



## Evaluation of Local Gender Groups' Needs of Kutaisi

*The research was prepared by the Fund "Sukhumi" in frames of the project: "Gender Advisory Council –Strengthening of Women's Rights for Social Changes in the Region".*

*Conducting of the research was possible as a result of thoughtful support of thoughtful support of American people with financial assistance of UN Women*

May, 2014

*Presented report is prepared by the Fund “Sukhumi”. Ema Kamkia worked on the report. Research of needs was conducted by Kutaisi Gender Advisory Council.*

*We are grateful for the assistance provided by Kutaisi Local Self-government, Voter Women’s Club of Kutaisi, Kutaisi Gender Advisory Council.*

*The content of the research is the sole responsibility of author.*

It is well-known that there are gender and women's problems, solution of which require elaboration of concrete strategies and implementation of special measures.

If we want to speak about strengthening of gender equality institutional mechanisms, rising above mentioned issues in political agenda and their solution, maximal mobilization of local NGOs - working on gender problems, international institutions, local and central government, society efforts, should be carried out.

In all spheres of life, conducting of complex and deliberate policy for solution of gender inequality problem was emphasized at the Women's World conference in Beijing. One of the main requirements of this meeting was elaboration of strategies and programs. According the paragraph 289 of Beijing Action Platform, **“NGOs have important role in creation of social, economical political and intellectual climate based on gender equality. Women organizations must be actively involved in implementation and monitoring of the policy, directed to reaching gender equality”**.

By generally accepted opinion, the main direction of state gender policy should be establishment of gender parameters in the process of socio-economic development, which means promotion of gender equality on labor market, development of small business and encouragement of women enterprisers, elaboration of state employment policy envisaging gender parameters, implementation of gender sensitive social protection and demographical policy.

An urgent task also is creation of domestic violence protection system and enactment of relevant legal mechanisms.

One of the most important directions in gender policy implementation is promotion of **gender budget** principle establishment while formation of state as well as local budget. Notion of gender budget is comparatively new and foresees gender analysis of the budget, which shows different influence of budget costs on men and women and promotes planning of a budget in a way which

makes budget resources equally acceptable for both genders and envisages requirements and needs of representatives of different social groups.

Most important items of this direction are:

- Producing comprehensive gender statistics
- A comprehensive scientific study of the problems;
- Wide distribution of statistical data and research results, arrangement of information campaigns, raising of public awareness in women's and gender issues;
- Elaboration of national strategy on gender and women's issues solution, based on the statistical data and research;
  - Elaboration of State initiative for further refinement or the legislation;
  - Creation and development of institutional base of the State programs' activities (social services, crisis centers, monitoring services).
    - Creation of the State structure working on Equality issues
    - Creation of Women databases, aiming at creation of qualified women's database, which will help state agencies, parties, private companies to find relevant qualified women.

State programs aimed at improvement of women's condition, definitely include following issues:

- **Motherhood and family assistance** (what kind of programs are they, what kind of financing do they have)
- **Assistance of single and large families**
- **Domestic violence and violence against women** (what kind of legislation it is, are there any assistant services, what kind of assistance do they suggest, what is the law enforcement response to domestic violence cases and quality of court cases implementation, are any preventive measures carried out)
  - **Providing of women's participation In decision-making process**
  - **Trafficking;**
  - **Prostitution;**
  - **Health programs;** - Pregnant women, infant and maternal, child health, reproductive health, Contraception, including the issues of abortion, feminine organ diseases.

Studying of gender needs on local level and their envisaging in local policy and programs, introduction of gender directed local budget practice, is important basis of state gender policy.

Presented research is aimed at Batumi gender groups (women, IDPs socially unprotected families, youth national minorities and etc.) needs research and presenting suggestions and recommendations to local government.

Research goals and objective, methodology, target groups and respondents were defined by women's NGO – Cultural-Humanitarian Fund “Sukhumi”. Fieldwork of the research was conducted by Kutaisi Gender Advisory Council.

Dates of conducted research - results of quantitative and qualitative analysis are presented below.

*Quantitative Research*

*Research Methodology*

*The research was conducted by the method of quantitative research, through inquiry techniques.*

*Totally 150 respondents were interviewed*

Timetable#1

Research method	Quantitative research
Research technique	Face-to face interview (inquiry)
Target segment	IDP women, socially unprotected people, youth, ethnic minorities,
Research area	Kutaisi
Size of selection	100 persons
Method of selection	Preliminary/targeted selection
Selection fault	2 %
Average duration of the interview	15-20 minutes
The date of the research	April 2014

**Inquiry was aimed at:** target groups' (so called gender groups residing in Kutaisi– women, youth, IDPs, Socially unprotected, ethnic minorities) interviews for revealing their gender needs.

The inquiry was conducted by the GAC group of Kutaisi Local Self-government..

The inquiry was carried out in April 2014, totally 150 persons were interviewed. Selection was carried out in pre-defined groups. The gender (mostly women) and age (16-above 50) were also pre-defined.

Inquiry comprised of 13 questions and from 9 questions of so called demographic part, which was aimed at gaining information about respondents. (Age, type of accommodation, marital status, education, type of activity, number of family members (children among them), monthly income of the family).

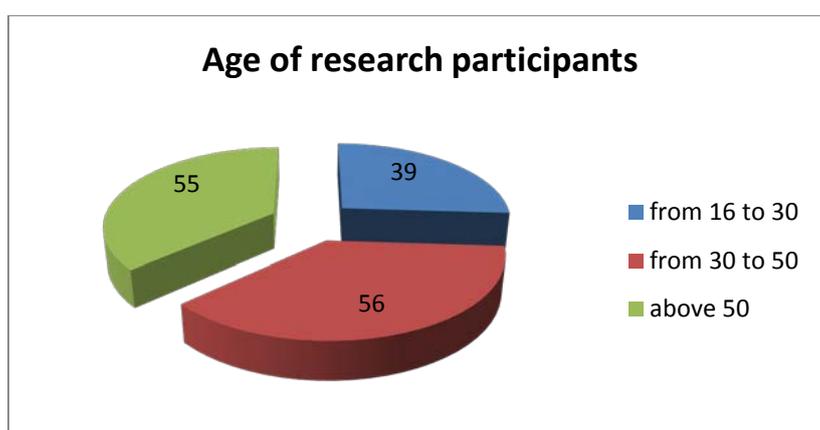
### Inquiry results

#### Demographic block

Age of the respondents was disseminated in 3 age groups.

age	number	%
16-30 years	39	
30-50 years	56	
above 50	55	
totally	150	

#### Schedule N1



**Diagram N2**

The research defined accommodation type of the target groups. (Diagram 3)

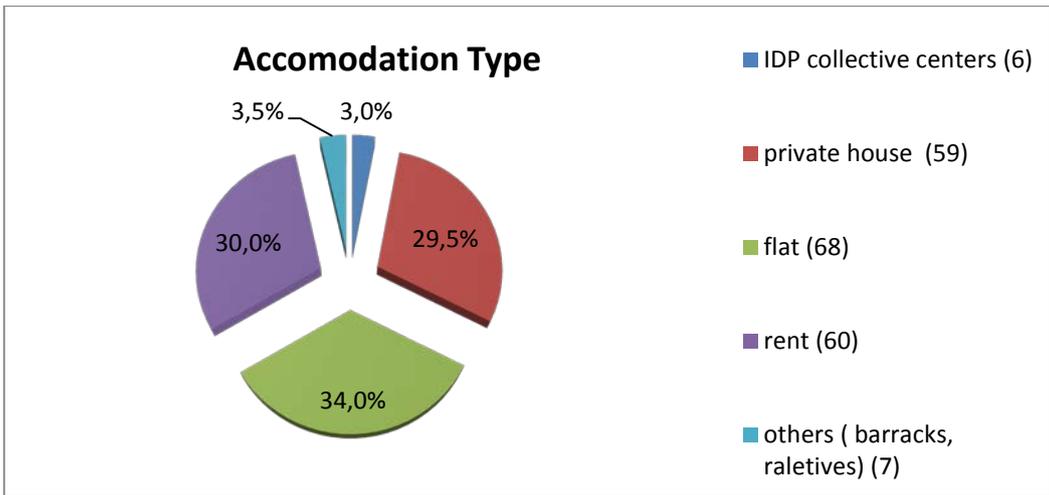


Diagram N3

**Marital Status**

Demographical block defined marital status of the interviewees. 15 of the 150 interviewees are widows, 17 – divorced, which is negatively reflected on their social economical status.

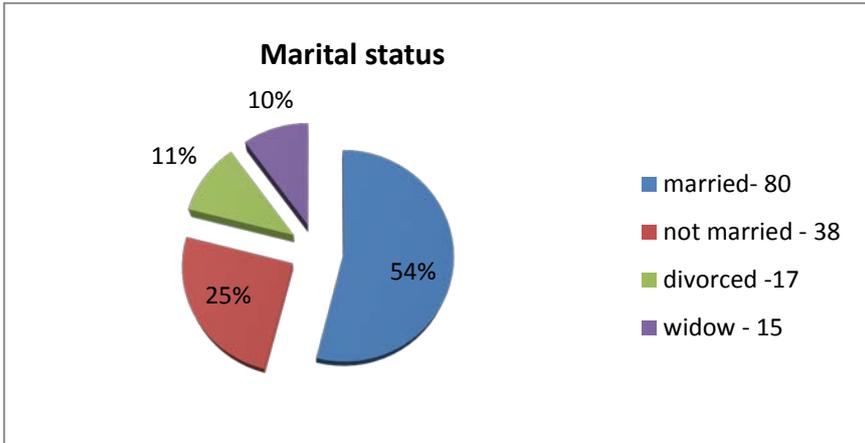


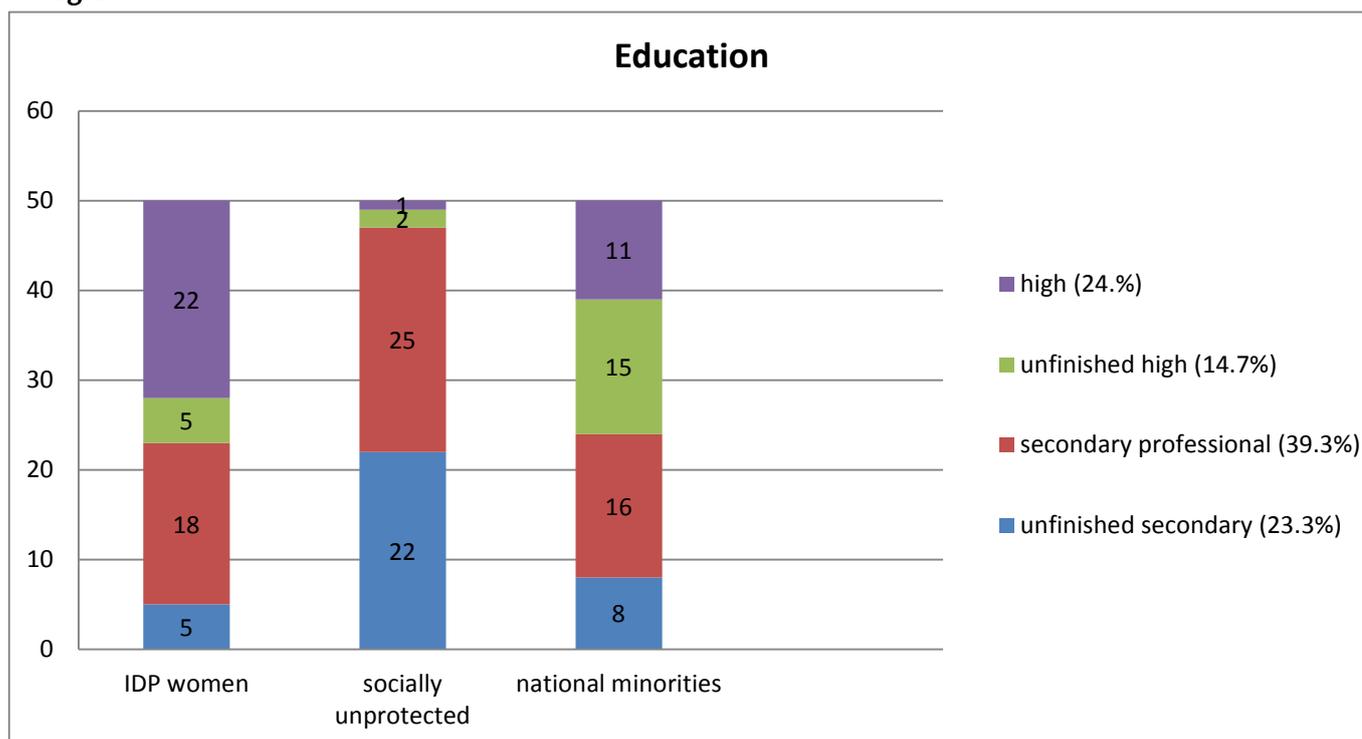
Diagram N4

**6. Education**

Statistics of interviewees’ educational level shows that, most part of target groups have definite level of education. 59 respondents have Secondary Professional Education (39.3%), 22 - have unfinished secondary education (14.7%). 34 respondents have high education (22,7 %). 23.3 % (35 women) mention that they have unfinished secondary education.

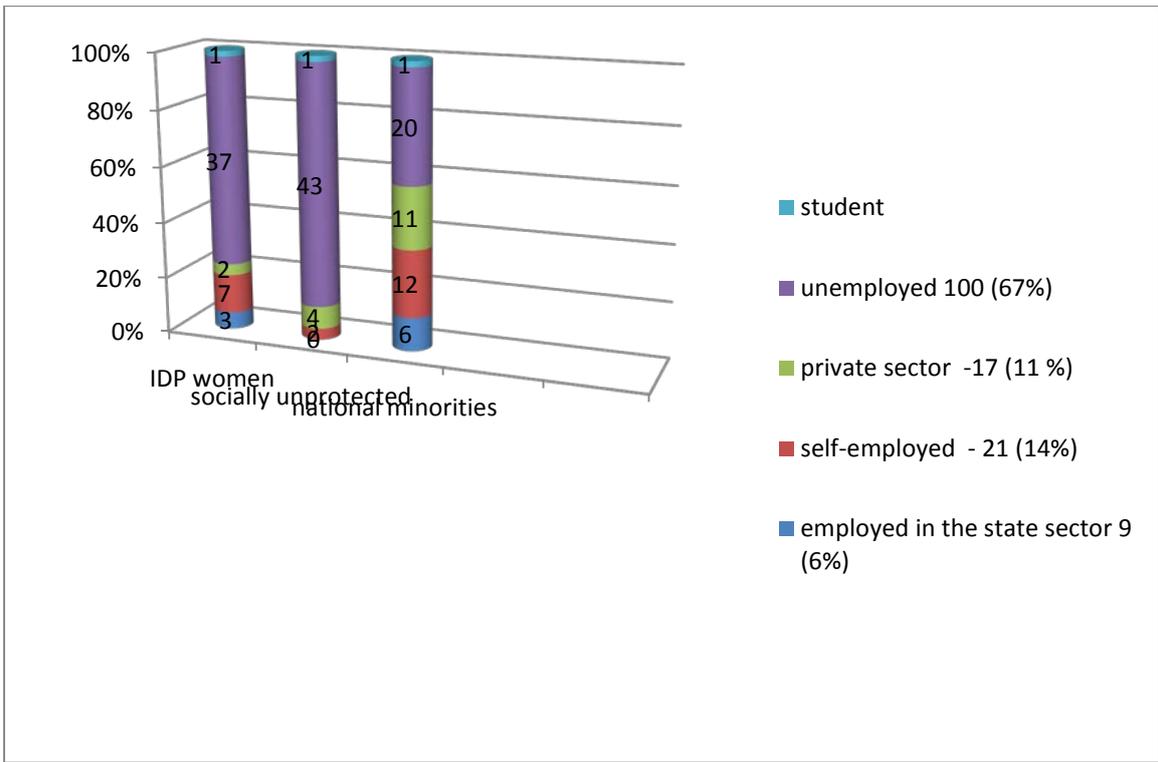
Diagram N5

Diagram N 5



## 7. Type of activity

Inquiry showed that the problem of unemployment is quite high in target groups: 100 of 150 inquired (67%) are unemployed. Number of self-employed respondents is 17 - (11%). Most obvious among them are socially unprotected (43 respondents), IDP women (37). Only 3 IDP women and 6 representatives of ethnical minorities are employed in the state sector.



### 8. Number of family member

Statistics of family members' number showed that nearly half of the respondents are from the families with 3-5 members. 33 interviewers are from large families.

Diagram N 7

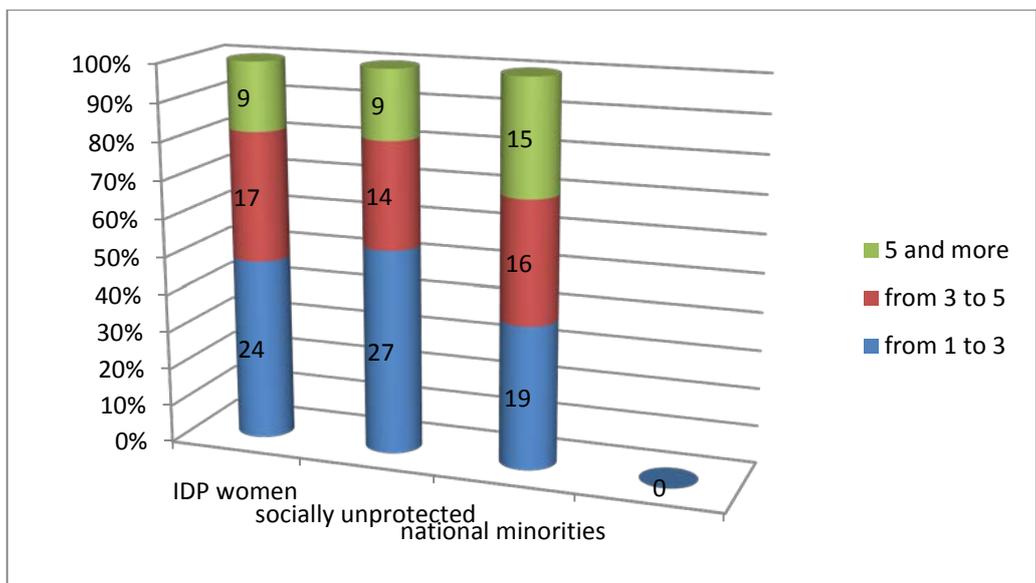


Diagram N7

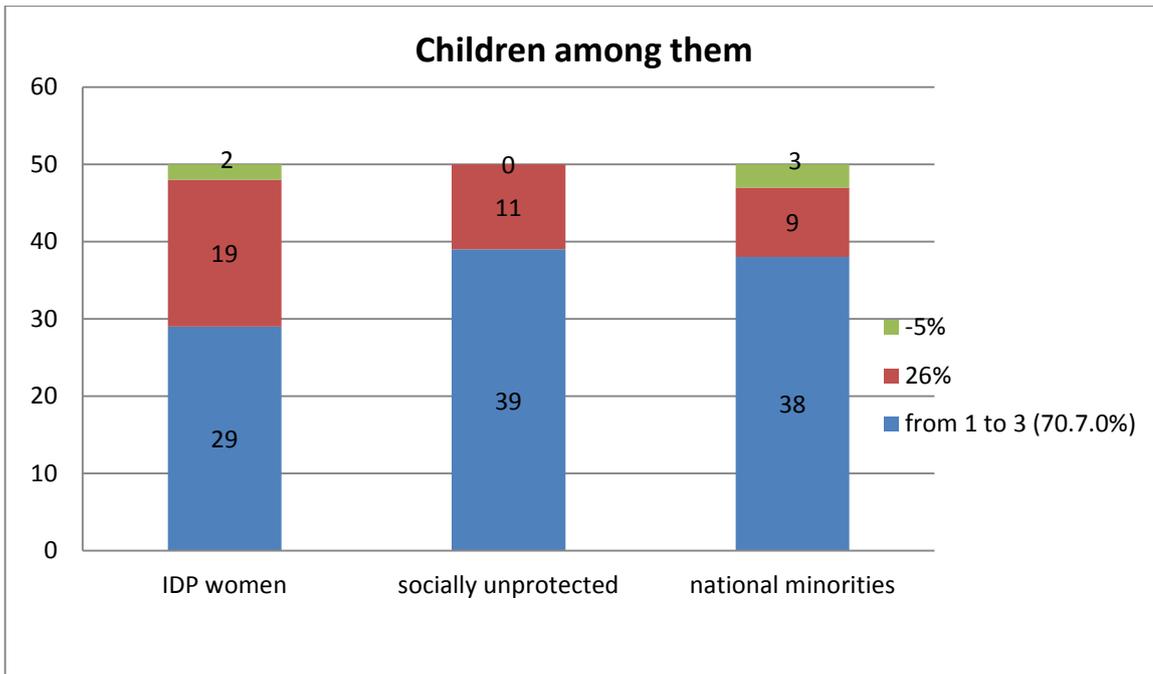


Diagram N8

### 9. Middle monthly income of families

Monthly income of majority of inquired respondents' families is above 300 GEL. 61 respondents (40%) indicate that their monthly income do not exceed 150 GEL. 50 respondents (0.33 %) say that their average monthly income is about 300 GEL. Segregation of dates according the groups is following:

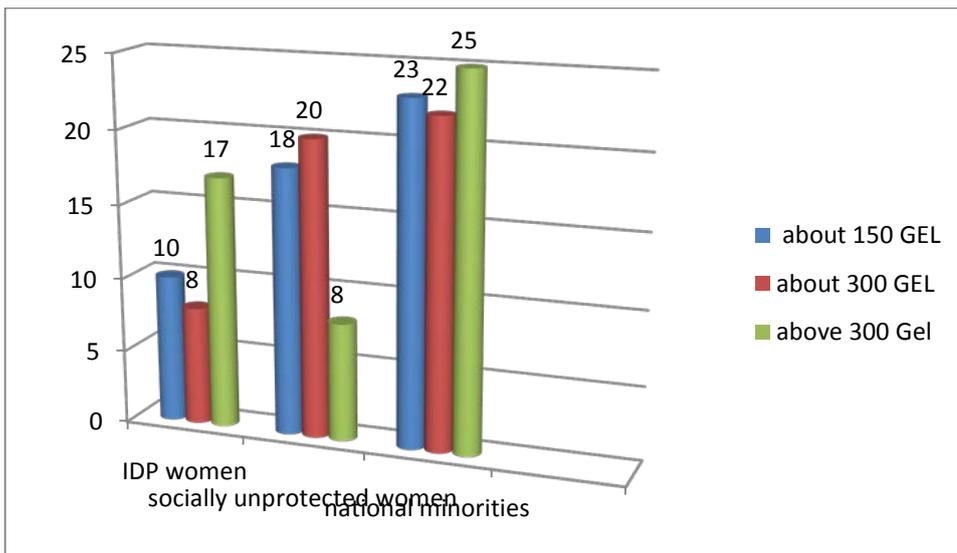


Diagram N9

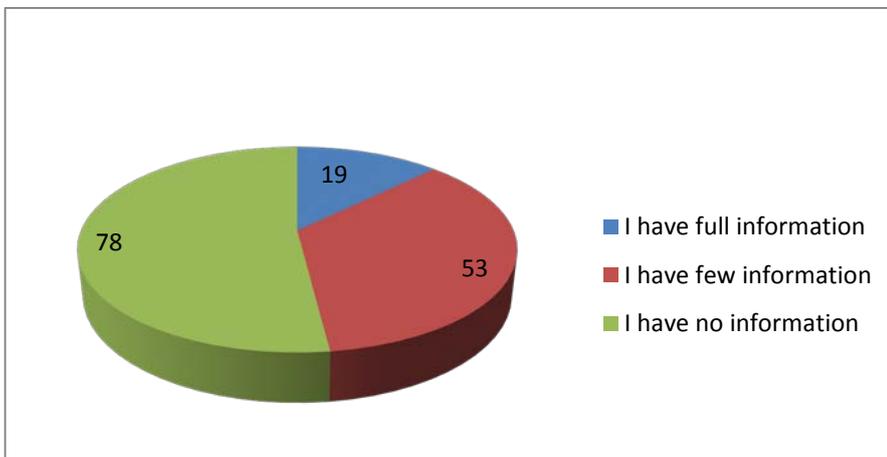
## Main Block

The main block comprised 13 questions. Here are target groups' answers to the questions addressing them.

Question: **Do you have information regarding assistance program of mothers and children from the budget?**

First question of the inquiry was aimed at research of target groups' informing issue regarding mothers' and women's assistance program.

### General dates are reflected in Diagram N9



Segregation of datas by the social mark is given in the diagram (N11)

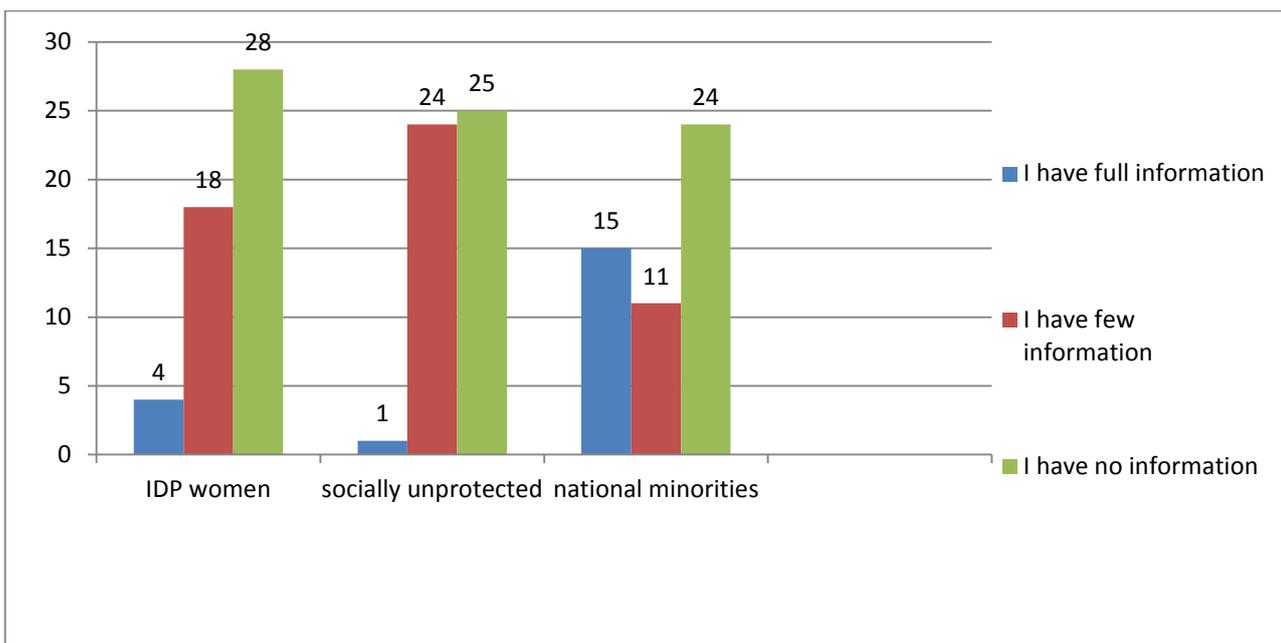


Diagram N11

Informing of target groups: as it is seen from the diagram women beneficiaries of the research residing in Kutaisi: socially unprotected, IDPs, women of ethnical minorities, are badly informed about local budget programs. Mostly uninformed are IDP women 28 of them (out of 50) say that they are absolutely uninformed about similar programs.

**2. Question: to your opinion, how important is to equally envisage the problems of women and men (different groups of society) while elaborating local budget?**

The question aimed at revealing respondents attitude regarding gender allocation of budget, which first of all means social justice. There was revealed what importance the interviewers give to equal solution of the problems of women and men and different gender groups of society, while composing local budget.

Received answers show that target groups are fully aware of different needs of various society groups. 17.3 % of respondents are difficult to answer given question. 8% of them do not consider it necessary equal foreseeing of social groups’ needs in allocation of the budget.

Answers are shown in the diagram (12)

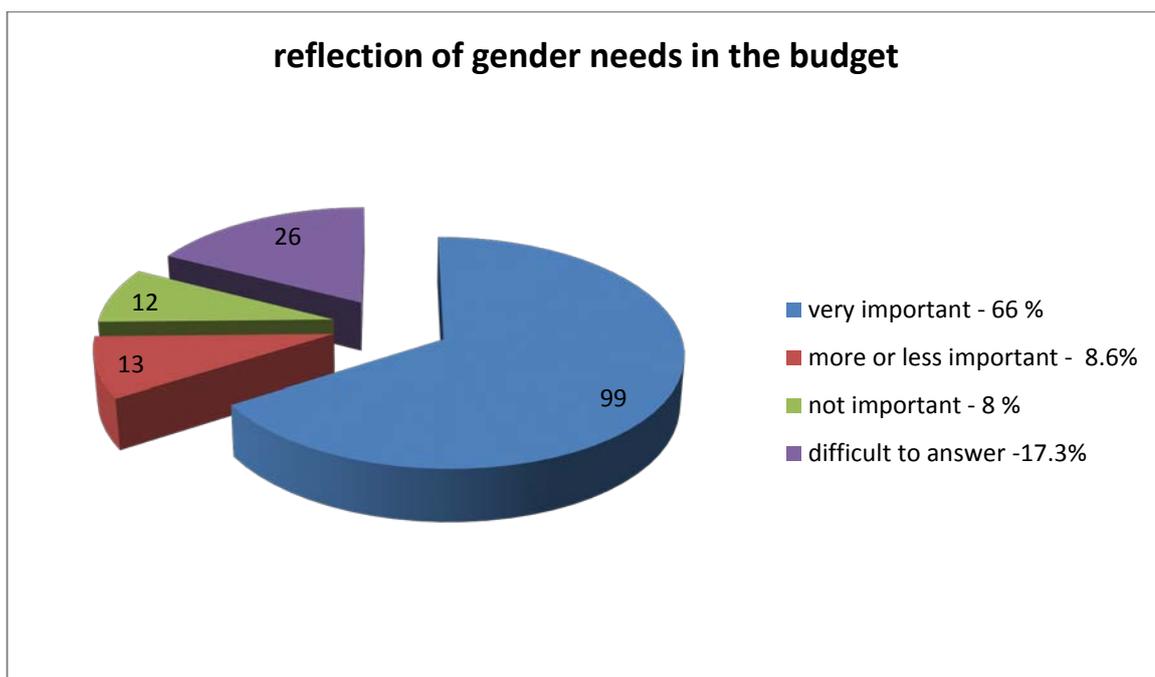
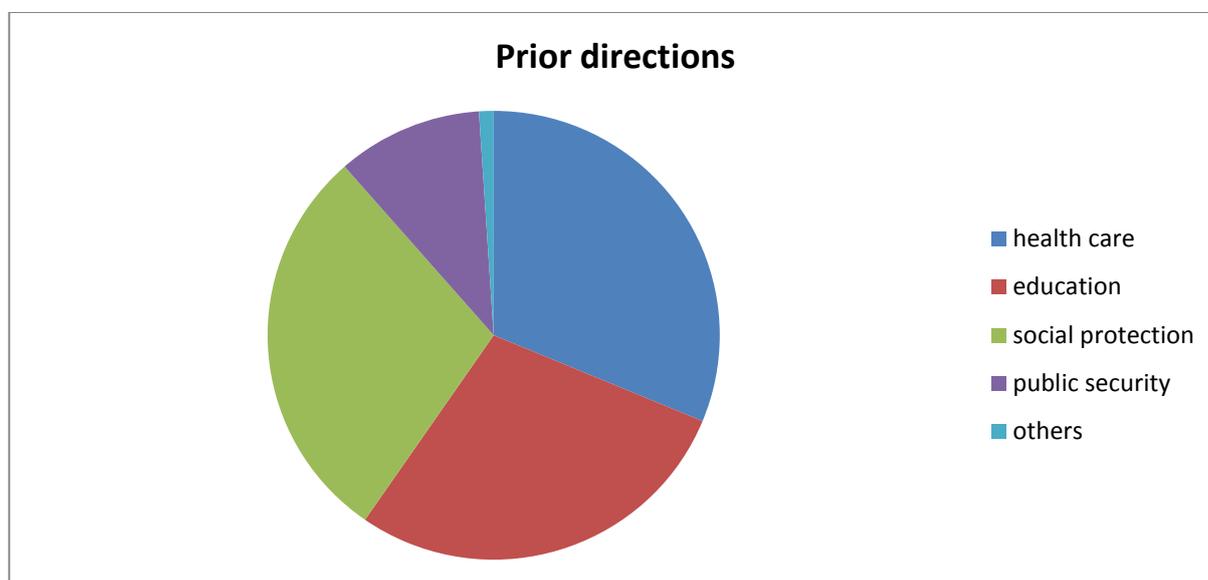


Diagram N12

**3. Question: to your opinion which sphere must be prior through financing out of the following ones on local level? (choose three most important ones).**

The third question of the inquiry shows respondents’ opinion regarding priority spheres of financing on local level. There were 3 prior directions to be chosen. Respondents prefer programs of health (120 answers) and social protection (111) local programs, education (109), 384 answers on a whole. (Number of answers exceeds 150 (on the expense of three answers for selection))

Answers are given in Diagram N12



**4. Question: Envisaging of whose needs are more important in local budget? (Choose three more important ones)**

Answers to this question show, which gender group needs more support with local resources. The answer “others” gave possibility to divide different gender group, which is not mentioned in the inquiry and which to their opinion is also of exceptional/specific needs. The mentioned possibility was not used by the respondents. Answers are given in the Schedule (N13).

Groups, whose needs are considered as most important	Number of answers	
Young families	49	
IDPs	82	
Pregnant women	38	
Careless children	49	
Socially unprotected families	107	
Ethnical minorities	51	
Elderly	60	
Others	0	

Totally	438	
---------	-----	--

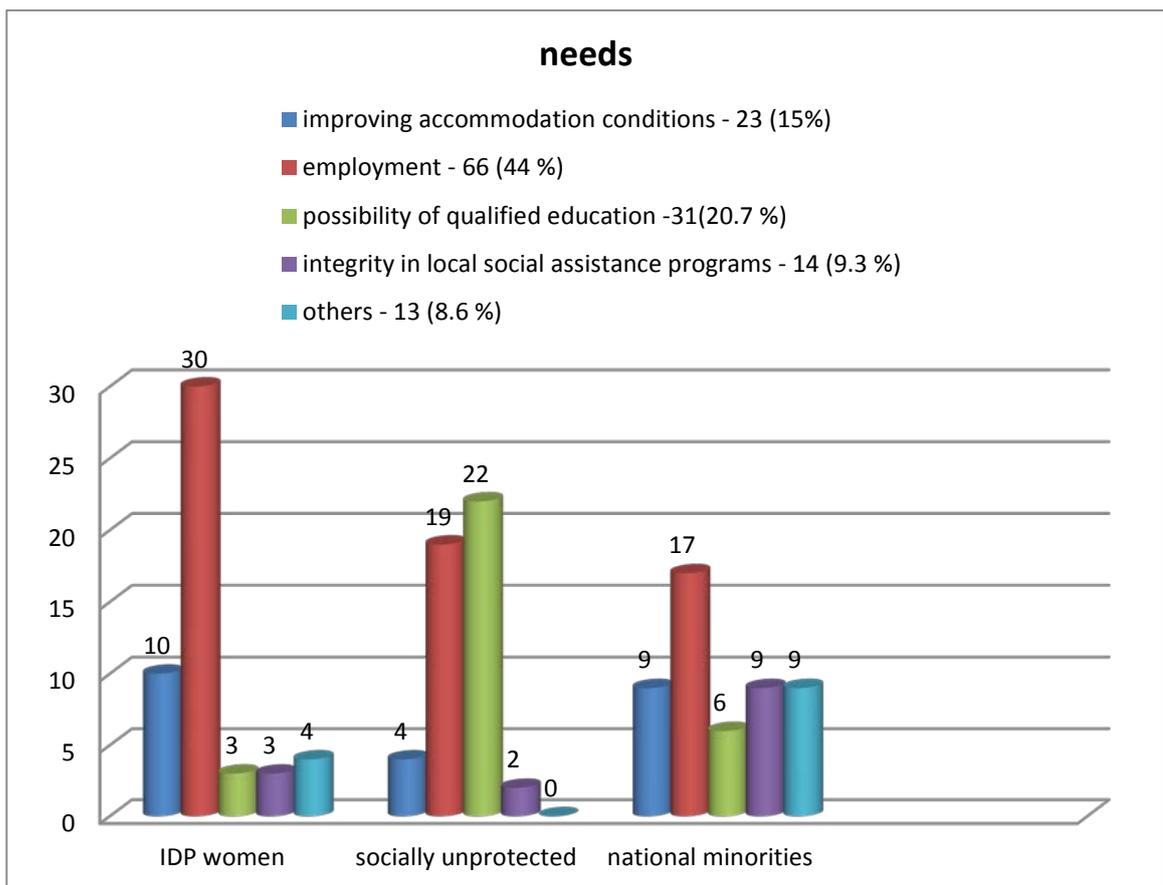
**Question 5: Name your most important need, which is necessary for improvement of socio-economic development**

44 % of respondents (66 answers) name employment as the most necessary for life. 20.7 % (31 answers) – availability of qualified education. Most of them are from socially unprotected groups (22 of 50 respondents). It is logical, by envisaging previous answers of majority of them - they have no profession.

According social segregation the answers were disseminated in the following way:

Answers in the diagram (N14)

Diagram N14.



**6. Question: which of these is the main obstacle of economical development?**

The 6<sup>th</sup> question of the inquiry revealed obstacles of target group’s socio-economical development. Absence of start capital is serious problem, which was named by 40.7% of general amount of the respondents. This issue is mostly obvious among IDP women group. 29 of 50 inquired(58% of IDP women group) name above mentioned issue as main obstacle of their economical development.

4 % of inquired persons have barrier from the side of family members. the answer “I have no profession” was fixed by 24 % (36 persons)of general amount of respondents. Most of them are socially unprotected – 16.

Answers in the diagram (N15)

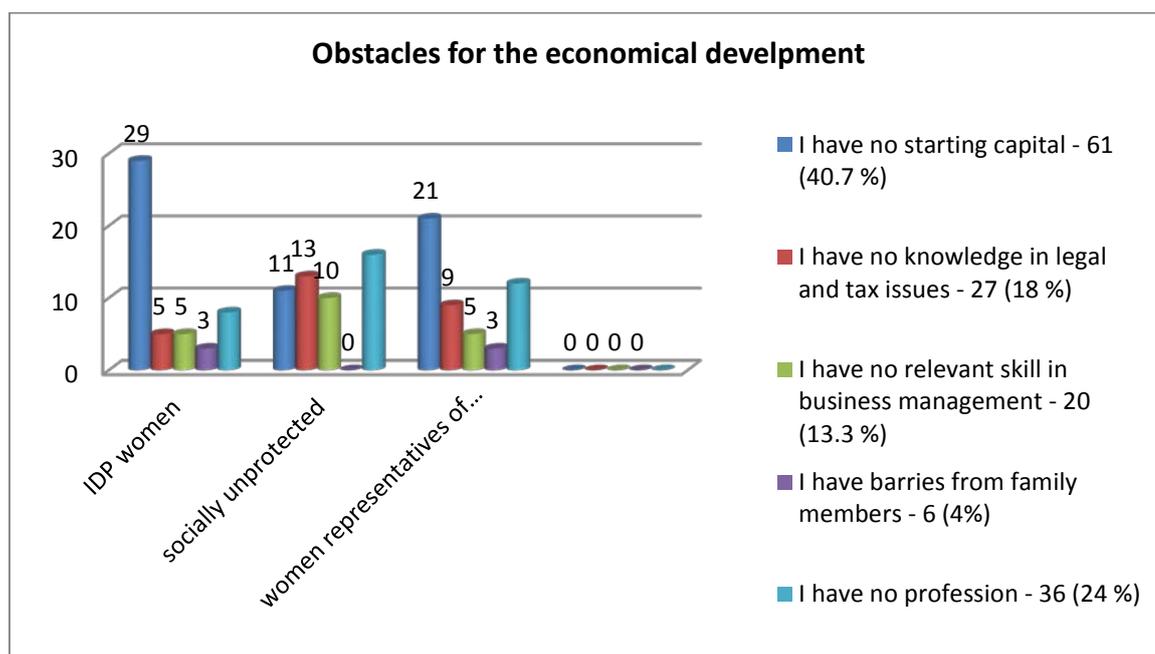


Diagram 15

**7 Question: what kind of work is an income of your family?**

Received answers are relevant to the common situation of the country, where the share of women in reproductive labor is comparatively high. They either fully take responsibility towards the family, or it is substituted with the job, so they have double loads. Answers in the diagram (16)

Reproductive labor was named as their income in the family by the group of socially unprotected women (43 women out of 50)

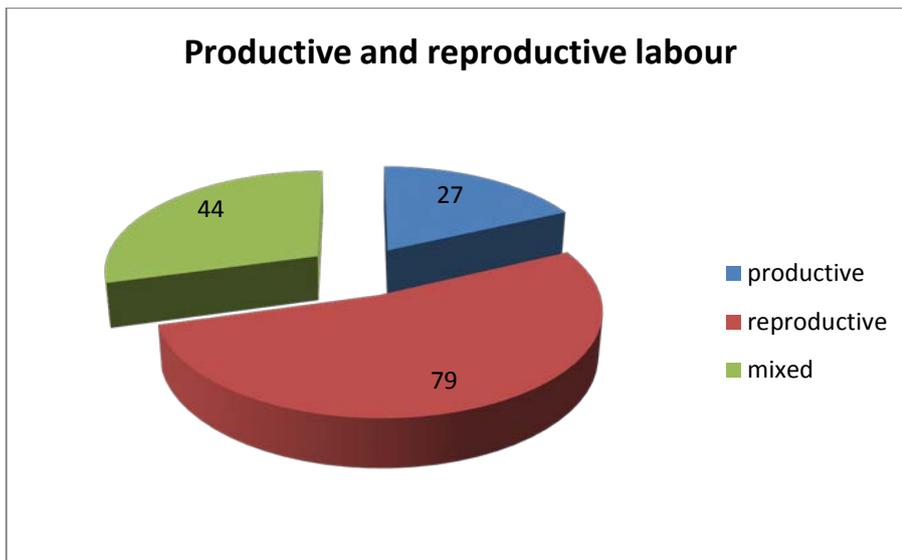


Diagram N16

**8. Question: Do you think unpaid labor (reproductive labor - care of children, the elderly, the sick, household activities) should be encouraged**

Encouragement of reproductive labor activities is essential by the opinion of 67.3% (101 people) of respondents; 23 of them (15.3%) think that it is not necessary. 26 women (17.3%) are difficult to answer.

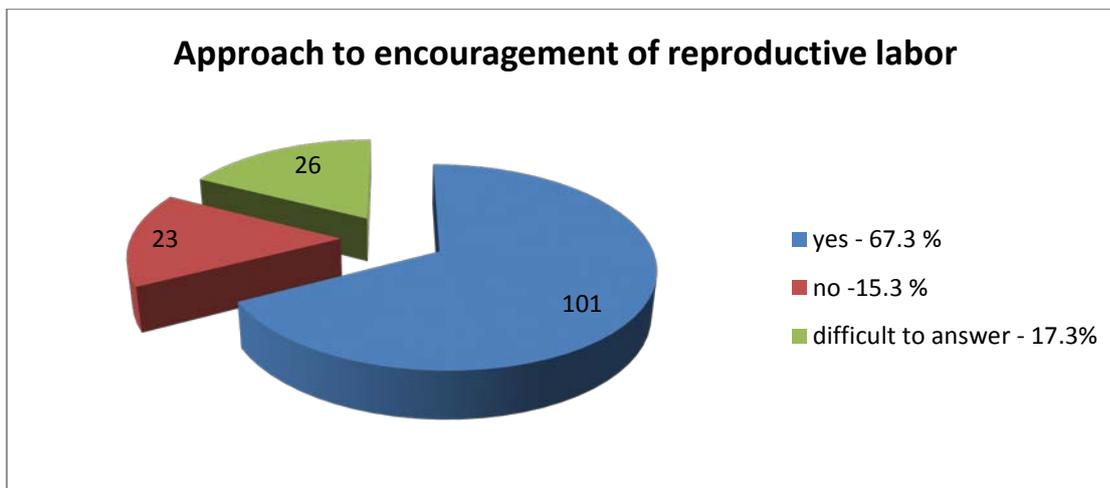


Diagram N17

**9. Question: In your opinion, what will contribute to the reduction of unemployment among women?**

Inquiry answers make obvious attitude of those respondents, who think that reduction of unemployment among women is possible through creation of working places. Most of the

answers were fixed in this direction (43%). Comparatively concrete – importance of municipal programs of small business development for the women was fixed by 8.7 %. Creation of working places was mentioned as the prior. These answers were mostly chosen in the IDP women group. Answers in the diagram (18)

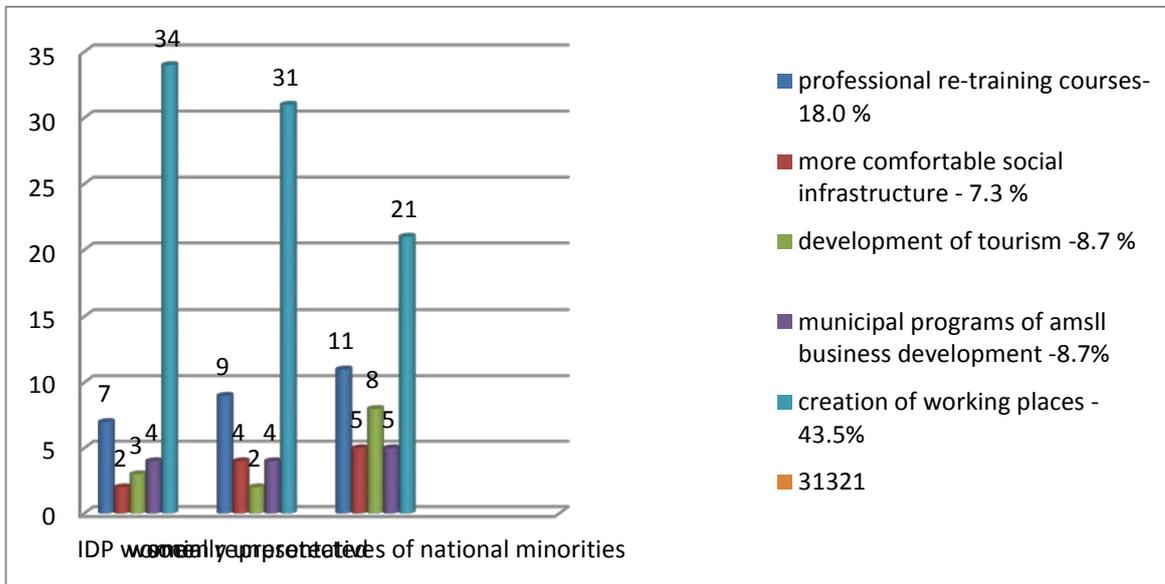
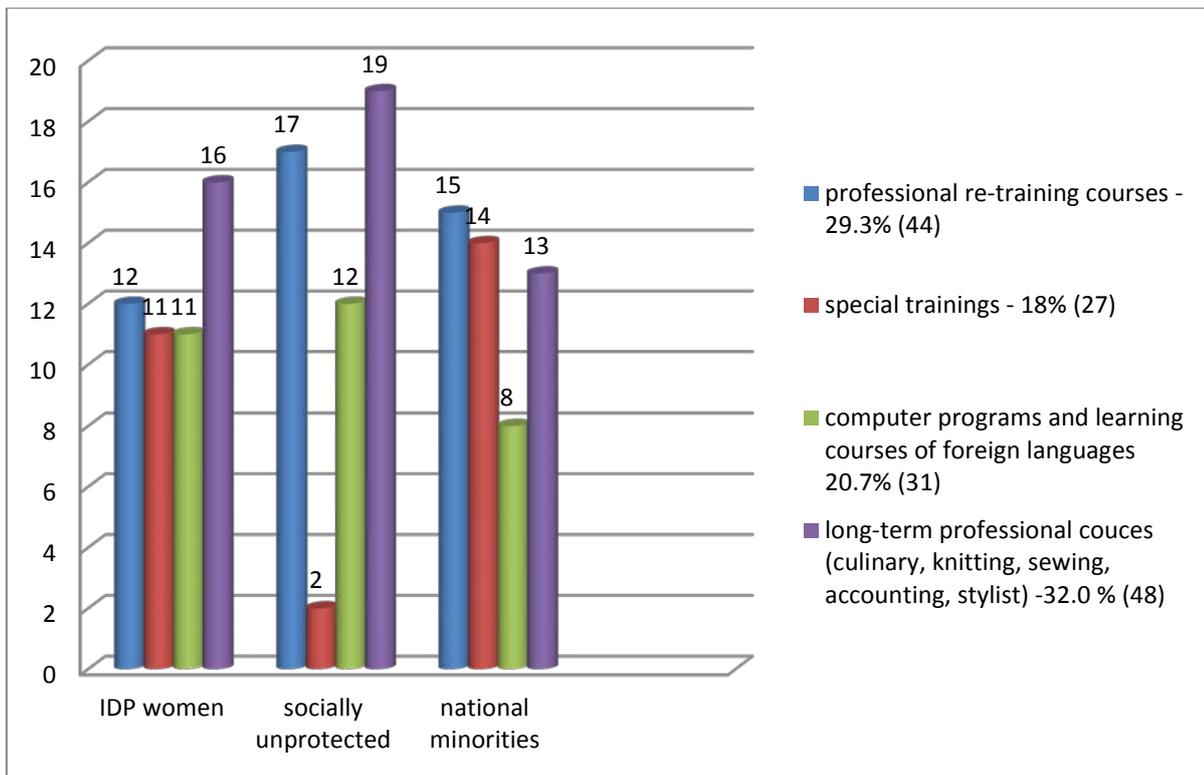


Diagram N18

**10. Question: Do you have a need to enhance education, what are the programs you need out of following ones:**

Among the interviewees there was revealed necessity of re-training courses and long-term professional courses and they revealed their interest towards learning programs. Necessity of this was named in the group of socially unprotected people (38% of them) The answers in the diagram (19)



**Diagram N19**

**11. Question: To your opinion, what must be done on local level for promotion of education and development of the youth?**

In the 11-th question of the questionnaire there was especially mentioned possible activities for the support of the youth – as most gender sensitive group’s in their education.

In most cases, in target groups there was fixed the answer: financing of students from unprotected families on local level-74 answers (51%). This was most frequent answer among socially unprotected women’s group 36 answers (72 % of them)

Answers on the diagram (20)

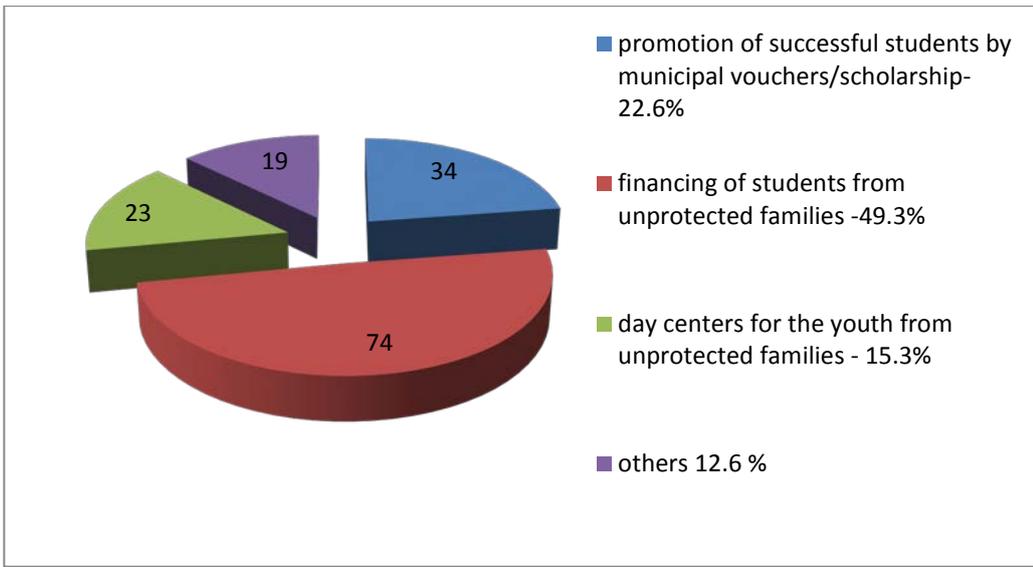


Diagram N20

**12. Question: How will you appreciate collaboration between local self-government, society and NGOs in assistance of social groups with exceptional needs?**

12-th question of the questioner reflects exceptional social groups' evaluation towards collaboration of state structures, society groups and NGO sector regarding their needs satisfaction. Attitude of inquired target groups regarding the issue show that they unsatisfactorily appreciate local multidisciplinary work regarding protection of different social groups (75 answers), 36 % of the respondents (54 answers) considers mentioned cooperation as satisfactory. General dates (Diagram 21)

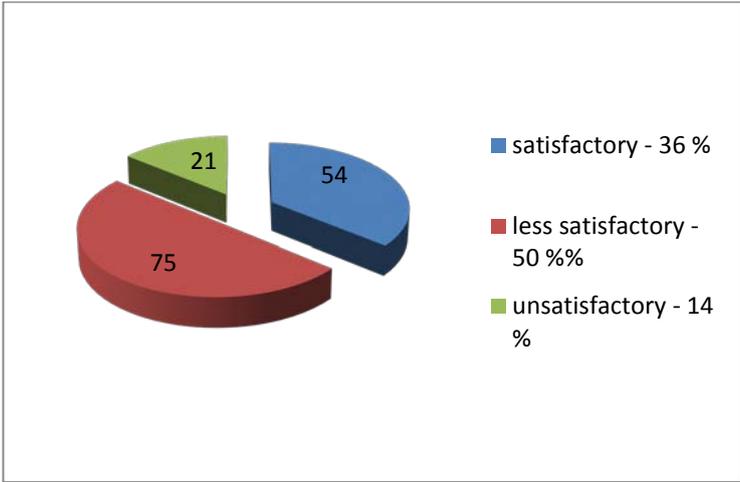


Diagram N21

**13. Answer: To your opinion what structures should be involved in prevention and avoiding of domestic violence?**

The answers received from target groups are presented in the 3D diagram (N22), which reflects attitude towards this issue.

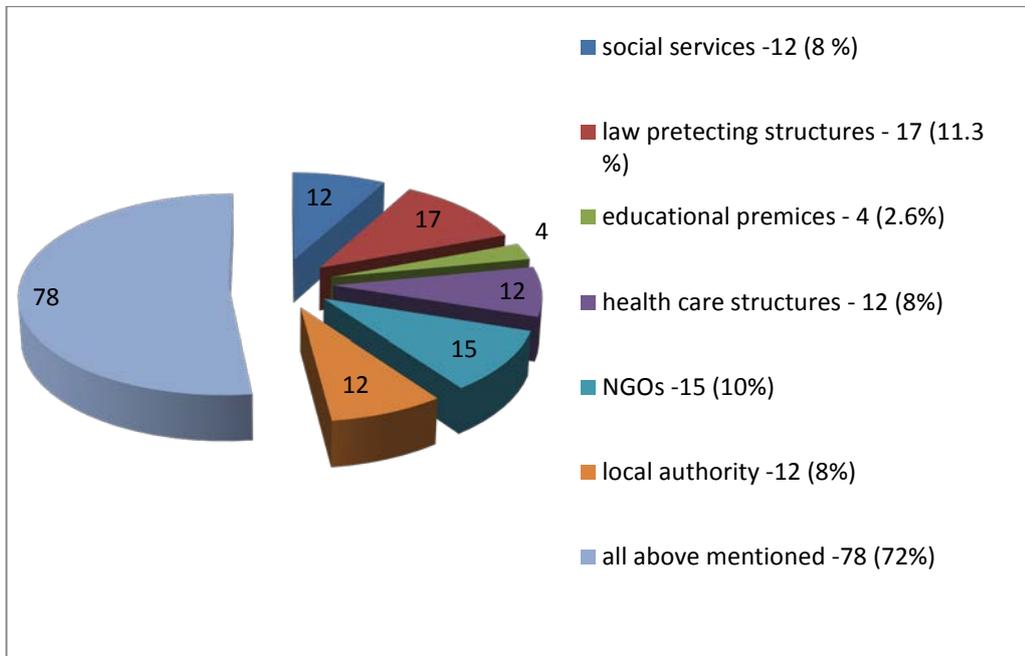


Diagram N22

Received answers showed that socially unprotected respondents and are the most sensitive, consider it as the most important coordinative involvement of all mentioned structures (72% of general amount). The answer, “law enforcement agencies” were chosen by 11.3 % of the research participants. Function of NGOs is considered as important only by 10% of the respondents.

**Conclusion:** results of quantitative research, “Evaluation of Local Gender Groups’ needs of Kutaisi”, conducted by the order of the fund “Sukhumi”, proved the first theory: In the context of local development there are social, different gender groups, who have exceptional needs and envisaging of them in local policy and programs will promote social, economical, cultural development of these groups. The research divided issues, envisaging of which is the most important by the opinion of the respondents for promotion of their development.

## Part II

### Qualitative research report

In the second part of the research there is an analysis of qualitative research conducted by the order of the fund “Sukhumi”.

#### *Report of the qualitative research*

*The qualitative research was conducted with the method of focus group and in-depth interview.*

Research method	Qualitative research
Research techniques	Focus group, in-depth interview
Target segment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Groups, the needs of which are researched</li><li>2. Groups, which have information regarding research groups.</li><li>3. Experts</li></ol>
Research areal	Kutaisi
Selection size	51 persons totally (4 in depth interviews, 46 in focus-groups)
Selection method	Previous target selection
Selection fault	1%
Average duration of the interview	Focus-group - 1,5 – 2,5 hours In-depth interview - 1 – 1,5 hours
Dates of conducting fieldwork	April, 2014

As a result of quantitative research opinions of the experts in this field were researched (educational, self-governmental issues, social security and health, sanitarian culture and rights protecting issues) regarding local gender needs and self-government gender policy. Gained theories fully coincided with the results received by conducted focus-groups. The groups, who worked in the focus-groups have some information regarding local gender groups: (members of Kutaisi VWC, media, NGO sector, representatives of intelligence), they represented these groups themselves (in case of the youth). Collecting qualitative

information revealed gender needs of the beneficiaries and several conclusions were made. Several directions were shown, which will promote to creation of local policy.

The first question was regarding: **How they are informed about local budget programs.** That part of the experts, whose job is connected to it, is well informed about budget programs, part of them knows some types of the programs, but recognize that has vague idea of the other ones, the youth has very few information regarding this issues.

Informational sources were: press, TV, private contacts, social nets, officially demanded information.

By conclusion of the NGOs – Sakrebulo has no flexible mechanism, to fully spread the information. Creation of electronic bulletins is possible. The fact, that in comparison with the previous years, when the budget was placed on the web-page, this year it was already accepted budget and changes are periodically reflected, was considered as successful.

It was said that through direction of informing, the media has great merit.

It will be acceptable to envisage the recommendation of GYLA to make a corner in the entrance of city hall, where it will be possible to get familiar with local self-government bulletins, “encyclopedia” of Kutaisi and gain all interesting information.

There was announces critics toward civil society too. There is lack of accountability system in the society, *“We do not often ask the government anything and in case of any questions they think that we are “ambushed””*.

The respondents answered a question: **what kind of gender needs do the different groups have (women, elderly, children, youth and etc) in the reality of Kutaisi and how it is satisfied?**

First of all there was divided problems of disabled people and creation of adapted climate for them. *“Not any disabled citizen will enter the City Hall and Sakrebulo, with the reason of having no relevant entrances, so their constitutional rights are abolished”*.

There was revealed a problem of so called “children living in the streets” caring of their civil integrity is conducted fragmentally and it causes danger not only for their future, but to safety of citizen too. It is necessary to conduct their recording, monitoring, but here is a problem – most of them has no documents.

There were opinions that self-government should not spent money for healthcare and it is a prerogative of central government. By the opinions of the others, local government cannot rescue from the needs of vulnerable groups, which are not fully provided by the central authority.

Critical position was also fixed regarding the parties, organized by self-government, monitoring of which was conducted by the number of organizations ad these costs are considered as unforeseen.

Condition of IDPs and refugees was underlined. Needs, they have,- creation of relevant conditions for integration, the authority must take responsibility towards them (the premises, built for them sometimes are left without kitchen (Samtredia) or WCs(Gori))

Problems of children, placed in institutions belong to the special needs as some experts believe their provision by modern inventory and the necessity of the services. It was said that the local government can do much in this regard.

Most important gender issues are promotion of the youth; there are not enough activities and projects, which will give us the result of their education or gaining labor experience. It was said that the initiative announced by them several years ago regarding free transportation for the students is not still implemented and there is real necessity of this.

The attention was paid to re-socialization of former prisoners, to improvement of their social condition improvement. It will be caring not only about them but about whole society too. By opinion of the respondents, young families need more attention. The future of our country depends on their social and material condition. "It would be important to cheer them financially and the second step is improving accommodation conditions for them".

Needs of women groups was mentioned: "The fact that there are no artificial limitations does not mean that there is no problem. In the reality of Kutaisi monitoring of women problems and needs and their future analysis is not on relevant level and we face the results" (N.Ch)

**How effective are these programs for satisfying local needs to their opinion** – it was said that this is not enough to outline local policy orientation regarding gender approaches.

They consider that first of all it is essential to study the situation, what kind of programs are necessary for the citizens and then "adjustment" of the budget to these needs, as it is somehow limited and cannot satisfy all demands. "I cannot support spending money only in social direction of if only social package will be presented in the self-government, we will not use exclusive power of the government – to create employment programs. (though this amount exists in the budget for long period, but was not used and it is unclear what was it used for)".

Creation of program finances was positively evaluated, but it was also mentioned that expectation for this type of costs is higher; the costs are less, that's why it is important to protect social justice principles.

"This year high costs were put, though it is not actually allocated. Accurate determination of priorities was not carried out, as research of the problem was not implemented".

It was said that packages of social program are used mainly for solution of local problems. Not existence of long-term programs, does not ensure solution of existing problems.

**There was a question regarding how important is to envisage men's and women's (other society groups') problems on equal level while composing local budget and why?**

In-depth interviews with the experts made obvious that the fact that in the programs on local level differentiation by the gender mark does not happen causes the fact that the problems of men and women are not solved on equal level.

Respondents underline importance of envisaging interests not only of men and women, but different groups of society too.

There was mentioned expression "single mother" and it was explained that it is discriminative as there are also single fathers and this definition must be corrected.

Some of them went further when the conversation touched budget allocation:

According to the conclusions of the experts and discussions round the issue in the focus-groups, **local budget costs regarding improvement of citizen's social condition in long-term perspective** makes less influence. Such influence by their opinion must be in the interest of the state.

It was said that when local budget incomes are 7-12 % and the rest is a transfer, which is followed by expenditure commitments, it is difficult to demand to be independent.

"This year, new programs were added – financing of those families, who will return biological children, but it is done more mechanically and requires more deep research of the issue. It will be better to care about employment of the members of such families."

"Until we won't find out in what direction does the city develop and what do we want, we don't study annual priorities and the situation will be chaotic". "2015 year budget must be based on 2014 year budget".

By the expert's opinion, the best program in long-term perspective will be employment that unfortunately is not managed by the local government. "When a person has income, he does need assistance of the City hall". "It is important that programs envisaged in the budget must be less envisaged on short-term perspectives, For example – one-term assistances, benefits. It is not the way out".

"Financing of small business programs should be carried out. Economical strengthening of these groups is guarantee of social and political activity; it ensures their more involvement in decision-making process."

The fact that many people refuse to be employed with the reason to lose compensation, underlines bad tendency of being depended on social programs and feeling of Volatility even in case of employment, as no one knows what will happen in future.

The experts think that budget planning should be carried out by envisaging priorities and close cooperation with different groups of society.

**5. To your opinion, how and by whom must be cheered reproductive work in unpaid sector (caring on children, elderly, sick people, family activities),** the answers showed that the experts consider it necessary to cheer reproductive labor, some of them says that it must be carried out by financing, by subsidy of care policy, others think that in many countries abroad, while counting country's inner product, income of reproductive labor is also counted and it is quite normal. "It will be fine if this will be included in the working experience for the person." "This work must be compensated, stimulated."

Respondents underlined collaboration of NGO and business sector in this direction.

The question touched decreasing of unemployment among women. **In your opinion, what will contribute to the reduction of unemployment among women and how?**

First of all it was mentioned development of economics and creation of stable climate in the country, which will promote to vacating local resources. Importance of innovative projects was also mentioned.

“There must be elaborated such programs of training and re-training that touches “women professions, as it is demanded.”

Experts underlined one more activity in decreasing women’s unemployment. It is education.

The state, legislative organs must work on these issues and elaborate programs for solving this problem.

**7. To your opinion, what must be done by local resources for promotion of other gender groups – eg. education and development of the youth?**

The experts talked about what must be done on local level for promotion of the youth. Almost everyone mentioned that close cooperation of the state and NGO sector is essential to this direction.

“It is essential to research the sphere of interests among the youth and accordingly their education and development promotion”. There was mentioned necessity of educational projects. “the issue connection improvement of the state and private sector must be raised, especially regarding youth working experience and employment, motivating private sector to this direction, for giving the students first chance and experience, which will help them in future development.”

The youth group mentioned possibility of working experience by their specialty as the most necessary for them. Programs of previous years were negatively appreciated, which had only short-term effect. Large resource of self-government regarding this was unanimously mentioned.

8. In-depth interviews defined respondents attitude regarding a case of How do they see collaboration between local self-government, society and NGOs regarding satisfaction of local needs (especially from the gender side). By the opinion of some experts, this communication will be the best way for improvement of situation to this direction.

The experts think that constructional collaboration of these three segments is valuable, but they mostly are busy by the critics toward each other. Some NGOs have huge finances and targeted grants and it will be good way to suggest the state co-participation together with the trainings.

“I think that these issues are more discussed in the countries abroad and the NGOs implement their ideas and aspirations. Here the problems are discussed in more common frame. Concrete persons have fewer benefits.”

The respondents underlined importance of collaboration. They remembered a situation, when in the IDPs were not mentioned in city strategy project and the GYLA and “Education and Universe” protested it. *“It was seen that the City Hall had no view regarding this very serious segment, for their integrity, as a result of which not only the exact group, but also the city has a profit.”* There was raised a question of importance of IDP groups’ needs research.

In the list of gender needs, women political activating issue was raised, as their active participation in budget planning obviously changes the priorities, the resources are allocated and available more fairly.

*“This cooperation is implemented as far as possible, but it needs improvement. It is essential to have permanent dialogues, elaborate conceptions for promotion of development of different society groups.”*

9. Respondents expressed exceptional interest towards the issue of **collaboration between the sectors for prevention of domestic violence and assistance of violence victims.**

The respondents of in-depth interviews definitely mentioned that the problem of domestic violence is dangerous for the society and underlined importance of fighting against it by strengthening collaborations between the sectors.

Majority of the experts think that the state must conduct more real actions for protection of violence victims. The attitude towards the issue must be changed on local level active involvement deciding the question should be carried out by using existing resources.

They underlined importance of informational campaigns against violence.

The experts mentioned the examples of successful countries. “The system of social services must be improved for solution of the problem of domestic violence”.

It was noted that it is important for the state representatives to familiarize with the experiences of those countries, where they appear by mission for gaining more experience.

“The municipalities must determine families of risk-group and allocate specialist, who will cooperate with the district attorney, social worker, schools”.

“Local self-government must support such programs and campaigns, which are educational and informing (especially TV, Radio shows for large audience as well as for different institutions.)”

10. Attitude of the respondent regarding the issue: **How important are the local activities for protecting from socially dangerous diseases (Tuberculosis, hepatitis, HIV / AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, etc.) what other activities should be carried out except of existed ones.**

Important part of the experts was well aware of the issue and of the situation regarding this.

They mentioned prevention ways against these diseases, which are carried out on local level.

First of all the issue of informing was underlined. Lack of knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases, ignore of free screening programs (mainly the AIDS) was considered as dangerous.

11. **What preconditions should be created for the women (and other social groups) for equal participation in the local self-government?**

First of all it was mentioned necessity of “Objective and transparent competitions”. The possibilities of women should be maximally supported and revealed.

For increasing women’s participation it is willingly to create relevant climate in political parties, when the women’s professional growth is ensured. They need to be in the same starting conditions as the men are.

## **Conclusion and recommendations**

Analysis of sociological research conducted by the Fund “Sukhumi” showed that the first theory regarding social groups of exceptional needs in Kutaisi reality and necessary policy and practice for them was stabled by the dates received after qualitative and quantitative research.

The research showed that different civic groups consider local government as possibility of their local services, socio-economical development and security. Besides they see local structures as guarantee of social justice and civil interest protection and wish the state to more protect the interests of the citizens.

The research revealed general tendency – to see more refined local municipal target programs, which will be directed to support of long-term projects that will minimize the number of citizens being hopeful for state allowance and will be directed to their development.

As a result of research analysis, it became possible to elaborate recommendation suggestions for the local self-government, which is presented below.

### **Recommendations**

#### **Equal participation in local self-government**

- While composing the budget and defining budget priorities, it must be ensured participation of different groups of society for maximal uage of different experiences of men and women.

#### **Protection of mothers and babies**

- Local demography strategy creation, discussion of pregnant women, infants, maternal and child care local activities. Discussion of Post-natal assistance issue as part of this strategy.
- reproductive health care, support of preventive measures of feminine organ diseases (including cancer)

#### **Local gender groups’ vital needs satisfaction**

- Ensuring of local gender groups full informing about local budget programs
- Research of gender groups needs for proportional allocation of money and financing of the spheres, that are not conducted by the state programs.
- Installation of the panduses for disabled groups in Kutaisi Sakrebulo and *City* Hall, implementation of according policy for creation of relevant for them infrastructure.
- Integrity of various IDP groups in the strategy of city development. Taking full responsibility in issues of IDP social integration and coordination with relevant structures (The Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation, Abkhazian Governmental Structures).
- Avoiding of gender discrimination by definition of “single parent” instead of “single mother” in local social programs.
- Initiation of special programs for social protection of the elderly people.

- Promotion of education for the students from socially unprotected families. Promotion of the working experience program for them
- Insurance of complex approach regarding a problem of so called "street children" through cooperation with different circles. Finding of relevant financial resources for implementation of infrastructural, educational projects, conducting of their condition research.

#### **Local multidisciplinary collaboration**

- Settling of local gender statistic indicators together with the interested society and governmental structures for the analysis of local gender needs.
- Close cooperation with the GAC of Sakrebulo for elaboration of local gender strategy
- Settling of gender budget practice, conducting budget gender monitoring for analysis of its influence on men, women and different groups of society.
- Preparation of reports regarding fulfillment of gender parameters implementation by separate services ("Gender equality law", "law on domestic violence prevention, victim protection and assistance", local obligations of the law action plan).
- Insuring of local budget transparency and accountability, comparative qualitative analysis and research of its influence towards the population. Raising awareness of gender economical policy planning and participants of the budget processes.

#### **Decrease of unemployment and promotion of socio-economical development**

Creation of relevant climate for women small business. Support of small business development programs. (full activation of self-governmental exclusive rights for creation of employment program)

Orientation for long-term social projects, which will substitute assistance programs for several groups by economical development promoting programs.

Periodical analysis of effectiveness of local budget social costs. Creation of monitoring system

#### **Support of reproductive health**

- Benefits on local taxes for those representatives of private sector, who will cheer reproductive work
- Realization of local care policy with the programs of persons, who cares about sick and disabled people.

### **Promotion of social infrastructure development**

- Rehabilitation of existing kindergartens and looking for finances of new kindergarten rehabilitation
- Promotion of medical services in preschool premises Support of qualification raising programs in preschool premises
- Promotion of Physical and psychological health of the preschool contingent

### **Enlarging of local competence issues**

Monitoring of central state social programs duration (by transparency and justice of these programs, research of the citizens; demands and submission of relevant conclusions and recommendations to the relevant Ministries – to eliminate mistakes in implementation of state social assistance programs)

Analysis of migration feminization scales on local level and refinement of demographical strategy on local level

Fulfillment of social security, as one of the functions of local budget, suggestions for ensuring more targeted and addressed assistance of social activity financing.

Creation of professional activity centers, according the research of market demands, training of women and other gender groups for their professional growth

Creation of commission for revealing those buildings, which are not listed in balance of any structures – for their inclusion in self-governmental balance, for increasing of their future privatization or city accommodation fund.

### **Prevention of socially dangerous diseases on local level**

- Creation of maximally comfortable sanitarian service on local level
- Creation of statistics system of social diseases, studying of scale of socially dangerous diseases
- Involvement of qualified specialists in prevention of socially dangerous diseases on local level (TB, hepatitis "c", HIV - AIDS, etc.)
- Support of educational programs and projects in schools and kindergartens (informing, prevention direction)

### **Youth educational and development programs**

- Creation of self-government youth policy strategy, promotion of healthy life-style, support of their education and development, cultural and sport activities
- Support of the sanitarian culture and sexual education programs in schools

- Making basis for youth training system in local authority, stimulation of private enterprises through this direction
- Cheering of successful students (integrity in educational programs abroad, publishing of the works)
- Benefits for the transportation of the students
- Assistance in realization of the possibilities (exhibitions, re-trainings in desired professions).

**Prevention of gender side domestic violence and collaboration in protection of the victims**

- Collaboration between sectors, creation of violence statistic system.
- Trainings for the staff of self-government, law enforcement structures, social workers and journalists through cooperation with the NGO sector.
- Ensuring of local social services for the violence victims
- Providing of victim assistance in frames of local government competence together with the other subjects of violence prevention referral mechanisms