

28-years old Nahayat Abbasova was born in Shamkir. Their family consists of four and she has elder brother. Her father lives and works in Russia since she was small. Her brother also left for Russia to work after returning from army. Staying at their home alone with her mother, they managed their household and there are few months that Nahayat also married.

After getting her higher education in Baku Slavic University, she wanted to stay and work there, but her family didn't allow her, so she came back to Shamkir and started to work as a teacher at the school. However limited opportunities in the region make her feel oppressed and she actively takes part at seminars, trainings and social events that took part. While attending leadership trainings, she also gets aware about the Start and Improve Your Business training and enrolls to this training. By attending in these trainings, she increases her capacity and gets more motivated.

On the top of all, she learned from the training how to sufficiently manage her monthly income, developing business plan and thus, she was able to analyze her and her family's capacity and opportunities from another perspective and define her business idea – as notes Nahayat. She also states that together with her family they discussed several ideas and decided on one of them – now they plan to open a Beauty and Healthcare (SPA) Centre and they will realize this without accessing loan and using their own family savings on initial stages. Nahayat already received consent from her family for moral and financial support in order to take over this initiative.

Thanks to her active community representation she was elected to the local municipality and now she is taking an active part in creating income generating households and businesses of the municipality. Their municipality has very limited income sources. Currently Nahayat, applying her knowledge gained at the training on creating business plan, she contributes to conducting market research, building marketing plan, making procurements, income and expenses plan and in general working out a business plan for establishing poultry household for the municipality. With this additional income source their municipality will be able to provide more social services to the community and even, Nahayat mentioned that, in near future with the income from this small business they plan to establish a shelter for the women that suffered from household violence in their region. She also suggested a new business idea for the municipality – organizing sale of handworks of their community women and currently this idea is being discussed within their municipality.

Nahayat mentions that without this training she would hardly be able to contribute to these activities of municipality. Always being highly motivated and encouraged, this lady also encourages other women in her community to start their own businesses.