

# United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

## *Community Connections Program-Georgia*

**Adjara/Poti Business Group from Republic of Georgia hosted by  
California State University, Hayward College of Business Economics**

1. Mr. Surmanidze, Teimuraz
2. Mr. Bakuridze, Nugzar
3. Ms. Dagargulia, Maya
4. Mr. Shashikadze, Kakha
5. Mr. Khazaradze, Elguja
6. Mr. Tugushi, Akaki
7. Mr. Garuchava, Zurab
8. Mr. Makharadze, Mamuka
9. Mr. Nodia, Lasha
10. Ms. Tunelyan, Anna

**Recruiting organization:** Project Harmony

[www.projectharmony.ge](http://www.projectharmony.ge) - Project Harmony Georgia Website

[www.projectharmony.ge/cc.htm](http://www.projectharmony.ge/cc.htm) - Community Connections Georgia website

*Community Connections Georgia is a program of the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs administered by Project Harmony.*

1.

**Name :** Surmanidze, Teimuraz

**Biography:** Currently, Mr. Surmanidze is the co-owner and Administrative Director for TeRo Co. Ltd. Founded in 1995, with his friend Roin Nakashidze, TeRo Co. Ltd. is a shipping and forwarding company situated in the port city of Batumi on the Black Sea. The company provides service throughout Western Georgia, trans-Caucasia and Europe.

Since their beginnings, the company has expanded and now includes offices in Poti and in Supsa with a total of 35 employees. Recently, TeRo has moved into the Tourism sector and has opened a Travel Agency. During the Soviet period, tourism was particularly well developed in Georgia and many feel that there is a possibility for it to thrive again. Mr. Surmanidze would like to explore the possibility of expanding the Tourism sector of his company.

For more information about TeRo and their activities, please refer to their website at:

<http://www.teroagency.com>

2.

**Name :** Bakuridze, Nugzar

**Biography:** Mr. Nugzar is the Financial Manager for the hotel and shop conglomerate “Bakuri” Ltd. in Batumi. “Bakuri” Ltd. Was founded in 1993 and was originally a conglomerate of small shops, import and export and bread distribution. In 1996 the company expanded to include hotels. The company now boasts around 150 employees.

Mr. Bakuridze became acquainted with “Bakuri” Ltd. in 1995 when he was a shop assistant. In 1996 he was promoted to hotel administration and in now he is the Financial Manager of the entire company.

3.

**Name:** Dagargulia Maia

**Biography:** Mrs. Dagargulia represents the Poti Sea Port and holds the position of Insurance Coordinator. The Port of Poti is the oldest port in Georgia. Established in 1858, it has served as a convenient geographical location as the gateway to the Caucasus and Central Asia. The port currently implements several development projects by means of own sources and attracted foreign investments. The port has established relations with Istanbul, Piraeus, Malta, Gio-Tauro. Over the last three years, the port strengthened its activity in diverse aspects, purchased different cargo handling equipment, repaired existed portal cranes and other equipments.

More information about Port of Poti can be found: <http://www.potiport.com>

4.

**Name :** Shashikadze, Kakha

**Biography:** Mr. Shashikadze is the Head of the Analytical Department of the Georgian Maritime Bank in Batumi. The Georgian Maritime Bank is one of the larger banks in Georgia, with a most of their “strength” concentrated in Western Georgia.

As the Head of the Analytical Department, Mr. Shashikadze supervises 4 employees.

5.

**Name :** Khazaradze, Elguja

**Biography:** Mr. Khazaradze is the Chief Designer of a construction company known as “Khidi-93” in Batumi. Founded in 1993, Khidi-93 is a small company that constructs small buildings, houses and advertisements through working with contractors.

6.

**Name :** Tughushi, Akaki

**Biography:** Mr. Tughushi is an Administrator at BatumiNet Ltd. Founded in 1998, BatumiNet Ltd. has become one of the largest Internet service providers in Adjara and serves both private and small customers. Although trained as a physicist, Mr. Tughushi is certified as an “Oracle” professional. website: [www.batumi.net](http://www.batumi.net)

7.

**Name:** Garuchava, Zurab

**Biography:** Mr. Garuchava is the co-owner of “Garuchava-SPS”. It is a Georgian small enterprise producing soft drinks (various types of Lemonades), which was founded 2 years ago by his father. Currently, the company produces 800 bottles of lemonade every 3 days and markets them in local stores. The goal of the company is produce high quality drinks and become famous through good management and excellent equipment. As a co-owner Mr Garuchava is responsible to contact and negotiate with company’s potential partners and provide company law recommendations. At the same time Mr. He

works for the Poti Sea Port as a lawyer for 1 year, during the working hours he is occupied working as a lawyer and evenings he spends in the private company.

**8.**

**Name:** Makharadze, Mamuka

**Biography:** Mr. Makharadze is a customs broker for “Instra – Batumi “ LTD. This company is a local Georgian company which was founded in 1998. It is a transportation company and they are primarily responsible for the transportation of different types of cargoes and licenses to carriers. Mr. Makharadze primarily deals with the legal matters of the business, focusing on the proper documentation needed for import and export. Besides Georgia, the company has terminals in both Bulgaria and the Ukraine. The cargoes are forwarded and dispatched in different countries of the world.

Mr. Makharadze work on the position of customs broker since 2002.

**1.**

**Name :** Nodia, Lasha

**Biography:** Mr. Nodia is the Production Manager and co-owner of a printing house in the city of Poti, known as IRIDA. IRIDA is a family business founded in 1991 and primarily produces advertising literature (brochures, booklets, etc.) for businesses and organizations throughout Western Georgia. Although trained in economics, Mr. Nodia began to work fulltime at IRIDA in 1997 as a computer operator and is primarily responsible for design and production.

**10.**

**Name:** Tunelyan Anna

**Biography:** Ms. Tunelyan works as an Office Manager at GEOMAR Co. Ltd. GEOMAR Co. Ltd is maritime Consulting and Surveyor which was established in 1994 by experts in sea transport and marine engineering. The company has branches in Poti and Tbilisi and their transportation covers Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Turkmenistan.

The company has successful working experience in the TransCaucasus market and has developed new procedures and techniques of inspection for basic export, import and transit cargoes such as citrus cultures, tea, mineral products, fertilizers, bauxites, steal products and others. GEOMAR Co. Ltd is officially recognized and certificated by a Classification Society International Register of Shipping as a non-exclusive surveyor and is authorized to inspect and certify compliance of vessels with rules and regulations of the International Conferences.

So far, the company has established a solid reputation among the local and overseas insurance companies and clubs of sea and land transportation.