

BREN in Georgia

A SNAPSHOT

DRAFT 17 MARCH 2023



Marneuli Youth for Change

Prevention for Progress (PFP) in partnership with the youth organisation Civic Engagement and Equality Center (CEAC) implemented the project Marneuli Youth for Change. The project included activities to increase the participation of ethnic and religious minorities in the political life of Marneuli municipality. A participant of the public debate organised by PFP shared her experience:



Story: I am Aytach Dashdimirova, I am 17 years old, I am a member of the youth club of the Civil Employment Center, and at the same time, I am a participant of the “Marneuli Youth for Changes” project and one of the winners of the debate competition held within the project.

Participating in the public debate has positively affected me in many ways. I learned that working with a team is not as difficult as I imagined, and I also discovered that I have a leadership spirit and the energy to drive things. I learned how important it is to pay attention to details and the ability to research. In addition to these, I realised the greatness of the irreplaceable influence of body language on human psychology. When I participated in the debate competition, I saw that there are many social problems and the active participation of young people in the process of solving these problems is very important.



I believe that I will actively use the information obtained during this debate in the future.

PFP conducted research to identify the needs of young people residing in Marneuli.

Key Findings:

- Only 0.215% of the total self-government budget, which is 110,000 GEL, is allocated for the needs of the young population.
- Budget planning is not open for discussion and is not publicly shared by the local government.
- The local government doesn't organise public discussions and forums and is mostly late in sharing public information.

- Young people are not motivated to engage in local political life and see no possibility to achieve change due to existing practices.
- Respondents consider that the local government meets the needs of villages populated by ethnic Georgians but not other ethnicities such as Azeri and Armenian.

Based on these results, PFP developed recommendations and suggestions for the local government, to include the needs and interests of young people, ethnic and religious minorities.

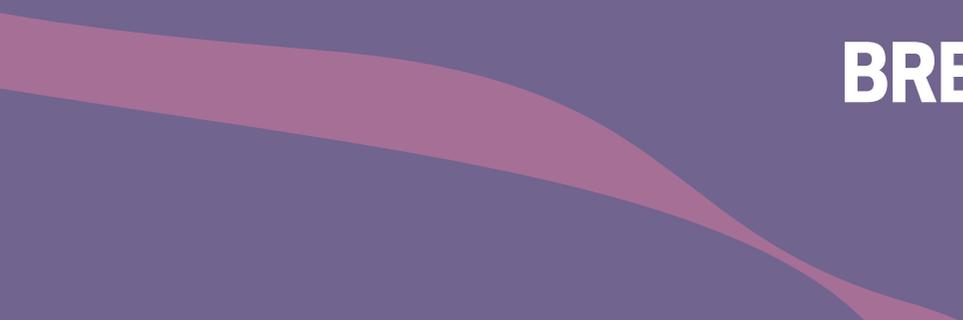
Impact:

Local government increased the budget for youth sport and cultural activities by 82% compared to 2022.

PFP created communication material and organised public debates with the representatives of local minorities to increase awareness on the challenges of young representatives of ethnic and/or religious minorities and to engage them in local political activities:

- 3 video blogs - [Video 1](#) - [Video 2](#) - [Video 3](#) - Total: 17,000 views
- 5 video clips - [Video 1](#) - [Video 2](#) - [Video 3](#) - [Video 4](#) - [Video 5](#) - Total: 29,500 views
- 1 [video interview](#) - 11,000 views

PFP also conducted a number of capacity building training sessions for its partner organisation CEAC. For the first time, CEAC now has an organisational and communication strategy.



BREN in Georgia

A SNAPSHOT