementing such innovative and business-oriented projects in order to ensure the sustainable development of the economy and create new workplaces.



The initiative has been financed by the European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (ENPARD) through the project of promoting new approaches in Rural Development in Akhalkhalaki.

Project is being implemented by the Department of Rural Development and Vocational Education (DRDVE) of the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA). Project Partners are Mercy Corps, Elva - Community Engagement and West Cork Development Partnership.

The European Union supports agriculture and rural development of Georgia through the programme of ENPARD, which has been implemented in Georgia since 2013. The total budget is 179.5 mio EUR. The main goal of the ENPARD is to reduce the rural poverty. The main priority of the first phase of the program was to support agricultural development, whereas the main aim of the second and third phases is to promote economic opportunities and capacity building of people living in the rural areas. For the additional information, please follow the link: www.enpard.ge