



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Second Regional Development Project

(P130421 and P157465)

February 2016

1. Preface

Present Environmental Management Framework (EMF) is an integral part of the Operations Manual of the Municipal Development Fund of Georgia (MDF) prepared for the purposes of implementing the World Bank-supported Second Regional Development Project (RDP II) in compliance with the national policies and regulations as well as with the safeguard policies of the World Bank. EMF covers environmental, cultural, and social aspects of project management. EMF refers to the possibility of involuntary resettlement in the course of the project implementation. Mechanisms of handling involuntary resettlement are not covered by this EMF, though, because MDF has a self standing Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), which provides guidance for identifying in what circumstances does the resettlement policy apply, as well as for developing and implementing Resettlement Action Plans.

2. Project Context

Following four years of rapid growth, backed by far-reaching reforms and strong financial investment inflows, Georgia experienced a sharp economic downturn resulting from the August 2008 conflict and the global financial crisis. Economic recovery is underway, with growth of an estimated 6.3 percent in 2010. The authorities responded to the downturn with a countercyclical fiscal stimulus coupled with a marked reallocation of public expenditures toward social and infrastructure investments. As economic recovery takes hold, driven by higher exports and private investment, the authorities are winding down the stimulus and implementing fiscal adjustment to safeguard sustainability. There is, however, uncertainty regarding the pace of economic recovery. Georgia will need to refinance a public debt amortization spike in 2013. The authorities are addressing these vulnerabilities through well designed fiscal, monetary and debt management policies. Infrastructure projects are considered by the Government as part of the physical stimulus package.

The Government of Georgia (GoG) refocused efforts in the past six years by launching several initiatives to attract private investors in selected regions (Tbilisi, Adjara) on various sectors. Georgia, however, has not yet fully tapped its potential to promote sustainable tourism in promising regions, such as Imereti, or transform the economy through investment in tourism and agriculture supply chains for both export and import substitution. There is also a need for skills development in order to provide the skilled labor needed for a growing economy and increased productivity.

The GoG asked the World Bank to support regional development in Kakheti and Imereti by applying a vertical programmatic approach. The proposed program of interventions will emphasize tourism and agro-processing as two key pillars and drivers of economic growth. Regional Development Project is now being implemented in Kakheti and the RDP II is ongoing in Imereti. Upon request of the GOG, the World Bank provides additional financing to RDP II to scale it up, fill financing gaps resulting from the currency depreciation, and address some cost overruns.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

Georgia Regional Development Strategy¹: The Government of Georgia approved in June 25, 2010 (Government resolution no. 172), the State Strategy on Regional Development of Georgia for 2010-2017, prepared by the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure (MRDI). The main objective of the strategy is to create a favorable environment for regional socio-economic

¹ Georgia Regional Development Strategy (RDS): <http://www.mrdi.gov.ge/?page=lawv&id=4&lang=2>

development and improve living standards. These objectives will be attained through a balanced socio-economic development, increased competitiveness and increased socio-economic equalization among the regions. The Government has been investing in Tbilisi as the growth pole of Georgia, as well as in Adjara (west of Georgia) as growth centers. In order to better utilize the tourism and agriculture potentials that exist in Imereti and reduce internal socio-economic disparities, the Governments intends now to support development of Imereti with World Bank support to enable it become one of Georgia's most dynamic growth centers.

Imereti Context: GoG's vision for the regional development in Imereti is reflected in the Imereti Regional Development Strategy (covering period of 2014-2021) developed by the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure (MRDI) with support from the EU, and in the Imereti Tourism Development Strategy developed by the Georgia National Tourism Administration (GNTA).

Imereti occupies a territory of approximately 6,552 km² (9.4 percent of Georgia area). Imereti consists of 12 administrative districts: Kutaisi (the Capital of the region), Tkibuli, Tskaltubo, Chiatura, Baghdati, Vani, Zestaponi, Terjola, Samtredia, Sachkhere, Kharagauli, Khoni. There are 542 settlements in the region of which: 10 cities (Kutaisi, Tkibuli, Tskaltubo, Chiatura, Baghdati, Vani, Zestaponi, Terjola, Samtredia, Sachkhere, and Khoni); 3 towns (Shorapani, Kulashi and Kharagauli); and 529 villages. The population of Imereti is about 703,485 (16 percent of Georgia population) at density 107 people/km².

Imereti has huge tourism development potential. The region is home to 78 Churches, 13 Castles, 39 Archeological Monuments and 27 Museums. The most significant endowments cultural heritage patrimonies are: Bagrati cathedral, Gelati monastery, Ruins of the ancient town of Vani, Sataplia grotto, Katskhi pillar, and Motsameta monastery.

The region also has 3 protected areas, 12 unique caves and 9 spa resorts based on hot and cold spring water. There is also in close proximity to Imereti, the Borjomi Kharagauli National Park, which is the largest protected area in Europe.

The main agricultural activities of the region are grapes and maize growing, and animal farming. However, farmers in Samtredia are more engaged in tea growing rather than fruit and vegetable growing. Households are mainly engaged in growing maize (48,000 ha; 131,000 tons), vine (15,000 ha, 63,000 tons) and fruit (7,000 ha; 20,000 tons). (The indicators represent the combined data for Imereti and Racha-Lechkhumi regions).

The majority of industrial enterprises in Imereti are located along the country's main motor roads and railway lines in Kutaisi, Zestaponi and Samtredia. Almost half of important enterprises are located in Kutaisi, the administrative center of the region, which has an airport as well. The entire output of the enterprises in the region comprises 7 percent of the industrial and 10 percent of entrepreneurial production of the country. The most noteworthy out of existing enterprises in the region are the enterprise in Chiatura engaged in extracting manganese and the ferro-alloy plant in Zestaponi.

The proposed Regional Development Project II aims to achieve several objectives: (a) enhance Imereti's tourism potential, (b) foster employment, and (c) foster private investment in the region, with emphasis on private tourism and hospitality infrastructure development schemes in the first place.

GoG believes that the Project shall allow better anchoring of the Imereti region to the Georgia-wide tourism circuits, to tap the hitherto untapped yet potentially significant tourism and hospitality industry potential which exist in the region. Imereti shall be reinvigorated as one of the key pillars of growth and of attraction in the broader Georgian context. RDP II is all the more important in the general context of Georgia's special planning vision espoused by the Government. Imereti's capital Kutaisi, Georgia's second larger city, is being fast transformed into Georgia's significant administrative/government center after Tbilisi. In 2012, the Parliament of Georgia was relocated from Tbilisi to Kutaisi, providing a major impetus to the city and kicking in significant externalities for local/regional development. Chamber of Control, Government regional building and other facilities are being erected in the Kutaisi downtown. An International Airport close to Kutaisi is now operational, ensuring enhanced in country mobility and bringing in regular and budget flight from both within and outside of Georgia. In close proximity to Imereti, the Government is developing a number of important resorts, including the maritime resort of Anaklia and the ski resort in Upper Svaneti.

Careful examination of the needs and priorities has allowed the Georgian side to come up with the list of public measure which, when implemented, would have a significant positive multiplier effects, spilling over into the private sector investment facilitation and employment creation.

The proposed tourism development vision for the region envisages developing Imereti as a high quality geotourism destination throughout the year through attracting domestic and international tourists; building on its wellness/spa tourism, cultural heritage and nature/adventure; and focusing on quality (tourist spending) rather than quantity (tourist arrivals). Success of tourism will depend on the use of an integrated approach, using the geotourism and applying vertical approach to a comprehensive urban regeneration effort in key centers of attraction. These will attract private investments, revitalize local business activity, develop a full-fledged regional tourism circuit, and foster two leisure travel clusters: Cultural heritage and nature/adventure.

Development of the tourism vision and the proposed two leisure travel clusters (culture heritage and nature/adventure) will require, at a minimum: infrastructure improvement to attract private sector investments; improved planning and organization (e.g. destination management organization and office); institutional strengthening and capacity building; association/cluster development; geotourism mapping and tour circuit development; improved visitor services, signage and interpretation; and marketing activities.

There are five sites/subprojects suggested by the Government for financing under the Project to supplement what the Government has already invested in. These can be grouped into two categories:

- One city suggested for major urban regeneration building on its comparative advantage as SPA destination: Tskaltubo (Balneological bath, parks and squares, lake and water channels, foot paths, roads, outdoor lightings, underground utilities).
- Four cultural heritage sites suggested for improved site management: Gelati Monastery, which is a UNESCO heritage; Vani Museum; Ubisa Monastery; and Katskhi Church and Monastery Column.

3. Development Objective, Expected Results, and Design of the Regional Development Project II

A. Proposed Development Objective

The Project Development Objective is to improve infrastructure services and institutional capacity to support the development of tourism-based economy and cultural heritage circuits in the Imereti region.

The key results expected from the Project are:

Infrastructure Services:

- Increased number of hours per day of piped water services in Tskaltubo (from 8 hours/day to 18 hours/day).
- Improved energy efficiency of street lights by 30%.

Tourism Economy:

- Increased annual number of visitors at Project sites by 22 percent.
- Increased number of hotel beds in circuit route areas by 20 percent.
- Increased revenue from tickets sold at Vani museum by 100 percent.

Institutional Capacity:

- Increased volume of private sector investment in Tskaltubo mobilized by the Tskaltubo Destination Management and Development Agency.

B. Project Design

Component 1: Infrastructure Investment

Provision of financial resources to local-self governments (LSGs) to carry out Investment Subprojects for the following activities:

Component 1.1. Urban Regeneration of Tskaltubo: An integrated approach is proposed for urban renewal of Tskaltubo city. This includes a) rehabilitation of municipal infrastructure and utilities in the central area; b) upgrading of public spaces, parks, and construction of tourism amenities, and c) restoration of public buildings with vernacular architecture. The proposed activities will help improve livability and hospitality in a culturally-informed manner, enhance attractiveness for visitors, revitalize the urban nuclei, and attract increased volume of private sector investments around the medical and spa tourism cluster.

Component 1.2. Tourism Circuits Development: An integrated approach to site upgrading and improved management of the five most attractive cultural heritage sites in Imereti: Gelati Monastery; Vani Museum and surrounding ethnographic site; the Ubisa Monastery; the Katskhi Church and the Katskhi Monastery Column. This includes a) improving urban landscaping and public parking; b) construction of info kiosks, cafes and public toilets; c) restoration of the Vani Museum and the supply of showcases and furniture; d) improving access roads; and e) preservation of selected cultural heritage sites.

Component 2: Institutional Development

Enhancing the institutional capacity of the Georgia National Tourism Administration, the Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia, the National Museum, the Project Implementing Entity (MDF), and other local and regional entities to carry out the following activities:

- Establish Tskaltubo destination management and development agency;
- Establish geotourism routes, tourism portal and local outreach campaign;
- Support skilled workforce development and capacity building for men and women;
- Carry out monitoring & evaluation activities; and
- Provide construction supervision and sustainable management of cultural heritage sites.

Total Project Cost

The estimated total Project cost (subject to preparation and appraisal), including physical and price contingencies, is about US\$48.75 million, of which the World Bank will provide US\$30 million IDA credit and US\$9 million IBRD loan, while the Recipient will provide US\$9.75 million counterpart funding.

4. Introduction to the Environmental Management Framework

This EMF is a technical day-to-day guide for implementing RDP II in the environmentally and socially responsible manner and with full preservation of cultural heritage of the region. It provides guidance for screening subproject proposals for the risks of deteriorating natural environment, damaging cultural heritage, and resulting in negative social impacts. Based on the outcome of risk identification, EMF offers two formats for environmental, cultural heritage, and social review and for planning mitigation measures. EMF also carries uniform templates to facilitate conduct of subproject screening, review, and management planning procedures.

5. Environmental Compliance of the Project

RDP II must be implemented in full compliance with the national legislation, including laws, regulations, and standards governing environmental management, social protection, and preservation of cultural heritage of the country. As far as the World Bank provides core financing for the project implementation, the safeguard policies of the World Bank also apply. The Project is classified as environmental Category B with subproject rating as higher or lower risk category B. RDP II triggers the following safeguard policies of the World Bank:

- OP/BP 4.01 Environmental Assessment
- OP/BP 4.11 Physical Cultural Resources
- OP/BP 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement
- OP/BP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways

The Project carries investment components in support to infrastructure development and therefore triggers OP/BP 4.01 Environmental Assessment. Based on the principles of the Op/BP 4.01, all proposed investment subprojects fall under environmental Category B and the entire RDP II is also ranked as environmental Category B. All subprojects will, therefore, require examination of environmental risks, development of subproject-specific sets of risk mitigation measures, and planning of environmental monitoring of works. Depending on the level of risk to be assessed in

the process of environmental screening of subproject proposals, present EMF proposes differing scope and format of environmental due diligence.

OP/BP 4.11 Physical Cultural Resources is triggered to ensure that restoration/conservation of historical buildings and works in the immediate proximity to the cultural and natural heritage sites do not affect structural stability of the existing constructions and do not depreciate historical and aesthetic value of heritage sites.

OP/BP 4.12 is triggered to address the cases of possible involuntary land take under the targeted investments. Because the location and footprint of these investments will not be known until implementation, the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) is prepared and Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) for individual subprojects will be prepared as needed in line with the RPF and compensation provided prior to commencement of civil works at any given subproject site.

OP/BP 7.50 is triggered because RDP II will co-finance works for the rehabilitation of Tskaltubo wastewater treatment plant financed from the Support to Sustainable Wastewater Management Project. EMF developed for this project covers procedural requirements of OP/BP 7.50. RDP II will provide supplemental resources for the implementation of activities selected for financing according to the EMF of the Support to Sustainable Wastewater Management Project.

The World Bank operational policies also require that all investment designs reflect results of public participation and integrate governmental interests along with those of private businesses and civil society. In this spirit, MDF will ensure that the preparation of Environmental Reviews (ER) and/or EMPs for subprojects includes consultation with affected parties and public disclosure of the associated documents.

6. Subproject Screening and Approval

The purpose of subproject screening (*Attachment 1*) is to identify the main threats and benefits it carries for the natural environment, social strata, and cultural heritage. While risks associated with various subproject may vary, all of them are expected to fall under environmental Category B. No category A subproject may be supported under RDP II. Such subprojects are ineligible. Category B subprojects may carry relatively higher or lower risks. *Attachment 2* to this EMF provides a tool for ranking eligible subprojects by potential risks. Depending on whether a subproject is carrying higher or lower risks, the due environmental diligence applicable to it may include conduct of an environmental review (including development of an EMP) – for high risk Category B, or be limited to the use of Environmental Management Checklist for Small Construction and Rehabilitation Activities (*Attachment 4* to this EMF) – for low risk Category B.

Social screening is also part of the subprojects' screening and approval process. It allows identifying a need for applying OP/BP 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement to a particular subproject, in which case the next steps and actions will be guided by the RPF prepared for the RDP II. Social and cultural resource screening of subprojects will be carried out using social screening form (*Attachment 3*).

7. Environmental Review and Environmental Management Planning

The purpose of environmental review of a proposed subproject is to assess and analyze potential risks for the natural environment, cultural heritage, and social strata; specify expected impacts, their scope, magnitude and duration; examine alternatives to the proposed design and technological approaches; identify ways of mitigating expected negative impacts (as well as the

possible ways of enhancing positive impacts); estimate costs associated with application of the recommended mitigation measures; and develop a scheme for monitoring application of the prescribed mitigation measures. Potential impacts at the construction phase as well as during operation of the infrastructure supported from the project must be considered in the process of the environmental review. Development of an environmental management and monitoring plans is an integral part of the environmental review process.

Environmental Management Checklist for Small Construction and Rehabilitation Activities (*Attachment 4*) is a tool for environmental management planning for low risk small scale projects. It is a template to be filled in with short information about the location of a subproject site, physical and natural environment around it, land ownership, legislation pertaining subproject implementation, and the specific types of activities required for a subproject implementation. Based on these types, the Checklist provides generic sets of mitigation measures applicable to them. Environmental management and monitoring plan has to be developed by the subproject proponent to specify how the mitigation measures will be applied and how their application will be tracked.

8. Public Consultation

The RDP II was prepared with intense and meaningful consultation with all stakeholders, including top management of several line ministries, Governor of Imereti and his office, governing and self-governing bodies of the target municipalities of the region, the Imereti Church, NGOs (“Kutaisi branch of Georgian Young Lawyers” Association, “SPECTRUM”, Association “ASA”) of Imereti Region representatives of the private sector in Imereti and Georgia generally, professionals from various academic fields, and most importantly - local communities which will be direct beneficiaries of the project activities, but will also experience direct impacts from the construction and operation of the infrastructure to be provided under the Project.

Present EMF, while in draft, was disclosed nation-wide in Georgian and English languages and a stakeholder consultation meeting was held to receive public feedback. The document was finalized thereafter with minutes of consultation process annexed to the present EMF (*Attachment 6*).

Draft environmental review reports (if applicable) and EMPs will be disclosed nation-wide, with particular attention to their availability for local communities, in the language and format convenient for them. EMPs will be open for commenting and consultation meetings will be held to facilitate local participation. Public opinion will be considered in finalization of draft EMPs and the documental evidence of the conducted consultation process will be attached to EMPs and kept on file.

9. Environmental Liabilities of MDF Contractors

The EMPs must be finalized prior to tendering works packages and included in the tender documentation, so that potential bidders are aware of environmental performance standards expected from them and are able to reflect that in their bids. Larger scale and discrete mitigation measures shall be included in the Bills of Quantities and priced respectively.

The EMPs become integral parts of a works contract upon its conclusion and their implementation is mandatory for a contractor. The MDF, as a client of construction works, will be responsible for enforcing compliance of contractor with the terms of the contract, including adherence to the EMP. For minor infringements, an incident which causes temporary but reversible damage, the contractor will be given 48 hours to remedy the problem and to restore the environment. If restoration is done satisfactorily during this period, no further actions will be taken. If it is not done

during this period, MDF may arrange for another contractor to do the restoration, and deduct the cost from the offending contractor's next payment. For major infringements, causing a long-term or irreversible damage, there will be a financial penalty up to 1% of the contract value in addition to the cost for restoration activities.

10. Environmental Monitoring

Environmental monitoring will be an integral part of MDF's supervisory work in the course of the project implementation. The MDF will be responsible to ensure that on-site managers of works contractors are familiar with EMPs and instruct workers/personnel on the compliance with these EMPs. The MDF will demand from works contractors timely submission of environmental permits for the operation of asphalt/concrete plants (if owned); licenses for the extraction of rock, gravel, and sand (if operating quarries); and written agreements with local authorities on the disposal of waste. The MDF will conduct regular on-site monitoring of civil works to verify contractors' adherence to the requirements set out in EMPs, to identify any outstanding environmental issues or risks, and to ensure proper application of the prescribed remedial actions. In case of recorded non-compliance with EMPs, MDF will instruct contractors on the corrective measures and closely monitor their further progress.

MDF's in-house capacity to carry out the above described supervisory functions will be supplemented by a hired international construction supervision company. Oversight on the environmental, cultural, and social aspects of construction works will be an integral part of the terms of reference for such supervision company.

11. Reporting

Documenting of environmental supervision of subprojects is mandatory. Monthly monitoring reports will be generated by filling out field monitoring checklists (*Attachment 5* to this EMF), reflecting quality and extent of the application of each mitigation measure prescribed by EMPs. Information provided in checklists should be supported with photo material taken on-site and dated.

Environmental chapters of quarterly progress reports on the project implementation shared with the World Bank will carry more comprehensive, analytical information on the status of environmental performance under the RDP II, including overview of deviations/violations of EMPs encountered over the report period, instructions given to the works contractors for addressing any weaknesses or identified issues, and follow-up actions on the revealed outstanding matters.

Prompt notification of the World Bank on any accidents, emergencies, and unforeseen issues which may occur in the course of works and directly or indirectly affect environment, physical cultural resources, personnel of works providers, and or communities residing in the vicinity of a project site is mandatory regardless timelines of reporting.

Environmental Screening and Classification of Subprojects

(A) IMPACT IDENTIFICATION

Has the subproject a tangible impact on the environment?	
What are the significant beneficial and adverse environmental effects of the subproject?	
Does the subproject have any significant potential impact on the local or affected communities?	
What impact has the subproject on the human health?	

(B) MITIGATION MEASURES

What alternatives to the subproject design have been considered and what mitigation measures are proposed?	
What lessons from the previous similar subprojects have been incorporated into the project design?	
Have concerned communities been involved and have their interests and knowledge been adequately taken into consideration in subproject preparation?	

(D) CATEGORIZATION AND CONCLUSION

Conclusion of the environmental screening:

1. Subproject is declined
2. Subproject is accepted

If accepted, and based on risk assessment, subproject preparation requires:

1. Completion of the Environmental Management Checklist For Small Construction and Rehabilitation Activities
2. Environmental Review, including development of Environmental Management Plan

Risk Assessment of Eligible Subprojects

Sensitive receptors of the Natural and Social Environment around a subproject site	Yes / No?	Significant potential impact / high risk (check)	Low potential impact / low risk (check)
Natural Habitats, fragile ecosystems		Forests; wetlands; nesting/breeding areas, rest areas for migratory birds, wildlife corridors connecting protected areas, steep slopes, alpine and subalpine zone, green-fields	Strongly transformed urban or rural landscapes, industrial sites, brown-fields
Surface water bodies		Major rivers and river floodplains, trans-boundary water bodies and their tributaries, lakes; smaller water bodies which have high value for local communities or biodiversity	Small rivers and streams, artificial reservoirs and ponds which are not indicated as having high value for local communities or biodiversity
Groundwater sources		Deposits of the regional/national importance, mineral and/or thermal water sources, high groundwater table	Regular groundwater table
Valuable landscapes		Protected landscapes, landscapes of outstanding aesthetic value, Green-fields, recreational areas	Strongly transformed urban or rural landscapes, industrial sites, brown-fields
Physical cultural resources		Individual or general protection zones of cultural monuments, historical or traditional sites (religious, burial, ritual)	No cultural resources
Human settlements		More than 20 affected households; physical relocation needed	Less than 20 affected households, no physical relocation needed, no land take required
Geohazards: severe erosion, landslides, flooding		Recorded	Not recorded
<p>If a subproject is expected to carry high risk based on any of the above criteria of assessment, it is considered a high risk subproject. An environmental review has to be carried out and an environmental management plan developed;</p> <p>If a subproject is not expected to carry high risk based on any of the above criteria of assessment, it is considered a low risk subproject and an Environmental Management Checklist for Small Construction and Rehabilitation Activities has to be completed.</p>			

***Social and Cultural Resource Screening
of Subprojects***

Social safeguards screening information		Yes	No
1	Is the information related to the affiliation and ownership status of the subproject site available and verifiable? (The screening cannot be completed until this is available)		
2	Will the project reduce other people’s access to their economic resources, such as land, pasture, water, public services or other resources that they depend on?		
3	Will the project result in resettlement of individuals or families or require the acquisition of land (public or private, temporarily or permanently) for its development?		
4	Will the project result in the temporary or permanent loss of crops, fruit trees and Household infra-structure (such as granaries, outside toilets and kitchens, etc)?		
If answer to any above question (except question 1) is “Yes”, then OP/BP 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement is applicable and mitigation measures should follow this OP/BP 4.12 and the Resettlement Policy Framework			
Cultural resources safeguard screening information		Yes	No
5	Will the project require excavation near any historical, archaeological or cultural heritage site?		
If answer to question 5 is “Yes”, then OP/BP 4.11 Physical Cultural Resources is applicable and possible chance finds must be handled in accordance with OP/BP and relevant procedures provided in the Environmental Management Framework .			

Environmental Management Checklist for Small Construction and Rehabilitation Activities

General Guidelines for use of EMP checklist:

For low-risk topologies, such as school and hospital rehabilitation activities, the ECA safeguards team developed an alternative to the current EMP format to provide an opportunity for a more streamlined approach to preparing EMPs for minor rehabilitation or small-scale works in building construction, in the health, education and public services sectors. The checklist-type format has been developed to provide “example good practices” and designed to be user friendly and compatible with safeguard requirements.

The EMP checklist-type format attempts to cover typical core mitigation approaches to civil works contracts with small, localized impacts. It is accepted that this format provides the key elements of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) or Environmental Management Framework (EMF) to meet World Bank Environmental Assessment requirements under OP 4.01. The intention of this checklist is that it would be applicable as guidelines for the small works contractors and constitute an integral part of bidding documents for contractors carrying out small civil works under Bank-financed projects.

The checklist has three sections:

- Part 1 includes a descriptive part that characterizes the project and specifies in terms the institutional and legislative aspects, the technical project content, the potential need for capacity building program and description of the public consultation process. This section could be up to two pages long. Attachments for additional information can be supplemented when needed.
- Part 2 includes an environmental and social screening checklist, where activities and potential environmental issues can be checked in a simple Yes/No format. If any given activity/issue is triggered by checking “yes”, a reference is made to the appropriate section in the following table, which contains clearly formulated management and mitigation measures.
- Part 3 represents the monitoring plan for activities during project construction and implementation. It retains the same format required for EMPs proposed under normal Bank requirements for Category B projects. It is the intent of this checklist that Part 2 and Part 3 be included into the bidding documents for contractors, priced during the bidding process and diligent implementation supervised during works execution.

CONTENTS

- A) **General Project and Site Information**
- B) **Safeguards Information**
- C) **Mitigation Measures**
- D) **Monitoring Plan**

PART A: GENERAL PROJECT AND SITE INFORMATION

INSTITUTIONAL & ADMINISTRATIVE				
Country				
Subproject title				
Scope of subproject and activity				
Institutional arrangements (Name and contacts)	WB (Project Team Leader)	Project Management	Local Counterpart and/or Recipient	
Implementation arrangements (Name and contacts)	Safeguard Supervision WB	Local Counterpart Supervision Technical Supervisor	Local Inspectorate Supervision	Safeguard Supervision
SITE DESCRIPTION				
Name of site				
Describe site location				Attachement 1: Site Map []Y []N
Who owns the land?				
Description of geographic, physical, biological, geological, hydrographic and socio-economic context				
Locations and distance for material sourcing, especially aggregates, water, stones?				
LEGISLATION				
Identify national & local legislation & permits that apply to project activity				
PUBLIC CONSULTATION				
Identify when / where the public consultation process took place				
INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING				
Will there be any capacity building?	[] N or [] Y if Yes, Attachment 2 includes the capacity building program			

PART B: SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION

ENVIRONMENTAL /SOCIAL SCREENING			
	Activity/Issue	Status	Triggered Actions
Will the site activity include/involve any of the following?	A. Building rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section A below
	B. New construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section A below
	C. Individual wastewater treatment system	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section B below
	D. Historic building(s) and districts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section C below
	E. Acquisition of land ²	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section D below
	F. Hazardous or toxic materials ³	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section E below
	G. Impacts on forests and/or protected areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section F below
	H. Handling / management of medical waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section G below
	I. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section H below

² Land acquisitions includes displacement of people, change of livelihood encroachment on private property this is to land that is purchased/transferred and affects people who are living and/or squatters and/or operate a business (kiosks) on land that is being acquired.

³ Toxic / hazardous material includes but is not limited to asbestos, toxic paints, noxious solvents, removal of lead paint, etc.

PART C: MITIGATION MEASURES

ACTIVITY	PARAMETER	MITIGATION MEASURES CHECKLIST
0. General Conditions	Notification and Worker Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The local construction and environment inspectorates and communities have been notified of upcoming activities (b) The public has been notified of the works through appropriate notification in the media and/or at publicly accessible sites (including the site of the works) (c) All legally required permits have been acquired for construction and/or rehabilitation (d) The Contractor formally agrees that all work will be carried out in a safe and disciplined manner designed to minimize impacts on neighboring residents and environment. (e) Workers' PPE will comply with international good practice (always hardhats, as needed masks and safety glasses, harnesses and safety boots) (f) Appropriate signposting of the sites will inform workers of key rules and regulations to follow.
A. General Rehabilitation and /or Construction Activities	Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) During interior demolition debris-chutes shall be used above the first floor (b) Demolition debris shall be kept in controlled area and sprayed with water mist to reduce debris dust (c) During pneumatic drilling/wall destruction dust shall be suppressed by ongoing water spraying and/or installing dust screen enclosures at site (d) The surrounding environment (sidewalks, roads) shall be kept free of debris to minimize dust (e) There will be no open burning of construction / waste material at the site (f) There will be no excessive idling of construction vehicles at sites
	Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Construction noise will be limited to restricted times agreed to in the permit (b) During operations the engine covers of generators, air compressors and other powered mechanical equipment shall be closed, and equipment placed as far away from residential areas as possible
	Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The site will establish appropriate erosion and sediment control measures such as e.g. hay bales and / or silt fences to prevent sediment from moving off site and causing excessive turbidity in nearby streams and rivers.
	Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Waste collection and disposal pathways and sites will be identified for all major waste types expected from demolition and construction activities. (b) Mineral construction and demolition wastes will be separated from general refuse, organic, liquid and chemical wastes by on-site sorting and stored in appropriate containers. (c) Construction waste will be collected and disposed properly by licensed collectors (d) The records of waste disposal will be maintained as proof for proper management as designed. (e) Whenever feasible the contractor will reuse and recycle appropriate and viable materials (except asbestos)
B. Individual wastewater treatment system	Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The approach to handling sanitary wastes and wastewater from building sites (installation or reconstruction) must be approved by the local authorities (b) Before being discharged into receiving waters, effluents from individual wastewater systems must be treated in order to meet the minimal quality criteria set out by national guidelines on effluent quality and wastewater treatment (c) Monitoring of new wastewater systems (before/after) will be carried out (d) Construction vehicles and machinery will be washed only in designated areas where runoff will not pollute natural surface water bodies.
C. Historic building(s)	Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) If the building is a designated historic structure, very close to such a structure, or located in a designated historic district, notification shall be made and approvals/permits be obtained from local authorities and all construction activities planned and carried out in line with local and national legislation. (b) It shall be ensured that provisions are put in place so that artifacts or other possible "chance finds" encountered in excavation or construction are noted and registered, responsible officials contacted, and works activities delayed or modified to account for such finds.

ACTIVITY	PARAMETER	MITIGATION MEASURES CHECKLIST
D. Acquisition of land	Land Acquisition Plan/Framework	(a) If expropriation of land was not expected but is required, or if loss of access to income of legal or illegal users of land was not expected but may occur, that the Bank’s Task Team Leader shall be immediately consulted. (b) The approved Land Acquisition Plan/Framework (if required by the project) will be implemented
E. Toxic Materials	Asbestos management	(a) If asbestos is located on the project site, it shall be marked clearly as hazardous material (b) When possible the asbestos will be appropriately contained and sealed to minimize exposure (c) The asbestos prior to removal (if removal is necessary) will be treated with a wetting agent to minimize asbestos dust (d) Asbestos will be handled and disposed by skilled & experienced professionals (e) If asbestos material is being stored temporarily, the wastes should be securely enclosed inside closed containments and marked appropriately. Security measures will be taken against unauthorized removal from the site. (f) The removed asbestos will not be reused
	Toxic / hazardous waste management	(a) Temporarily storage on site of all hazardous or toxic substances will be in safe containers labeled with details of composition, properties and handling information (b) The containers of hazardous substances shall be placed in an leak-proof container to prevent spillage and leaching (c) The wastes shall be transported by specially licensed carriers and disposed in a licensed facility. (d) Paints with toxic ingredients or solvents or lead-based paints will not be used
F. Affected forests, wetlands and/or protected areas	Protection	(a) All recognized natural habitats, wetlands and protected areas in the immediate vicinity of the activity will not be damaged or exploited, all staff will be strictly prohibited from hunting, foraging, logging or other damaging activities. (b) A survey and an inventory shall be made of large trees in the vicinity of the construction activity, large trees shall be marked and cordoned off with fencing, their root system protected, and any damage to the trees avoided (c) Adjacent wetlands and streams shall be protected from construction site run-off with appropriate erosion and sediment control feature to include by not limited to hay bales and silt fences (d) There will be no unlicensed borrow pits, quarries or waste dumps in adjacent areas, especially not in protected areas.
G. Disposal of medical waste	Infrastructure for medical waste management	(a) In compliance with national regulations the contractor will insure that newly constructed and/or rehabilitated health care facilities include sufficient infrastructure for medical waste handling and disposal; this includes and not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special facilities for segregated healthcare waste (including soiled instruments “sharps”, and human tissue or fluids) from other waste disposal; and ▪ Appropriate storage facilities for medical waste are in place; and ▪ If the activity includes facility-based treatment, appropriate disposal options are in place and operational
H Traffic and Pedestrian Safety	Direct or indirect hazards to public traffic and pedestrians by construction activities	(a) In compliance with national regulations the contractor will insure that the construction site is properly secured and construction related traffic regulated. This includes but is not limited to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signposting, warning signs, barriers and traffic diversions: site will be clearly visible and the public warned of all potential hazards ▪ Traffic management system and staff training, especially for site access and near-site heavy traffic. Provision of safe passages and crossings for pedestrians where construction traffic interferes. ▪ Adjustment of working hours to local traffic patterns, e.g. avoiding major transport activities during rush hours or times of livestock movement ▪ Active traffic management by trained and visible staff at the site, if required for safe and convenient passage for the public. ▪ Ensuring safe and continuous access to office facilities, shops and residences during renovation activities, if the buildings stay open for the public.

PART D: MONITORING PLAN

Activity	What (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	Where (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	How (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	When (Define the frequency / or continuous?)	Why (Is the parameter being monitored?)	Who (Is responsible for monitoring?)
1. Type of activity						
2. Type of activity						
3. Type of activity						

Field Environmental Monitoring Table

Site location					
Name of contractor					
Name of supervisor					
Date of site visit					
Status of civil works					
Documents and activities to be examined	Status				Comments
Contractor holds license for extraction of natural resources	Yes	Partially	No	N/A	
Contractor holds permit for operating concrete/asphalt plant					
Contractor holds agreement for final disposal of waste					
Contractor holds agreement with service provider for removal of household waste from site					
Work site is fenced and warning signs installed					
Works do not impede pedestrian access and motor traffic, or temporary alternative access is provided					
Working hours are observed					
Construction machinery and equipment is in standard technical condition (no excessive exhaust and noise, no leakage of fuels and lubricants)					
Construction materials and waste are transported under the covered hood					
Construction site is watered in case of excessively dusty works					
Contractor's camp or work base is fenced; sites for temporary storage of waste and for vehicle/equipment servicing are designated					

Contractor's camp is supplied with water and sanitation is provided					
Contractor's camp or work base is equipped with first medical aid and fire-fighting kits					
Workers wear uniforms and protective gear adequate for technological processes (gloves, helmets, respirators, eye-glasses, etc.)					
Servicing and fuelling of vehicles and machinery is undertaken on an impermeable surface in a confined space which can contain operational and emergency spills					
Vehicles and machinery are washed away from natural water bodies in the way preventing direct discharge of runoff into the water bodies					
Construction waste is being disposed exclusively in the designated locations					
Extraction of natural construction material takes place strictly under conditions specified in the license					
Excess material and topsoil generated from soil excavation are stored separately and used for backfilling / site reinstatement as required					
Works taken on hold if chance find encountered and communication made to the State agencies responsible for cultural heritage preservation					
Upon completion of physical activity on site, the site and contractor's camp/base cleared of any remaining left-over from works and harmonized with surrounding landscape					

***Minutes
of Public Consultation Meeting***

In order to discuss the Environmental Management Framework (EMF) and Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) prepared for the Regional Development Project II, on September 10, 2012 a stakeholder meeting was held at the Kutaisi City Hall.

Population of the region was informed about the public hearing in advance through the announcements posted on the information boards of Gangeoba building. Also, the documentation was sent by e-mail to the project-affected municipalities.

At the meeting were discussed the environmental and resettlement legal requirements of Georgia and safeguard policies of the World Bank. The structure, contents, legal background and requirements of the EMF and RPF which are the part of the Operations Manual of RDP II.

Those present:

Name	Organization
Alexander Lejava	Chief Specialist International Organization Relations Division Municipal Development Fund of Georgia (MDF)
Nino Patarashvili	Chief Specialist Environmental Protection Analysis and Resettlement Division, MDF

Public Consultation was attended by attorneys of the territorial entities of the municipalities of Imereti region and representatives of local population (see the photos blow)




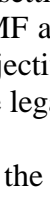
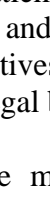
List of attendees (interested population) is attached below

იმერეთის რეგიონული განვითარების პროექტი (RDPII)
ქ. ქუთაისში დაგეგმილი გარემოსდაცვითი მართვის ჩარჩო დოკუმენტის და განსახლების პოლიტიკის
ჩარჩო დოკუმენტის საჯარო განხილვა

შეხვედრაზე დამსწრეთა სია

ქ. ქუთაისი 10 სექტემბერი 2012წ.

№	სახელი და გვარი	მოქალაქე/ორგანიზაცია	საკონტაქტო ინფორმაცია	ხელმოწერა
1	სამხაიაძე ვაჟ	სამხაიაძე ვაჟი, ინჟინერ-სპეციალისტი	595-20-98-88	
2	ვერა ჩიქოვანიძე	ვერა ჩიქოვანიძე, ინჟინერი	595 908071	
3	ზნეზ ზოსიანიძე	ზნეზ ზოსიანიძე, სპეციალისტი	599 27-32-50	
4	ვახტანგ ქავთაძე	ვახტანგ ქავთაძე, ინჟინერი	595 959067	
5	ნუბეჯიანი	ნუბეჯიანი, ინჟინერი	595-95-97 66	
6	ჩხეიძე	ჩხეიძე, ინჟინერი	577 46 97 09	
7	საბუხაძე	საბუხაძე, ინჟინერი	599561642	
8	ემსარი	ემსარი, ინჟინერი	599-51-60-19	
9	ქიქოძე	ქიქოძე, ინჟინერი	595-19-41-33	
10	ვერუხაძე	ვერუხაძე, ინჟინერი	599984154	
11	მამიაძე	მამიაძე, ინჟინერი	595114454	

12	ნაკომის დენადე	იპროტის ხაზის რეკონსტრუქცია უფროსი სპეციალისტი	599-99-02-94	
13	ნათი პატარაშვილი	მეც	577 3822 92	
14	ლევან ციციანი	საერთაშორისო მხარდაჭერის მეცნიერ-ინჟინერის სპეციალისტი	577 3822 82	
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The meeting was opened by Alexander Lejava, representative of the MDF and informed the attendees of the meeting about. He made presentation of the RDPII.

He pointed to the main objectives and directions of the project, the source of funding and significance of the project for the Region in general. He also discussed the institutional capacity building for the tourism and cultural heritage center related economic and infrastructural services and 5 projects to be implemented.

Nino Patarashvili, the chief specialist of Environmental Protection Analysis and Resettlement Division of MDF presented to the attendees the information about EMF and RPF prepared for the above RDP II. She informed the participants of the objectives of preparation of the above-mentioned documents. Updated the public on the legal background, structure and contents of the documents.

At the meeting were discussed the topics concerning resettlement and natural and social environment, including EMF and RPF and the legal requirements of Georgia and the WB, methodology and format of preparation of environmental and resettlement documentation and the issues of their coordination, implementation and monitoring, as well as the obligations, responsibilities and reporting obligations of the stakeholders.

They also were informed about public rights and possible involvement in the consultation process during preparation of environmental and social (resettlement) documentation.

The following main topics were presented during the meeting:

■ **Brief description of Project and sub-projects under RDP II**

■ **Introduction to the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)**

- Policy, Legal and Administrative Framework
- The World Bank Policy, Safeguards and Georgian Legislation
- Principles of Resettlement and Land Acquisition Adopted for the RDP II
- Eligibility and Entitlements
- Implementation
- Agreements
- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Outline of a Resettlement Action Plan

■ **Introduction to the Environmental Management Framework**

- Environmental Compliance of the Project
- Subproject Screening and Approval
- Environmental Review and Environmental Management Planning
- Public Consultation
- Environmental Liabilities of MDF Contractors
- Environmental Monitoring
- Reporting

■ **Involvement of population in consultation processes.**

The presentation was followed by debates. the Q&A session held by the MDF staff is given in the below table.

Question/Comment	Response
When will the project implementation start?	The contract on the rehabilitation of the water supply and wastewater systems in the central part of Tskaltubo is already signed. Most of sub-projects are expected to start during the current year.
Will the local population be employed?	The employment issue and employing of workers essential for the project implementation will be carried out by the Contractor which will be identified through bidding. According to the World Bank requirements in the process of selecting the employees if the qualification is equal, priority should be given to locals.
If an affected person is against receiving the compensation stipulated in the Resettlement Action Plan, how will the property be purchased and reimbursed in this case?	Attempts should first be made to achieve consensus on the basis of negotiation with the affected individual. First, complaints resolution will be attempted at village level with the involvement of village authorities, and at the Sakrebulo level. Should the negotiation fail, the power of eminent domain will be sought, and expropriation process will start. Relevant regional court will review the case, determine public needs for the privately owned property and grant the expropriation entity rights to obtain such property. The court will also appoint a third party to assess the market value of lost assets and determine the compensation payable to private owners according to the value of assets thus found.
Is it already determined according to the environmental policy of the WB to which environmental category do the sub-projects under the Imereti Regional Development Project belong?	The sub-projects under the Imereti Regional Development Project and the project itself are determined as B category according to the OP/BP 4.01 Environmental Assessment. Though the sub-projects B+ and B- are divided into categories. B+ category sub-projects involve higher risk in terms of their impact on natural, and social environment and cultural heritage during their implementation and require preparation of ERs including EMP. B- category sub-projects involve lower risk in terms of their impact on natural, and social environment and cultural heritage during their implementation and require preparation of EMP using of Environmental Management Checklist for Small Construction and Rehabilitation Activities.