

Initial Project Summary – Multifunctional Transshipment Terminal, Poti Port

Project Location: Poti, Georgia

Name of Applicant: Tranford, LLC

Name of Project: Multifunctional Transshipment Terminal at Port of Poti, Georgia

Project Description: The Project involves the development, construction and operation of a multi-purpose dry bulk, general cargo and container port on the Black Sea Coast immediately adjacent to the Port of Poti. The Project will be developed on the site of the former “Poti Shipbuilding Factory” and will utilize 3 abandoned and unused berths on the site. Specifically the Project involves:

- Demolition, renovation and upgrade of a 260 m berth;
- Construction of open storage areas for containers and general cargo;
- Construction of up to 344 meters of new rail line;
- Renovation of 2 piers;
- Construction of closed warehouse space;
- Purchase of machinery and equipment; and
- Deepening on an approach channel to 13 meters and disposal of approximately 1.6 million m³ of dredge spoils at an offshore disposal site.

A future phase of the port development involves a liquid transshipment terminal, but this phase is not included in the proposed OPIC financing.

Environmental and Social Categorization and Rationale: The Project has been reviewed against OPIC’s categorical prohibitions and determined to be categorically eligible. The Project is screened as Category A because it involves constriction of a port facility capable of servicing vessels larger than 1,350 tons. Primary environmental and social issues of concern include sediment mobilization and potential adverse impacts on the marine environment due to dredging and dredge spoil disposal; community nuisance impacts such as noise dust and increased traffic associated with the construction and demolition works; occupational health and safety; waste management; and ballast management.

Environmental and Social Standards. OPIC’s preliminary environmental and social due diligence indicates that the Project will have impacts that much be managed in a manner consistent with the following International Finance Corporation’s (IFC) Performance Standards:

- PS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts;
- PS 2: Labor and Working Conditions;
- PS 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention; and
- PS 4: Community Health, Safety and Security.

All land required for the new terminal was purchased on a willing seller – willing buyer basis and no resettlement is required to execute the Project. The Project will be located on the site of an existing, abandoned port facility and as such no habitats of significant biodiversity value or cultural heritage are found on the site. The Project will not impact Indigenous Peoples. Therefore, PS 5, 6, 7, and 8 are not triggered at this time.

In addition to the Performance Standards listed above, the following IFC Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines are applicable to the Project:

- IFC EHS General Guidelines (April 30, 2007) and
- IFC EHS Guidelines for Ports, Harbors and Terminals (April 30, 2007).

Location of Local Access to Project Information: The original Georgian EIA and the updated English language ESIA are available for review at the Transford office in Poti:

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