



### Furniture Industry Equipped with Modern Carpentry Tools

There are a lot of furniture enterprises in Georgia. The demand is quite high on the market where customers prefer to order a table, a chair, kitchen and bedroom furniture or other items for their homes from an enterprise which is then built according to their tastes and requirements. The preference for custom-made furniture is higher than ready-made items because it is typically a better fit for a person's house or apartment. Competition is high among the industries and everyone does their best to prepare high-quality products at affordable prices. The trend is the same in the Akhalkalaki Municipality. Svetlana Seropyan created a team of carpenters and opened a wooden furniture enterprise where she works at the manager.

Svetlana procured modern carpentry tools within the ENPARD grant and started the operation. Her enterprise is innovative in that it uses epoxy in the furniture manufacturing.



Employees: 3 locals  
Total budget of the project: GEL 4,000.00  
EU share: GEL 2,600.22  
Co-financing: GEL 1,400.00



“Only a few enterprises apply epoxy during furniture production in Georgia and we are the only factory using this technology in the region. This kind of furniture is very strong and does not lose its quality. It is not affected by humidity and is damage resistant. Furniture made with this technology is quite trendy as well as beautiful. Mainly, restaurants and cafes are using these items to create a cozy atmosphere,” she said.

Local restaurants were interested in the product but due to the pandemic's restrictions, they were not operating at normal capacity and so their interest in buying new furniture decreased.

Three individuals are employed at the factory. With their professionalism in carpentry, they are capable of making any kind of product and so clients are satisfied and happy. Currently, in addition to furniture, they are also making chandeliers, grills, wine stands and wooden beer steins. The demand for these particular items is high and so the factory's staff is pleased with the sales.





“I would like to express my gratitude towards the European Union, GIPA and LAG for the financial support and their faith in us. They believed in our idea and that it would be implemented and bring socio-economic development to our municipality since we created new workplaces for local adults,” said Svetlana Seropyan.

The factory is proud of the fact that their furniture is different from that of other factories in terms of its design and quality and the staff hopes that their production will become popular throughout the whole country.

Of important note that the enterprise is distinguished with its attention to social responsibility as well. They are respectful of nature and the environment and only use wooden remnants and epoxy which has no negative impact on the quality and design of the furniture they produce.



*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](http://www.enpard.ge)*