

Research Connections — E-Bulletin

Labor Market Trends and Challenges Conference

On December 18, 2007 the [Caucasus Research Resource Centers-Armenia](#) in cooperation with the USAID Armenia [Social Protection Systems Strengthening Project](#), the Ministry of Labor and Social Issues of Armenia, and the State Employment Service Agency held a policy conference on “Labor Market Trends and Challenges”, which aimed to elaborate a common vision of policy measures and promote a better understanding of labor market regulation in Armenia.

Among conference participants were the Minister of Trade and Economic Development, Nerses Yeritsyan, and the Minister of Education and Science, Aghvan Vardanyan, who discussed and identified trends and their implications for labor market policies in Armenia. Participants also focused on youth unemployment, as youth have more difficulties finding jobs than adults; in general, the gap between workers’ skills and employers’ needs is growing in Armenia. In addition, a low birth rate and out migration create challenges for employers. At the conference, the Minister of Labor and Social Issues mentioned that next year a national employment strategy will be prepared, as part of an overall social sector strategy. [More](#)

Local Language Events

- Round Table: [Millennium Challenge Account \(MCA\) – Armenia Monitoring and Evaluation Component](#), Yerevan, Armenia, January 22 (ARM).

- Presentation: CRRC’s Data Initiative 2007 Results, Yerevan, Armenia, January 30 (ARM).

For more events, please go to our country websites listed below.

CRRC Issue on “Migration Trends in Georgia 2007”

The Caucasus Research Resource Center (CRRC) Georgia office in cooperation with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation in Georgia conducted research on Migration Trends in Georgia since 1995. The project was financed by the European Commission’s AENEAS program. The research focused on Georgian migrants in the European Union, as well as Russia and Turkey.

CRRC conducted two sets of focus groups – one for voluntarily returned migrants and the second for the general public to measure public awareness of Georgian citizens on migration issues. In total, there were 13 focus groups conducted in Tbilisi, Batumi, Kutaisi and Akhalkalaki in a limited period of time. Also, the research involved interviews with migration specialists, existing return programs like World Vision, People in Need, and Caritas, as well as various data gathering and analysis.

As the report finds, return and reintegration will have limited sustainability unless the concerns like employment, larger salary, educational opportunities or career advancement opportunities are addressed, or the economic environment improves. Therefore, appeals based on Georgian identity or the provision of a few jobs for the elites will not do enough to stimulate return and reintegration. The report will be shortly available to the public on the DRC website.

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Heghine Manasyan, CRRC-AM Director, speaks

DI 2007 Completed

CRRC’s has completed the annual [Data Initiative](#) (DI) 2007. The data sets are being cleaned and will be shortly analyzed and posted on our country [websites](#). The first presentations on the data are already available. CRRC will launch a series of presentations on the DI. For more information, please refer to CRRC team.

SPSS Crash Course – Wonders of Technology

In order to use the Data Initiative (DI), you need to know SPSS, a statistical software package, which at first sight looks quite complicated. But actually, it is easy! With our SPSS Crash Course you can learn within 20 minutes about 80% of what you need in order to extract descriptive statistics from the DI. You will be able to get both tables and graphical output through this statistical software, i.e. raw numbers and attractive graphs for presentations.

You can find a series of 5 minute video introductions on our [regional website](#), which will help you get started.



CRRC-Caucasus Research Resource Centers

Strengthening social science research and public policy in the South Caucasus



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Local Language Events

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