



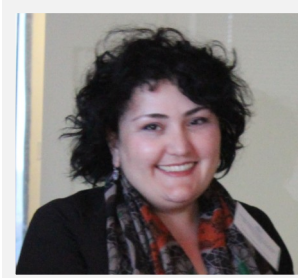
# For Better Future

Report: 2009-2014

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## Letter from the Executive Director



Dear friends,

This report presents a summary of the initiatives and activities of the non-governmental organization “For Better Future” from the past five years.

I am proud to share that despite the challenges we have faced, For Better Future continues to successfully maintain and promote the organization’s mission.

Those successes are the result of hardworking people who have contributed their time and expertise to our organization, both as staff and as volunteers. All of our supporters are motivated by the desire to help others and build a stronger community for people of all socioeconomic backgrounds.

Over the past five years, we have expanded our network, raising awareness about our organization on a community and a professional level. We are most proud of the impact For Better Future has made in the day-to-day lives of our beneficiaries and we look forward to continuing that work.

On behalf of For Better Future, I would like to express my deep gratitude to everybody - our donors and partners - for their support and encouragement. Thanks also to all of our beneficiaries and to everyone who has supported us and had faith in our abilities; all serving to strengthen the organization.

And, finally, looking back on For Better Future’s successfully implemented projects; I can confidently say that our work is profitable. We have and will continue to support the development of a better future for our community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'N. Chkareuli', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Nana Chkareuli  
Executive Director

# About

Organization “For Better Future” was founded on July 16, 2009 as a Non-Enterprise Non-Commercial Legal Entity in Georgia.

***The organization’s vision is***

To build a strong community that promotes the economic and social welfare of women and youth through self-empowerment and equal representation.

***The organization’s mission is***

To empower IDP women and youth by providing professional development training and peacebuilding skills in order to promote a sustainable community with effective and active civic participation.



# About

The founders of the organization are:

**Nana Chkareuli**

Tserovani  
Executive Director  
Mobile: 599 410 250  
E-mail: nanachkareuli@gmail.com

**Maka Mtsithuri**

Tbilisi  
Director  
Mobile: 598 316 299  
E-mail: natalidagio@inbox.ru

**Shorena Menteshashvili**

Tbilisi  
Founder  
Mobile: 599 218 147  
E-mail: shorenananteshashvili  
@rambler.ru

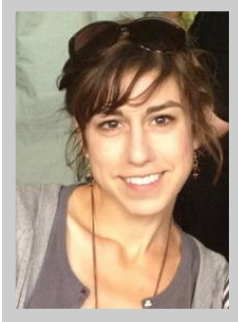
**Teona Lomtadze**

Tbilisi  
Founder  
Mobile: 595 240 278  
E-Mail: teolomtadze@hotmail.com

## Network and Coalition Memberships

- In 2008, For Better Future joined the “Coalition for IDPs’ Rights”  
[www.idp.ge](http://www.idp.ge)
- Since 2009, For Better Future has been a member of the Civil Forum - Place For Peace [www.civil-forum.org](http://www.civil-forum.org)
- Since 2012, For Better Future has been a member of the Civil Society Regional Network Conception <http://www.cso.ge>
- Since 2012, For Better Future has been a member of the Gender Equality Network
- In 2013, Peace Corps Volunteer Kristen Moses joined the For Better Future organization <http://www.peacecorps.gov>

## About



“Peace Corps” is a United States government sponsored volunteer program. Through this program, American volunteers are sent around the world to help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women, to help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served, and to help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

Peace Corps volunteers have been working in Georgia for 10 years. There are two Peace Corps programs in Georgia:

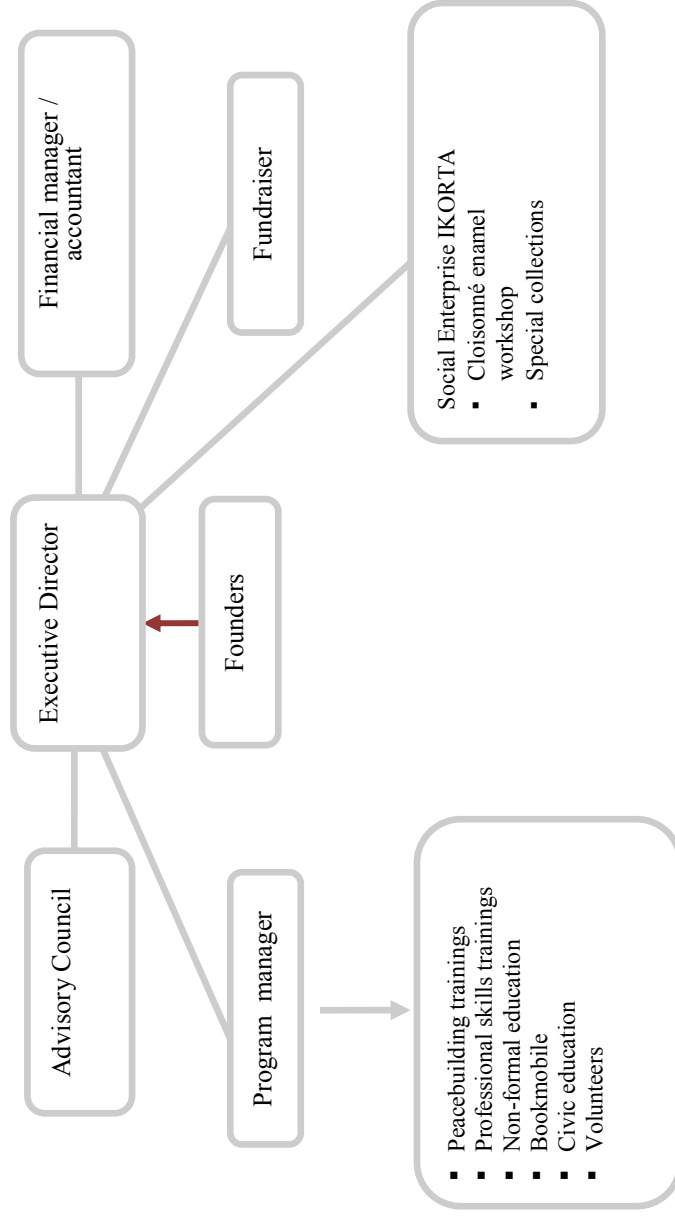
English language teachers and NGO and social development consultants.

Since 2013, I have worked with For Better Future to increase their organizational capacity and assist in all of their projects. The growth and impact I have seen is incredible. Led by Nana Chkareuli, the organization is well-respected among the IDP and Social Enterprise communities of Georgia. For Better Future plays an important networking and advocacy role in these sectors.

Within the IDP settlements, For Better Future is consistently working for its beneficiaries - through funded projects and independent initiatives. It is thanks to a dedicated core of volunteers and supporters that For Better Future is a impactful, self-sufficient organization. In turn, the community continues to grow, bolstered by the leaders and economic projects implemented by this organization.

Sincerely,  
Kristen Moses  
Peace Corps Volunteer

# Structure of the Organization



# Advisory Council

The advisory council was formed in 2014, it consists 9 people with different backgrounds and professions.

Advisory Council meetings will be held once every 3 months. Board membership is voluntary and a member of council is selected for a 2-year term. The functions of the Advisory Council are as follows:

- Based on the organization’s mission and vision, to assess the organization’s work and make recommendations for future development.
- To provide consultation for the organization based on their professional expertise
- To help the organization in finding the funds, potential donors and grantors.
- To assist the organization in implementing projects

The organization “For Better Future” will provide the Advisory Council with information about organization’s implemented projects and future plans, as well as a financial report. The Advisory Council will be an important element in supporting the success of our organization.



# Advisory Council

**Marina Ghambashidze**

Tserovani  
Social Services Agency, Regional  
Manager  
Mobile: 577 953 238  
E-Mail: marinagambashidze  
@yahoo.com

**Mari Chocheli**

Mtskheta  
Barambo, Financial Director  
Mobile: 595 228 811  
E-Mail: mari.chocheli@barambo.ge

**Tamaz Balashvili**

Tserovani  
Akhalgori Council, Governor  
Mobile: 577 271 188  
E-Mail: tazo.bala@yahoo.com

**Nutsa Qiria**

Tbilisi  
Youth Activist  
Mobile: 555 999 593  
E-Mail: nutsa.kiria@yahoo.com

**Nunuka Mghebrishvili**

Tserovani  
We For Healthy Future NGO,  
Coordinator  
Mobile: 595 307 397  
E-Mail: nunukamghebrishvili  
@yahoo.com

**Giorgi Maghradze**

Mtskheta  
Ministry of Education, Information  
Management Division, IT Manager  
Mobile: 577 280 839  
E-Mail: gimagradze@gmail.com

**Tamar Maisuradze**

Mtskheta  
AVNG Mtskheta Committee  
Mobile: 593 266 151  
E-Mail: Tamar mai@gmail.com

**Teona Lomtadze**

Tbilisi  
National Probation Agency, Rehabilita-  
tion Department, Psychologist  
For Better Future NGO, Founder  
Mobile: 595 240 278  
E-Mail: teolomtadze@hotmail.com

**Lia Mdzeluri**

Tserovani  
Tserovani #3 School, Training Manager  
Mobile: 591 407 613  
E-Mail: liamdzeluri@gmail.com

# Implemented Projects

## Peacebuilding

It is particularly important for our organization to take part in peacebuilding in Georgia by building confidence and promoting dialogue. In this regard, For Better Future actively cooperates with both international and local governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Our organization coordinates with ethnic minorities living in Georgia, including the representatives of the civil society from the South Ossetian occupied territories: Tskhinvali and Akhalkalaki.

## Georgian-Ossetian Civil Forum

Since 2009, our organization has been involved in the community-level Georgian-Ossetian negotiation process through the Georgian-Ossetian Civil Forum meetings. These meetings are held periodically in a neutral, third party country and discuss peacebuilding through conflict prevention and resolution.

- June 2010 (Leiden, the Netherlands)
- November 2010 (Istanbul, Turkey)
- April 2012 (Yerevan, Armenia)

## Leiden Appeal Letter



In July 2010, at the meeting taken place in Leiden, Netherlands, the participants developed a joint letter of appeal to the participants of Geneva discussion and appealed them to solving humanitarian problems people faced there.

The members of forum appealed to the participants of Geneva discussion:

*“Promote the incidents prevention without any preconditions and develop an agreement about the cooperation on humanitarian issues.”*

# Implemented Projects

## **The Problems of Akhagori District: Internally Displaced Persons and their Future**

In August 2013, with the support of the NGO “Trust in Development” and the Embassy of Lithuania in Georgia, For Better Future held a conference on the issues in the Akhagori region in South Ossetia, for both current residents and IDPs.

Conference speakers included representatives from Akhagori's government in exile, Tbilisi State University, and the EUMM. Akhagori's administrative border problems, the current political situation, and security issues were discussed during the event. They also talked about IDPs' social and economical conditions, as well as the problems for residents still living in Akhagori.



Following the presentations, attendees from the Akhagori IDP community formed working groups to draft a letter of appeal to the Georgian government and the international community. This letter of appeal has been shared with international organizations and local nongovernmental organizations.

## **Travel in Akhagori**

On 11 October 2013, we collaborated with “Trust in Development” once again to host a networking event. Members of the national and international academic, governmental, press, and aid organizations were introduced to members of the Akhagori IDP community and citizens of Akhagori. An open discussion was held on the issues facing the communities, sharing their first-hand experiences from both sides of the Administrative Boundary Line (ABL).

# Implemented Projects

## Form #9

Due to For Better Future's networking and advocacy work on behalf of IDPs from the Akhalkori region, the organization was approached by the Georgian government to collect official statements from all IDPs who are eligible to cross the ABL but who do not have the proper paperwork (Form #9).

Over the course of 2 months, IDPs from throughout the Mtskheta-Mtianeti region visited For Better Future's office to record their statements. The organization's volunteers assisted in the recording process for 850 individual statements of the people who have the "right of return" for Akhalkori, but cannot get Form #9.

Within this project, individual statements by the IDPs were sent to the Geneva Peace Talks in 2014.



# Implemented Projects

## Women

As an organization founded by women, For Better Future understands the important role that women play in the community, especially in crisis situations. Our organization is interested in growing the social activities of women and develop their resources.

These initiatives include direct training opportunities for women and awareness-raising projects in our community.

### Club of Women Leaders

In 2010, For Better Future implemented a project funded by TASO for women leaders in the Tserovani IDP settlement.

The goal of the “Club of Women Leaders” was to encourage internally displaced women to take part in civil affairs. Ten women participated in this project by attending trainings, seminars and working meetings. The participants were trained in fundraising, as well as civil education.

Within the project a meeting was held with Mrs. Iulia Kharashvili, the head of IDP women association “Consent.”



# Implemented Projects

## Professional Development Training Program for Refugees



In 2012, For Better Future implemented the “Professional Development Training Program for Refugees” specifically targeting women.

The project supported women’s role in community by increasing their professional development and independence. The IDP women who participated in the project attended courses in computer skills, accounting and hairdressing.

At the end of the course, participants were given certificates. A total of 120 IDP women took part in the project.



# Implemented Projects

## Youth

Youth in the IDP community have faced many mental and physical adjustments following the 2008 war. With limited employment opportunities and limited resources in the settlements, it is critical to encourage the younger generations to approach these circumstances with innovation, activism, and a comprehensive understanding of civil society.

For Better Future has extensive experience working with young leaders through academic opportunities, civic education, and professional training workshops. Our organization is building a proactive, capable generation of new leaders that will be able to lead Georgia, as well as their communities.

### Youth For Better Future

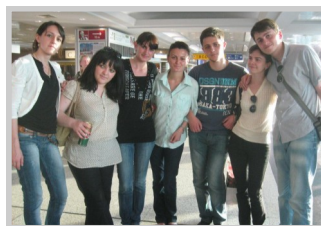


From 2009 to 2010, with the support of the “Open Society – Georgia,” For Better Future implemented a project in four districts of Mtskheta-Mtianeti region which aimed at identifying young leaders in increasing their participation in civil society.

Youth initiative groups and youth networks were established. A project forum was held to allow the participants to share their experiences and sum up the results of the project.

### European School for Young Leaders

Through a COBERM grant, For Better Future organized the European School for Young Leaders program from 2011 to 2012.



Ten youth were selected, five from the IDP community and five from the occupied territories, to attend a one-week training program. Participants received training in a range of conflict-resolution, advocacy, and project development skills. They also meet with youth-led organizations in Prague.

This project encouraged the youth to engage in conflict-resolution dialogue and then share these experiences with their local communities.

# Implemented Projects

## Erasmus Mundus Scholarship Program

For Better Future supports youth education opportunities by working with the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship program in the Tserovani IDP settlement.

Informational sessions are held every year, along with workshops CV and Motivational Letter writing. Based on the recommendation from our organization, twelve IDP youth have been accepted to international degree programs in Poland and Romania since 2013.



## Tserovani Youth Professional Development Program



In 2014, For Better Future received funding through the Peace Corps Small Assistance Program to develop and host a professional development training program for youth.

Participants attended a series of five training sessions to build their professional skills, including CV writing and interview practice. They were

then placed with local businesses, organizations, and governmental agencies for 3 month internships. The combination of skills building and practical experience, proved very beneficial to the youth.

Several participants have continued working with their internship host. The training program will be offered for a second time in 2015.



# Implemented Projects

## U.S. Embassy Bookmobile

This American Corner ‘on wheels’ travels between four IDP settlements in the Mtskheta-Mtianeti region: Tserovani, Tsilkani, Prezeti, and Galavani. The program aims to promote cooperation and partnership between the United States and Georgia, providing English language resources and promoting awareness of American culture, history, politics, traditions and values.



English language classes are available for all ages, including adults. The Bookmobile holds clubs for sports, art, and technology as well. Guest speakers from all over the world have visited the Bookmobile to share presentations conduct seminars for children on interesting issues.



Within the first eight months of operation, 6,695 beneficiaries visited the Bookmobile, 580 English books were used, and 612 classes or activities were implemented. The Bookmobile was opened on November 26, 2013 by Richard Norland, U.S. Ambassador to Georgia, and has been funded through 2016.



# Social Entrepreneurship

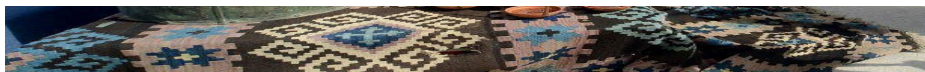
In 2012, with the support of the coalition “For IDPs’ Rights,” For Better Future founded social enterprise “Ikorta.” This enterprise operates like a small business that has a social mission; using business approaches to solve social problems.

As a non-profit organization, we are interested in entrepreneurial activities for several reasons:

- There are fundraising difficulties related to increasing competition. In such conditions, social enterprises provide with resources for sustainable development.
- Social enterprises contribute to NGOs to realize their mission and reach their long-term goals.
- Income that is earned by social enterprises make our programs more flexible and offers new resources for new programs without any funding limitations.
- It helps organizations to be more focused on their missions, reducing the need to constantly change their plans in order to fit donors requirements.

## **Our social enterprise goals are:**

To provide IDP women with vocational trainings, to increase their employment opportunities and financial independence. To promote stable operation of our organization’s programs.



## Handicraft Enterprise

Ikorta handicraft enterprise was founded with the support of Eurasia Partnership Foundation.

Four IDP women are employed by the enterprise. They make felted, knit, and woven products using traditional Georgian techniques and designs. The women fuse of old traditions and modern fashions in their unique, hand-made products.



# Social Entrepreneurship

## Enamel Jewelry Enterprise

The Enamel Jewelry Social Enterprise “Ikorta” was founded in 2012 with the support of “Humanitarian Association Beteli.”

Using traditional Georgian techniques, Ikorta’s designers make enamel jewelry and other handi-crafts. The products are entirely hand-made and the designs are a fusion of old traditions and modern fashions.



The Ikorta enamel jewelry collection includes exclusively designed rings, earrings, bracelets, pendants, and brooches. Customized orders are available upon request.

Ikorta designers also produce special collections in collaboration with other organizations and companies. In spring 2014 Ikorta produced a feminist collection with the financial support of “Women Fund in Georgia.” The collection was presented on Women’s Day (March 8, 2014) in Frontline Cafe.

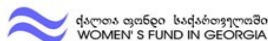
In summer 2014, the designers started teaching one-day workshops. Participants have the opportunity to make their own unique enamel jewelry and engage in a cultural exchange in the Tserovani IDP settlement.



# Donors and Partners



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## Contact Us

If you would like to learn more about For Better Future or the projects implemented by the organization, please contact us:

Phone: (+995) 599 410 250

E-Mail: [uketesimomavlisatvis@gmail.com](mailto:uketesimomavlisatvis@gmail.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ForBetterFutureNGO>

If you would like to learn more about Social Enterprise Ikorta or would like to sign up for a workshop class, please contact us:

E-Mail: [uketesimomavlisatvis@gmail.com](mailto:uketesimomavlisatvis@gmail.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ikortaenterprise>

Website: <http://ikorta.weebly.com/>

