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Title: The villages of Gurjaani are emptying

Details: In the last few years, we've seen more and more people leaving Kakheti either to go to Tbilisi to seek work, or to go abroad - to Greece, Turkey and Russia. The population is getting older, traditions are being lost and the workforce that Kakheti needs for its economic recovery is disappearing.

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Gurjaani TV - <http://gurjaanitv.com>

www.openmediahub.com

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Restrictions: None

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1/ Story Pitch:

In the last few years, we've seen more and more people leaving Kakheti either to go to Tbilisi to seek work, or to go abroad - to Greece, Turkey and Russia. The population is getting older, traditions are being lost and the workforce that Kakheti needs for its economic recovery is disappearing.

2/ Shot list:

3/ Script:

The villages of Gurjaani are emptying. Where five years ago the streets were full of young people today only the old are left. Tsitso Ghviniashvili, who lives in Gurjaani is one of those who are leaving.

SOT - Tsitso Ghviniashvili, artist

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I don't have any choice, I have to leave. What else can I do? I've done so much here but nobody values what I do. I had a job but I had to leave it and now the outlook is really bleak.

Unlike Tsitso, Marine Zardiashvili is going nowhere. But the problem of migration affects here too - She lives alone in Gurjaani. Her two sons have left to find work in Tbilisi. But Marine is managing to make a living. She received a grant for starting up a small enterprise and now has her own business growing mushrooms.

SOT - Marine Zardiashvili - businesswoman

It's not just me who is in this situation. It's just the same for my neighbours. Over there two houses are locked up and abandoned and that way there are only pensioners. But I'm not going anywhere because I can't leave this house. And I'm starting a little mushroom business. We're building a greenhouse here. There are a few things still to do but it will soon be finished. I won't to make this work.

Kakheti is famous for its viticulture and the skills and traditions needed in the vineyard are passed from generation to generation. Unlike many of his friends, wine-maker Vano Kuprashvili has chosen to stay in the village and carry on the traditions inherited from his ancestors.

SOT - Vano Kuprashvili - wine maker

I guess life is better for them where they've gone and that's why they're leaving. Half the vineyards here have been sold. They can't care for the vines any more and are abandoning them.

Stand-up - According to the National Statistics Department, the population of Gurjaani has shrunk by 15,000 people in the last few years. The last census put the population of the municipality at 55,000. If things don't change and the migration from Gurjaani continues, that figure could be halved within a few years.

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გურჯაანის რაიონის სოფლები ყოველწლიურად ცარიელდება. დაახლოებით 5 წლის წინ თუ ქუჩები სავსე იყო ახალგაზრდებით, ახლა მოხუცების გარდა აღარავინაა დარჩენილი. გურჯაანში მცხოვრები, პროფესიით ხელოვანი ციცი ღვინიაშვილი კი ერთ ერთი- მათგანია, რომელიც მალე ქვეყნის დატოვებას და საზღვარგარეთ წასვლას აპირებს.

სინქრონი- ციცი ღვინიაშვილი სოფლის დატოვებას არ აპირებს მარინე ზარდიაშვილი, რომელიც სოფელ გურჯაანში მარტო ცხოვრობს. თუმცა მიგრაციის პრობლემა მასაც აწუხებს, რადგან ორი შვილი ჰყავს და ორივე სამუშაოდ თბილისშია წასული. თავად კი შემოსავლს წყარო მოძებნა, მცირე ბიზნესის ხელშეწყობის პროექტის ფარგლებში გრანტი მოიგო და სოკოს ბიზნესი წამოიწყო.

სინქრონი- მარინე ზარდიაშვილი (შუმი)

კახეთი მევენახეობის მხარეა და ვაზის მოვლა თაობიდან თაობაზე გადადის. მევენახე ვაწო კუპრაშვილმა მეგობრებისგან განსახვავებით სოფელი არ მიატოვა და მამა-პაპისგან დატოვებულ ტრადიციას აგრძელებს.

სინქრონი- ვაწო კუპრაშვილი
სთენდაფი