

PRESS RELEASE

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UNAG's Effort to Develop Media Skills in Batumi

Tbilisi, July 11, 2005. On July 12-14, 2005, the United Nations Association of Georgia will launch a three-day training session on the issues of effective communication and successful dialogue with different stakeholders at the UNA-Georgia Batumi Branch – Civil Support Center. The training is organized in the framework of the recently run project “Establishment of informal network between mass-media, non-governmental and governmental sectors” supported by the World Bank.

The main purposes of this project are to enhance the skills of journalists working in Adjara as well as to contribute to effective communication between the mass media, non-governmental, and governmental sectors.

In response to the need-assessment review carried out in the beginning of the project “New Adjara – New Challenges” (which is running by UNA-Georgia in Adjara with the support of the Catholic Relief Services) as well as feedback received from the NGOs, governmental representatives, and journalists, it became apparent that working with the media is of major importance in the region.

The three-day training package on media skill enhancement will include information for instructing participants on effective media work, communication, peace journalism etc.

The training will be facilitated by professional trainers from the Georgian NGO -Center for Change and Conflicts Management- “Partners Georgia”. Up to 20 representatives from Batumi media outlets and local interested NGOs are invited to participate in the training.

In addition, in the framework of the WB project, at least two round-table discussions between the NGO, the governmental and media sectors centered on certain local issues will also be organized. This discussion would aim to foster communication among the various sectors and assist the local actors in determining ways in which certain local problems could be solved.

For more information about UNA Georgia's operations in Autonomous Republic of Adjara, please visit: www.una.ge or contact:

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