# Rehabilitation of amelioration infrastructure in Samegrelo region

16 January

Since 2012, "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd under the Ministry of Agriculture has implemented total of 118 rehabilitation projects of amelioration infrastructure all over Georgia. Within this period, 17 infrastructure rehabilitation projects have been completed in Samegrelo region. As a result, meliorated agricultural area has increased up to 17 000 ha in the region.

Rehabilitation of drainage scheme of Anjeli massif is underway in Abasha municipality. The scheme on which rehabilitation works haven't been carried out for decades is being cleaned from sediment. As a result of ongoing works, drainage service will be available for the population on additional 500 ha of agricultural area.

The works with total cost of GEL 400 000 were initiated in September 2015 and will be completed in spring of the current year.





# Meeting with local farmers in the village Gamarjveba

18 January

With regard to rehabilitation of Zemo Samgori irrigation scheme, meeting with local farmers has been arranged today in the village Gamarjveba.

Rehabilitation of Zemo Samgori irrigation scheme will be implemented by the support of the state budget of Georgia and grant agreement signed between the Government of Georgia and NL AGENCY under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in November, 2014.

In 2015 an agreement was signed between "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd and consortium "EPTISA" on the works under the development stage of rehabilitation. The arrangements under the agreement envisage provision of farmers' involvement in the project. With this regard the first meeting has been arranged today. Information about the scheduled project has been introduced to the farmers', future plans and modern irrigation technologies have been discussed.







## Rehabilitation of Darcheli Drainage System

13 February







The Minister of the Agriculture of Georgia Otar Danelia and the Governor of Samegrelo - Zemo Svaneti Region Levan Shonia got acquainted with rehabilitation works of Darcheli drainage system in Zugdidi Municipality. The current works are implemented by the "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia.

As the General Director of the Company Levan Dvali announced, the Company implements the rehabilitation of Darcheli drainage system on Khobi-Enguri inter fluvial area in Zugdidi Municipality. Total cost of the rehabilitation works amounts 252 000 Georgian Lari. Within the project 24 km drainage canal will be restored. finishing the rehabilitation works from April 2016, the population of the village Darcheli will benefit from the drainage service on 450 ha agricultural land area.

## Aquaculture Development Project Begins

14 February

The Minister of Agriculture of Georgia Otar Danelia and the Governor of Kakheti Region Irakli Shiolashvili together with fish-breeding sector specialists, inspected the ponds in Kakheti Region, met farmers and discussed the specific directions of aquaculture sector development. As the Minister said, The Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia is the working strategy on fish-breeding sector development, which is expected to be ready to the end of this year.





In order to support aquaculture development in Georgia, the ponds which are on balance of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia is planned to be transferred to the Research Center of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia. Scientists will study the fish resources in natural and artificial ponds in Sagarejo and Gurjaani Municipalities. The relevant scientific researches for fish production development will be done and breeding of selective species will occur, that will provide access to new species of fish and high-quality fries for farmers and entrepreneurs. According to the researches implemented on ponds, taking into account the current situation and needs specialist will help Georgian farmers and fish manufacturers to get acquainted with the modern technology and introduction of them.

The Deputy Minister of the Minister of Agriculture of Georgia David Galegashvili and the General Director of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd Levan Dvali attended the meetings with fish manufacturer farmers in Kakheti Region.

## Rehabilitation of Alazani Riverside Drainage System

17 February



The Minister of Agriculture of Georgia Otar Danelia, together with the Governor of Kakheti Region Irakli Shiolashvili and the General Director of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd Levan Dvali got acquainted with ongoing rehabilitation works of Alazani riverside lands. The Minister of Agriculture of Georgia visited

the renewed regional office of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd in Gurjaani Municipality as well Otar Danelia got acquainted with the working process and met with employees.

Rehabilitation of Alazani riverside lands drainage system is in progress in Gurjaani and Signagi Municipalities. The first phase of the rehabilitation works will be finished by the end of February and after finishing it, the population of the villages – Kardenakhi, Bakurtsikhe, Kolagi of Gurjaani Municipality will benefit from drainage service on 3000 ha agricultural land area. The cost of the project is 2 591 000 Georgian Lari. As a result, in Kakheti Region by the implemented works of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia irrigated area has increased to 13 690 ha and the drainage service is provided on 925 ha.

According to the rehabilitation program in 2016, 15 rehabilitation projects in Kakheti Region are supposed to be carried out. The total cost of the project is 12 943 679 Georgian Lari. As soon as the projects are finished, ameliorated area will increase to 6 000 ha.







### New water reservoir will irrigate 140 ha in Kakheti

21 February

"Georgian Amelioration" Ltd under the Ministry of Agriculture has completed the project for arranging small reservoir at the village Vachnadziani, in the area of Kvemo Alazani irrigation scheme, Kakheti region. Otar Danelia - Ministry of Agriculture, Irakli Shiolashvili -Governor of Kakheti region and Levan Dvali - General Director of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd inspected the Vachnadziani reservoir, which is one out of the three pilot projects that were developed by the company for facilitating to the expansion of modern irrigation technology - drip irrigation.





Total of 10 000 m³ of water supply will be accumulated in the reservoir, that will enable local population to irrigate 140 ha of agricultural land area by drip irrigation method during irrigation season.

Two more pilot rehabilitation projects for Bakurtsikhe and Vakiri pumping stations are being implemented in Kakheti Region. After completion 750 ha of agricultural land area will be irrigated by drip irrigation method.



#### Rehabilitation of Iakublo reservoir

29 February

Iakublo reservoir was brought into operation in 1978. In recent years, increase of leakage zones could be observed on dam slopes and adjacent territory, thereby causing threat to sustainability of the dam and hindering full operation of the reservoir.



The reservoir supplies 3000 ha of area with irrigation water, while together with Mtisdziri and Pantiani reservoirs, it serves to supply total of 8 000 ha of agricultural area of Bolnisi, Dmanisi and Marneuli municipalities.



In February of the current year, the first stage of rehabilitation project started. Rehabilitation will ensure safe and full operation of the reservoir.



# "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd has launched information campaign

09 March

"Georgian Amelioration" Ltd under the Ministry of Agriculture has launched information campaign for facilitation to the expansion of modern irrigation methods. Within the campaign water users will be introduced to drip and sprinkler irrigation methods.

The first meeting has been arranged in the village Bakurtsikhe of Gurjaani municipality, where "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd is implementing pilot project for facilitation to the expansion of drip irrigation. Within the project rehabilitation of Bakurtsikhe pumping station and arrangement of irrigation network is underway. After completion water users will have an opportunity to irrigate 580 ha of agricultural land area by drip irrigation method.

At the meeting, representatives of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd have made a presentation on advantages of drip irrigation method, which in comparison with the traditional flooding irrigation method is much more profitable due to the fact that it requires twice as little water, el. energy and fertilizers and significantly increases crop productivity.









## **NEWS**

January-March 2016

Public Relations Service

Georgian Technical University, Agrarian Science Faculty's students also attended the meeting held in the village Kakabeti with an initiative of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd. At the end of the presentation, Director of Kakheti region of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd Nikoloz Kurtishvili discussed the current and planned projects with students and local residents.











"Georgian Amelioration" Ltd made a presentation within the information campaign in Gardabani, after which the representatives of the Project Management Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia presented to the population the information about the supporting projects of the development of agriculture. Including the project "Plant the Future" which includes the co-funding of perennial gardens. Financial participation of the State offers the modern irrigation systems – drip irrigation equipment cost's 50 % of covering.





Within the information campaign meetings were attended by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture David Galegashvili and the Deputy Minister of Agriculture Gocha Tsopurashvili, General Director of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd Levan Dvali, the Governor of Kvemo Kartli Paata Khizanishvili and the President of Trade Union of Agricultural Employess Irina Pkhovelishvili.

Within the information campaign meetings with water users will be held all over Georgia.

## Campaign "Donate Blood Save Life" has been held in "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd

10 March









Employees of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd and "Food National Agency" under the Ministry of Agriculture participated in the campaign "Donate Blood, Save Life". Blood donated by company employees will be saved in blood bank of the Institute of Hematology and Transfusiology for various clinics of Georgia, private entities and patients of the institute.

Blood donation is a safe process, benefitting not only the recipient but the donor as well. Because the process of blood donation promotes generation of new cells, that leads to rejuvenation of blood.

Blood donated by the donors undergoes high quality and wide-range laboratory examinations (blood group, rhesus, B and C Hepatitis, AIDS, syphilis, hemoglobin).

The Institute of Hematology and Transfusiology awarded Certificates of Appreciation to each participant.

Company employees will continue participation in the campaign in future and gratuitously donate blood for saving human life.

### Amelioration works in Shida Kartli

14 March

Minister of Agriculture Otar Danelia got familiar with the progress of operation works on the irrigation schemes at the village Tskhramukha of Kashuri region.

Within operation works "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd under the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing restoration works on a 7 km long reach of two distribution canals of Tashiskari irrigation scheme on the territory of the village Tskhramukha. The aforementioned distribution canals serve to the irrigation of 900 ha of agricultural land area. After completion of works on 120 ha of land area up to 250 households will have opportunity to restore agricultural activities that haven't been carried out for decades. The ongoing works with total cost of GEL 26 000 will be completed by the end of April of the current year. General Director of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd Levan Dvali introduced ongoing rehabilitation works of amelioration schemes in Shida Kartli to the Minister of Agriculture.





In 2012, 11000 ha of agricultural land area was supplied with irrigation water in Shida Kartli region. For the last three years, within 30 rehabilitation projects of amelioration infrastructure works have been carried out on 380 km long irrigation canal. Consequently area of water supplied land plots increased up to 18 700 ha.

### Presentation of Amelioration Infrastructure Projects

18 March





The Regional Director of Kakheti Region of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd Nikoloz Kurtishvili met with the Governors of Sagarejo and Gurjaanis Municipalities Giorgi Gzirishvili and Givi Gergidze. They discussed the current situation on irrigation systems in the municipality. The Regional Director made a presentation and discussed every rehabilitation project, which is planned to be implemented by the Company in Sagarejo Municipality.

Nikoloz Kurtishvili spoke about the "Mobile Amelioration Service" which implies the use of mobile pumping stations. This service has made possible to irrigate such agricultural lands, where water irrigation was impedimental supplied.

Mobile pumping stations will also be used in case of lack of water in irrigation systems and other unforeseen circumstances. Nikoloz Kurtishvili also spoke about the use of modern irrigation systems and their positive sides. Drip and sprinkler irrigation methods are much more effective than traditional gravity flood because it needs twice less electricity, water and fertilizer and significantly increases the yield.

Workshop was held in question-answer mode. Both sides decided to cooperate closely and involve the population in this process.

# Meeting with fish breeding farmers in Kakheti region

22 March



Under the initiative of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd and the Ministry of Agriculture with the support of Trades Union of Agricultural Employees meeting with fish breeding farmers has been held in Kakheti region.

Deputy Minister of Agriculture David Galegashvili, General Director of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd Levan Dvali, Head of Sectorial Development Division of the Ministry of Agriculture Archil Partsvania, representatives of Projects Management Agency and Scientific-Research Center have attended the meeting.

According to "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd scale of fish breeding farms has increased in recent years. In 2015 Company supplied water to more than 1600 ha of fish farms that underlines the significance of rational use of water resources in fish farms.

The aforementioned issue represented one of the themes of the presentation made by specialists of pisciculture sector of the Ministry of Agriculture. The specialists introduced information on new systems of aquaculture, perspectives of sector technological development to fish breeding farmers.

Representatives of Projects Management Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture introduced information on agriculture supporting projects and perspectives of agro-credits for fish breeding sector to the farmers.

The meeting proceeded in the format of discussion. Farmers expressed their opinion about current problems in the sector, ways of their solution and needs. An accent was made on the lack of theoretical knowledge in the sector for the last decades that is important for enhancing effectiveness of fish breeding farms. Farmers appraised positively the initiative on cooperation between different agencies of the Ministry of Agriculture and fish breeding farmers within the support of sector development.

# Working meeting with Shida Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti region authorities concerning amelioration systems

26 March



"Georgian Amelioration" Ltd Director of Shida Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti region Vakhtang Gardapkhadze held working meetings with Kareli, Mtskheta, Kaspi, Gori, Akhaltsikhe, Aspindza, Ninotsminda, Adigeni and Akhalkalaki municipality governors.

During the meeting they discussed the regulation of amelioration systems and planned projects in municipalities, which will be carried out by "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd.

The regional Director made a presentation and discussed in details all planned projects, which will be carried out in the nearest future by the company. Implementation of rehabilitation projects will improve one year and perennial cultures with water supplies, increasing the average per-hectare yield.

During the meeting Vakhtang Gardapkhadze also discussed the operational works planned on the amelioration infrastructure.



The working meeting was held in question-answer regime, which was attended by information-consulting service directors of the Ministry of Agriculture and municipalities in administrative units. They had opportunity to express own opinions regarding the project.

Similar working meetings will be held in

Similar working meetings will be held in all municipalities of Shida Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions.

### Rehabilitation of the canal in Duisi

28 March



Minister of Agriculture Otar Danelia, Governor of Kakheti region Irakli Shiolashvili and General Director of "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd visited the village Duisi in Pankisi Canyon, where they inspected rehabilitated irrigation canal and met local population.

Population of Pankisi Canyon referred to the Minister of Agriculture with the request to arrange the irrigation scheme at the meeting held on March 16 in the village Duisi. Otar Danelia promised them to solve the problem in accelerated pace. Section of the irrigation scheme on which rehabilitation works hadn't been carried out for 30 years have already been rehabilitated. "Georgian Amelioration" Ltd of the Ministry of Agriculture has performed rehabilitation works on the 2 km long reach of the canal in the village Duisi, arranged headwork and regulation gate.



As a result of undertaken rehabilitation works, 70 ha of land area will be supplied with water by irrigation season in the village Duisi. Implementation of melioration projects will be gradually continued in the Canyon.



"It's a priority for us to support borderline and high mountainous villages. Several days ago, while meeting with population of Pankisi Canyon the issue of irrigation water arose. We've carried out works and today, water has already been released in the canal. Regarding agriculture Pankisi Canyon has a huge resource, allowing to implement interesting projects.

What is very significant, there is huge interest from the youth and we'll endeavor to implement interesting projects" – Otar Danelia said.

"Georgian Amelioration" Ltd of the Ministry of Agriculture has completed 25 rehabilitation projects of amelioration infrastructure in Kakheti region, including 3 projects in Akhmeta municipality from 2012 up today. As a result of conducted rehabilitation works water supplied areas have been increased from 6000 ha up to 13600 ha since 2012 up today.

Governor of Kakheti region Irakli Shiolashvili during his meeting with population mentioned that in Pankisi Canyon infrastructure projects are held every day, but still there is a lot of things to be done. Implementation of melioration projects will be gradually continued and Pankisi Canyon will become one of the most successful and developed regions.

According to Pankisi Valley elder board's representative Khanso Khangoshvili it is worth to appreciate that the Minister has kept his promise and the problem of irrigation water supply has been solved in a short period of time. Mentioned canal is not only used to irrigate agricultural land but it also supplies water to 5 mills. Therefore it has a double importance for the Valley's population.

In order to honor the guests, horse racing was held at the end of the meeting.