



Innovative Car Service in Akhalkalaki

Sasunik Aslanyan, who runs the Car Service Center in Akhalkalaki, was informed through the Internet about the grant competition as announced by the European Union. Even though he offers car service provided by individuals with international experience, it was not enough for his business to grow and develop. With old-fashioned equipment, the center was unable to provide proper service owners of modern cars.



Employees: 2 locals
Total budget of the project: GEL 38,605.83
EU share: GEL 27,783.00
Co-financing: GEL 5,573.00



In 1992, with the purpose of reducing air pollution and the negative impact on air quality, the European Union introduced new regulations that set standards for car emissions. The main goal of setting these standards is to reduce the dispersal of harmful substances into the air. These include nitrous oxide (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO), hydrocarbons (HC) and particulate matter (PM).

In Georgia, diesel quality has increased to the EURO-4 standard since January 2019 with further increases to EURO-5 and EURO-6 to be implemented gradually. Car service centers, therefore, need to buy new equipment to respond to the changes and this requires additional expenses for the owners. Sasunik Aslanyan drafted a project proposal with the support of the Akhalkalaki LAG and received financial aid within the ENPARD program.

Nowadays, drivers whose cars require a technical inspection are referred to Sasunik Aslanyan's center. He reports that those cars that have been inspected by his center receive an immediate and positive evaluation.





Equipment procured within the project allows the center to measure the levels of CO, HC and PM with no difficulties.

“As you are aware, the touristic potential of our region is gradually growing and, therefore, having this kind of car service center is more important since tourists often visit us with EURO-5 and EURO 6 standard cars and often need our assistance. I think we are a unique service center offering many various services to clients,” said Sasunik Aslanyan.

The service center offers a wide range of services including wet and dry car cleaning, auto tuning and oil changing, among others. Seven Akhaltsikhe locals have already been employed (two within the project) at the car service center. The majority of the employees has overseas work experience.

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