



Recreation Area in Akhalkalaki Suburb

A recreation area is a place where people can rest and regain their physical and mental strengths. There is comfortable, multifunctional park in the center of Akhalkalaki where the locals often go. Those people who live a long way from the center, however, are not able to visit every day.

With the financial support of the European Union, a municipal project has been implemented in Akhalkalaki which involved the setting up of a recreation area in a city suburb. A new square (this is how the locals call it) is situated in front of a densely populated building and has already been turned into a place for meeting, relaxing and enjoying the outdoors.

“We were so happy when we were told that the recreation area was about to be constructed in front of our building. I have two kids and I was unable to take them to the center every day. But now we can go to the park every single day, whenever we want, and play or go for a walk. I also meet other young mothers here, we talk and share our experience in terms of our children. The area is well fenced and so the youngsters are safe and free to play with their friends,” said Gayane Babajanyan, a local resident.

Setting up the recreation area had great importance for older people as well. Many of them have chronic illnesses and so they have to keep active according to their doctor’s recommendations. Now, they have a proper environment for this. The park was well planned and is equipped with modern lighting and benches.



Employees: 3 locals
Total budget of the project: GEL 74,997.78
EU share: GEL 48,616.45
Co-financing: GEL 26,381.33

The non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity the Akhalkalaki Service Center executed all of the activities related to the setting up of the recreation zone. According to Agvan Abajyan, a center representative, this space is foreseen as a safe space for all kind of visitors from all social groups and with any physical capabilities. Mr Abajyan is grateful to the European Union for giving them the grant and to the LAG and GIPA for their support in the smooth implementation of the project.





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