



Regional Conference Population Dynamics and Evidence-based Population Policies in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region

14 JUNE, 2019

SHERATON GRAND TBILISI METECHI PALACE

Tbilisi, Georgia

Concept Note

Background

The year 2019 marks a double anniversary to commemorate 25 years of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) agenda and to celebrate UNFPA's 50th anniversary. In 2019 UNFPA Country Office in Georgia also celebrates 20 years' anniversary of its support to the country's development.

UNFPA Country Office in Georgia in close collaboration with the UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia has initiated the regional conference to mark these important anniversaries by reinvigorating the regional dialogue on population dynamics and evidence-based population policies in the countries of the region.

This regional dialogue and its recommendations are perceived as an important milestone in the Regional Roadmap to the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25: accelerating the promise. This global summit, to be held in November 2019, will offer an inclusive platform bringing together governments, UN agencies, civil society, private sector organizations, women's groups and youth networks to discuss and agree on actions to accelerate the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, which is critical to achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The Regional Conference will host the *What's Changed* conversation – as part of a series of thought leadership conversations on ICPD, organized by UNFPA globally, leading to the Nairobi Summit in November, 2019. This conversation aims at generating unique knowledge base drawing on the insights of leading ICPD experts and people at the community level delivering the ICPD agenda, as well as creating a new understanding of how ICPD commitments must be fully realized and also adapted to current realities. The conversation will be shaped around key thematic areas of the ICPD Programme of Action and gains made in the realization of sexual and reproductive rights.

Population Dynamics in the Region

A rising number of countries in the region face rapid population ageing and negative population growth, driven by longer lifespans, below replacement fertility and, in some countries, the out-migration of young people. It is well established, that population issues and dynamics have critical implications for sustainable development. Population dynamics are strongly inter-linked with development issues such as poverty reduction, gender equality, the aspirations of young people, and sexual and reproductive health.

Increased burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) is another important area having an impact on population dynamics globally, including in Eastern Europe and Central Asia region. This is a phenomenon that almost universally accompanies advances in longevity and “modernization”. NCDs tend to result in chronic illnesses (diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, cancer) that are often incurable and require lifelong and expensive treatment, as well as result in lost of productive labor. The basis for these health issues is laid in early and middle ages, and their prevention is by far the most cost-effective remedy by applying “healthy ageing” approach.

Understanding population dynamics is essential as societies around the world strive to achieve the ambitious and holistic Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Taking a human-rights based approach – seeing the individual, their needs, rights and potential – beyond the mere numbers of population trends is a fundamental part of this process.

The ICPD+25 regional review,¹ undertaken in 2018, highlighted major population and development trends affecting the region, among those:

- continued low fertility in large parts of the region, with fertility rates below replacement levels in the majority of countries; populations are projected to decline in 20 countries by 2030, and in 10 of them by 15% or more by 2050;
- increasing life expectancy and population ageing: by 2023, the region’s population aged 65+ will outnumber children (0-14 years) for the first time;
- low levels of participation in education and training among older workers (5% of women and 4% of men aged 55 to 74), revealing barriers to lifelong learning and unrealized potential;
- high rates of youth not in education, employment or training (NEET);
- transformations in family formation, with trends towards cohabitation, single-parent families and reconstituted families, among others;
- minority groups, including ethnic minorities and persons with disabilities, continue to face persistent exclusion, material deprivation and inferior educational and health outcomes compounding over the life course.

Faced with these prospects, many governments started implementing policies aiming to support families and address ageing issues. However, the demographic and development policies that governments put in place in response to the population challenges are not always based on evidence, and in some cases infringe upon the rights of individuals to have the numbers of children they desire - a fundamental principle which guides UNFPA’s approach in these matters.

Population Dynamics and Policies in Georgia

In the coming decades, Georgia, as many other countries of the region, will experience continuing population decline and population ageing. According to the United Nations Population Division (UNPD), the share of the Georgian population aged 65 years and above is projected to grow from 14% in 2015 to over 19% in 2030. The

¹ <https://eeca.unfpa.org/en/publications/fulfilling-potential-present-and-future-generations>

major demographic mechanisms of changes in population structure and population ageing in Georgia during the recent decades have been low fertility and emigration. At the same time, however, this mechanism provides a foundation for the ‘first demographic dividend’. While Georgia has relatively high old age dependency ratio, low fertility contributes to a total dependency ratio that will remain at a fairly low level for several years to come. While Georgia’s ‘window of demographic opportunity’ is expected to close within the next decade, it still presents opportunities for introducing appropriate policy measures to mitigate the negative effects of demographic ageing and population decline in the future. More so, the right policy mix could result in a “second demographic dividend” for Georgia, whereby savings and assets of the older generation constitute a basis for productive investments.

The Government of Georgia has recognized population dynamics issues as a priority for the country's development and has addressed it in two major policy documents elaborated with UNFPA technical support and adopted by the Parliament: *The Demographic Security Concept of Georgia* (2016) and *The Concept of State Policy on the Issue of Aging in Georgia* (2016).

UNFPA’s Support in the Area of Population Dynamics

UNFPA’s work in the countries of the region aims to further strengthen the capacity for quality data collection, analysis and utilization in policy making and programming around population issues, ageing, gender equality and reproductive health, including data in humanitarian settings. UNFPA also supports the introduction of evidence-based policies and services to promote healthy and active ageing. To strengthen the capacity for analysis of population dynamics and inter-linkages and to support policy analysis, UNFPA collaborates with academia and regional institutions active in the population and development field.

To further strengthen evidence-based population policy formulation, UNFPA, in collaboration with leading experts from the *Vienna Institute of Demography (Austrian Academy of Sciences) / Wittgenstein Centre for Population and Global Human Capital* will issue an analytical report that aims to summarize the available evidence on the effects of family policies on fertility rates through combining literature review with empirical illustrations for selected countries and policy interventions and showing the complexity of the policy-fertility links.

The objective of the Conference

The objective of the conference is to support enhanced understanding of the current population dynamics and trends in the region, including ageing, and of the status of policies and initiatives addressing these dynamics in the countries of the region. It is expected that through exchange of scientific evidence and good practices the evidence-based and people-centred policy making on population and development issues will be strengthened in the countries of the region.

The one-day conference will be co-organized by the UNFPA Country Office in Georgia, the UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in partnership with the Administration of the Government of Georgia.

Participants

Participants of the conference will be representatives of relevant government entities, academia, civil society organizations, international organizations from the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region; representatives of UNFPA Regional and Country Offices; invited international experts.

Agenda

08:30 - 09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 – 09:30	Opening of the Conference Ms. Elene Beradze , Deputy Head of the Administration of the Government of Georgia; Mr. Zaza Bokhua , First Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia; Ms. Sabine Machl , UN Resident Coordinator in Georgia; Mr. Karl Kulesa , UNFPA Representative in Turkey, Country Director for Azerbaijan and Georgia.
09:30 – 10:30	WHAT'S CHANGED? Thought Leadership Conversations on ICPD: What has changed in the past 25 years? Fertility, families and women's empowerment Moderated by Mr. Ian McFarlane , Deputy Director, UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia Panelists: Mr. Tomas Sobotka , Vienna Institute of Demography (Austrian Academy of Sciences) / Wittgenstein Centre for Population and Global Human Capital Mr. Akaki Zoidze , Chair of the Parliament Committee on Healthcare and Social Issues, Georgia Mrs. Zhanna Andreasyan , Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Issues, Republic of Armenia Dr. Lia Nadaraia , President of Caucasian Feminist Initiative, Vice-Chair for Eastern Europe of UN CEDAW Committee.
10:30 – 11:00	Break, refreshments, press inquiries
11:00 – 12:30	Session I - Enhanced Implementation of ICPD to achieve SDGs Moderator: Ms. Sabine Machl , UN Resident Coordinator in Georgia Population Dynamics and Sustainable Development agenda in the region - strengthening human capital over the life-course and well-being Mr. Tomas Sobotka , Vienna Institute of Demography (Austrian Academy of Sciences) / Wittgenstein Centre for Population and Global Human Capital The role of non-communicable diseases prevention in shaping demographic dynamics Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze , General Director, National Centre for Disease Control and Public Health, Georgia Ukrainian Pact for Youth Mr. Oleksander Yarema , Deputy Minister of Youth and Sport, Ukraine Youth Policy in Georgia – progress and ways forward Ms. Irina Pruidze , MP, Committee on Sports and Youth Issues, Parliament of Georgia Discussion on countries' experience and the way forward
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch, group photo

13:30 – 14:30 **Session I - continued**
Moderator: **Mr. Karl Kulesa**, *UNFPA Representative in Turkey and Country Director for Georgia*

Gender responsive family policies and male involvement

Dr. Nigina Abaszadeh, *Regional Technical Adviser – Gender, UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office*

Women supportive policies - the role of the private sector in promoting women's economic empowerment

Ms. Sevda Alkan, *Coordinator of the Business Against Domestic Violence project, Sabanci University - Corporate Governance Forum, Turkey*

Discussion on countries' experience and the way forward

14:40 – 15:45 **Session II - Opportunities for the ageing societies**
Moderator: **Dr. Alexandre Sidorenko**, *Senior Advisor, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (Vienna, Austria).*

Ageing trends and policies in the UNECE Region

Ms. Vitalia Gaucaite Wittich, *Chief of Population Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Statistical Division (on-line)*

Ageing on the Policy Agenda in Moldova

Ms. Aliona Cretu, *Head of Demographic Policies Unit, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova*

Pension Reform in Georgia

Ms. Ekaterine Mikabadze, *Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia*

Discussion on countries' experience and the way forward

15:45 – 16:15 **Break - refreshments**

16:15 – 17:30 **Session II – continued**
Good Practices and Initiatives for Promoting Healthy Ageing
Moderator: **Eduard Jongstra**, *Regional Advisor, UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office*

Healthy Ageing Centres in BiH

Ms. Sejdefa Basic-Catic, *Director of the NGO Partnership for Public Health, BiH*

Healthy Ageing Initiative in Georgia

Ms. Nana Bagalishvili, *Head of the NGO "Civic Initiative", Georgia*

Discussion on countries' experience and the way forward

17:30 – 18:00 **Closing Remarks**
Mr. Akaki Zoidze, *Chair of the Parliament Committee on Healthcare and Social Issues, Georgia*
Mr. Ian McFarlane, *Deputy Regional Director, UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office*

Short Bio-data of the Conference Speakers

WHAT'S CHANGED? Thought Leadership Conversations on ICPD:

Dr. Akaki Zoidze

Chair of the Parliament Committee on Healthcare and Social Issues, Georgia

Dr. Akaki Zoidze is a senior expert in health policy, health systems and health financing. His 25 years of professional experience draws upon research and consulting experience with international multilateral and bilateral development institutions (UN agencies, the World Bank, WHO, EU, USAID, DFID, etc.) during which he participated in the implementation of the health policy elaboration and implementation in 15 countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia during 2003-2016.

Dr. Zoidze also has an extensive experience in public sector. As a deputy minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs and then as a Deputy State Minister (Prime Minister) of Georgia in 1997-2003, he led or participated in number of major health reform initiatives in Georgia. Since 2016, he is a member of the parliament and the Chair of the Healthcare and Social Issues Committee of the Parliament of Georgia.

Ms. Zhanna Andreasyan

Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Issues, Republic of Armenia

Ms. Zhanna Andreasyan graduated from the Yerevan State University and holds degree of the Doctor of Sociology. She has been appointed as the Deputy Minister in February 2019. Previously, she worked at the Center for Education Projects PIU as a Deputy Director. Ms Andreasyan is a lecturer at the Faculty of Sociology of the Yerevan State University and at the Yerevan State Linguistic University after Valery Bryusov. Along with teaching experience she has an intensive research experience.

Dr. Lia Nadaraia

President of Caucasian Feminist Initiative, Vice-Chair for Eastern Europe of UN CEDAW Committee.

Dr. Lia Nadaraia, PhD in General Psychology, has been Vice-Chair for Eastern Europe and Follow up Reporter of CEDAW since 2019. Since 1998 Ms. Lia Nadaria holds positions and functions of the President of the Caucasian Feminist Initiative, Co-director of Women's Political Resource Center, is a member of GeNEP (Gender Network Eastern Partnership) and of the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

Ms. Nadaraia is an activist of feminism movement, she organizes political and feminist schools for women, since 1999 she works on promotion of women's participation in politics and decision-making, monitors elections and trains political parties and women's political networks and electorate in Georgia. She conducts advocacy on gender sensitive national policies and legislation and up to present is a visiting Professor at different universities conducting the course on "Women in Transition".

Ms. Nadaraia has contributed to improvement of current gender policies in EaP countries. She directs work of the Cuacasian Feminist Initiative in Consultative Status with ECOSOC and during the period of 2004-2012 Ms. Nadaraia was a member of Advisory Council for Gender Equality under the Chairperson of the Parliament of Georgia.

Dr. Tomas Sobotka

Vienna Institute of Demography (Austrian Academy of Sciences) / Wittgenstein Centre for Population and Global Human Capital

Dr. Tomáš Sobotka leads the research group on Fertility and Family at the Vienna Institute of Demography / Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Human Global Capital. His research focuses on global low fertility and family changes, family policies, fertility data and measurement, migration, population and family change

in Europe, and assisted reproduction. In 2012-17 he was principal investigator in the European Research Council funded project analysing fertility and reproduction in Europe in the early 21st century (EURREP, www.eurrep.org). Tomáš has helped launching and expanding several data repositories, including the Human Fertility Database (HFD, www.humanfertility.org), Human Fertility Collection (www.fertilitydata.org) and Cohort Fertility and Education (CFE) database (<http://www.cfe-database.org>). He is keen on expanding demographic knowledge beyond the boundaries of the discipline. To that aim, he has been collaborating with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and other organisations, contributing to the European Demographic Data Sheet (<http://www.populationeurope.org>) and helping to launch the European Fertility Data Sheet 2015 (<http://www.fertilitydatasheet.org>).

In 2017 he was awarded Allianz European Demographer Award. Currently (2018-20) he is member of the Council of the European Association for Population Studies (EAPS).

The Conference Sessions:

Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze

General Director, National Centre for Disease Control and Public Health, Georgia

Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze graduated from Faculty of General Medicine of Tbilisi State Medical Institute (TSMI) in 1974. In 1979 he was awarded an academic degree of a candidate of Medical Science in Allergology and Immunology and in 1990 gained degree of the Doctor of Medical Science (PhD). In 1978 he became an Associated Professor, Docent of Allergology Department at the TSMI and in 1990 - Professor of Allergology and Clinical Immunology. At the same time, he was a researcher at the Institute of Clinical Immunology of Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, Germany; and researcher at the Department of Pediatrics of the University of Linköping, Sweden. In 1994-1997 Dr. Gamkrelidze worked as a Director of the National Health Management Center and the Deputy Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia; in 1997 Dr. Gamkrelidze was appointed as the First Deputy Minister and in 2001-2004 – as a Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia; in 2005-2013 he worked as a Country Programme Coordinator for the WHO Country office in Georgia.

To date he is a scientific advisor of the Center of Allergy and Immunology; a visiting professor for Global and International Health at Tromsø University, Norway and an invited full professor for Public/Global Health at the University of Georgia. Since 2013 Dr. Gamkrelidze is a Director General of the National Center for Disease Control and Public Health of Georgia.

Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze is an author and a co-author of 150 publications and a member of Editorial Boards of Journals.

Mr. Oleksander Yarema

Deputy Minister of Youth and Sport, Ukraine

Mr. Oleksandr YAREMA, Deputy Minister of Youth and Sport of Ukraine, prior to joining the Ministry, he was a Head of the Department of Youth Policy of the Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports, and the Department for Interaction with Civil Society and Political Parties of the Presidential Administration. Previously he held a number of senior positions in public sector as the founder and chairman of the All-Ukrainian youth public organization "Christian Democratic Youth of Ukraine", chairman of the Inter-confessional Council of Christian Youth, and the executive director of the Ukrainian Reform Support Foundation. He also served for the Ukrainian National Committee of Youth Organizations, the World Congress of Ukrainian Youth Organizations. Mr. Yarema was the founder and Board member of Reforms and Order Party, as well as the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Mr. Yarema is a graduate from the National Agrarian University, and the National Academy of Public Administration under the President of Ukraine. He also finished the postgraduate studies at the National Institute for Strategic Studies. Mr. Yarema is also an alumnus of the Ukrainian School of Political Studies, Theodore Heuss Academy (Gummersbach, Germany).

Ms. Irina Pruidze

MP, Committee on Sports and Youth Issues of the Parliament of Georgia

Ms Irina Pruidze is a Member of Parliament, elected through Georgian Dream - Democratic Georgia party lists in October 2016. She is the 1st vice-chair of the Committee on European Integration, chairperson of the Permanent Parliamentary Council on Open and Transparent Governance, member of Sport and Youth Issues Committee and Gender Equality Council, full member of PACE, PAC and EURONEST delegations and chief of the Friendship Group with the Parliament of the Kingdom of Spain.

Ms. Pruidze was vice-president of the Youth of the European People's Party (YEPP) in 2007-2009, member of the World Scout Committee in 2013-2016 and founding curator of Tbilisi Hub of World Economic Forum (Davos) Global Shapers Community. At the same time she has a vast experience of managing different community development, small business development and youth capacity building projects.

Irina Pruidze is Medical Doctor and Master of Psychology, currently making PHD in Tbilisi State University in Organization Development.

Dr. Nigina Abaszadeh

Regional Technical Adviser – Gender, UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office

Dr. Nigina Abaszadeh is Regional Technical Adviser on Gender and Human Rights at United Nations Population Fund's Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office.

She has worked to promote women's rights, development and human rights for the past 19 years in the area of research and program management. She joined the United Nations Population Fund in 2005, and has served in Azerbaijan, Afghanistan and now the Regional Office that covers 17 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region. She has worked closely with Government policy makers, parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations and leaders from all sectors to champion women and girls rights, including in humanitarian and emergency settings. Prior to joining UNFPA, Ms. Abaszadeh worked for the USAID and as adjunct professor at several Universities. Ms. Abaszadeh is a Medical Doctor by training, holds a PhD in Social Psychology and Master's Degree in Gender and Child Studies from Linkoping University, Sweden.

Ms. Sevda Alkan

Coordinator of the Business Against Domestic Violence project, Sabancı University - Corporate Governance Forum, Turkey

Sevda Alkan is a project manager since 2013 at Sabanci University Corporate Governance Forum where she is responsible for Independent Women Directors Project and Business Against Domestic Violence Project. Sevda received her Bachelor's Degree in Tourism Management at Dokuz Eylul University. She worked in various projects for TOG (Community Volunteers Foundation) as a volunteer and for Turkish Airlines as a part time employee during her studies. Upon graduation she continued to work for Turkish Airlines for a year before moving to UK. She completed her master's degree in Corporate Environmental Management at the University of Surrey in 2013 where she was mainly focused on the issues of sustainability, corporate social responsibility and energy efficiency issues surrounding the climate change mitigation and adaptation. Since 2013, she is mainly working with private sector about gender diversity, domestic violence, women on board and diversity.

Ms. Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich

Chief of Population Unit, Statistics Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Mrs. Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, Chief of Population Unit, Statistical Division of the UNECE, since 2010 has been responsible for planning, implementation and monitoring of the Programme on Population Ageing, Generations and Gender, including fulfillment of secretariat functions to the Working Group on Ageing. Mrs. Gaucaite Wittich coordinates the work on monitoring the national implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and its Regional Strategy, as well as regional implementation of other major global programmes related to the population issues. Mrs. Gaucaite Wittich has been with UNECE since 1993 in various roles.

Before joining the UNECE, Mrs. Gaucaite Wittich was an Associate Dean and Senior Lecturer at the Vilnius University, Lithuania at the Department of Trade Economics. She has provided consultancies on various issues of economy to the Ministry of Economics of Lithuania; the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Lithuania and the Confederation of Industrialists of Lithuania and Association of Entrepreneurs of Lithuania.

Ms. Gaucaite Wittich graduated from Vilnius University and the G.V.Plekhanov Economics Institute in Moscow, USSR and holds doctoral degree of Social Sciences (nostrified by Lithuania on 4.6.1993 from the Soviet degree of Kandidat ekonomicheskikh nauk), as well as the degree of Master of Business Administration of Business School Lausanne, Switzerland.

Ms. Aliona Cretu

Head of Demographic Policies Unit, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova

Aliona Cretu, head of the Demographic Policy Unit, has 16 years' experience in the public administration, from which 14 years are in the central public administration system. Since 2007, she is leading demographic and ageing policies as part of the Ministry of Economy and later on, at the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection.

She had a leading role in development of methodological tools to integrate demographic aging issues into policies, impact assessment and adaptation to the demographic aging process, elaboration of the Ageing Program and Active Aging Index in Moldova as well as of the Concept Vision on Population and Population, that was later on mainstreamed into the national development strategy "Moldova 2030".

Aliona was responsible for drafting the Action Plan on the implementation of the active aging principle (2018-2021), developed with UNFPA support. As part of this, she has a critical role in development of several concepts related to ageing-friendly workplaces, Training Programme for Community Mobilisers and the Volunteer Programme for Older people.

In 2016, Aliona jointly with HelpAge International and UNFPA established the Platform for Active Aging, launched the small grants programme for grassroots organizations on aging and the Active Ageing Award.

In 2016, as a member of the Standing Working Group on Aging of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), she participated, in common with other colleagues, in the evaluation of the implementation of the Road Map on Mainstreaming Aging in Armenia.

Ms. Ekaterine Mikabadze

Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia

Ms. Ekaterine Mikabadze, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia since 2018, holds Master of Art in Economics from Tokyo International University (Japan). Before Joining the Ministry, Ms. Mikabadze was Acting Head of the Macroeconomic Analysis and Fiscal Policy Planning Department of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia and the Lecturer at the School of Business Management and Economics, University of Georgia. She has an experience of working for the National Bank of Georgia in Monetary Policy Division, Department of Macroeconomics and Statistics as well as at the National Statistics

Office of Georgia in the capacity of the Deputy Head of Business Statistics Division. Ms. Mikabadze is fluent in English and Russian languages.

Ms. Sejdefa Basic-Catic

Director of the NGO “Partnership for Public Health”, BiH

Sejdefa Basic Catic have been working in the field of public health for the past 20 years. Ten years as a Country director for US Health Foundation Project HOPE and ten years as Executive Director of Partnership for Public Health Association. In this period Sejdefa was involved in healthy ageing initiatives in the Western Balkans: Serbia, Macedonia, Croatia, Montenegro, Albania through close collaboration with Zagreb city, Red cross of Serbia, Institute for Public Health Albania, Macedonian Ministry of social work and National network of civil society organizations that are active in the field of social inclusion of elderly people in Macedonia.

In 2008 Ms Basic Catic developed the concept for centers for healthy aging – CFHA and successfully implemented it in Bosnia.

In period 2010-2018 Ms Basic was presenting work of CFHA in Lithuania, Belarus, Serbia, Croatia, Macedonia. In 2014 she represented Centers for healthy aging in South and Eastern Europe Health Network (representing 10 countries in South and Eastern Europe) and CFHA Novo Sarajevo was announced as regional development center for healthy aging by SEEHN and Regional WHO representative.

In 2012 Ms Basic Catic received special award by Municipality Novo Sarajevo for work for CFHA.

Ms. Nana Bagalishvili

the Head of the NGO “Civic Initiative”, Georgia

Nana Bagalishvili, has been the Head of NGO “Civic Initiative” since 2013 and together with her team strives to build educational and cultural spaces for youth in regions of Georgia. In 2016, together with the team of “Civic Initiative” Nana created multifunctional social enterprise “Knowledge Café”, which unites – bookstore, multimedia libraries, non-formal educational and cultural center and café. Knowledge café currently implements programs for youth, elderly and children of the local and neighborhood communities.

During the last 2 years, Knowledge café organized more than 288 cultural and educational activities for local communities with the help of such partners as UNFPA, Bank of Georgia, USAID, US Embassy in Georgia and many other individual sponsors. It’s worth mentioning, that at the same time, Ms. Bagalishvili is a trainer on the issues of Creative Fundraising and Community Mobilization. For more info please visit web – www.codnebi.ge or very active social media <https://www.facebook.com/tsodniscafe/>