

### **The law of the mountain**

The purpose of the mountain law is to identify benefits to stimulate the socio-economic progress of the mountainous regions guaranteed by the Constitution of Georgia, which will ensure the well-being of people living in the mountainous regions, raising living standards, promoting employment, improving social and economic conditions.

The law entered into force on September 1, 2016.

According to hypsometric altitude, the settlement is considered to be a mountainous settlement that is at or above 1500 meters above sea level. However, settlements that are well below 800 meters are listed and 3 criteria have been developed by the National Council for Mountain Development.

1. Demographic Criterion .2002 25% decrease among 2014 censuses

Or the average age of people living in settlements over 40 years

2. Agricultural Criteria. It covers the area where the terrain prevents the use of arable land and the area cannot be cultivated using standard techniques used by the Ministry of Agriculture in the bar.

3. Peripherality Criteria. This criterion identifies the settlements for which the population has access to basic public infrastructure and service centers due to the distance from the municipality center.

This law shall apply to the mountainous settlements in the occupied territory of Georgia after the full restoration of jurisdiction over the territory concerned.

References: Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia.