## IVLP ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



## **KARINE DAVTYAN**

Founder and President at Sisian Development Initiatives NGO



Karine is an IVLP alumna from Armenia who participated in the Sustainable Development program in March 2019. For this program, she met with different tourism outlets including Denver Local Tours, Echo Mountain, Colorado Tourism Office & Visit Denver, Rocky Mountain National Park, Natural Habitat Adventures, and Banjo Billy's Bus Tours. The program also participated in a WorldDinner with a local host family.

"I work as a Director of Sisian Development Initiatives NGO. I live in a small town in south Armenia, where we try to develop sustainable tourism. I am also in charge of the Sisian Tourism Center which is extending its activity frame to become a Destination Marketing Organization through long term tourist strategy. After returning from the IVLP program I have tried hard to work on public-private partnerships and bed tax in my country (both of them are almost nonexistent here). I REALLY enjoyed my Denver trip and I really liked your program! Three words that can describe my IVLP program in Denver are fantastic, knowledgeable, and informative."

## - KARINE DAVTYAN