

Project Update: May 2015

Seminars about biospeleology, speleology, and the necessity for local cave conservation were conducted for public school pupils in the villages of Tsesi, Kvemo Tlughi, Kvatskhuti, Likheta and in Ambrolauri and Oni towns. After the seminars, the quizzes were performed and the winners were rewarded with the cups with Rufford Foundation logo. During the excursions in Sakishore, Dolabistavi, and Nikortsminda Sakinule and Nikortsminda Meliis caves speleobiological, meteorological and paleobiological methods were shown to the school pupils. They participated in the investigation of abovementioned caves. Cave dwelling invertebrates were sampled in the investigated caves. 73 species of the invertebrates were recorded in 11 karst caves. Results of palynological research suggest that the cave sediments can be quite suitable for reconstruction not only of the vegetation history but may also provide tools for palaeoecological reconstructions. During this trip we distributed booklets to the public schools and local people.



Left: Excursion in Sakishore Cave. Middle: School pupils in Sakishore Cave. Right: Visit in Sakishore Cave.



Left: Seminar at Tlughi School. Middle: Seminar at Tsesi Schools. Right: Rewarding after seminar.