Community Needs and Assets Assessment

Preliminary Assessment of Bareti and Sabechisi Villages in Tsalka Municipality, Georgia
September 1-10, 2017

Bilkis Bharucha, UC Davis RIFA Fellow for Bediani Children’s Center
Research Questions

1. Identify the needs and available resources of Bareti and Sabechisi
2. Identify any direct impact of the farm’s water use
3. Inform long-term farm planning based on community needs
Bareti

1. 8 households
   - Primarily Svaneti, Azerbaijani
   - Varying occupations, farm sizes, gender majority in household

2. School, BCC farm, clinic, marriage house, soccer field, youth center, store, village head
Sabechisi

1. 4 households
   - Primarily Ajarian
   - Varying occupations, farm sizes
     gender majority in household

2. Store, marriage house, school,
   youth center
Demographics
Ethnicity and Language

Demographic Information: Ethnicity (Language)
- Svaneti (Georgian): 107
- Azeri (Azerbaijani): 46
- Estonian (Russian): 2
- Ajarian (Azerbaijani): 15
- Greek (Georgian): 12
- Kurdish (Georgian): 2

Sacehishi (103 families)
- Svaneti (Georgian): 40
- Azeri (Azerbaijani): 10
- Greek (Russian): 5
- Ajarian (Georgian): 40
- Absent: 43
Land Size and Occupations

Land Size of Selected Families (by Village)

All Occupations by Gender
Community Resources and Assets
1. Communal Water Pump
2. Draft Horse
3. Home Garden and Grain Mill
4. Woodworking and Beekeeping
5. Household Tools (Cheese Vat, Milker, Root Cellar)
6. Machinery
Timeline: 1990 - present

- In Soviet-era Bareti, farmers work on kolkhoz (collective farm) cultivating wheat. After the war, land is divided and agriculture becomes mechanized reducing the need for farm labor. (1960 - 1990)
- USSR collapses, Greek and Armenian families leave Bareti. (1990 - 2002)
- Each resettled migrant family (mainly from Adjara) receives 1.25 ha, through the Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation. (2006 - 2008)
- Permanent households in Tsalka municipality (who had not received land) receive a presidential gift of 0.31 ha under Sakashvili. (2008 - 2011)
- Young men begin leaving to look for jobs and higher education in Tbilisi and abroad (Turkey, Germany). (2011 - 2017)
- Tsalkanomi digs 2 wells unsuccessfully in Bareti, and 2 wells in Livadi which pump to Bareti, but water is not clean and fully available. The well dug in Sabechisi is successful and provides clean water. (2012)
- Government will build a concrete road from Imera to Tejisi (passing through Bareti and Sabechisi). (2018)
- German government sponsors a large primary and secondary school in Bareti. (2003)
- Renovate house into primary school for 50 children in Sabechisi. (2006)
- Plans to renovate school's swimming pool and build children's nursery in Bareti; build youth center in Sabechisi. (2017 - 2020)
Cropping Practices

Marketed Products

Household Animals and Crops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>&lt; 4ha</th>
<th>&gt; 4ha</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calves</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hay</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal/Crop</th>
<th># of Families</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs &amp; Vegetables</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hay, oats, white beets</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep, pigs, chickens</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beehives</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Village Seasonal Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor (Male)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Till ground and plant potatoes (tractor)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cut hay (baler, mower)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dig (tractor) and harvest potatoes (labor)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor (Female)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plant home garden vegetables</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Harvest garden vegetables</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor (Female)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Take care of cows; household work</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor (Other)</td>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>Less work</td>
<td>May hail or late winter</td>
<td>Hail</td>
<td>Hail (4-5 times a year)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Winter (some flooding)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration</td>
<td>Workers go to Turkey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Young men go to Turkey; (e.g. milking, driving forklift)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Absent landowners visit in summer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Skills
Labor Availability and Skills

Available Male Labor by Age Group

Available Female Labor by Age Group

- Available Labor (Bareli)
- Available Labor (Sabchisi)
- Fully employed or retired
- Fully employed (household / other work)
Wages

Daily Income Range (Agricultural Labor)

- Plowing* (4 ha/day)
- Mowing hay* (4 ha/day)
- Baling Hay*
- Harvesting potatoes
- Est. daily minimum
- Milking 20 cows/day
- Herding (60 cows)

GEL/day
*machinery and labor
Challenges and Limitations
Development Challenges

Agricultural Limitations & Challenges

- Machinery: 3 < 4ha, 5 > 4ha
- Farm Land: 3 < 4ha, 2 > 4ha
- Pasture: 3 < 4ha

Other Limitations & Challenges

- Roads: 4 < 4ha, 7 > 4ha
- Drinking Water: 7 < 4ha, 1 > 4ha
- Weather: 4 < 4ha, 4 > 4ha
- Other: 4 < 4ha, 4 > 4ha
Interest in the New Farm

Interest in the BCC Farm

![Bar chart showing interest in the BCC Farm by farmers and non-farmers across different categories: Testing New Crops and Marketability, Other, Jobs, Trainings. The chart indicates a higher interest among farmers compared to non-farmers for each category.](#)
Farm Plans
Timeline of activities on Bareti Farm

- 2017
  - Purchase tractor for autumn plowing
  - Build greenhouses, develop heating (hazelnut shells), propagate herbs (in Bediani)
  - Investigate drying facility/room

- 2018
  - Plant raspberry, honeyberry
  - Install electricity on the farm
  - Transport greenhouses from Bediani; begin full production of herbs
  - Develop irrigation ditch, maybe install pump
  - Begin field production
Community Involvement: September 2017

- Begin building, heating and propagation of herbs in a greenhouse in Bediani

- Provide training for interested farmers to build greenhouses on their own land, with the option to grow and sell herbs to the farm next year.

- The current training is based on participatory-learning, or learn-by-doing. The training will be conducted in Bediani
Community Involvement: 2018

- Offer 1 ha. of land on the farm for local farmers to experiment and test new crops, technologies, or management practices. Farmers can access all machinery, tools, irrigation and expertise available on the farm. Will initially try to train 5 young men and 5 young women.

- If farmers are interested in growing berries and the farm will sell starts, help establish market relationships.

- Hire out our tractor locally since there is a shortage of high-quality tractors. Can also provide tractor trainings to anyone who is interested.

- Employment in greenhouses (year-round) and for berry harvest (summer).

- Develop an educational strategy and certified trainings in agriculture. Topics might include plant propagation, harvesting, drying, greenhouse building, marketing, business development
Thank You!