



## IMPORTANT EVENTS/NOVELTIES

2021

Biological Farming Association  
“Elkana”

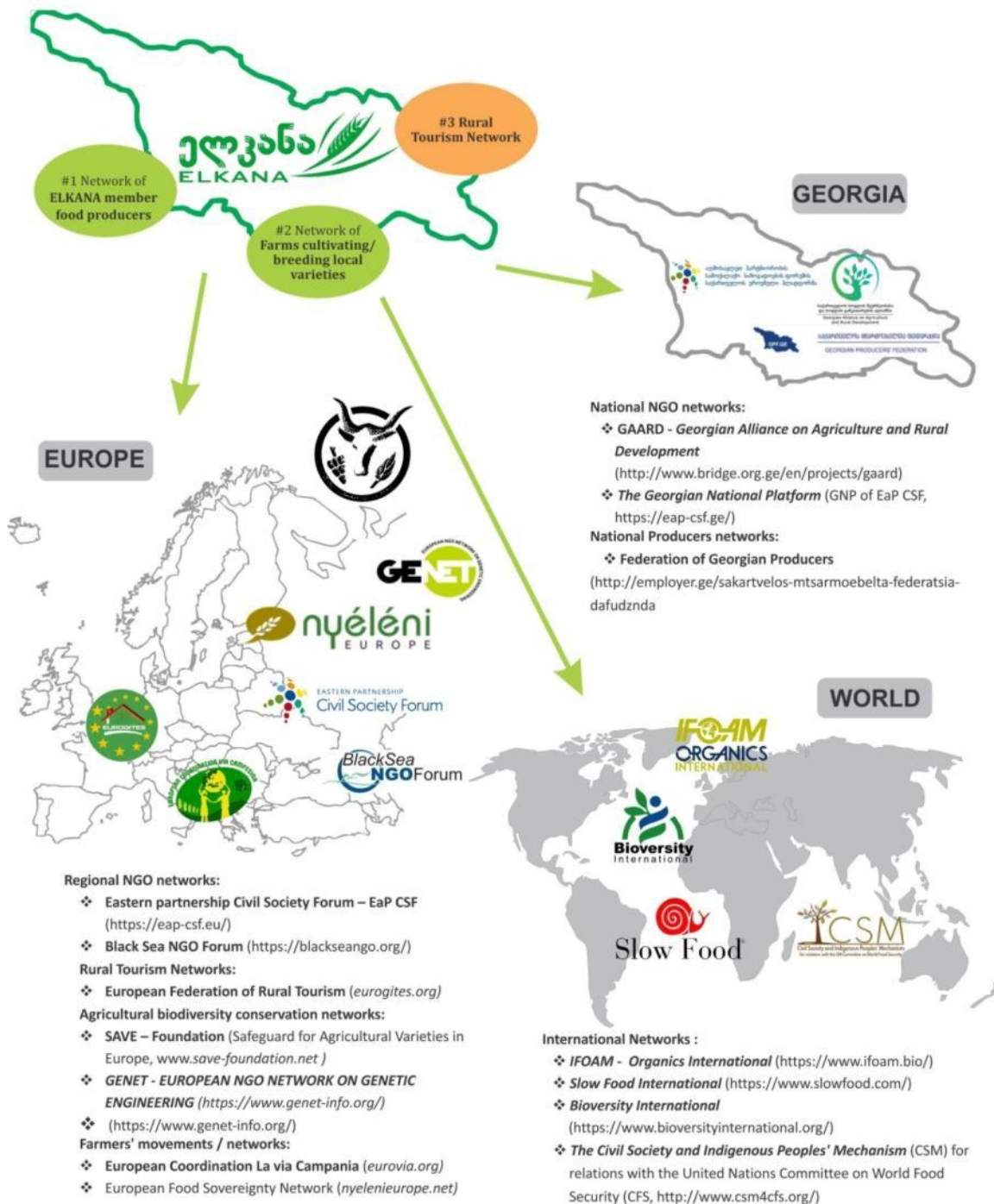


### MAIN DONORS 2021





**ELKANA Networks in Georgia & National / International Networks / Movements**  
**ELKANA is Member of:**



## PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY ELKANA in 2021

#	Project Name	Duration	Donor(s)
1.	Supporting Organic Farming, Rural Development and Agricultural Biodiversity Conservation in Georgia	Jan.2021 – Jun.2024	The Bread for the World, Germany
2.	Organic Agriculture and Rural Tourism Development in Mtskheta-Mtianeti region	Oct. 2019 – Sept. 2023	Austrian Development Cooperation
3.	Organic Hazelnut Value Chain Creates Income and Decent Employment in Western Georgia	July 2018 – June 2023	DANIDA, HEKS-EPER (Switzerland)
4.	Collaborative Agri-food Chains	Dec. 2020-Oct. 2023	Horizon 2020 through Coventry University
5.	Small Business Development Program 3 East along WREP (SBDP 3 East)	July 2018 – Dec.2021	bp, USAID program “ZRDA”
6.	Promoting Citizen Engagement for Economic Development in consortium with HEKS-EPER Georgia	Nov.2016 – Feb.2021	ENPARD
7.	Support to improved backward linkages between agri-food producers and the tourism sector	July 2020 – Dec. 2021	FAO/EBRD
8.	Agricultural Biodiversity Conservation in Akhaltsikhe and Tianeti Municipalities	Oct. 2020 – Sept.2021	Europe Foundation
9.	Cross-Border Alliance for Climate-Smart and Green Agriculture in the Black Sea Basin	Nov. 2020-Nov. 2022	EU – Joint Operational Programme “Black Sea Basin”
10.	“Kleinmaßnahme (KM) zwischen dem Naturland-Verband e.V. für ökologische Landwirtschaft und georgischen Organisationen der ökologischen Land- und Forstwirtschaft”	Sep. 2021-Apr. 2022	Naturland, BMZ via sequa
11.	Coalition project - Strong Associations-Strong Advocates	November 2020 – October 2022	CIPE

# Important Events/Novelties 2021

## Organic and Rainforest Alliance Group Certification System

### ■ Products of the Hazelnut Farmers' Association "Caucasnut" became the holder of organic and UTZ/Rainforest Alliance group certificates

A member of Elkana – the Hazelnut Farmers' Association “Caucasnut” has completed 2021 with a significant innovation - the association received for 686 farmers UTZ/Rainforest Alliance, and EU-recognized organic group certificates for 272 farmers. The association works with 686 farmers in western Georgia who manage hazelnut plantations in accordance with organic and UTZ / Rainforest Alliance standards.



### ■ Collaboration with Shota Meskhia State Teaching University of Zugdidi

#### WHAT

Within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Biological Farming Association “Elkana” and Shota Meskhia State Teaching University of Zugdidi, two certified courses were held online: 1) “Bio/ UTZ/Rainforest Alliance Standards of Internal Control System, Certification Procedures and Functioning - Certified Course for Inspectors”; and 2) "Hazelnut Organic Production - Certified Course for Field Trainers".



A total of 24 participants attended the training for inspectors, 20 of whom successfully completed the course. A total of 27 participants attended the training for field inspectors, and 12 of them successfully completed the course.

#### WHERE

Training courses were conducted remotely

#### WHEN

March, April, May



■ **Arranging demonstration models in Samegrelo and Imereti**

With the support of Elkana, cooperation with the Hazelnut Farmers' Association Caucasnut and companies supplying biopesticides and biofertilizers (Bioagro, Agro Kartli and Agro Center) was established. The aim of the collaboration was to test the effectiveness of bio-remedies offered by partner companies in hazelnut orchards. Within the framework of the cooperation, the hazelnut orchards of

three farmers involved in organic certification were selected in the village of Orsantia, Zugdidi Municipality, in the village of Pakhulani, Tsalenjikha Municipality, and in the village of Mikeleponi, Vani Municipality. Elkana consultants and partner companies monitored demonstration models and responded to existing problems in a timely manner. Data of demonstration plots have been recorded for further analyses.



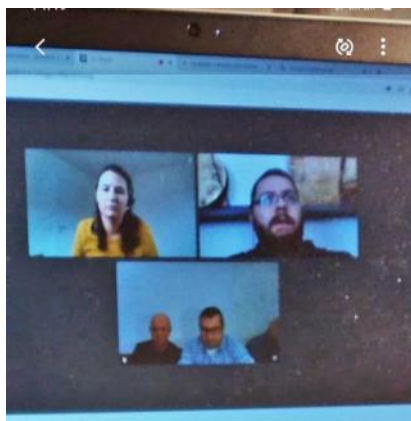
■ **The Hazelnut Farmers' Association "Caucasnut" participated in the international exhibition "Biofach"**

**WHAT**

On February 16-19 this year, the CAUCASNUT Association participated in the World Biofood Exhibition (Biofach 2021), which, unlike previous years, was held online for the first time. The exhibition

was attended by about 3,000 companies from around the world and up to 50,000 visitors. During the exhibition, the Caucasus Association contacted 46 different companies, including representatives from Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Finland, Estonia and Lithuania.

Well-known European companies were interested in the nuts presented at the exhibition by the CAUCASNUT Association and a meeting was held with them online. It is important that companies are interested in purchasing inshell organic hazelnuts. The parties got acquainted with the principles and methods of working with each other and developed a short-term plan for future cooperation.



**WHERE**

Nuremberg, Germany, online

**WHEN**

16-19 February

## TRAINING ON ORGANIC FARMING

### ■ Sectorial training courses on organic agriculture

#### WHAT

The experts of Elkana conducted 3 one-day training on organic agriculture for farmers of Kvemo Svaneti, Imereti and Racha: "Organic Winemaking and Organic Viticulture", "Organic Tea Production" and "Organic Beekeeping". The training considered issues organic farming production systems and organic certification procedures. The role of organic agriculture in improving the rural business environment and increasing incomes was also discussed. A total of 29 farmers attended the training.



#### WHERE

Tsageri, Ambroluari and Chiatura municipalities.

#### WHEN

17-19 November



## ■ Training - Vermicompost production

### WHAT

A one-day training - "Production of vermicompost, arrangement and management of a vermicompost plant", was held in the office of Elkana. The training was attended by farmers, specialists in the field, interested members of the community. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, attendance was limited - a total of 10 people were trained. The following issues were discussed at the training: the concept of vermicompost and its advantages, the main issues of vermicompost farm organization and management.

### WHERE

Elkana office, Tbilisi

### WHEN

6 July



## ■ Sectorial training courses in Tianeti

### WHAT

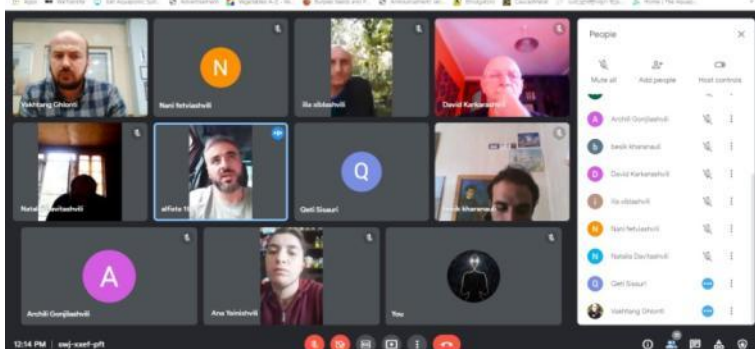
51 theoretical and practical training courses on various issues of organic agriculture were conducted in Tianeti Municipality: horticulture (15), fruit growing (12), beekeeping (20), production of non-timber forest products (4). A total of 726 people attended the training courses. Stakeholders received information and advice about these issues from Elkana consultants, as well as shared experiences.

### WHERE

Tianeti townlet

### WHEN

Spring through the end of autumn



## AGRICULTURAL MODELS – *Modern technologies in agriculture*

### ■ Farmer's Day - modern technologies of strawberry cultivation

#### WHAT?

On the farm of Manana Anjaparidze, a farmer who is a member of Elkana, a farmer's day concerning modern technologies of cultivation and care of strawberry crop was held. The event was attended by 27 Elkana member farmers from different regions of Georgia interested in growing berry crops. The farmers toured the strawberry orchard, got acquainted with the modern organic methods of berry cultivation, shared experiences and held a discussion on the prospects of berry crops production in Georgia.



#### WHERE

In the village of Misaktsieli, Mtskheta-Mtianeti region

#### WHEN

9 July

### ■ Study tour in Kakheti

#### WHAT

A 2-day study tour was held in Kakheti region, in which farmers interested in horticulture from Tianeti Municipality took part. On the first day, the guests visited the conservation farm of the local domestic animal breeds of Association "Elkana" in the village of Zemo Khodasheni, Akhmeta Municipality and saw the Kakhetian pig, local Pshav-Khevsurian and Caucasian brown cows, chicken populations, ducks and Javakhetian goose. The guests also visited the permaculture plot arranged on the farm area, local fruit trees, vines and windbreaks.



The next day, farmers visited a vermicompost demonstration site in the village of Matani, Akhmeta Municipality, organized by Elkana with the support of the Georgian Ministry of Environment and Agriculture, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The farmer Roin Terterashvili shared his

experience with vermicompost farm maintenance and biohumus production. Thereafter, in the village of Zemo Alvani, Akhmeta district, the farmers visited the greenhouse of the cooperative "Nergebi", met with the chairwoman of the cooperative Dali Veshaguridze and other members.

**WHERE**

Akhmeta Municipality, Kakheti

**WHEN**

14-15 June



**Study tour for agricultural consultants from Belarus**

On November 11-19, Elkana conducted a study tour on the methodology of consulting on organic production for agricultural consultants from Belarus, which included both theoretical and practical training in Tbilisi and Kakheti region. For the tour, Elkana developed a 3-day ToT course on extension methodology, during which participants were provided with information on the following issues: Development of Organic Agriculture in Georgia (prospects, stages, obstacles); Bio-certification

(standards, certification process); History and trends of bio-production and bio-market development, demand preconditions and analysis of key users; Methodology / technique of consulting in bio-production; Methodology and technique of providing business consulting to biofarmers.

The tour participants visited the following farms in Kakheti: Elkana Conservation Farm, Cooperative "Nergebi" (greenhouse), Simon Ruadze Farm (bio-garden), Cooperative "Gile" (Berry orchard, enterprise), where they received practical training and advice from Elkana experts.





Within the framework of the tour, a cultural program was also held - a tour of the sights of Mtskheta and the Alaverdi monastery complex.

The study tour funded by the Lithuanian organization - VŠĮ "EKOKONCEPCIJA" was attended by 13 agricultural specialists from Belarus.

## ■ Study tour in Samtskhe-Javakheti

### WHAT

Within the framework of the project "Development of Organic Agriculture and Rural Tourism in Mtskheta-Mtianeti", a study visit was made for the staff of the Tianeti, Mtskheta, Dusheti and Kazbegi Information-Consultation Center of the Mtskheta-Mtianeti region, in Samtskhe-Javakheti region.

On the first day, the visitors attended the training of Tamar Noniashvili, an expert in the field of animal husbandry of the Association "Elkana", on the topics - Organic Livestock farm and Geographical Indications.



The next day, the Information-Consultation Center staff visited Elkana pilot-demonstration plot "Seed Ark" in the village of Tsnisi, Akhaltsikhe Municipality, where they saw local wheat varieties (Dika, Akhaltsikhe Red Doli, Gvatsa Zanduri, Chelta Zanduri, and Makha); leguminous crops (grass pea, chickpea, cowpea) and the technical crop - flax. Afterwards, the guests visited the traditional *tenili* cheese factory in the village of Andriatsminda, met with a farmer, Ruslan Inasaridze, who toured them in the enterprise and familiarized with the *tenili* cheese making process.

On the third day, the visitors attended the training of Vakhtang Glonti, beekeeping expert of the Association "Elkana" on the topic "Bio-beekeeping and preparation of bee products for export"

**WHERE**

Akhaltikhe Municipality, Samtskhe-Javakheti

**WHEN**

28-30 June



■ **Study tour in Shida Kartli**

**WHAT**

Those interested in horticulture issues visited the demonstration plot of vermicompost arranged in the village of Karaleti, Gori Municipality, within the framework of the IFAD project, with the support of Elkana. The guests visited the farm and talked to farmer Zaza Kharibegashvili, who explained in detail the benefits and possibilities of selling vermicompost, shared his experience in vermicompost, talked about the difficulties and challenges and ways to overcome them.

**WHERE**

Karaleti village, Gori Municipality, Shida Kartli

**WHEN**

8 November



## ■ Farmer's Day for young farmers and entrepreneurs

### WHAT?

Farmer's Day was held for young entrepreneurs and start-up entrepreneurs on the experimental plot of the Biological Farming Association "Elkana". Start-up entrepreneurs heard a presentation on the philosophy, principles and management methods of organic and biodynamic agriculture. They practically got acquainted with the agrotechnologies for the production of Tsiteli Doli wheat, ancient legume crops. The farmers



tasted the bread baked from Akhaltsikhe (Meskhetian) Tsiteli Doli wheat and dishes cooked from grass pea and cowpea. The event was a success and aroused great interest of the participants.

### WHERE

Akhaltsikhe municipality, Samtskhe-Javakheti

### WHEN

9 July

## AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

## ■ Seminar on cultivation of local cereals and legumes

### WHAT?

The seminar was held on the conservation farm of Elkana "Seed Ark" in the village of Tsnisi of Samtskhe-Javakheti region. 12 local farmers participated, including 1 woman. Farmers were informed about the endemic species of wheat - Dika, grain legumes – cowpea, chickpea, faba bean, grass pea, lentil, and cereals - *ghomi*, (Italian millet), *makhobeli* (Syrian cephalaria), and flax origin, their characteristics, cultivation features, their yield, sowing periods, the importance of maintaining them on farms, the conditions for receiving seed material from the "Seed Ark", as well as the possibilities of selling the grain of these crops and the market demand for them. The farmers tasted dishes made from legumes –grass pea and chickpea, grown in the "Seed Ark" farm.

### WHERE

Tsnisi village, Akhaltsikhe Municipality, Samtskhe-Javakheti

### WHEN

13 April



## ■ Renewal of grain collection on Elkana Conservation Farm "Seed Ark"

### WHAT

Endangered cereals were sown for collection seeds renewal on the Seed Ark conservation farm. 0.09 ha plot was allocated for wheat collections of Chelta Zanduri, Gvatsa Zanduri, Makha, hexaploid Zanduri, Colchis Asli, Akhaltsikhe Red Doli, Korboulis Doli, Shavphkha, Kondara wheat; Svanetian rye, black barley, etc. A total of 57 accessions of 34 species and varieties were sown; in addition to the collection plot, endemic species of wheat were sown on a relatively large area - Chelta Zanduri (0.41 ha) and Gvatsa Zanduri (0.19 ha).

### WHERE

Tsnisi village, Akhaltsikhe Municipality, Samtskhe-Javakheti.

### WHEN

October



## ■ Seminar - Characterization of Georgian wheat varieties, agrotechnology and cultivation peculiarities

### WHAT

The seminar was held on the Elkana's pilot-demonstration plot "Seed Ark", in Tsnisi village of Samtskhe-Javakheti region. 13 local farmers including 3 women participated. The farmers were informed about the Georgian wheat species, their agro-technology, peculiarities and importance of cultivation, the work done by Elkana to find and propagate their seed material, as well as its availability of seeds in the Seed Ark. In addition, the participants of the seminar were consulted on other interesting issues of cultivation of cereals.



### WHERE

Tsnisi village, Akhaltsikhe Municipality, Samtskhe-Javakheti

### WHEN

1 November

## ■ Agricultural Biodiversity Conservation in Akhaltsikhe and Tianeti

### WHAT

Since 2020, the Biological Farming Association "Elkana", with the support of the European Fund, has been implementing a project "Agricultural Biodiversity Conservation in Akhaltsikhe and Tianeti" in Samtskhe-Javakheti and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions.

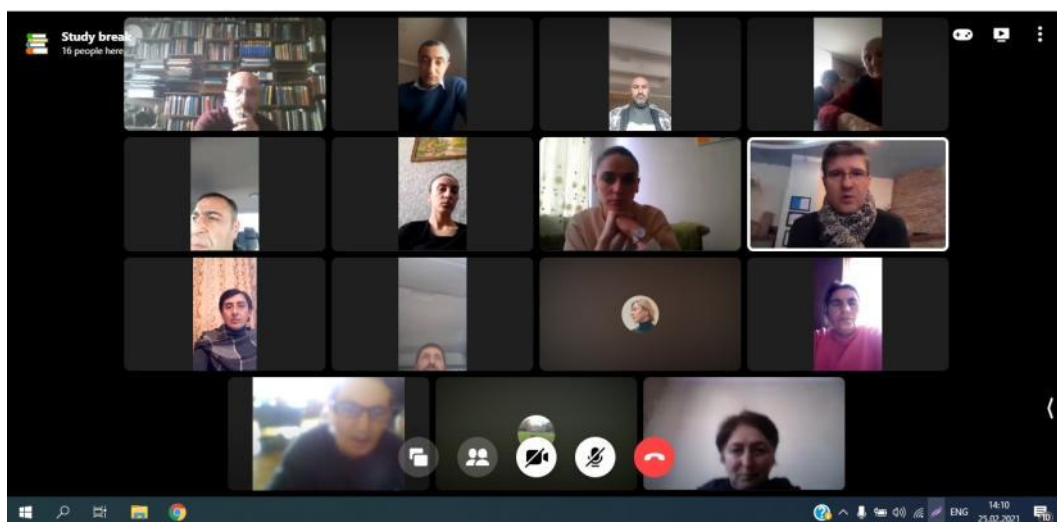
20 training courses on organic production methods, the importance of agrarian biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources were conducted within the framework of the project. At the end of the training, 56 farmers were given seeds of local wheat Dika and legumes for propagation.

### WHERE

Akhaltsikhe town in Samtskhe-Javakheti,  
Tianeti townlet in Mtskheta-Mtianeti.

### WHEN

In the course of the year



## ORGANIC & AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY MARKET PROMOTION

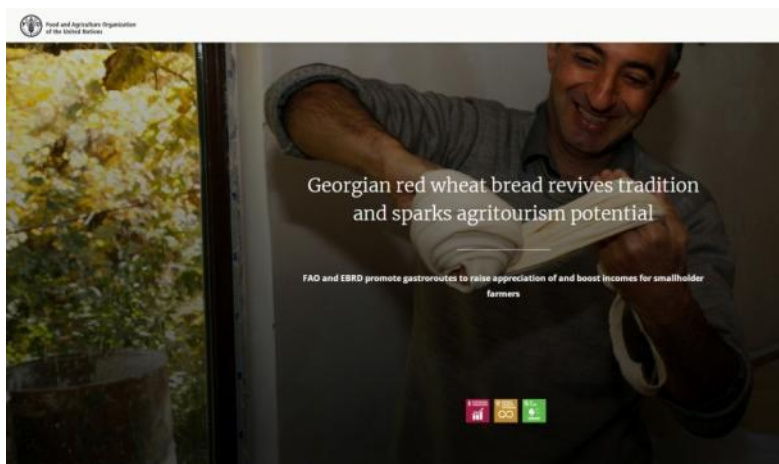
### ■ Agritourism farm "Ambari" - arrangement of a small bakery

With the support of Elkana, Zaza Ivanidze, Elkana member farmer in Samtskhe-Javakheti region, implemented a project to arrange a small bakery for tourists and other interested parties at his own agritourism farm "Ambari" located in the village of Ghreli of Akhaltsikhe Municipality. The project soon had successful results. Zaza Ivanidze regularly bakes traditional Meskhetian breads *somini* and *shoti* (also called *titiani*, *kokora* and *podala* by the locals), Meskhetian *kada* and *erishta*, and often participates in various local or country-wide exhibitions. The bread and pastries, made using the red wheat and other selected ingredients, baked in a wood-fired traditional stone oven are very popular among the local customers as well. "Ambari" has already hosted bread, *kada* and *erishta* baking master classes.



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An extensive article on Zaza Ivanidze's activities was published on the website of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). <https://www.fao.org/fao-stories/article/en/c/1470621/>



### ■ Bread festival in Akhaltsikhe

#### WHAT

In the city of Akhaltsikhe, Samtskhe-Javakheti region, on the territory of the Akhaltsikhe Fortress, a Bread Festival organized by the Association "Elkana" together with the Samtskhe-Javakheti Destination Management Organization (DMO) was held. The event aimed at promoting traditional and local products, including local bread and wheat, introducing the region's agritourism potential to the public, and





promoting local initiatives and collaborative agrifood chains. A separate space at the festival was dedicated to Georgian wheat. Visitors to the festival had the opportunity to watch the bread-baking process.

In the traditional product and cuisine space, farmers, farmers' associations and enterprises presented their local products - *tenili* cheese, buffalo sour cream and cheese, *apokhti* (khinkali made with dried meats), mulberry products - *tklapi*, *bakmazi*, jam, vinegar, *chanchuri* jam, honey, wine, *kvevri* beer,

nuts, tea, berry jams and juices, dried fruits, *dambalkhacho* (Georgian dry moldy cheese), etc.

Individual producers and representatives of workshops from local as well as other Georgian regions presented their products in the traditional handicraft exhibition space.

The event included performances by local folk ensembles and puppet theaters, a display of costumes made of natural fabrics, as well as master classes in yoga, sport dances, clay ceramics molding, plate and textile painting.

The photo exhibition "Samtskhe-Javakheti in countless colors" was held at the festival, within the framework of which the best photos of the National Geographic Magazine - Yourshot Georgia - participated in a photo contest. At the end of the event, the winners of the photo competition were identified and awarded.



**WHERE**

Akhaltzikhe Fortress territory, Akhaltzikhe City, Samtskhe-Javakheti

**WHEN**

23 October

## ■ Exhibition-sale of products of "Elkana" member farmers

### WHAT

The Biological Farming Association "Elkana" together with the hypermarket Goodwill and with the support of the International Culture Space held three exhibitions and sales of local agricultural products, which presented products produced by Elkana member farmers using organic and agro-ecological methods.

### WHERE

Goodwill area, Tbilisi

### WHEN

October, November, December



## ■ Cheese festival in Akhmeta

### WHAT

In the village of Alaverdi, AKhmeta Municipality, in the framework of the project "Quality Cheese Value Chain and Development and Promotion of Local Entrepreneurship", a Cheese Day was held, which is co-financed within the framework of the Polish Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland.

At the event, members of the association "Elkana" presented a large variety of local traditional cheeses and introduced guests to the unique methods of their preparation.

### WHERE

Alaverdi village, AKhmeta Municipality, Kakheti

### WHEN

27 November







In Poland, at the 2021 Fundacja Galicja Viti International Competition, the wine *Saperavi Budeshuri* 2018 of Elkana member *Marani Gelovani* won a gold medal.



In July 2021, the fifth international Qvevri wine competition organized by the Georgian Wine Association, the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture and the National Wine Agency was held in Georgia.

The wines of Elkana member wineries who won gold, silver and bronze medals in the International Qvevri Wine Competition:

- Do-Re-Mi Winery - *Saperavi* 2020 - gold
- Do-Re-Mi Winery - *Saperavi Budeshuri* 2020 - silver
- Do-Re-Mi Winery - *Tibaani* 2020 - silver
- Do-Re-Mi Winery - *Chinebuli* 2020 - bronze
- Do-Re-Mi Winery - *Kisi* 2020 - bronze
- Do-Re-Mi Winery - *Krakhuna* 2020 - bronze
- Juso's Winery - *Saperavi* 2019 - silver
- Juso's Winery - *Kisi* 2020 - bronze
- Juso's Winery - *Tsolikauri* 2019 - bronze
- Levani's Marani Akhmeta – *Rkatsiteli* 2019 - silver
- Levani's Marani Akhmeta – *Rkatsiteli* - bronze
- Marani Tvaladuri – *Shavkapito* 2019 - bronze.

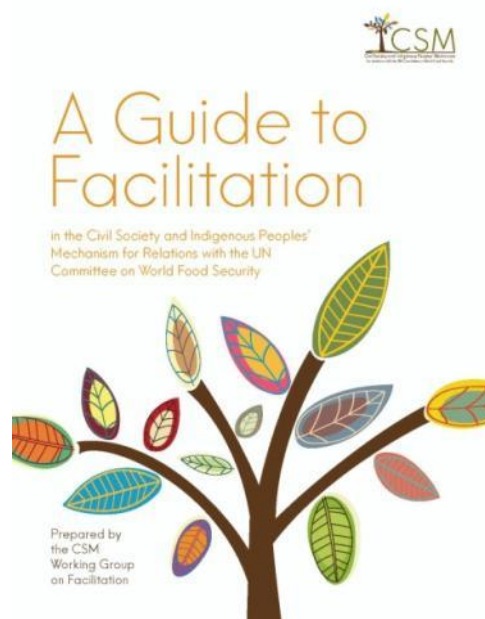
## PUBLIC RELATIONS

- **Guide to Facilitation published in cooperation with the Civil Society Mechanism of the Committee for World Food Security**

The Biological Farming Association "Elkana" is actively involved in the work process of the Civil Society Mechanism of the Committee for World Food Security. In 2021, in cooperation with the Committee, a *Guide to Facilitation* was prepared and published. The *Guide to Facilitation* aims to help support facilitation practices in the CSM and increase awareness of the CSM's distinctive facilitation approach.

Available in English, Spanish and French, the *Guide to Facilitation* is designed to be a resource that facilitators and participants in the CSM – no matter how familiar they are with the CSM context – can continually reference in support of their work.

See the Guide at: <https://www.csm4cfs.org/15096/>



- **Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (BFA) Report prepared and published with the involvement of the Biological Farming Association "Elkana"**



One of the main goals of the Association of Biological Farming "Elkana" is the protection of biodiversity, which is directly related to the sustainability of the food system, both in Georgia and around the world. Therefore, in 2021, Elkana was actively involved in the preparation of the *Report on monitoring schemes and data collection on biodiversity for food and agriculture in Eastern Europe and Central Asia* (see report in English at: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb6959en>).

The report examines the existence of data collection, monitoring systems, and conservation initiatives as well as legislation and policies related to BFA in the following three regions: Central Asia; the South Caucasus countries, Turkey, Belarus and Ukraine; and the Western Balkan countries and the Republic of Moldova.

The report brings light to the strong need to improve conservation and use of BFA in the region, including the establishment of solid monitoring schemes and a strong legal framework for its protection. Effective BFA conservation is directly linked to the eradication of world hunger and the proper use of resources.

■ **Participation in the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EAP CSF) and the Georgian National Platform activities**



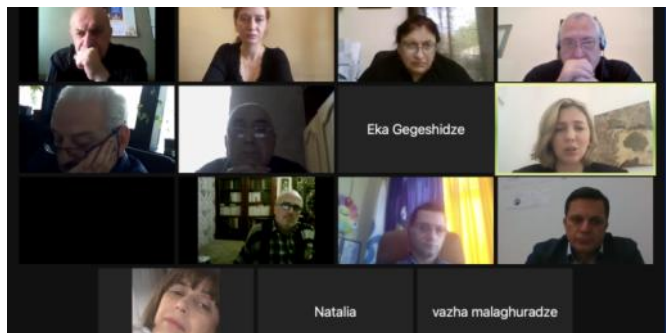
**1-3 June: Working Group 2 Meeting**

Elkanawas involved in meetings and discussions organized by the Civic Society Forum and the National Platform, including parliamentary meetings (based on the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Platform and the Committee on European Integration).



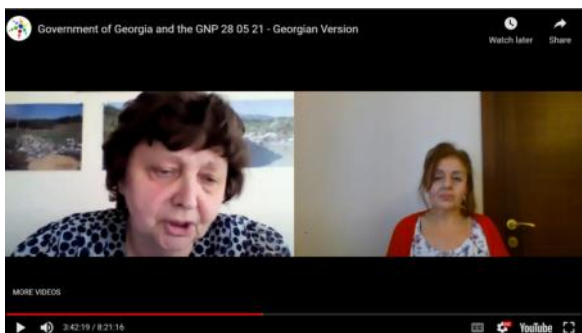
Elkana participated in the 13th Assembly of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum "The Road to Recovery: Promoting Reform and Sustainability for a Stronger Eastern Partnership" (November 30 - December 2) (The 13th Annual Assembly of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum) Road to recovery: fostering reform and resilience for a stronger Eastern Partnership" (<https://eap-csf.eu/aa2021/>). Elkana made a presentation on the topic: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Agriculture.

On June 14, Elkana participated in the 11th General Assembly of the National Platform and presented a project implemented within the framework of the National Platform's program support: "Civic Involvement to Promote the Placement of Local Agricultural Products in the Consumer Market". <https://eap-csf.ge/index.php/2021/06/18/general-meeting/>.



On May 27-28, at the Joint Annual Conference of the Georgian National Platform and the Government of Georgia "European Choice of the Georgian People - Challenges and Future Perspectives" (<https://eap-csf.ge/index.php/2021/05/29/high-level-conference-3/>) Elkana made 2 presentations: *Organic Agriculture in Georgia*; and *The importance of Georgia's Agricultural Biodiversity*.

Elkana's recommendations on the importance of promoting organic production were included in a letter that was prepared on EaP CSF Position Paper on the "Joint Staff Working Document on recovery, resilience and reform: post-2020 Eastern Partnership priorities" (<https://eap-csf.eu/wp-content/uploads/EaP-CSF-position-paper-on-post-2020-EaP-priorities.pdf>).



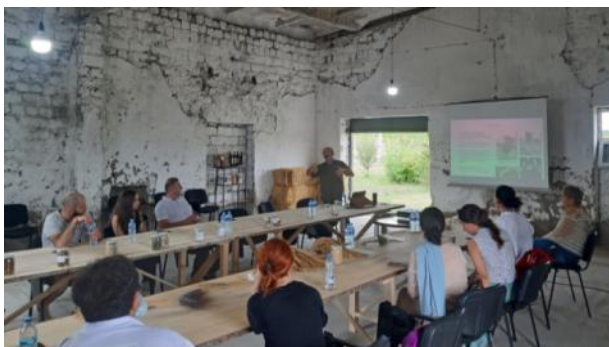
## ■ Familiarization tour to Elkana demonstration plot



On May 31 and June 21, in the village of Zemo Khodasheni, Akhmeta Municipality, at Elkana Conservation Farm, information meetings were held for the general public interested in environmental protection and bio-production. Elkana Program Manager Tamaz Dundua spoke about climate change and mitigation methods, the importance of organic production and other eco-friendly approaches. The meeting was held in the format of discussion and sharing of opinions. Visitors to Elkana Conservation Farm observed Kakhetian pigs, Khevsurian cows, local chicken populations, Javakhetian geese and ducks. They also tasted local dishes and Kakhetian wine.



On July 2, Irina Khangoshvili visited Elkana Domestic Animals Conservation Farm (Zemo Khodasheni village, Akhmeta Municipality) with the famous TV project "Waiting for You" with Zurab Dvali. The popular show runs in 40 countries around the world and introduces interested people to the culture of different countries, sights, traditional dishes, wine-making rules, news on farms, interesting people, etc. Tamaz Dundua, Program Manager of Elkana, recorded an interview with Zurab Dvali, who spoke about the goals and directions of the Association. Visitors observed the local breeds and populations of domestic animals and poultry, the permaculture plot and got acquainted with methods of organic production.



On July 9, 16 beneficiary entrepreneurs from Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti and Shida Kartli involved in the tourism and sustainable agriculture sector visited Elkana Conservation Farm and the organization's farmers as part of an familiarization and educational tour. The non-traditional tourist route was designated for entrepreneurs interested in agro-biodiversity and organic production from both the agriculture

and tourism sectors. At Elkana Conservation Farm, visitors had the opportunity to learn about local breeds and populations of domestic animals and poultry, the permaculture plot on the farm, and methods of organic production.



The tour program also included introduction to business models of different profiles, where the hosts introduced visitors to interesting and eco-friendly approaches. Among them were demonstration of a model of vermiculture in the village of Matani and a visit to the family hotel "Alvani" and the Lagazidzes' wine cellar.

The educational tour was initiated under the ongoing CENN's Digital Caucasus Project, EU4Youth: 'Social Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development (SEED) Programme for Green Growth in Borderline Communities', in partnership

with the EU's EMBRACE Tsalka Project, USAID's Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, the Economic Development, Governance and Enterprise Growth Project (EDGE) and with the EU support.



## RURAL TOURISM

### ■ Training course in Tianeti

#### WHAT

Experts of Elkana conducted 4-day training course on 'Rural Tourism' for those living in Tianeti Municipality and involved in the tourism business. The training was attended by 17 persons. The training included theoretical presentations and practical work. Attendees were given the opportunity to receive practical advice on the spot and share experiences with each other.

#### WHERE

Tianeti townlet, Tianeti Municipality

#### WHEN

Spring through the autumn.



■ Presentation of Elkana’s Guesthouse and Agritourism Farm Standard

On November 30, the Biological Farming Association "Elkana" held an online presentation and introduced to those interested in rural tourism the Guesthouse and Agritourism Farm Standard, which defines the requirements for the arrangement of guesthouses and agritourism farms in rural areas and small towns.

A record of the meeting can be found at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ae\\_wffOpgy8I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ae_wffOpgy8I)



# PUBLICATIONS

## 2022 Calendar



## Hazelnut production by organic methods

## Important events/novelties - 2020



## Annual Income and expenditure

Currency: Euro

### Year 2021

Opening Balance	600,176
Income	
Brot fur die welt	167,200
HEKS EPER	132,69.86
FAO	47,929.21
Europe Foundation	8,722.53
ECVC	28,167.39
GRETA	14,074.90
Membership fees	1,397.80
Donation	7,636.08
Other Income	34,043.52
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>510,179</b>
Expenses	
Projects expenses	647,535.13
Investments for cooperatives, co-financing	100,703.46
Administrative expenses	90,636.86
other expenses	3,285.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>842,160</b>
Closing Balance	268,194

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