

## Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Initiative East Guarantee Facility

GEORGIA  
MOLDOVA  
UKRAINE

# Inside stories

## Family and Walnut farming in the Kakheti region of Georgia

After working in Spain for 20 years, Mr Guram Nakashidze decided to return to Georgia in 2012 with his family and go into the business of walnut farming; naming each of his five established companies after his family members, financed under the state-run project Plant the Future.

In 2017, and via a guaranteed loan, Mr Nakashidze planted his first saplings and today cultivates 18,500 walnut trees of five different American and French varieties across his 82 hectares of land.



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2019 will mark the year of his first harvest which he plans to export to Turkey and then, after obtaining the necessary certificates, he hopes to enter the international market.

The Guarantee Facility enabled Mr Nakashidze to benefit from a ProCredit Bank loan, despite not having sufficient collateral which would have otherwise prevented him from obtaining this financing.

Mr Nakashidze was therefore able to invest in his business development and purchase the five different French and American varieties of walnuts.

**“We are going to build our own facility next year so that we can process the nuts we harvest before bringing them to market. We hope that with the support of our financial partner and through our own efforts, we will be able to continue to carry out our business development plans.”**

**- Guram Nakashidze**