

Project Update: October 2016

Seminars about biospeleology, paleobiology, speleology, and the necessity for local cave conservation were conducted for public school pupils in the villages of Martvili district. After the seminars, the quizzes were performed and the winners were rewarded with the cups with Rufford Foundation logo and monograph about the cave-dwelling invertebrates of Georgia. During the excursions in Leskhulukhe, Inchkhuri, Jortsku I and Motena caves speleobiological, meteorological and paleobiological methods were shown to the school pupils. They participated in the investigation of above mentioned caves. Endemics *Zenkevitchia revazi* and *Mingrelloniscus inchhuristicus*, were resampled again for further investigation. From the invertebrates sampled in the investigated caves three species of spiders, seven species of collembolans and one species of millipedes have already determined on the species level. 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.



Excursion at Leskhulukhe cave



Excursion at Motena cave



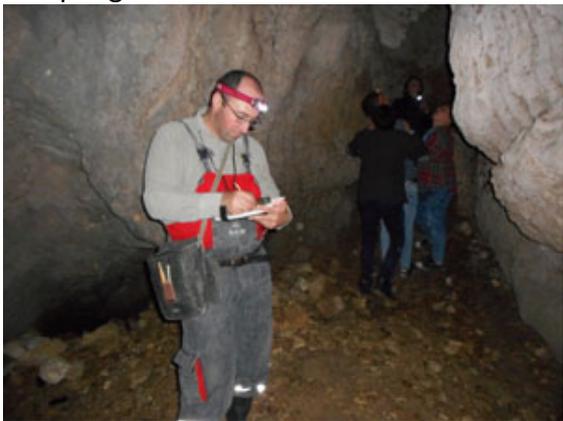
In front of entrance of Motena cave



Millipede at Motena cave



Sampling at Leskhulukhe cave



Sampling at Leskhulukhe cave



Sampling at Motena cave



Seminar at Balda Public School



Seminar at Inchkhuri School



Seminar at Martvili School



Seminar at Salkhino School