Internally Displaced Persons in Georgia  
- Challenges for Change

C-thesis/C-uppsats (Bachelor thesis)  
Course: IM103E - Spring semester 2011

Malmö University - Faculty of Culture and Society (KS)  
The Department of Language, Migration and Society (SMS)

Supervised by Ph.D Maria Appelqvist  
Examined by Dimosthenis Chatzoglakis  
Written by Mikael Åhlin (Student ID# TNT04181/Personal no. 810118-0019)

[Keywords: Internal displacement, internally displaced persons, IDPs, Zugdidi, Samegrelo, Georgia]
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract ................................................................................................................................................. 3
Acknowledgements ................................................................................................................................. 4
Abbreviations ........................................................................................................................................... 5
Introduction ............................................................................................................................................... 6
Background ............................................................................................................................................... 7
Aim and importance of the thesis .......................................................................................................... 9
Research questions and hypotheses ..................................................................................................... 9
Methodology ............................................................................................................................................ 9

## PART 1. Previous research .................................................................................................................. 10

### Chapter 1. IDPs

#### Section 1. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement .................................................. 12
#### Section 2. Critique ....................................................................................................................... 13
#### Section 3. Vulnerability ............................................................................................................... 15

### Chapter 2. IDPs in the Samegrelo region

#### Section 1. Ethnicity ....................................................................................................................... 16
#### Section 2. Amounts of IDPs ........................................................................................................ 17
#### Section 3. Vulnerability ............................................................................................................... 18

### Paragraph 1. Unemployment and absence of immovable and other properties, housing and shelter .......................................................... 19
### Paragraph 2. Absence of access to adequate healthcare ................................................................. 20
### Paragraph 3. Absence of access to adequate education and unawareness of one's rights .......... 22
### Paragraph 4. Rights ..................................................................................................................... 23
### Paragraph 5. Social discrimination and passiveness ..................................................................... 24

### Chapter 3. Foreign aid

#### Section 1. OECD policy institutions for foreign aid ................................................................. 25
#### Section 2. Foreign aid to IDPs in the Samegrelo region ............................................................ 28

### Chapter 4. NGOs

#### Section 1. International NGOs and Local NGOs in the Samegrelo region ............................ 30

## PART 2. Case study .......................................................................................................................... 32

### Introduction ....................................................................................................................................... 32

### A case study of a development project .......................................................................................... 32

### Background ...................................................................................................................................... 32

### Internship at the Human Rights Center in Zugdidi ...................................................................... 32

### Overcoming 17 years of previous failures of initiatives ............................................................... 34

### Khoibi Sports Palace - IDP collective center ............................................................................... 34

### Project team ..................................................................................................................................... 35

### Time .................................................................................................................................................. 35

### The project idea ............................................................................................................................... 36

### Agri-entrepreneurship project for IDYPs (Internally Displaced Young Persons) ...................... 37

### Funding .......................................................................................................................................... 37

### Sustainability .................................................................................................................................... 38

### Problems ......................................................................................................................................... 38

### Conclusion ....................................................................................................................................... 38

### References ....................................................................................................................................... 40
ABSTRACT
This thesis deals with Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) on global and local level. The research question deals with the problems associated with IDPs - what challenges IDPs are facing and the future prospects for IDPs worldwide and on local level in the Samegrelo region in Georgia. The thesis is divided into two parts: In the first part I define the IDPs using the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, the critique towards the Guiding Principles and a description of the vulnerability of IDPs worldwide. (Part 1, Chapter 1, Sections 1, 2 and 3). I continue to describe the IDPs on local level, paying special attention to those in the Samegrelo region, in Georgia. In addition, I point at a delicate issue regarding ethnicity. Further, I provide figures on the IDP population, by showing the massive IDP movement in 1994 and 2008. Further, I use a description to the Indicators of Vulnerability with regards to integration of IDPs in the region, and alongside with these indicators I contrast the content with the Government of Georgia Action Plan for the Implementation of the State Strategy for IDPs, and the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. (Chapter 2, Section 1, 2 and 3). In the following chapter I define foreign aid as a tool of policy and I point out the absence of earmarked Official Development Assistance (ODA) destined for IDPs, although there is earmarked ODA specified for Refugees according to ODA policy. ODA disbursements to Georgia indicate that a majority of the ODA is used as humanitarian aid and the traceable assistance directed to IDPs is predominantly humanitarian. (Chapter 3, Sections 1 and 2). A brief overview explains the transition from early rural cooperatives in the West, to the NGOs operating in post-Soviet states from early 1990s, within the sectors humanitarian and development assistance. Despite a long list with short-term hard and soft projects implemented by Local NGOs, the outcomes never reached sustainable levels. (Chapter 4, Section 1). Second part of the thesis encompass a case study of a development project I managed during an internship at the Human Rights Center of Georgia. I describe the conduct of the project and how the team, working together with young IDPs, achieved to formulate an idea for sustainable income generation. I also present the technicalities and the process on how we negotiated to convince the elder IDPs about cooperating with us on the idea and the project. I describe the process of renovating a food processing room at the collective center where the IDPs were living, and how this project was aborted due to lack of funds. (Part 2, Case study).
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to extend my gratitude towards my supervisor, Ph.D Maria Appelqvist, who made me complete this thesis, without your firm supervision this thesis would not have been completed.

I also wish to extend gratitude to all the people who gave me a chance to conduct my internship in Zugdidi, all the persons who has told me the most incredible stories about struggles and life in Samegrelo and in Abkhazia.

Mr. David Patsatsia, thank you for all the-never-ending discussions about the truth and the truth about humanity.

I thank my wife, Kristine, for the incredible support and the firmness that made me complete this thesis.
ABBREVIATIONS

ABL    Administrative Border Line
ACF/ACH Action Against Hunger
ADB    Asian Development Bank
AI    Amnesty International
APR    Annual Percentage Rate
CFL    Cease-fire Line
CHR    Commission on Human Rights
CoE    Council of Europe
CS    Conciliation Resources
DAC    Development Assistance Committee
DCD    Development Co-operation Directorate
DRC    Danish Refugee Council
EC    European Commission
ECOSOC Economic and Social Council
EU    European Union
EUMM   European Union Monitoring Mission
FAO    Food and Agriculture Organization (UN)
FO    Field Office
FORMIN Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland
FOZ    Field Office Zugdidi
GDD    Gross Domestic Debt
HRC    Human Rights Center of Georgia
HRW    Human Rights Watch
IAWG    Interagency Working Group (US)
IDMC   Internal Displacement Monitoring Center
IDA    International Development Association (WB fund)
IDP    Internally Displaced Person
ILO    International Labor Organization
IMF    International Monetary Fund
INGO    International NGO
IO    International Organization
IOM    International Organization for Migration
IWPR   Institute for War and Peace Reporting
MRA    Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation of Georgia
NAP    National Action Plan (Georgia)
NDC    Netherlands Development Cooperation
NGO    Non-governmental Organization
NIS    New Independent States
NRC    Norwegian Refugee Council
OCHA   UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODA    Official Development Assistance
OECD   Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PID    The Brookings Project on Internal Displacement
RFERL  Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty
SDA    Swiss Development Agency
Sida    Swedish international development cooperation
TI    Transparency International
UDHR   United Nations Declaration of Human Rights
UN    United Nations
UNCT   United Nations Country Team (Georgia)
UNDP   United Nations Development Program
UNFPA   United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR  United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF United Nations International Children's Fund
UNIFEM United Nations Development Fund for Women
US    United States (of America)
USAID  United States Agency for International Development
WB    The World Bank
WFP    World Food Program
WHO    World Health Organization
INTRODUCTION

The problematics with the increasing amounts of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are growing worldwide. This thesis address issues IDPs worldwide are facing, from a variety of perspectives. Attempts by the West to gain part control of the increasing numbers of IDPs has been on the drawing boards of the UN since the early 1990s, but very little has been achieved concerning the fact of existing international laws from 1977 that serves as protection for IDPs.

Foreign aid plays a significant role in the quest for finding ways to gain control of the IDP issue. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operate with little influence to sustain themselves including providing humanitarian assistance to IDPs. NGOs attempt the impossible to provide development assistance where budgets hardly covers humanitarian assistance.

The thesis address these areas despite the limited amount of available literature on how to conceptualize and analyze the chronic humanitarian crisis IDPs in the world, and with special attention to IDPs in the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region in Georgia, confront.

I will continue to refer to the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region simply as; the Samegrelo region.
From my own experiences, working in the field with IDPs, a case study on a small development project, I conducted in the Samegrelo region, serves as an example out of many initiatives that attempts to provide challenges for change for IDPs.

Probing the problems of the IDPs with the perspectives of international migration and ethnic relations has proven to serve well. The IDPs are migrants, internal migrants, who flee from armed conflict or man made or natural catastrophe. The ethnic perspective is of significance and complex especially concerning the Megrelians, a minority group with an unwritten language that differs from the Georgian language. They consider themselves both Megrelians, as a local identity, and Georgians, as national identity, which is confusing for someone who is a complete stranger to the topic.

**BACKGROUND**

While refugees are eligible to receive international protection and help under the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol, the international community is not under the same legal obligation to protect and assist internally displaced people. National governments have the primary responsibility for the security and well-being of all displaced people on their territory, but often they are unable or unwilling to live up to this obligation. In the absence of a single agency mandated to help Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), the international community has been trying to work together to develop adequate responses to the needs of the displaced within the framework of the "collaborative approach".

Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Center - *Who helps IDPs?*

Internally Displaced Persons, abbreviated IDPs, are people who flee from violence, armed conflict, human rights violations, natural or human-made disasters. The number of Internally Displaced Persons, IDPs, all over the world was estimated, at the end of 2010, to 27.5 million. The number of Geneva Convention (1951) Refugees, including (1967) Protocol Refugees, in the world was estimated, in the beginning of 2011, to 15.1 million.

What distinguishes IDPs from Refugees, is that refugees have rights in accordance to international conventions, the international community has an obligation to intervene and assist refugees once they have crossed an internationally recognized border. IDPs on the other hand are left to the fate and will of the ruling government within the territory or state.

The situation for IDPs in the Samegrelo region is marked by chronic humanitarian assistance since the first NGO was registered in the region in 1994. The collapse of the Soviet Union led to a stagnation of this area that previously belonged to one of the richest parts of the Soviet Union.
For IDPs that are within the de facto territory of Georgia, international conventions do not apply. Georgia, with its 6% IDP-population has for nearly two decades, failed to either integrate IDPs on de facto Georgian territory, or succeeded with returns in any larger numbers of IDPs.\(^5\)

The Georgian government received, after the 2008 'self-invasion' of South Ossetia, USD1 billion from the US alone,\(^6\) and from the EU more than EUR650 million; "[a] moral imperative to help Georgia" - as the President for the European Commission José Manuel Barroso expressed.\(^7\)

Part of the Official Assistance (OA) granted to Georgia in 2009 and forward, was intended to reach IDP-populations of Georgia; according to the donors conference monitored by the Human Rights Center, an amount of USD 4.5 billion. The gross domestic debt of Georgia was estimated, in 2011, to USD 9.3 billion.\(^8\)

Other types of monetary foreign aid is provided through different development cooperation agencies, from; Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Czech Republic, US, Canada and many others. These contributions are minimally provided for local NGOs, who apply for specific projects. Small and medium size grants target a wide array of areas often within socioeconomic development,\(^9\) renovation of school facilities, purchases of books for micro libraries, study-visits for children to visit museums in the capital among many things.

There are countless organizations, on international, national and local level in Georgia, who provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs. The largest international organizations present within the United Nations mandate are; UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNFPA, WFP, WHO, FAO, ILO among many.\(^10\) The UN-bodies work to various degree with IDPs, where for example UNHCR has the most concentrated work. Other international organizations operating in Georgia are within the EU-, US-, IMF-, IOM-, NRC-, DRC-, ACF/ACH- structures.

There are thousands of national and local NGOs in Georgia. The region I will be focusing on; Samegrelo, is where the highest, per capita concentration of IDPs are found in Georgia, NGOs are predominantly working with IDPs in a wide array of fields.
AIM AND IMPORTANCE OF THE THESIS
The thesis aims at examining the problems connected to Internally Displaced Persons; worldwide in general, and in the Samegrelo region, Georgia in particular. Further it examines the problems of foreign aid and the provisions for development aid and its impact through the assistance of local NGOs. The thesis examines the problems of IDPs, what hardships they undergo. It looks at the interaction between the concepts of foreign aid and NGOs. The importance of the thesis is thus based on these major interacting instances, and by highlighting the problems of IDPs from my own lessons learned from the Samegrelo region in Georgia.

RESEARCH QUESTION
The question I pose is: What are the problems IDPs are facing on global level, and on local level in the Samegrelo region, in Georgia?

METHODOLOGY

Introduction
The methodological approach used for the chapters of the thesis has predominantly been carried out by collecting information from several instances; academic volumes such as books and articles, databases, and online resources. A verbal statement was also used for clarification reasons at one point of the thesis. Some quantitative data was used for making two graphs where multiple sources were combined. A third graph was collected from an online resource. Statistics and data from government websites was collected and used in the thesis. The OECDs aidflows database, was used to substantiate parts of the thesis. A spreadsheet publicly available was used to extract figures from. For the second part of the thesis, a case study, was used with qualitative material.

The two parts of the thesis
In the first part there are three main theorized concepts that deserved multiple sources of information. For the first theorized concept of IDPs, resources of qualitative information was derived from; online resources, academic literature, international conventions and protocols, annual reports from international organizations and encyclopedias. Quantitative data was used for making two graphs where multiple sources were combined.

For the second theorized concept on foreign aid, resources of qualitative information was obtained from; online resources, academic literature and citing from OECD definitions of foreign aid. A graph was collected from OECDs aidflows database. A spreadsheet publicly available on the Ministry of Finance of Georgia’s online resource was used to extract figures from.
For the third theorized concept on NGOs, resources of qualitative information was obtained from; online resources, academic literature and a local database resource in Samegrelo (online resource).

In the second part of the thesis, consisting of a case study, a description with extensive depth is presented. It is a qualitative approach and spanned over a period of four months. It is systematically presented with separate parts that follow a chronological execution of events, enabling the reader to follow the sequences of events that took place in the Samegrelo region, at a IDP collective center.

PART 1. PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Introduction

The combination of the concepts of IDPs, foreign aid and NGOs, should be seen as supportive to the Case study and the Analysis in its whole. In this part I create the theoretical concepts of each topic without comparing and contesting theories as such, with few exceptions. The nature of the material is a combination of descriptions, facts and other selected material, that predominantly relate to the IDPs by addressing the chronic humanitarian and developmental situation in the Samegrelo region. The availability on academic literature relating to the specific problems of IDPs in the Samegrelo region is not available. There is no literature that directly target the IDP problem that concerns the IDPs with a Megrelian local identity and a Georgian national identity, even less so on descriptions of the ‘chronic’ as such. I make use of several sources of information; from reports produced by international organizations, who specializes on IDP monitoring, UNHCR reports on IDPs, the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the Government of Georgia Action Plan for the implementation of the State Strategy for Internally Displaced Persons.

In this part; Previous research, I attempt to provide an alternative perspective by including two interacting concepts; foreign aid and NGOs.

To theorize the IDPs I created a concept. The idea behind this was to make an image of the IDP; the IDP constructed as a person or body, differing from the Refugee, having specific non-convention or protocol Rights (The Guiding Principles of Internal Displacement), how IDPs were absorbed onto the UN agenda, the extreme vulnerability of the IDPs worldwide and in the Samegrelo region, how the international community takes the liberty in identifying the IDPs as “passive recipients of humanitarian aid”,11 responsibilities of the international community to intervene, the responsibility or assumed responsibility of states who hold IDP populations, addressing the problematic of sovereign states that manipulate the international community, the issues relating to IDPs as being depoliticized and denationalized, how global sovereignty is part of
the problem with regards to the deadlock that IDPs find themselves in in many cases, the lack of one single agency or supranational authority (i.e. UN structure or similar) that could presumably work exclusively with the 27 million (graph on following page) IDPs worldwide, luring examples of development when humanitarian assistance is still highly needed, on the local level; how IDPs are caught between ethnic majorities and are being used as an instrument on international political agendas without being represented by their own ethnic minority, the issues related to IDP integration and return - and how this is politicized thus leading to augmented suffering for IDPs, clarified vulnerabilities of IDPs by international organizations operating in the region attempting to promote integration of IDPs; “[u]nemployment, absence of immovable and other properties, absence of adequate housing and shelter, absence of access to adequate healthcare, absence of access to adequate education, unawareness of one’s rights, social discrimination and social passiveness”,12 the coming generations of IDPs and IDP children (discrimination problems).

![Number of IDPs and Refugees in the world (millions)](image)

Sources (combined): Third World Quarterly, IDMC and UNHCR.13

The section regarding foreign aid indicate a ‘blind spot’ with regards to Official Development Assistance (ODA), the lack of direct aid targeted towards IDPs and the presence of Refugee aid, how aid is channelled to IDPs although there is no supranational body coordinating the aid destined for IDPs, the tremendous amounts of foreign aid that was earmarked for IDPs and the lack of control and evaluation of aid impact, how international political interests identify the Georgian government as a superficial intermediate of Western influence in the South Caucasus as a whole, and how the status quo on this intermediate position is recreated (esp. with regards to most recent events of political and civil unrest in Georgia).
The section on NGOs describes the chronic situation that many NGOs in the Samegrelo region has been confined to; small initiatives of foreign aid destined for improvement of the humanitarian crisis IDPs have been living in for nearly 20 years, how NGOs have been part of the globalization process of human rights, politics, communication and more, with the faith to make a difference and create change - and the studies that indicate the opposite of the entire NGO community in post-Soviet states; NGOs still “function poorly” and have “[w]eak links to their own societies”\textsuperscript{14}, how NGOs in the Samegrelo region are working with tiny means of humanitarian aid to sustain the well-being of IDPs, how IDPs and NGOs are still in the waiting room to be called upon for more serious international and national efforts that have the intention to drastically change the humanitarian crisis IDPs are in.

Chapter 1. IDPs
Previous research within the academic literature dealing with the IDP problem is based on interdisciplinary approaches. The available material is scarce and is mainly concentrated to the topics of international politics, human rights, peace and conflict, and internal displacement (i.e. IDPs) as a global phenomenon.\textsuperscript{15} Seshadri points out the scarcity of literature on the IDP topic, but also proposes an explanation for why the IDP topic is not represented in the literature in comparison to the topic on Refugees, despite the nearly doubled number of IDPs in comparison to the Refugees in the world.\textsuperscript{16} She explains that the topic on IDPs is a “blind spot” in the analysis of globalization, and that IDPs is a “symptom” - a neglected symptom, or as she uses the term “scotomized symptom” - on “[h]ow global sovereignty functions today as an epistemological regime.”\textsuperscript{17} She proves a point but addresses a far too theoretical approach that would support my thesis constructively, and without considering the dynamics of foreign aid, and local representations of IDPs, the NGOs.

Section 1. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement
In 1992, the UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali\textsuperscript{18} appointed Francis M. Deng, “[a] senior fellow at the Brookings Institution” under a mandate by the UN Commission on Human Rights, to conduct an independently financed project on internal displacement.\textsuperscript{19}

The international definition of the concept; Internally Displaced Persons, is found in ”The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement” prepared by the Brookings Institution under ”The Brookings Project on Internal Displacement” from 1998.\textsuperscript{20} The document is made up in five sections and 30 principles and constitute laws from International Humanitarian Law; such as the Geneva Conventions and Protocols from 1949, 1977 and 2005, Human Rights Law; such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the
Convention on the Rights of the Child, and Refugee Law; such as the United Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement is not a convention or law, it is considered as “soft law” combining hard laws that already has several articles concerning displaced persons.

Section 2. Critique

The critique around the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, for not being a convention or law, has provided some concern with regards to the attention the Guiding Principles has received;

- “[I]t is necessary to remember that such an approach also entails a number of risks - particularly as regards the definition of the term “internally displaced person” - and to bear in mind the many rules of international humanitarian law that serve to protect the civilian population as a whole in the event of armed conflict.”

- “The term "internally displaced person" (IDP) is sometimes intentionally used to avoid recognizing people as victims of war. And people are increasingly subjected to geographic containment inside their country, thus denied the right to flee across borders when they find themselves in situations of danger.”

The question arose; why not remain by the term “Victims of War” according to 1949 and 1977 Geneva Conventions and Protocol II “Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts”? Why create a document for IDPs exclusively, that does not even imply legal commitment, as the Convention already covers?

The answers differ, a few examples given below, highlights the importance of the establishment of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as a convention:

- The Guiding Principles […] strongest point is that they address a wide range of needs arising from diverse situations

- The Guiding Principles rightly place special emphasis on the protection of women and children, as they are particularly vulnerable. After setting out the general rule, the document deals with the recruitment of children in armed forces and their participation in hostilities, and the right of displaced children to receive education. The document stipulates that special attention shall be paid to women, particularly in terms of their health needs and education

- One entire section of the Guiding Principles (Principles 24-27) is based on the rules of humanitarian law providing for relief to be delivered to the civilian population in an impartial manner

- Authorities must help the displaced to recover the property and possessions they left behind or, when such recovery is not possible, to obtain appropriate compensation or another form of just reparation.
What the Guiding Principles has led to, on international level, is that a “bottom-up process of consensus” has begun and that an increasing amount of “[e]vidence for the acceptance of the Guiding Principles can be found at all levels of the international community. Several governments, in particular; Angola, Burundi, Liberia, Uganda, Peru and Turkey - have made explicit references to the Guiding Principles in their strategies, policies or even laws on internal displacement. Others are following their lead and are in the process of developing or revising their displacement - related laws and policies.”

The introduction to the The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement provides a short definition of the function of (1)the Guiding Principles and (2)the IDP:

**INTRODUCTION - SCOPE AND PURPOSE**

1. These Guiding Principles address the specific needs of internally displaced persons worldwide. They identify rights and guarantees relevant to the protection of persons from forced displacement and to their protection and assistance during displacement as well as during return or resettlement and reintegration.

2. For the purposes of these Principles, internally displaced persons are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.

The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement
United Nations - Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

After nearly two decades, there is still not one international convention or one single agency solely operating in the favor of IDPs worldwide. The responsibility lies in the hands of each national government, but they are often "unwilling or unable" to undertake such responsibility.

In the light of the “grossly inadequate” humanitarian response to IDPs worldwide, their vulnerability is even worse when “international response” is restricted access to assist IDPs.

As McGoldrick argues; there is not only inadequate response from the international community, but also an unwillingness of receiving governments to accept assistance.

Weiss stresses further that: “Many regimes actively and blatantly deny protection and assistance to them (IDPs) as leverage to manipulate political actors and outside humanitarian agencies.”
Section 3. Vulnerability

Addressing the vulnerability of IDPs in comparison to refugees (who cross an internationally recognized border) emphasized by Weiss;

“Those displaced within a country often are at least as vulnerable [as refugees], but they receive less attention and can call upon no special international agency, even though the General Assembly has called upon UNHCR to minister to all those in ‘refugee-like situations.’ Although the lot of refugees is hardly attractive, they may actually be better off than IDPs, whose existence customarily causes the issue of sovereignty to raise its ugly head.”

The vulnerability of IDPs is also connected to poverty. Material or monetary poverty are not only the most pressing issues. The IDPs are described as depoliticized and denationalized reducing the IDP beyond recognition merely as IDP - not being protected by one single international convention. Seshadri writes:

“The international community produces IDPs as characterized by their depoliticization, as simple, global, featureless specimens of naked existence requiring protection (rather than empowerment), thereby occluding the history of their political positioning.”

Below is an example of a not very uncommon view, shared among development aid workers, regarding IDPs:

“The situation of IDPs forced into passivity makes the idea of providing them with a standard vocational training with a vision of placing them on an open job market rather naive, in fact strengthening their passive role as recipients of services. […] IDPs should not be passively trained for a fictitious dream job, they should develop what they already know how to do into small entrepreneurial activities with a potential of creating job opportunities for themselves and for few others. Our experience with training and consulting resource mobilization and social enterprise development in Georgia in 2007, 2009 and 2010 has uncovered a strong entrepreneurial potential and a great deal of creativity.”

Seshadri argues that the international community constructs a picture of IDPs as being “passive recipients of humanitarian aid […] necessitated by the international community that acts in every instance to reproduce and expand the rule of global sovereignty.”

The statement by the development aid worker above, reveals partly Seshadri’s claim. However in Georgia, there is evidence of a transition with regards to IDPs, who are still widely identified as “passive recipients of humanitarian aid” and IDPs who are cooperating in development projects that target “community entrepreneurship and small business”. I emphasize this transition because it may serve as an indicator to nearly 20 years of failure, by the Georgian state and the international community, in dealing with the IDP problem. This will be further addressed in the Case study and in the Analysis.
Chapter 2. IDPs in the Samegrelo region

IDPs in Georgia has faced, since the internal conflicts in 1992-94 and in 2008, two large internal displacements, the first one leading to an estimated displacement of 273.000 persons, and the second one with an estimated displacement of 128.000 persons.\(^{40}\) In 2010 it was estimated that a number of 258.000 persons were still internally displaced.\(^{41}\)

Another IDP category, in Georgia, are those who are affected by and internally displaced due to natural disasters. This group is estimated to 120.000 to 170.000 persons, Georgian national “Law on Internally Displaced Persons” does not recognize this group; there is no assistance, material or monetary, available for this category.\(^{44}\)

I have chosen to exclude this group in the thesis, and I will focus on IDPs who are affected by the armed conflicts in 1992-94 and 2008, who fled the territory of Abkhazia. The IDPs from Abkhazia represent a majority of the IDP population in Georgia.

Section 1. Ethnicity

Relying on figures provided by the Georgian government in 2007, a IDMC report from 2009 suggest that approximately 235.000 “ethnic Georgians” fled the de facto territory of Abkhazia to Georgia proper, counting from early 1990s.\(^{45}\)

From the Swedish Encyclopedia (Nationalencyklopedin), there is an estimation of “close to 200.000”, not ethnic Georgians, but “Megrelians relegated from Abkhazia”.\(^{46}\)

In a report prepared by the NGO; Conciliation Resources (CR), the Megrelians (or as written in the following citation: Mingrelians) are described as a “[s]ub-ethnic grou[p]” and “[i]dentify
[themselves] simultaneously with a local Mingrelian identity and a national Georgian identity [.]”\(^47\)

Noteworthy is that the Megrelian language is spoken by nearly 500,000 people, according to the Swedish National Encyclopedia (*Nationalencyklopedin*),\(^48\) “a not insubstantial number in a total population of between 4-5 million.”\(^49\)

The use of the term ‘ethnic Georgians’ who fled the Kodori gorge (also known as Kodori valley), during the conflict that broke out between Georgia and Russia in 2008: The same report prepared by IDMC in 2009, relying on information provided by IWPR, states that 2,000 ethnic Georgians fled the Kodori gorge in Abkhazia for Georgia proper.\(^50\) The IDMC report refers to ethnic Georgians. However, the original report from IWPR states that:

“[A]ll ethnic Svans, with a language distinct from Georgian, they left their homes in the gorge in August just ahead of advancing forces controlled by Abkhazia’s breakaway government.” [...] “Under the French-brokered ceasefire that ended the conflict, the Russians agreed to pull their forces back to their pre-conflict positions in the two breakaway provinces. But the Kodori Gorge’s status is not covered by the agreement – which only refers to ‘the zones adjacent to South Ossetia and Abkhazia’ which the Russian army seized control of – leaving the 2,000 refugees (IDPs) in limbo.”\(^51\)

The use of the term ‘ethnic Georgians’ in contrast to Megrelians and Svans, has been subject to debate in Georgia and beyond, as the CR report suggests an explanation, and where the term ethnic group is termed “national minority” rather than “sub-ethnic group”:\(^52\)

“A national minority identity in Georgia (as in other parts of the former Soviet Union) has long carried a negative connotation associated, rightly or wrongly, with marginal status compared to the dominant/majority nationality. In post-war Georgia national minorities, and indeed minority identities at large, are associated with the threat of further fragmentation, a perception feeding relationships with minorities characterized by mutual distrust and fear.”\(^53\)

**Section 2. Amounts of IDPs**

The highest concentration of IDPs are found in the capital; Tbilisi, the town of Zugdidi in the Samegrelo region, and the town of Kutaisi in the Imereti region.\(^54\) The IDPs who settled in Zugdidi outnumbers the local population, there are no reliable figures available, rough estimates made by local organization representatives for Human Rights Center FOZ and UNHCR FOZ, state that the town, before the conflicts, had a population of approximately 25-30,000, and now (2010) the total population is approximately 80,000, unreported figures suggest far more. The increase in those figures are directly connected to the massive flow of IDPs that has moved to the town of Zugdidi. The total figure for the Samegrelo region is estimated to about 114,000 IDPs.\(^55\) This leads to some questions: How were all the IDPs accommodated? In what conditions were
they, and are they currently accommodated? What did the Georgian state do in order to meet the needs for accommodation, and how are they meeting these needs today? The Georgian national law on IDPs, how does it operate within the framework of human rights law, and other instrumental documents such as the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement?

Section 3. Vulnerability

In order to accommodate these questions I have chosen to use the concept of human security or rather the indicators for human security and the needs for human security by relating to IDP Vulnerability. Walter Kälin, UN Secretary-General’s representative on the Human Rights of IDPs and co-director for the Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement wrote in 2006, in the Forced Migration Review:

“The IDPs’ misery can be explained in part by the previous [Georgian] Government’s policy of heavily promoting return while making local integration difficult. Also, donors and international organizations have drastically reduced their support for humanitarian assistance, discouraged by inefficient public management of funds, renewed tension and destruction in return areas, little prospect of lasting solutions to the conflicts, and a perceived lack of political will of the Government to tackle the displacement crisis appropriately.”

Gegeshidze and Chomakhidze writes: “[p]roblems facing IDPs can be reduced to two principal aspects - integration and return - the indicators of vulnerability within the context of human security have to be defined according to these two aspects.” The research made by Gegeshidze and Chomakhidze; “[w]as conducted between November 2007 and March 2008 with the displaced persons from Abkhazia as its main focus.”

The indicators of vulnerability are designed to address general problem areas that concern IDPs in Georgia at large, but I will address this specifically to IDPs who live in the Samegrelo region. The indicators of vulnerability are also applicable to and correspond to the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. To support this theoretical section of the thesis I will connect these two concepts; Indicators of Vulnerability in the Context of Integration and The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.

The indicators of vulnerability are addressed by the two authors as follows:

**Indicators of Vulnerability in the Context of Integration**

- Unemployment
- Absence of immovable and other properties
- Absence of adequate housing and shelter
- Absence of access to adequate healthcare
• Absence of access to adequate education
• Unawareness of one’s rights
• Social discrimination
• Social passiveness

MacFarlane concludes in a recent article that there are several highlighted issues that are of major importance to include as indicators of vulnerability; unemployment and poverty, the distance on economic integration of the regions and the evictions of IDPs. The report addresses the volatility of these interacting indicators “as a significant source of potential social tension.”

“The building of a functioning state and a rapidly growing economy in Georgia after 2003 is impressive. Economic performance since the war has been better than expected. This reflects the substantial post-war external assistance to the country, but also the government’s improvements in economic governance since the Rose Revolution. [...] Economic growth has occurred without substantial improvements in unemployment and poverty rates. The rural/urban economic gap is wide and probably increasing. General economic inequality is high and also probably increasing. Inflation is uncomfortably high for a country that is growing comparatively slowly. It has a particularly strong impact on the price of basic necessities, and hence is felt directly and painfully by lower-income segments of the population. Trade deficits remain a serious problem. Economic opportunities are scarce and may fuel an already sizable emigration, particularly among the skilled. Foreign assistance is likely to drop off significantly at the end of the post-war package, and will be replaced by debt repayment. The FDI (foreign direct investment) white horse has not come to the rescue. [...] Despite the winter weather, small-scale protests persist, such as those by the veterans at the beginning of 2011 and the contemporaneous scuffles over the eviction of displaced people from public buildings. The failure properly to address the difficult situation of long-term internally displaced persons has been flagged as a significant source of potential social tension.”

Paragraph 1. Unemployment, absence of immovable and other properties, housing and shelter
IDPs from the conflict in the early 1990s have previous professional skills, over time, these skills have become outdated, and with limited emerging employment opportunities, IDPs “who could not find jobs have fallen victim to passiveness and depression.” Young IDPs are suffering from unemployment and are vulnerable to turn to illicit trade or other types of illegal activity. The long-term absence of employment opportunities for IDPs, has led to deepening reliance on government and state subsidies.

A DRC and SDA survey from 2008, on the target group of IDPs from the early 1990s, regarding the overall unemployment rate: The findings presented from their survey, reveals figures of an estimated employment rate of 31.3%. This figure is explained to include those IDPs that are “self-
employed and those who worked on their land plots.”66 This figure suggests that a staggering 68.7% of all the IDPs from the early 1990s are unemployed.

IDP collective centers located in rural settings and far away from structures that provide access to employment opportunities is another problem, hindering IDPs from generating income.67 Access to land for “farming activity” provides opportunities for IDPs to “cultivate”, unfortunately the soils are often degraded that crops produce limited yields.68

“Programs to assist IDPs to earn a living are of pilot nature and neither nationwide nor comprehensive. [...] Efforts so far by both the government and NGOs to provide vocational training for IDPs have been sporadic and unsustainable.”69

As recent as 2007, the Georgian State never had an official document providing a description of the IDP problems and no strategy on solutions. In February 2007, the Georgian State released the “Government of Georgia State Strategy for Internally Displaced Persons”.70 An Action Plan; “Government of Georgia Action Plan for the implementation of the State Strategy for Internally Displaced Persons during 2009-2012”,71 was adopted in May 2010. “While the plan places the socio-economic integration of the IDPs as one of two major objectives it aims to achieve, these seems to be more of a declaratory nature.”72

“Not having a private home, land and means of production is recognized to be the main source of poverty of the IDPs. In some parts of the goals and tasks of the Strategy it is only the ways of the returning of property left behind in Abkhazia or receiving corresponding compensation after resolving the conflict that are discussed without any mention of assisting the IDPs in obtaining property during their exile in order to promote their worthy integration within the environment of their factual habitation.”73

The State strategy and the action plan, mentioned above, with the amendments in 2009, indicate that long-term solutions have been addressed and that “problems faced by both new and old groups of IDPs” is a clear aim of the strategy and plan of the government.74 The Guiding Principle No.22 1.(b) states that all IDPs have “[t]he right to seek freely opportunities for employment and to participate in economic activities;”.75

**Paragraph 2. Absence of access to adequate healthcare**

The Guiding Principle No.18 2. states:

“At the minimum, regardless of the circumstances, and without discrimination, competent authorities shall provide internally displaced
persons with and ensure safe access to: (d) Essential medical services and sanitation.”

and the Guiding Principle No.19 1-3. states:

“1. All wounded and sick internally displaced persons as well as those with disabilities shall receive to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention they require, without distinction on any grounds other than medical ones. When necessary, internally displaced persons shall have access to psychological and social services.

2. Special attention should be paid to the health needs of women, including access to female health care providers and services, such as reproductive health care, as well as appropriate counseling for victims of sexual and other abuses.

3. Special attention should also be given to the prevention of contagious and infectious diseases, including AIDS, among internally displaced persons.”

In the “State Strategy on IDPs - Chapter II - Problems”, No. 1.4, under “Health and Education, Quality of Social Services” it is stated that:

“There is no strictly reliable information on morbidity of IDPs. However, considering the trauma experienced during the conflict, difficult living conditions and unemployment or inadequate employment which resulted in stress among IDPs and, in some cases, also the lack of access to quality medical services and unhealthy conditions, this indicator (morbidity) should be much higher among IDPs.”

In the Amnesty International report from 2010 the findings with regards to the general health conditions found among IDPs are; lack of financial capacity to transportation to a doctor, capacity to pay for medicines and other healthcare related services. Health care programs exist, but not all IDPs are able to participate in those health care programs, it is difficult for IDPs to stay informed due to lack of communication channels, especially so in rural areas in the Samegrelo region. IDPs suffer more than the overall Georgian population. Illnesses such as “tuberculosis, diphtheria and anaemia” are common due to extremely poor housing conditions, especially so during the winter season. “[D]isplacement and the trauma for those who fled from or remain trapped in conflicts and displacement often results in a variety of mental health disorders such as major depression, anxiety and stress disorders.”

IDPs living in collective centers are the most vulnerable and affected group in having health problems; “[p]oor sanitary conditions and inadequate hygiene were also reported to be prevalent in collective centers, as most of them were not constructed with long-term and often overcrowded”.

Other common health issues among IDPs living in collective centers are according to a UNICEF/ NRC survey addresses.
• Digestive problems and diarrhea caused by poor sanitation and water quality
• Respiratory ailments
• In cases where families live in hospitals (serving as collective centers as well as hospitals), parents expressed fear for their children's health as they share corridors and toilets with patients who may have serious and acute infectious disease.
• Gynecologist[s] also highlighted the poor sexual health of girls, due to bad sanitary conditions in collective centers, the lack of openness about female sexual health in the family, as well as the infrequency of check ups, leading to serious diseases by the time patients sought treatment.
• The use of marijuana which was reported to be universally present among boys at collective centers, which was not considered as a drug or serious concern. Marijuana was reported to be cultivated locally (Gali or Svaneti regions) and to be very cheap. Other drugs reported to be used by mostly young men and adolescents included Subutex, heroin and over the counter drugs. Drug use and trade has led to reported insecure environment, and to large numbers of adolescents being diagnosed with hepatitis B and C; needles discarded in yards represent health risk to children living in collective centers.85

Paragraph 3. Absence of access to adequate education and unawareness of one's rights

The Guiding Principle No.23 1-4 states:

“1. Every human being has the right to education.
2. To give effect to this right for internally displaced persons, the authorities concerned shall ensure that such persons, in particular displaced children, receive education which shall be free and compulsory at the primary level. Education should respect their cultural identity, language and religion.
3. Special efforts should be made to ensure the full and equal participation of women and girls in educational programs.
4. Education and training facilities shall be made available to internally displaced persons, in particular adolescents and women, whether or not living in camps, as soon as conditions permit.”86

In Georgia, all children attend school. From the age of six or seven to the age of 14. For IDP children this is their right as well. Some 3,000 IDP children attend special schools just for IDPs, thus resulting into a social stigma and division between non-IDP children and IDP children. In the town of Zugdidi in the Samegrelo region, schools that were operating within de facto territory of Abkhazia, moved their entire or larger part of staff to buildings in Zugdidi. Buildings that are in extremely poor condition, according to NRC observations in 2007 and 2009.

The quality of the education provided for IDP children vary, especially for those children who attend the schools for IDP children only. Outdated learning material and teachers with pedagogical approaches that can be traced to the Soviet period.87

Socio-economic and psychological problems are frequent problems found among IDP children. The children who live in collective centers are especially vulnerable and are deprived from equal chances in comparison to other children - IDP children who live in private housing or non-IDP
children. IDP children housed in collective centers do not achieve results in school that are proficient to sustain secondary education and even less on university level. Another factor that restrict IDP children who live in collective centers is the incapacity to pay for tuition fees for secondary schooling and university studies.88

In the light of the privatization process of educational institutions in Georgia in parallel to the ministerial ‘ambitions’ is worrying:

“Doubts about the government are aggravated by the seeming randomness of much government behavior, not least in the area of the government’s cabinet appointments. The appointment of an Education Minister whose previous experience was in criminal justice and prisons is a case in point.”89

The word ‘education’ is found only once in the Government of Georgia Action Plan for the implementation of the State Strategy for Internally Displaced Persons during 2009-2012 (Decree No.575) from May 2010.90

**Paragraph 4. Rights**

“Access to information was regularly identified by IDPs as a major concern. Lack of information not only reduces accountability – including that of nongovernmental aid providers – but also undermines people’s ability to plan for the future and resume control of their own lives. Providing beneficiaries with information on aid is not an optional luxury, but a major strategy for helping people to become self-reliant and reclaim their own lives.”91

“This is widely recognized in the aid industry, where the duty of NGOs to provide beneficiaries with information, including contact information, is explicitly set out in documents such as the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership Standard, the Code of Conduct for NGOs in Disaster Relief, SPHERE standards, and InterAction PVO Standards.”92

The Human Rights Center of Georgia writes in their annual report:

“Communication between IDPs and the relevant ministry* remained an issue in 2010 as well. The telephone hotline has been operating at the ministry but with relatively little success. Several IDPs addressed Human Rights Centre in order to clarify the situation concerning their statuses, housing or accommodation. The majority of IDPs had already referred to the ministry before applying to Human Rights Centre but with little to no success. This lack of communication and access to information was further confirmed by the statistical data derived from the Public Defender’s report, which states that 40% of surveyed IDPs are not informed on medical service available to them.”93

*(The Ministry of Resettlement of Forcefully Displaced Persons from Georgian Occupied Territories).
HRC FOZ manager David Patsatsia shares his experience and views concerning IDP rights in Zugdidi in the Samegrelo region:

“Awareness raising of IDP rights and rights in general is a highly difficult thing to promote. IDPs in Tbilisi are overly more informed regarding their rights, while in the town of Zugdidi and the rural areas in the Samegrelo region, awareness raising on rights for IDPs is of great deficit. Another issue is that promoting rights causes confusion between NGOs because they promote rights with varying explanations, when IDPs claim their rights in different pressing situations, there are misunderstandings or something wrong, and people become even aggressive and threatening. This can be viewed for example if you go to the bank here in Zugdidi, when IDPs are collecting the allowance, the situation is more of a panic, arguing IDPs with bank representatives that can be quite fierce, and where the security guards have to pull people out.”

Paragraph 5. Social discrimination and passiveness

The Guiding Principle No.22 1c-d states:

“1. Internally displaced persons, whether or not they are living in camps, shall not be discriminated against as a result of their displacement in the enjoyment of the following rights:
   (c) The right to associate freely and participate equally in community affairs;
   (d) The right to vote and to participate in governmental and public affairs, including the right to have access to the means necessary to exercise this right;”

and the Guiding Principle No.28 2 states:

“2. Special efforts should be made to ensure the full participation of internally displaced persons in the planning and management of their return or resettlement and reintegration.”

There are several distinct areas where IDPs, especially those who are living in collective centers in the Samegrelo region, would be able to promote social inclusion, put an end to and prevent passivity. These areas include; “meaningful participation”, “participation in political processes and in public life”, “community participation and self-management” and “sector employment”.

In most recent activity (2009-2010) concerning IDPs and participation in the policy making of the State Strategy and the IDP State Strategy Action Plan, “[I]DP input was encouraged through IDP associations and civil societ[y].” What is unfortunate is that a majority of “IDPs are not sufficiently involved in decisions affecting their lives.” Policies made by the Georgian government are not explained nor are they motivated to participate at large.

IDPs in public life and in politics is uncommon due to the financial constraints IDPs are facing: “The main reasons hampering IDPs from active political participation are lack of adequate financial resources, limited access to political networks, lack of leadership skills and passivity.” The hardships of day-to-day survival effectively keeps IDPs being involved in politics. Voting
rights were restricted for IDPs until 2003, but they still cannot participate in presidential elections. IDPs living in collective centers are “less likely to be part of a wider community than IDPs in the private sector, as they are less integrated, especially adults.”102

Sector employment among IDPs who live in collective centers is extremely weak. A Red Cross survey (2000), confirm the marginalization of IDPs living in collective centers stating that they “are three times more likely to be unemployed than the local population, while the unemployment rate of IDPs in the private sector is twice as high as that of the local population. [...] Many IDPs do not have relevant skills and experience with entrepreneurial activities; however they refuse to participate in the vocational and business training, even if offered, unless they are guaranteed with [a] business grant or possibility to work further.”103

In the Case study of this thesis, I will address observations and statements from IDPs, and representatives of NGOs based in the Samegrelo region, that I derived during my internship at the Human Rights Center of Georgia (FOZ) from April 2010 to January 2011.

**Chapter 3. Foreign aid**

“Foreign aid is a tricky concept. It is sometimes thought of as a policy. It is not a policy but a tool of policy.”104

A wider definition of foreign aid comprises; “physical goods, skills and technical know-how, financial grants (gifts), or loans (at concessional rates) - transferred by donors to recipients.”105
In some cases, foreign aid was defined as “[t]rade and military expenditure[s]”.106

I will narrow down and return later to the definition of foreign aid to “[d]evelopment aid or development assistance” since these definitions are found to be more applicable to the issues brought up in this thesis,107 as defined by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Development Assistance Committee (DAC).108

**Section 1. OECD policy institutions for foreign aid**

DAC is a committee consisting of 24 member representations or delegations. DAC is a body (out of 30 in total) within the OECD, designed to “[c]ompare, improve and co-ordinate [their] public policies and approaches.”109 The members consist of the top donor countries in the world including the European Commission (EC), permanent observers are; the World Bank (WB), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and The United Nations Development Program (UNDP).110
The DAC serves the OECD by improving aid effectiveness worldwide, and the “Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD) acts as the Secretariat for the DAC, providing technical expertise and operational capacity to enable it to:

- be the definitive source of official development assistance statistics and mobilize the increase of official development assistance (ODA)
- assess members’ development co-operation policies and their implementation through peer reviews
- enhance the effectiveness of aid by making it more aligned, harmonized, results-focused and untied
- provide analysis, guidance and good practice in key areas of development such as environment, conflict and fragility, gender equality, governance, poverty reduction, evaluation, capacity development, aid for trade and aid architecture
- support policy coherence for development through peer reviews and collaboration with other policy communities.”

The DAC defines the term “development” by including the terms of “humanitarian relief, supporting economic and social progress, promoting democratization, addressing global problems, and managing post-conflict transitions.” “The DACs statistics set the international standard for defining and recording ODA. It also produces policy statements and agreed guidance on development co-operation policy and practice. Occasionally, these are issued as formal recommendations, which are considered “soft law”.”

The definition for foreign aid within the framework of ODA by the OECD and DAC provide the prerequisites for receiving countries who are eligible for ODA. The classification of ODA recipients (countries) ranges from; least developed, other low income, lower middle income and upper middle income countries. Within the definition for ODA eligibility; “Economic development and welfare as the main objective”, there is no present definition specifically targeting IDPs, however there is a specification for refugees.

As an answer to the lack of policy concerning foreign aid targeted towards IDPs Riddell states: “[A] weakness of humanitarian response concerns the whole issue of protection [...] where there has been insufficient action to protect vulnerable population[s]”. [...] In 2004, the UN Secretary General judged that a staggering 10 million people worldwide were denied humanitarian access. [...] Particularly highlighted has been the growing plight of internally displaced persons (IDPs); indeed, one review recently argued that some large agencies even fail to acknowledge the necessity of assessing the needs of IDPs.”

This takes the conceptualization of foreign aid to another topic, namely; the purpose of foreign aid and development aid. There are political, commercial and cultural reasons to why foreign aid is being sent and received. The categories within the political, commercial and cultural areas define
the purpose of foreign aid in general: “diplomatic, developmental, humanitarian relief, and commercial.”

There is no central organization or body that coordinate or allocate foreign aid, the ODA is voluntary for the members, and few donor countries coordinate with each other within what kind of aid is destined for what area, country or government.

The commitment of the donor countries is mainly focused within “six main clusters”; “(1) to help address emergency needs, (2) to assist recipients achieve their development (growth and poverty reducing) goals, (3) to show solidarity, (4) to further their own national political and strategic interests, (5) to help promote donor-country commercial interests, and (6) because of historical ties.”

Foreign aid is channeled from donor countries through bilateral or multilateral agreements. Bilateral aid is provided from donor governments. And multilateral aid is provided by international organizations or other bodies; for example: Oxfam, CARE, the EU or the World Bank.

My focus in this thesis regarding foreign aid is restricted to the concept of development aid. I have chosen to restrict the scope of foreign aid to development aid due to three reasons; (1) historically, development aid is relatively new, in comparison to other categories of foreign aid (expanding in the 1980s, reduced in the 1990s to expand in the 21st century, donor governments have misleadingly conveyed the impression that development [is] the only purpose for which aid [is] given, and (3) the donor countries; “Sweden, the Netherlands, Norway, Denmark and Finland have stood out as donors who have articulated solidarity and development as major factors influencing their allocation of aid.”

Development aid is channeled from the above mentioned donor states, predominantly through their ministries of foreign affairs, and the state bodies that represent the donor state; i.e. Sweden (Sida), the Netherlands (NDC), Norway (NRC), Denmark (DRC) and Finland (Formin). The aid is directed within the OECD and DAC framework as well as directly from government to government.

Section 2. Foreign aid to IDPs in the Samegrelo region
The foreign aid to Georgia is hard to measure exactly. In the OECD/DAC database it is possible to examine the ODA disbursements, but it is hard to combine ODA figures with the direct
foreign aid between specific donor countries to the government of Georgia (GoG), international organizations (IOs and INGOs) and to the local non-governmental organizations (NGOs). However, there are estimates that can be used to address the ODA directed towards IDPs in Georgia as a whole, and there are ODA disbursements per capita figures that indicate the overall rates. As the graph below suggest:

Between the year of 2000 and up to the conflict in August 2008, the ODA disbursements per capita has been stable, with slight gradual rise from USD75 to 90. After the conflict in 2008, the ODA disbursement more than doubled to levels just above USD200, as seen on the graph.

Measuring the foreign aid disbursements directed towards IDPs in bilateral and multilateral arrangements is not an easy task, especially when considering only including the foreign aid that can be accounted for as development aid or assistance. There are OECD/DAC estimates suggesting the total figures for Georgia as a whole, but they do not represent development aid or development assistance directly targeted for IDPs. What the figures do reveal is that major ODA is transacted by the US, EU, IDA and ADB. US alone allocates more aid money to Georgia than to any other post-Soviet state or republic, and just after Israel worldwide. Over the last five years, the top five donors US, EU, IDA, Germany, and ADB has disbursed a total ODA of USD 472.8 million.

From a donor conference held in Brussels in 2008, a donor mapping spreadsheet is available on the website of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia. When summing the total figure destined for humanitarian aid to IDPs, I found a combined pledge of USD 145.2 million, where a majority of the aid is labelled for emergency housing and shelter for IDPs.

The USD1 billion pledge from the US defines a figure of “[US]$50 million assistance [that] will help people most directly affected by the conflict through the winter season. Assistance will be used for winter food; registration of IDP property; winter crops; livestock maintenance;
community grants and school rehabilitation; vocational education; police support; disposal of unexploded ordinance; and provision of non-food winter supplies and direct improvements to winterize IDP shelters.”

The total pledge from the entire international donor community was set to USD4.5 billion as a result of the five day conflict initiated by the Georgian government.

In year 2000, the Interagency Working Group in US Government-sponsored International Exchanges and Training (IAWG) expresses the following:

“...It is important for the United States to stay engaged in Georgia, despite the challenges faced there because:

• Georgia is of strategic geopolitical interest in the region.
• Georgia is a critical player regionally, presenting a neutral location for programs with Armenia and Azerbaijan.
• The Georgian Government, at least on the surface, is reform-minded. Reform-oriented laws and regulations have been introduced, the Georgian Government willingly cooperates with the United States Government to “achieve” joint objectives, and close ties with the West are sought and nurtured.
• Georgia is the second largest per capita recipient of U.S. assistance in the NIS (after Armenia).”

The statement above is one out of many examples of US interests in Georgia. In contrast to the timeframe as of when this statement was formulated, the situation of the current Georgian government with a ‘surface-reform-minded’ approach is still reality.

I found it to be impossible to trace material revealing figures destined for IDPs regarding development.

The next theoretical concept is the one regarding the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Georgia, working directly with assisting IDPs on local level in the Samegrelo region. The foreign aid directed towards these NGOs is present, but provides a blurry picture of the monetary support these NGOs are working with, relying on and in contrast to the work they perform.

Chapter 4. NGOs

“...With relatively small amounts of money international donors and NGOs have played a large and important role in many formerly communist states, helping local activists to design and build institutions associated with democracy. However, they have done little as yet to affect how these institutions actually function. Political parties, regular elections, independent media, and local NGOs are all now part of the political landscape in many states across Eastern and Central Europe and Eurasia; their links with foreign groups are considerable and often robust.

[...]

[A majority of] these new institutions function poorly and have but weak links to their own societies. Such organizations have proliferated but often serve the interests of foreign donors more than those of the local...
population. In certain cases, [...] their (NGOs) vigor and effectiveness have actually declined, even as environmental degradation and international engagement have increased."  

The previous citation serves as an example of the development, from the early 1900s the movements in the West towards; “[r]ural cooperatives [...] and community development”, transitioning into local NGOs, with the ability to respond to “[h]umanitarian consequences of two world war[s]”, entering the post-Soviet states in the early 1990s “[w]ith the unlimited opportunity for expansion within the world of poverty”. NGOs have played a significant role in the globalization of human rights, communication, politics and to the support worldwide in response to human and natural catastrophes and armed conflicts.

Duffield writes that there are two distinct areas NGOs operate within; humanitarian relief or assistance and development assistance. Humanitarian relief is often a concept related to emergency response that is utilized on a short-term basis, often coordinated by international aid organizations as quick response to conflicts or other types of disasters. Development work by NGOs is related to long-term based commitment, by “improv[ing] social resilience through strengthening community organizations and self-reliance.”

Within the NGO concept, several different ‘abbreviations’ and forms of NGOs have sprung out that serve as more descriptive names, such as; CBOs (Community Based Organizations), or CSOs (Civil Society Organizations), or Grass-roots organizations. The term Local NGO is also being used to describe a ‘geographic limitation’ of a particular NGO. National NGOs or Domestic NGOs (DNGO), cover an entire country, referring to several representations and/or offices throughout a country. The International NGO (or INGO), refers to a NGO that has representations and/or offices in several countries, forming a network.

I will use the terms Local NGO and International NGO when making referrals in this thesis.

Section 1. International NGOs and Local NGOs in the Samegrelo region

Action Against Hunger (AAC/ACF), Doctors Without Borders (DWB/MSF), The Red Cross (RC/ICRC), are a few examples of international NGOs represented in the Samegrelo region.

Local NGOs exist in larger towns or villages throughout the region, with the highest concentration of registered NGOs in the town of Zugdidi. To the numbers, there are 53 NGOs registered in the Samegrelo region. An estimated 24 of these NGOs have been involved in about 30 projects that explicitly involve IDPs since year 2000. Most of the projects found were short-term based with budgets ranging from USD50-2000. A majority of the projects involved
humanitarian relief work, so called ‘hard’ projects, were conducted after the conflicts in 1994 and 2008. A recent shift that began in mid-2009 are ‘soft’ projects that are of development nature.\textsuperscript{147}

The projects from 1994 have mainly concerned the following areas:

- General education (esp. for IDP women)
- Health and hygiene (education for IDPs)
- Women’s rights for IDPs
- Small business and entrepreneurship for IDPs
- Unemployment reduction through business planning and managerial skills improvement for IDPs
- Income generating programs for IDPs
- Rights advocacy and awareness raising for IDPs
- Legal awareness raising, counseling and assistance for IDPs
- Improvement of social conditions for IDPs
- Improvement of primary care for IDPs
- Moral support scheme for IDPs
- Psychological rehabilitation for IDP children
- Psychosocial rehabilitation for IDPs
- Support for IDP children with disabilities
- Training for IDP school teachers
- Information sharing and education for political empowerment for IDPs
- Peace building through women for IDPs
- Participation in the process of creating the National Strategy Plan for IDPs
- Awareness raising and information on malnutrition of IDP children

A few projects had sufficient funding for projects, but could not reach sustainability on longer terms of more than two-three years. There is one project that was recently concluded by a Czech development organization in the Samegrelo region, with an incentive towards socio-economic integration. However, results from this project has not been published.\textsuperscript{148}

A response to the project in an article provided some insight into the complexity and difficulty with projects that target IDPs by attempting to integrate them on the labor market:

“People in Need, a Czech NGO, now conducts the “Socio-Economic Assistance to the Vulnerable Minorities in Samegrelo Region” soft project. Began in August 2009, it will cost 500,000 Euro and should be concluded by January 2011.

“Georgia is no longer a country which needs very basic, humanitarian aid,” said Pavla Pijanova, the head of mission of People in Need. “The country is full of resources, we should concentrate on teaching citizens how to use these resources and how not depend on others.”

This ‘time’s-up-attitude’ to hard projects however ignores old problems which are still relevant. Tamuna Antia, a 32-year old IDP who lives in a collective centre 16 km from the border with Abkhazia, said that ”many people come to me asking whether I have any psychological problems or social, for example violence in my family. But I first have to deal with my leaky roof, clammy, tight room and hungry children that have to go to school tomorrow. They simply do not understand our real needs.”\textsuperscript{149}
PART 2. CASE STUDY

Introduction
For the empirical part of the thesis I decided to present a case study. The case study will mainly consist of an internship I conducted, from April 2010 to January 2011 at the Human Rights Center of Georgia, and a project. The internship took place at a field office in the town of Zugdidi in the Samegrelo region, Georgia.

A case study of a development project
The main reasons to why I chose to bring forward a description of a project I managed during my internship period is that the project clearly consist of the three areas I included in the theoretical part of the thesis; IDPs, foreign aid and NGOs. Through the project I am able to present my own experiences working in the field during a longer period of time. During this entire period I was in contact with predominantly IDPs and NGOs, and disposed donor money to fund the project.

Background
I arrived in Georgia at the end of April 2010. I knew the organization well since the Human Rights Center of Georgia (HRC) is the largest human rights NGO in Georgia. They receive support from many aid agencies; the Council of Europe, USAID, Sida, and many more. The HRC has several field offices throughout Georgia in the towns of; Batumi, Gurjaani, Gori and Zugdidi.
At the field office in Zugdidi, where I was going to stay until mid-January 2011, I worked with field office manager David.
The field office main function was to provide consultancy regarding questions on human rights, to observe the field and collect information from persons who wished to discuss issues regarding the broader areas of human rights. Consultations and discussions spanned from simple neighbor fights to anarchists promoting a Megrelian Kingdom to serious human rights violations committed by Georgian authorities on IDPs. The information was sent as written reports to the head office in Tbilisi, the capital.

Internship at the Human Rights Center in Zugdidi
My work was not defined from head start. The field office manager and I discussed several ideas that came up after a week. I had an idea of working with IDPs since this was one of the main group of people that the Human Rights Center was working on. I had also gained much interest regarding the problems related to IDPs, and especially to the extreme situation in the Samegrelo
region. My impression of Zugdidi the first two weeks was the feeling of being very close to a conflict zone and that a large part of the population were in fact IDPs from Abkhazia.

I visited collective centers, spoke to countless persons who were IDPs who had countless stories about the conflicts, how people without any warning had to leave everything behind, watching their homes being set on fire, stories of warriors who did not spare anyone, bombings, and the peaceful and beautiful lives they lived before the early 1990s.

After two weeks of visits to many collective centers I discussed with David, the field office manager, that I would like to create and conduct a project that involved IDPs, something that we could try together, perhaps we could find something interesting to work together with and that could bring in some money for the IDPs who were in the project.

We ‘brainstormed’ for more than a week, and the idea came to make a project that would include the younger generation of IDPs, who we named IDYPs, Internally displaced young persons. The project was going to be about something that young people can work with and have an income from, something that would support their families and where they could do the work at the collective center to reduce costs.

We took the ideas with us and went to a collective center that made a very deep impression on me, the previous visit had provided us with inspiration. All families in this collective center were already working with growing vegetables, fruits, but mainly corn. They would survive on corn all year round, making a local dish called ghomi. It is a simple corn porridge. As condiment they placed some suluguni, a salty type of cheese that melts inside the ghomi. (I believe it takes some guts to eat this, I enjoyed eating the dish, although it was very heavy.)

Out of 47 people who lived here there were many young people whom we wanted to involve and work with in the project. We gathered all people who lived there to discuss openly our idea. We thought from the start that this would be an easy process to gather this people up and find common ground in doing something together. We ended the meeting with many questions, mostly concerned with whether it would be feasible to conduct a project at all. A second visit to the collective center proved to be very fruitful, the IDPs had been discussing amongst each other, David and I had new inputs and we began defining the project.
Overcoming 17 years of previous failures of initiatives

The first obstacle I had to overcome was to convince the IDPs, the older generation who were above 35 years of age, about the project and that it could potentially provide not only a positive experience where we would learn things from each other, but also something that could lead to some positive changes for the IDPs, and more importantly a beginning of a new approach on how to use existing knowledge, improving that and working side by side with the younger generation.

David discussed with the elders and created ‘a bridge’ between us; as the project team, the elders and the young IDPs in the age span 16-35.

We finally convinced the elders, whose main objective to cooperate in this project was that it would not lead anywhere and that the project money was not sufficient to make anything out of it. I was surprised about these objections because the other offer was to just give them the money, all together, and let them do what they wanted with it. But here I was wrong, they did not want the money, they wanted knowledge, they wanted coaching and supervision.

Apparently we were not explicit enough during our discussions that we were going to avail ourselves and that part of the project idea was that we, David and I, were going to conduct and implement the project together with the IDPs. We then learned that similar project ideas had been presented to the IDPs by other NGOs, but there was no component that included continuous supervision or coaching. However, the IDPs accepted these offers and tried to comply, without any greater success. We won their confidence and it was celebrated with a toast with the local vodka chacha, an 80% alcoholic drink prepared from the grape remnants after wine making.

Khobi Sports Palace - IDP collective center

In the village of Khobi, 40 km South of Zugdidi, was a dilapidated U-shaped building - the setting for where the project was going to take place - an old ‘sports complex’, also known as the ‘sport palace’. During the Soviet period, famous athletes and predominantly swimmers from the top professional league in the Soviet Olympic team, used this location for training and resorting. Today, almost 20 years after the first IDPs arrived at this place, it is just a concrete shell. The swimming pools are over grown with reeds and various vegetation. In the late 1990s and early 2000s the IDPs farmed various types of fish in the pools. Now the water is so contaminated that nothing can be farmed, and it is dangerous for the children to enter the pools. The stench from the pools is everywhere and it is adding the already unpleasant impression from the building, dark grey concrete, limited amount of lighting and few windows with glass, now covered with plastic or carton.
Project team
Our team consisted of a project manager, interpreter and coordinator of the IDPs who had skills in renovation and restoration, coordinator of supplies, a foreman and a legal advisor. All from HRC.
The IDPs consisted of women and men, young and elders who undertook the division of work according to the coordinator’s advise. We promoted a gender balance of the working tasks and discussed briefly about gender roles. The elders often asked the younger men to perform the work that traditionally is carried out by men, however, the younger women insisted to help and cooperate side by side with the younger men, without any objections or comments.

Time
The scheduling for the project was of a minor concern in the beginning of the first phase of the project, which took about a month starting from June. In July, the pace of the work slowed down severely due to awaiting further funding. I will return to this point regarding the funding of the project.
The initial plan was to establish the processing room in parallel to the coordination of harvest and creation of the product that were intended to be made. But it was hard to control this development because the majority of the attention to the project was focused on the renovation of the food processing room. Discussing harvest, recipes, products, packaging and pricing was impossible.

Month of June was the preparation period for the project, and first steps in clearing the food processing room, took the entire period.

In July, I began making the time planning for the second phase. The entire month the project came to a halt. The initial funding covered only the first phase which turned out, for the most part, cover transportation costs for the project team, between Zugdidi and Khobi.
In mid-August, the rest of the funding arrived. Harvest season was just around the corner and the whole team mobilized and carried out the larger part of the renovation.
At the end of the month the renovation was completed. We expected visitors from Sweden and the Ukraine, who were going to see the result of the project. The team managed to make a minimized product line of the fruits and vegetables that was canned and displayed.
The visitors, who were also funders and potential future investors, visited the collective center and witnessed a driven team with a professional attitude towards making organic products that can be sold not only on local level, but national level as well. This was the response from the visitors.
In September the IDPs took over the project and has continued to process more sauces, jams and spreads. The IDPs stored, consumed and sold their products during the winter season.

The project idea

Together with the IDPs we drew up the project idea. One room at the collective center was going to be renovated so it could be used for food processing. We found a suitable room that was in a terrible condition. The room was used for cooking, the sanitation level was below all thinkable standards. I asked myself how it was possible to cook there at all, especially concerning food that was prepared for the children. My immediate reflection was that this room would be perfect, it was one of the absolute worst rooms where the IDPs were preparing food, if the project would not sustain, this room would be renovated to the degree that it was going to serve as a future cooking room.

Electric wiring, unshielded and with no fuse box connection, were hanging loose. This was a matter of personal security. It had to be arranged in a safe manner. The ceiling and the walls were not sanitary, just rugged concrete, no paint. The floor was uneven and just rugged concrete. The windows lacked glass and were covered with plastic or carton materials. There was no ventilation, the air quality was compact and a trace of fungi was present.

The room was going to be renovated and furniture was going to be installed along with new simple stoves. A simple ventilation system for air circulation was going to be installed to keep moisture from creating fungi. The electrical wiring was to be removed and new wiring including a fuse box with automatic fuses and lighting installed along with earthed and fused electrical outputs. PVC piping and running water was going to be pulled to a new faucet in stainless steel. The ceiling and walls were going to be cleaned mechanically, old tapestry removed with a propane burner. The floor was going to remodeled with an even layer of concrete, the walls and ceiling to be painted.

We knew that this renovation was going to be able to serve the purpose for proper food preparation and that it would function as the working place for preparing products from their harvests.
Agri-entrepreneurship project for IDYPs (Internally Displaced Young Persons)\textsuperscript{51}

The idea of the project grew in detail as we began the planning the facility, or the food processing room. The next step was to define the actual things that was possible to do with the produce that the IDPs were already producing. Corn was not an option, since it is the year round staple food.

The income generating part of the idea was to create a product that can be sold year round, that would improve the health of children and youth. And since the variety and availability of food, especially during winter season, is unbalanced, we found that preserving vegetables and fruits could supplement the food intake during this time of the year. This product would compete with imported goods of same nature, as the prices increases during the winter season. Now the IDPs had a product they could store up to a year, sell at the local markets, and consume on their own. Our intended idea was that they could sustain the costs that involve the production of the preserved fruits by selling a portion of what they produced, and consume the other portion without additional costs. The initial cost for getting started was covered by the project funding.

We began to list all the vegetables and fruits that could be processed in different ways. And there were several products that we decided to test: 20 kg of apples was going to be prepared as an apple sauce condiment, 20 kg of tomatoes with 3 kg of chilies was a special type of a hot tomato sauce that can be used as a condiment or as a base for soups, 10 kg of plums as a marmalade or jam and 15 kg of figs as a thick jam.

I undertook the mission to find suitable containers that were cheap and reliable, not easy in this part of the country. We found a traditional way in canning the produce and solved the canning issue quickly. Glass jars with aluminum lids, tightened mechanically with a special tool seemed to be the only available model, screw lids were not available. In addition, I purchased 100 kg of imported sugar from Brazil, which was surprisingly cheap in comparison to sugar from the EU.

\textit{Funding}

The project was funded by two donors who contributed EUR650 each. The first phase was covered privately. And the second phase was covered by the donor contribution of EUR1300 (rate as of July 2010). The funding was one of the main obstacles of the project. The utilities used for the food processing were of the absolute most simple type. The funding did not cover the variable costs over time following September, although the project suggested to cover the period until January.
The transportation costs overtook the majority of the funding and we were left with a slim budget to cover the initial costs for supplies of sugar, jars, lids and more. We aborted the project after September, but are preparing for a new project that will take the initial ideas to another level, due to shortcomings of funding. The challenge was to see if it was possible to create a sustainable project that inclined limited initiative to sustain and a minor amount of funding.

**Sustainability**

The project was planned with a return of costs, without interest. The project was simple and showed that it was possible to persuade the IDPs, elder and youth, to work and collaborate. The sustainability of this project is difficult to measure since I decided to abort the project due to lack of further funding. The IDPs produced over 200 jars with a variation of three fruit products and one vegetable product. The follow-up of the project was limited, but it was found that the IDPs survived the winter season and they were able to sell and give away some of the products. With additional funding, these kinds of projects can be a first initial step towards further improvements of simple and sustainable projects.

**Problems**

The problems I found with this project was that the IDPs required continuous coaching and supervising. The continuous coaching and supervising is a costly process and requires sustainable and continuous funding. The variable costs were never accounted for in the evaluation of the project, which suggest that the return of cost and a small interest has to be budgeted for, if a project of this nature was to sustain. Since this project was carried out through the internship I conducted at the HRC, no salaries were paid out.

**CONCLUSION**

The thesis aimed at examining the problems connected to Internally Displaced Persons; worldwide, and in the Samegrelo region in Georgia particularly. Further it aimed at examining the problems of foreign aid, the provisions for development aid and its impact, through the assistance of local NGOs. In accordance to the two aims, the question of the research conducted was; What are the problems IDPs are facing on global level and on local level in the Samegrelo region in Georgia?

To facilitate an answer to the question and comprehensively provide a possible answer, I conducted a project in the field, that serves as a Case study in the thesis. I also conducted research
to conceptualize IDPs as a global phenomenon and IDPs on local level, and by including international legislation; conventions and protocols, and the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. I conceptualized foreign aid and attempted to trace the channeling of foreign aid; humanitarian and development, destined for IDPs. I conceptualized the NGOs with the intent to describe the assistance; humanitarian and development, and its impact on IDPs.

An explanation to the answer is that the main Official Development Assistance (ODA) is largely channeled and destined as *humanitarian aid*, especially in relations to the aftermaths of the conflict in Georgia in 2008. This represents a major concern for Local NGOs and has for many years been a problem for the IDPs - globally and locally.

From the perspective on local level and IDPs in the Samegrelo region, there are no provisions that indicate any coming changes that would drastically change the situation for the IDPs, primarily in connection to the level of supervision and assistance they are in need of, and by also referring to previous failures with short-term projects and the project I conducted. No long-term commitments are visible from IDPs, nor are there any long-term commitments from Local NGOs being able to provide the capacity to resolve the humanitarian crisis and problems related to the IDPs.

Concerning the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, what occurs on local level in the Samegrelo region and Georgia as a whole, also with reference to the criticism of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, and the ignoring UN-bodies, ICRC and the EU, deployed in the region, to international humanitarian laws, international human rights laws and international refugee laws, the situation for IDPs in the Samegrelo region seem to remain problematic beyond prediction.

**********
I. REFERENCES


5 The IDPs came from the conflicts between Georgia and separatist-regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia. A majority of the total estimated figure of IDPs of 300,000, more than 250,000 came from the conflict with Abkhazia during 1992-1994. In 2008, conflict broke out between Georgia and Russia, which led to the loss of national control of the territories of South Ossetia and Abkhazia. These separatist regions became safeguarded by Russian military.

6 Online resource: http://www.usaid.gov/locations/europe_eurasia/countries/ge/

7 Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/3dhqlhl (Accessed on 23/05/11) "EU-Led Donors Pledge $4.5 bn. in Aid to Georgia". RFERL.

8 Online resource: http://bit.ly/gEMu5I (Accessed on 21/05/11). “Georgia targets at new Eurobonds emission”.

9 Grants ranges from about €100-25,000, as I found out from these development cooperation agencies offices when in contact with them during my internship period in 2010-2011.


29 Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/66nhp7m (Internal Displacement Monitoring Center, accessed on 26/04/11 00:12).


38 ibid. (2008):32


40 Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/3sds873 “Georgia - Quick facts”. Published 31/12/10 by IDMC. (Accessed 11/05/11 20:24).

41 Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/3sds873 “Georgia - Quick facts”. Published 31/12/10 by IDMC. (Accessed 11/05/11 20:24).


Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/5rbnej3 (Accessed on 12/05/11), “Kodori Gorge Refugees in Limbo Abkhaz officials encourage them to return but Georgian refugee leaders warn against doing so. By Irma Choladze - Caucasus, CRS Issue 477, 22 Jan 09”.

“The underlining in this citation is made by myself to distinct the information when compared with the IDMC report and the IWPR report.


73 “Government of Georgia State Strategy for Internally Displaced Persons”.


80 ibid.


88 ibid. (2009):34. IDMC and NRC.


94 This [general] view was presented by the HRC FOZ by FO manager David Patsatsia during an interview. (Nov. 2010). Comment: In this typical situation that may occur, an example of misunderstandings and the use of IDP rights, is that a family who monthly collects their allowance, may have one family member that has registered at another address - differing from the one connected to the allowance as a whole. In this case the family loses the allowance due to the change of registration.


Internally Displaced Persons in Georgia - Challenges for Change


128 Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/3q7e3q7 (Accessed 21/05/11). “Georgia”.


130 Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/3gm3mh3 (Accessed 21/05/11). (ODA/GNI 2010)

131 Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/3o5h7yt (Accessed 22/05/11). (aidflows, Beneficiary View, Georgia - Official Development Assistance (OECD/DAC Data)). (2011).

Online resource: (1)http://tinyurl.com/35w8ouf (Accessed on 20/05/11). “Sources of ODA”.  


Online resource: http://tinyurl.com/3cfmmrh (Accessed 18/05/11). “What is a Non-Governmental Organization?” Prof. Peter Willetts. (City University, London).

Online resource: http://www.ngosamegrelo.org/ “NGOs in the Samegrelo Region”  
(Accessed on 18/05/11) 

Zugdidi 26  
Poti 5  
Tsalenjikha 3  
Senaki 2  
Abasha 5  
Martvili 6  
Khobi 5  
Zemo Svaneti 1


The European Commission; The Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; The Norwegian Helsinki Committee; National Endowment for Democracy (NED), The USA; Black Sea Trust of the German Marshal Fund of the United States/USAID; Cordaid (The Netherlands); Council of Europe; Norwegian Human Rights Fund; Embassy of Canada; Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC); OSCE Mission to Georgia; Eurasia Partnership Foundation; Open Society Georgia Foundation; UNICEF; International Economic Relations and Development Co-operation (YDAS-Hellenic Aid) – General Secretariat of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Greece); Friedrich Ebert Foundation; Open Society Institute (OSI, Budapest); The World Bank; Stichting Vluchteling (The Netherlands); The Swiss Embassy in Georgia; Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Georgia; Embassy of Lithuania; Nordic Council of Ministers/Human Rights House Foundation; CICC; Abilis Foundation; Nonviolent Peaceforce; Penal Reform International; Minority Rights Group International; The Swedish Institute; Oslo Coalition on Freedom of Religion or Belief;

Online resource: http://www.initiativesamegrelo.org