

# Strengthening Women's Capacity for Peace- building in the South Caucasus

In February 2010, CARE International in the Caucasus together with 6 partner organizations launched a three-year project "Strengthening Women's Capacity for Peace-building in the South Caucasus".

The project's objective is to support partner NGOs from across the South Caucasus to create an enabling environment where marginalized women from conflict-affected communities can protect their rights and take active part in decision-making.

Alongside increasing the capacity of the partner NGOs, the project aims to benefit 1500-2000 marginalized women in 20-24 conflict-affected communities in Armenia, Azerbaijan proper, Nagorno Karabakh, Georgia proper and Abkhazia.

The project aims to achieve the following results:

- Partners organizations have developed sustainable capacity to empower marginalized women from conflict-affected communities so their rights are better protected, and their confidence and skills to engage actively in society and decision-making are increased;
- 1500-2000 women from marginalized/conflict-affected target communities have built skills to better analyze and articulate key human security concerns, forming the basis for advocacy activities towards decision-makers;
- Lessons learned of women activists and beneficiaries are made available and exchanged at national, regional and international levels;
- CARE and the partner organizations are actively engaged with national, regional and international actors on key aspects as regards the realization of the objectives of UNSCR 1325/UNSCR 1820 in the South Caucasus and advocate for improved realization.

The project activities are built around tailor-made capacity building workshops for the partner organizations, information meetings in 35 conflict-affected communities, trainings in 20-24 target communities, further capacity building of core activists and provision of local expertise to them, local community mobilization/advocacy initiatives to increase gender equality as well as media outreach aimed at raising broader awareness among stakeholders about women's right and gender equality concerns in relation to peace-building in the South Caucasus. The project also envisages production of a report assessing key aspects of the realization of the UNSCR 1325 and the UNSCR 1820 in the South Caucasus, including analysis of actions required and ways forward.

The project is funded by the European Union (EU) (for more information please visit: <http://ec.europa.eu/world/>) and Austrian Development Cooperation and Cooperation for Eastern Europe (ADC). The total budget for the project is 1,319,988 EURO.

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