

CUNA GEORGICA, NGO, Tiflis, Georgien

## **PROJEKT-LISTE**

**Stand Anfang 2016**

Die CUNA Georgica, Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Kultur und Natur, 1992 als NGO gegründet, kann man mit Fug und Recht als die Mutter der CAUCASAN GmbH bezeichnen. Denn im Rahmen ihrer Projekte rund um die beiden inhaltlichen Pole

- Naturschutz und
- Dorfentwicklung

reifte die CAUCASAN Idee, die 1996 dann auch verwirklicht wurde.

Um die inhaltlich systematisch aufeinander aufbauende Arbeit rund um die CAUCASAN GmbH zu dokumentieren, stellen wir hier die gesamte Projektliste vor. Weil es oft internationale Projekte waren, ist sie in englischer Sprache.

### **Wild Plants and Fruits**

1994: Long time project: Supporting the Traditional Utilization of Medicinal Herbs in Georgia. Details:

- establishing a data base for the medicinal plants of Georgia, including their habitat and density of growth, and the botanical and pharmaco chemical information relevant to the sustainable utilization of these herbs; co-operation with the Ministry of Environment.
- forming working groups to improve the economic utilization of medicinal herbs; \* finding suitable local and foreign marketing partners;
- encouraging the cultivation of medicinal plants in selected areas;
- publishing and distributing information on growing, collecting, processing and utilising medicinal plants.

The following publications have appeared:

1. On the use of Georgian medicinal herbs in treating general diseases: Heart and Blood circulation, Tbilisi 1996 (26 pp.); Stomach and Intestines, Tbilisi 1996 (32 pp.); Respiratory tract, Tbilisi 1996(24 pp.); System of nerves, Tbilisi 1996(28 pp.) (financed by MISEREOR).
2. The Database: Information about the actual status (IUCN criteria) of medicinal herbs in Georgia: Tbilisi, July 1998 (13 pp.). Tbilisi, March 1999 (15 pp.). Tbilisi, October 1999 (17 pp). Tbilisi 2000 (financed by GTZ/WWF). Tbilisi 2002 (financed by Private Stiftung).
3. Giuli Kikawa: Methods to calculate the actual resources of medicinal herbs. Tbilisi 1998 (78 pp.), (financed by MISEREOR).

4. Standards for medicinal herbs: The EURO-Standards of medicinal herbs. Tbilisi 1999 (86pp.), (financed by MISEREOR).
5. Proved methods to grow the most important medicinal herbs of Georgia. Tbilisi 1999 (124 pp.), (financed by MISEREOR).

1996: Pilot project: Botanical research on the status of rare medicinal plants of Georgia (financed by WWF UK).

1996-1999: Long-time project: Supporting the Traditional Use of Medicinal Plants, including the collection, analysis and distribution of herbal recipes. The following publications have appeared:

1. CUNA Georgica / Flora: The medicinal herbs of Georgia, Tbilisi 1998 (84 pp.);
2. Liana Gogischaischwili: Medicinal herbs for women, Tbilisi 1998 (180 pp.), (financed by GTZ)

1998-2000: The project 'Promotion of Medicinal Plant Cultivation & Use around Protected Areas' includes:

- updating the data base on medicinal plants in Georgia;
- identifying and establishing model sites for the cultivation of rare medicinal plants and for seed production;
- supporting the growing of medicinal herbs in selected areas as part of a village development program;
- advising on the drafting of a law on the sustainable use of wild plants and establishing a structure for certification. (financed by WWF)

1999: Development of a program for collecting/growing and export-marketing of natural products. To support small scale farming and collecting of wild plants and fruits within the support zone of N.P. Borjomi/Kharagauli (financed through GOPA/ KfW).

2002 to 2004: Promoting the Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants Resources in Caucasus Ecoregion (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia), a three year program of WWF Georgia in cooperation with CUNA Georgica. The aim is to promote sustainable use of medicinal plant resources in order to slow down the disappearance of wild medicinal plants and to increase socio-economic level of rural communities, (financed by SDC, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation).

2002: Establishing Village Production of Nature Products in Georgia`s Javakheti Region. Program to help villagers in producing, processing and marketing nature products. Proposal within the frame of KfW`s Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Program in the Caucasus Region, (financed through AHT/ KfW).

2003: Adigeni Rayon Beekeepers Association Development Program Participating in developing and organizing the training of beekeepers, elaborating proposals for the processing and marketing of honey, (financed by DEFID SLAAR– Georgia).

2005 to 2006: The Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Opportunities for Local Communities of Support Zones of the Kholkheti National Park, Feasibility Study and Preplanning. This project is conducted in cooperation with DIPE, the Interdisciplinary Institute for Environmental Research, Athens, (financed by Hellenic Aid Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece).

2007 – 2008: Establishing the N.P. Mtirala (WWF - Georgia project); Udo Hirsch/CUNA-Georgica: Development of a Support Zone. Program for the Mtirala N.P., funded by WWF C.Office Georgia.

2008: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Opportunities for Local Communities of Support Zone of Kolkheti N.P.: Updating and Extending Selected Project Proposals for Distribution to Communities. Funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Greece.

2009 – 2013: Amelioration and support to export economically important species of Adjara wild flora from the buffer zone of Mtirala National Park. Project of the association Mta-Bari, Batumi, in cooperation with CUNA Georgica/CWC: Developing practical tools for controlling the sustainable cultivation of Galanthus and Cyclamen as a precondition for export marketing. (Funded by Eurasian Fund for Cooperation).

## **Horticulture**

1994: Long time project for the development of private biological horticulture in Georgia, in cooperation with ELKANA (Association of Ecological Farmers in Georgia). Details include:

- organizing seminars and workshops on ecological horticulture;
- helping horticultural farmers to produce and market their products;
- preparing and publishing primers on biological horticulture.

The following publications have already appeared:

1. Biological Horticulture, vol.1, Tbilisi 1997 (116 pp.);
2. Biological Horticulture, vol.2, Tbilisi 1999 (100 pp., financed by MISEREOR).

1996-1999: Long-term project in support of biological horticulture, including research into the cultivation of fruits and vegetables in co-operation with ELKANA Publication: " The private Garden: Growing Fruits and Legumes, Tbilisi 1998 (52pp.) (financed by GTZ).

## **Environment, Wildlife and Forestry**

1993: Training of Georgian scientists at German environmental institutions (financed by GTZ)

1996: Javakheti High Plateau: Development of a first draft for the Protection and Sustainable Utilization of Natural Resources (financed by WWF International).

1996-1998: "GEORGIA Pro-Environmental Co-operation" This study was carried out to provide background information to the German Government for German/Georgian co-operation on environmental matters (financed by GTZ).

1997/98: Bird surveys in different areas of Georgia: A. Kandaurov and D. Tarkhnischvili: The Definition of Important Bird Areas (IBA) in relation to the TRACECA project (financed by OSME and Private Stiftung).

Since 1994: Project to support the Sustainable utilization of "Abies Nordmanniana" excursions to the stands of the Nordmannstanne, carried out in co-operation with Prof. Jürgen Matschke of the Versuchszentrum des Gartenbaus der Landwirtschaftskammer Westfalen-Lippe, Münster, and Mr. Karl Moser of the Geigle Forst- und Gehölzsamen, Nagold, Germany.

1995/96: further excursions to the above sites, this time with officials of the Georgian Ministry of Environment; collection of soil samples and cones; investigation into fungal and parasitic attacks on these trees and research into their genetic properties.

1997/98: Additional excursions to the above sites to investigate genetic origins and hereditary factors, and to mark out stands of Abies nordmanniana suitable for planting in Western Europe (financed by Geigle, Germany)

1999/2002: Regular fieldwork in three Abies nordmanniana areas to define best mother-trees for sustainable seed harvesting (financed by Geigle, Germany)

1998: Feasibility study and workshops to: Stop the Destructive Erosion in Mestia, Swanetia. The study and the workshops were held by CUNA Georgica and local NGO's in cooperation with the clan elders from Mestia to discuss and decide for actions to stop local erosion, to safe protective forests, to restore the damaged houses and to write project proposals to possible donors (financed by CUNA Georgica and Private Stiftung).

1999: Potential- and Feasibility Study, Rehabilitation of Communal Infrastructure in the support zone of the Borjomi/Kharagauli National park. Gopa-Consultants, Integration Frankfurt, CUNA Georgica, Tbilisi, Georgia (financed by KfW, Germany)

2001: Installation and running of a large Solar Tunnel Dryer in Kharagauli. The solar dryer will help the local woman, members of CUNA's Village Development Program, to support high quality production and marketing of wild fruits and herbs (financed by the German Embassy, Tbilisi).

2001: Cooperation and Networking of NGO's between Greece and Black Sea Countries in the Field of Promoting Public Awareness over Environmental Issues. Greece, Georgia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Romania, see: [www.cuth.org/blacksea](http://www.cuth.org/blacksea) (financed by OECD/DAC Program).

2001: Research on distribution, abundance and threat of wild Galanthus populations in Georgia and fact finding mission of CITES Germany to Southwest Georgia/Adjara in cooperation with CITES Scientific Authority of Germany (financed by CITES Germany, BFN Bonn).

2002: Elaboration of a Vision of an Ecoregional Conservation Plan and Proposal of a Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Program in the Caucasus Region: Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan. AHT International, Taesco, CUNA Georgica CUNA Georgica concentrated on the elaboration of a Regional Village Development Program as support program to the proposed National Park Samtskhe-Javakheti (financed by KfW, Germany).

### **Small Scale Initiatives**

1992: A service was started to provide translations primarily into and from the Georgian language. Local free-lance translators of proven ability are on call to provide this service (CUNA Georgica).

1993: A training program (crash courses) was set up for German and English teachers of the Institute of Foreign Languages in Tbilisi on how to teach, using modern instruction methods (CUNA Georgica and German highschool).

Since 1994: Provision of humanitarian aid to people in regions covered by CUNA Georgica's project work, supported by "Freunde Georgiens in Deutschland e.V." and by private donations.

1995: Building and equipping smoking rooms to further the production of sausages and ham in the villages of Muchrani and Ikoti (financed by Private Stiftung).

1995-1998: Collecting information for an archive on the history of German settlers in the Caucasus (initial financial support provided by the German Embassy in Tbilisi).

1996: Providing the equipment to a privately owned meat processing plant for the production of sausages (donation of "Megrobari" Germany).

1997: Organization and opening of the 'Goethe Buchhandlung' in Tbilisi. In this bookshop, German school-books and general literature are sold. There is also a reading corner and a second-hand book department (financed by Private Stiftung).

1997-2003: Running the "Goethe Buchhandlung" in Tbilisi.

### **Conferences and Seminars**

1993: Planning and realization of a seminar on "Management Plans For National Parks in Georgia in Borjomi". Participants included members of the Ministry of Environment, of the Department for Protected Areas, the Department of Forestry, the WWF Office Georgia, several NGO's and other local representatives. Lectures were delivered by Dr. Götz Schürholz, Dr. Klaus Thiele, and Prof. Dr. Hermann Soell (financed by GTZ/WWF).

1994: Planning and organization of a seminar on "Environmental Conservation Laws for Georgia". The Seminar's objective is to formulate and propose environmental conservation laws for Georgia. The conclusions reached were discussed with members of the Georgian Parliament. German advisers: Prof. Dr. Hermann Soell of the Faculty of Law, University of Regensburg, and Mr. Claus Carlsen, senior advisor of the Ministry of the Environment of Schleswig-Holstein (financed by GTZ).

1996: Planning and organization of a conference: First International Conference on Sustainable Forest Management on April 28-30 1996 in Tabachmela (financed by GTZ).

1999: Workshop and analyse of existing natural products in Achalziche, Niche production and marketing for villagers (financed by CUNA Georgica).

1999: Seminar on: The Wild Plants Certification Program. Different Certification Programs were discussed, stakeholders developed tools to secure the sustainable use and the natural quality of nature products (financed by Private Stiftung).

2000: Workshop I. and II. in Batumi: Planning and Implementing a Village Development Program in Adjara (financed by CUNA Georgica).

2000: Workshop on Wild Plants Certification Program. Development Standards for Voluntary Wild Plants Certification Program (financed by WWF Georgia/International).

2001: Workshop on: Development of an action plan for sustainable use and marketing of nature products in Adjara. The workshop provided models and guidelines for the development of an action plan and proposed first pilot projects for implementation guidelines (financed by CUNA Georgica and Parliament of Adjara).