



Roads Department of Georgia

Kvesheti-Kobi Road Project

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

**European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Asian Development Bank**

Prepared by:

Golder Associates S.r.l.

Banfo43 Centre Via Antonio Banfo 43 10155 Torino
Italia

+39 011 23 44 211

18101413/11760_rev 8

Initially Prepared: March 2019

UBM ULUSLARARASI BİRLEŞMİŞ MÜŞAVİRLER MÜŞAVİRLİK HİZMETLERİ A.Ş.

Reşit Galip Cad. No:94 Çankaya / ANKARA

Turkey

Phone: +90312 427 65 65 Fax: +90312 427 65 76

Update V3: Cleaned up to May 2023



GOLDER

Distribution List

1 Copy Roads Department of Georgia

1 Copy EBRD

1 Copy ADB

1 Copy UBM ULUSLARARASI BİRLEŞMİŞ MÜŞAVİRLER MÜŞAVİRLİK HİZMETLERİ A.Ş.

Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	7
1.1	Scope and objectives	7
1.2	SEP structure	8
2	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	8
2.1	Project justification and predicted impacts	11
3	REGULATORY AND POLICY FRAMEWORK.....	13
3.1	National regulations.....	13
3.1.1	Environmental Assessment Code (2017)	13
3.2	International Agreements and Conventions	13
3.2.1	Aarhus convention	13
3.3	International standards.....	14
3.3.1	European Union	14
3.3.2	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Performance Requirements.....	14
3.3.3	Asian Development Bank.....	15
4	SEP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.....	15
4.1	Road Department.....	15
4.2	Contractor and Subcontractors	16
5	MONITORING AND REPORTING.....	17
5.1	Monitoring.....	17
5.2	Reporting.....	18
5.2.1	Internal Reporting.....	18
5.2.2	External Reporting	18
6	PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS.....	19
6.1	Stakeholder identification	19
6.2	Stakeholder analysis	23
7	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM	27
7.1	General principles for engagement.....	27
	Provision for the participation of vulnerable groups.....	27
	Engagement methods.....	28
7.2	Implementation of activities	28
7.2.1	Meaningful Disclosure	30
7.2.2	Pre-construction phase	32
7.2.3	Construction phase	35
7.2.4	Operation phase	38
8	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED TO DATE.....	41
8.1	Pre-Construction Phase (April 2018 – September 2020)	41
8.1.1	EIA Preparation Phase (April 2018 – May 2019)	41
8.1.2	Post EIA Disclosure Phase (June 2019 – September 2020)	42
8.2	Construction Phase (October 2020 – Present)	42
8.3	Key Stakeholder Engagement Outcomes	43
9	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM	54
9.1	Purpose and Scope.....	54
9.2	Georgian Regulations.....	54
9.3	Grievance mechanism process.....	55
9.4	GRM Staff Roles and Responsibilities	58
9.5	Visibility and Communication	60

APPENDICES

[APPENDIX A - List of affected stakeholders and interested parties](#)61

[APPENDIX B - Stakeholder Engagement Log](#)67

[APPENDIX C - Outline of Engagement Methods](#)98

[APPENDIX D - Civil Society Organization Engagement Plan](#).....102

[APPENDIX E - Example of StakeholderEngagement Activities Register](#).....108

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AP	Affected Person
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPC	Engineering, Procurement and Construction
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESP	Environmental and Social Policy
EU	European Union
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GRCE	Grievance Redress Committee
GRCN	Grievance Redress Commission
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
HH	Household
HHRP	Historic Heritage Reference Plan
KVDP	Khada Valley Develop Plan
KII	Key Informant Interview
LAR	Land Acquisition and Resettlement
LARP	Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan
MOE	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture
MoRDI	Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure
NACHP	National Agency for Cultural Heritage Protection
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PAP	Project Affected People

PCP	Public Communications Policy
PIP	Public Information Policy
PMS	Project Management and Supervision
PR	EBRD Performance Requirement
Q&A	Questions & Answers
RAP	Resettlement Action Plan
RD	Road Department
SDA	Spoil Disposal Area
SEA	Stakeholder Engagement Activity
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SEMP	Site Specific Environmental Plan
SPS	Safeguard Policy Statement
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
VHH	Vulnerable Household

1 INTRODUCTION

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) retained Golder Associates S.r.l. (Golder) to prepare the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Kvesheti-Kobi Road Section (Lot 1 Tunnel South Portal Kobi and Lot 2 – Kvesheti – Tunnel South Portal) project (Project) to be developed in the Mtskheta-Mtianeti Region of Georgia.

This SEP has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Georgian Legislation, EBRD's Environmental and Social Policy 2014 (ESP) and Public Information Policy 2014 (PIP), and ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement 2009 (SPS) and Public Communication Policy 2011 (PCP).

The Roads Department (RD) acts as project implementing agency and the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure (MoRDI) of Georgia as project executing agency, while EBRD, together with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) are the Lenders.

This SEP is a living document and subject to regular updates by the RD, with the support from UBM - Construction Supervision Consultant. As such, it was last updated in February 2023.

1.1 Scope and objectives

The SEP provides the principles, objectives and procedures to be followed by the RD to develop open and transparent engagement with stakeholders throughout the Project lifecycle. Effective Stakeholder engagement is fundamental for building strong, constructive and responsive relationships, which are essential for the successful management of a project's environmental and social impacts.

Therefore, the primary objective of the SEP is to establish a framework for building and maintaining positive relationships with stakeholders during the entire lifecycle of the project, through the implementation of engagement activities. In addition, the SEP outlines the RD's roles and responsibilities, as well as how engagement activities should be monitored and reported.

The overall objectives of this SEP are the following:

- To promote improved Project environmental and social performance through effective and ongoing engagement with project stakeholders, including civil society organizations (CSOs).
- To outline a systematic approach to stakeholder engagement that will help the proponent build and maintain a constructive relationship with stakeholders, in particular directly affected communities.
- To promote and provide a means for accessible, transparent and open engagement with affected communities throughout the project lifecycle on issues that could potentially affect them.
- To ensure that meaningful information on the project design and on its environmental and social impacts is disclosed to the project's stakeholders.
- To ensure that grievances from affected communities and other stakeholders are responded to and managed appropriately.
- To ensure that all stakeholders are given the systemic opportunity to participate in consultation events, e.g. through virtual attendance.

More specific objectives of this SEP include:

- Identifying, mapping and assessing stakeholders and how they may be affected by or interested in the

project.

- Ensuring that vulnerable and disadvantaged groups are identified and that reasonable measures are implemented to include them in on-going consultations.

This SEP applies to all activities performed as part of the Project.

All stakeholders are invited to review and provide feedback on this SEP to the RD, using the following contacts:

Address: Georgia 0160, Tbilisi, Kazbegi ave N12,

Phone Number: (995 32) 37-05-08

Email Address: Info@georoad.ge

Corporate website: <http://www.georoad.ge/>

1.2 SEP structure

The SEP is structured as follows:

- Chapter 1 Introduction
- Chapter 2 Project Description
- Chapter 3 Regulatory and Policy Framework
- Chapter 4 SEP Roles and Responsibilities
- Chapter 5 Monitoring and Reporting.
- Chapter 6 Project Stakeholders
- Chapter 7 Stakeholder Engagement Program
- Chapter 8 Stakeholder Engagement Completed to Date
- Chapter 9 Grievance Mechanism

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Government of Georgia has launched a program (Regional Development Program of Georgia 2018-2021) to upgrade the major roads of the country. The program is managed by the Roads Department of the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure and aims to improve transportation and transit of goods in Georgia and to surrounding countries.

As a part of the program, upgrading Jinali-Larsi section of the E117 is planned. The Jinali-Larsi corridor crosses the Caucasus mountains and aims to improve transportation to and from Russia. It consists of three sections: Jinali - Kvesheti, **Kvesheti-Kobi** and Kobi-Larsi. The Kvesheti-Kobi section (hereafter the Project) is the first of the three to be developed and is the subject of this SEP. The Kvesheti-Kobi section is the most challenging one as it includes the 9 km main tunnel that will cross the Caucasus ridge and bypass the existent road that connects Kvesheti to Kobi through Gudauri area and the Jvari pass.

The main results expected from investment in Kevesheti - Kobi Road include guaranteeing operational continuity during wintertime when transportation has been hindered historically, improvement of safety by reduction in fatality, injury and accident rates and travel time savings for passengers and freight transport.

From an administrative standpoint, the proposed Project is situated entirely in the Mtskheta-Mtianeti Region, across the Dusheti and Kazbegi municipalities. Specifically, the Project spans from the Kvesheti area and Khada Valley in the Dusheti Municipality to the Kobi area in the Kazbegi Municipality.

For the construction and tendering process, the alignment has been split into two sections:

- Lot 1 – Tskere –Kobi (10 km), comprising of the main tunnel, and
- Lot 2 – Kvesheti-Tskere (12 km).

Key design features of Lot 1 and Lot 2 sections are summarized below, and an overview of the alignment location is presented in Figure 1:

Lot 1 includes:

- 178m long section of the road from Tskere to the south portal of the tunnel
- 8.86km long bidirectional, 2 lane tunnels (max. gradient 2.35%)
- 9.06km emergency gallery parallel to the tunnel and 17 connections to the main tunnel.
- Technical buildings next to the North and South portal; the buildings include facilities building, pumping station and ventilation room.
- Design speed 80 km/h.

Lot 2 starts near Kvesheti and continues to Tskere before reaching the village at chainage 12+720. The route includes 2.5 km of tunnels and 1.5 km of bridges. The main elements of this section are:

- Kvesheti bypass road
- 6 bridges
- 4 tunnels, two built with the drilling/blasting technique and two built with the cut and cover technique
- 5 grade junctions and 3 service roads
- Design speed 80 km/h.

The construction of the tunnels will generate surplus earthworks materials; landfilling will hence be required for these materials.

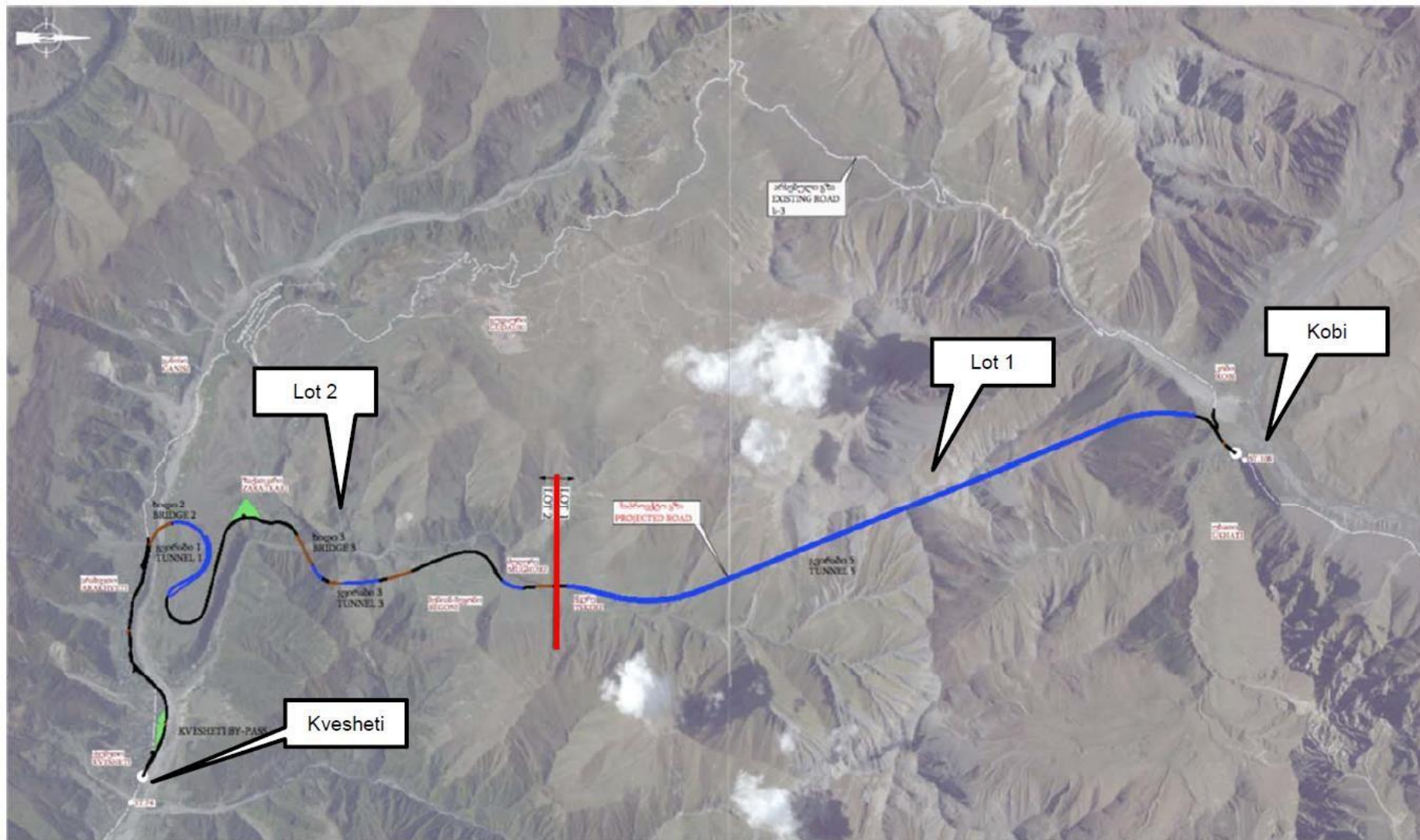


Figure 1: Lot 1 and Lot 2 alignment overview.

2.1 Project justification and predicted impacts

This section provides an outline of the justification for the project and the predicted environmental and social impacts, as identified within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report.

Status of Existing Road

Due to its geographic location, Georgia's role as a major transit country is significant. Transport of goods into and through Georgia has increased over the past 10-15 years. Almost two-thirds of goods in Georgia are transported by road by domestic and international truck companies. Many of the roads are however poorly equipped to cope with the volume of traffic and the proportion of heavy vehicles. Other factors such as insufficient dual carriageways, routing through inhabited areas and inadequate maintenance and repair, hinder throughputs and increase transit times. This creates difficulties for haulage companies and their clients, truck drivers, Georgian motorists and local residents. The following main issues are affecting the current status of the road:

- Deterioration of the existing road which is often closed due to snow fall during the winter months thereby impeding the economic development of the Project Area and the region in general;
- Significant increase in congestion on the existing road especially during the tourist season which leads to degradation of air quality in and around Gudauri;
- Difficulties maneuvering HGVs which leads to a high level of delays and demand affected.

Benefits of New Road

- Improving operational continuity of the North South Highway even during wintertime;
- Improving safety, including reduction in fatality, injury and accident rates especially in the winter when tourist traffic heading to Gudauri will be separated from vehicles in transit to Kobi and beyond;
- Travel time savings for passengers and freight transport. At the same time the existing road will be kept operational thereby acting almost exclusively as access to Gudauri.

Project impacts

The EIA has established that most impacts potentially generated by the Project can be either totally prevented or adequately mitigated. The main impacts identified throughout EIA are listed and briefly described below:

- Notable Habitats: whilst some habitats will be lost, mitigation measures and offsetting will reduce such impacts to acceptable levels during the construction phase. During operation impacts to notable habitats will result from potential pollution and increased indirect impacts to habitats.
- Notable Species: direct impacts will be associated with habitat loss, disturbance and accidental mortality. Indirect impacts could also arise from fragmentation and disturbance from increased numbers people to the valley. The implementation of mitigation measures along with the Project Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) means that such impacts are, however, expected to be reduced to an acceptable level. The operation of the road will result in direct impacts to notable species from RTAs as well as indirect impacts associated with disturbance, habitat fragmentation, pollution and increased access to habitats, although given the number of tunnels and bridges for the Project this is not thought to be high.
- Waste: in general, if the mitigation measures suggested are implemented, residual impacts will be minor. However, restoration requirements for spoil disposal areas will be significant and take a number of years.
- Greenhouse Gases (GHGs): residual impacts from the generation of GHGs will remain throughout the lifecycle of the Project. This is an unavoidable consequence of the Project, but the growth of the electric car market and more fuel-efficient cars may, in the future lead to a decrease in the emissions generated

on the Project road.

- Landscape: Cut slopes, embankments, concrete bridges and tunnels will have an impact on the landscape within the valley throughout the Project lifecycle. Selection of the arch bridge in the Khada Valley and implementation of mitigation measures may go some way to enhancing the aesthetic value of the Project especially as reinstated vegetation grows back around construction zones.
- Community health and safety: during the construction phase, there might be the potential for a temporary increase in road traffic accidents between vehicles, pedestrians and vehicles and livestock and vehicles.
- There will also be short term impacts to noise and air quality. Migrant workers may also increase community health and safety risks. Based on these potential impacts a community health and safety plan will need to be implemented during construction and a dedicated plan relating to road safety and traffic management will also need to be developed.
- Physical and Cultural Resources: some cemeteries, churches, towers, war monuments and religious crosses have been identified throughout the Project corridor that are within 50 meters of the alignment and may be impacted during construction works. It is possible, given the rich cultural heritage of Georgia, that chance finds could occur during excavation works, so Cultural Heritage Monitors will be present during earthworks in higher sensitivity areas and a Chance Find Procedure will be implemented during construction.
- Land Acquisition and Resettlement: for the development of the project, it will be necessary to acquire a number of land plots and houses located within, or in the immediate vicinity of, the footprint of the road and structures. A Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan (LARP) will be in place to respond to these issues and a livelihood restoration program will be implemented for those negatively affected.
- Noise and vibration: a noise model prepared for the Project has indicated that many of the villages within the Project corridor will be temporarily impacted by increased levels of construction noise. In addition, a noise model was developed to determine the future noise levels on the Project road upon completion and in twenty years' time. The results of the model showed mitigation in the form of noise barriers or soil berms will need to be implemented to ensure that noise levels do not exceed IFC guideline limits, notably for the night time period. A vibration assessment prepared for this EIA has indicated that only a few properties may be impacted by general road construction works and equipment and bridge piling works. There are no properties above any of the planned tunnels, or within close proximity to the tunnels. During operation highway traffic is not likely to have any measurable impact on the structures or on comfort.
- Lighting: street lighting can impact upon the local community and residential areas if the light is not shielded correctly, and light 'spill' occurs. In these terms light spill only has the potential to impact upon the residential areas of Kvesheti and Arakveti, all other villages and properties are too far away from the road to be significantly impacted. A simple solution is to provide suitable shielding. Effective shielding can maximize the desired effects of lighting by controlling the light output and minimizing glare and light spill.
- Access: the inclusion of bridges and tunnels in the design means that there are few areas where access is blocked due to the new road. In some of these areas, based on consultation with the local communities, underpasses have been provided or local roads diverted under bridges to allow free movement of people and cattle around the valley.

3 REGULATORY AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

3.1 National regulations

3.1.1 Environmental Assessment Code (2017)

Requirements for public consultation are set forth in the Environmental Assessment Code (2017), which stipulates that public consultation must be performed during the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase, as outlined in the paragraphs below.

Scoping phase

The public has 15 days after the publication of the Scoping Report to submit feedback, which the Ministry must take into account if there are appropriate grounds.

Between the 10th and the 15th day the Ministry must hold a public review of the scoping report in a venue within the administrative jurisdiction closest to the location of the planned activities. A minimum notice of 10 days of meeting details and location are provided to the public. The Ministry maintains minutes of the meeting.

Between the 25th and the 30th day after the scoping application submission, the Ministry must issue a scoping opinion related to the list of studies and information that must be addressed in the EIA report.

EIA disclosure phase

The public has 40 days after the publication of the EIA on the Ministry's website to submit feedback, which the Ministry must take into account if there are appropriate grounds.

Between the 25th and the 30th day from submission of the EIA, the Ministry must hold a public review of the EIA report in a venue within the administrative jurisdiction closest to the location of the planned activities. Similar to the scoping phase, the meeting is open to the public, with a 20-day notice provided. Meeting minutes are recorded by a representative of the Ministry.

Between the 51st and the 55th day after the EIA application submission, the Ministry issues an individual administrative act which provides or denies the environmental authorization for the project.

3.2 International Agreements and Conventions

3.2.1 Aarhus convention

In April 2000, Georgia ratified the Aarhus convention. This UNECE Convention (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) establishes a number of rights of the public (individuals and their associations) with regard to the environment. The Convention provides for:

- the right of everyone to receive environmental information that is held by public authorities ("access to environmental information").
- the right to participate in environmental decision-making ("public participation in environmental decision-making").
- the right to review procedures to challenge public decisions that have been made without respecting the two aforementioned rights or environmental law in general ("access to justice").

3.3 International standards

3.3.1 European Union

The EBRD, as a signatory to the European Principles for the Environment, is committed to promoting the adoption of European Union environmental principles, practices and substantive standards by EBRD-financed projects, where these can be applied at the project level, regardless of their geographical location. When host country regulations differ from EU substantive environmental standards, projects will be expected to meet whichever is more stringent.

Environmental Impact Assessment is a key instrument of European Union environmental policy. Since the inception of the first EIA Directive in 1985 (Directive 85/337/EEC) both the law and the practice of EIA have evolved. An amending Directive was published in 2014 (Directive 52/14/EU).

With regards to stakeholder engagement, the Directive states that:

- the public concerned in the decision-making procedures has to be informed electronically and by public notices or by other appropriate means, as soon as information can reasonably be provided.
- Reasonable timeframes for the different phases shall be provided for the public concerned to prepare and participate effectively in the environmental decision-making.

3.3.2 European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Performance Requirements

Because EBRD is a lender to the project, the present SEP has been prepared to comply with EBRD's Performance Requirements. The EBRD requirements for project information disclosure are stringent and exceed the requirements of the European Union (as defined by the Aarhus Convention and Espoo Convention). Requirements on stakeholder engagement are outlined in EBRD's Environmental and Social Policy of May 2014 under the Performance Requirement (PR) 10 Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement and in the Public Information Policy approved in 2014.

The EBRD requires that clients conduct stakeholder engagement on the basis of providing local communities that are directly affected by the project and other relevant stakeholders with access to timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, in a culturally appropriate manner, and free of manipulation, interference, coercion and intimidation. According to PR 10 stakeholder engagement must involve the following elements:

- stakeholder identification and analysis.
- stakeholder engagement planning.
- disclosure of information.
- consultation and participation.
- grievance mechanism, and
- ongoing reporting to relevant stakeholders.

For projects that are likely to have adverse environmental or social impacts and issues, EBRD requires to develop and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan appropriate to the nature and scale or the risks, impacts and development stage of the project.

The PIP sets out how the EBRD discloses information and consults with its stakeholders so as to promote better awareness and understanding of its strategies, policies and operations.

3.3.3 Asian Development Bank

Likewise, because the ADB is a lender to the project, the present SEP has been prepared in line with ADB's policies. ADB prioritizes consultation and participation with key stakeholders, including civil society organizations. ADB's new corporate strategy, Strategy 2030: Achieving a Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific (2018), emphasizes how the ADB will strengthen collaboration with civil society organizations, while the ADB's Safeguards Policy Statement (2009) requires meaningful consultation with affected communities.

Drawing on its 2030 strategy, ADB is committed to exploring opportunities for increasing CSOs involvement in the design and implementation of projects supported by ADB, with particular focus on operations that use grassroots participatory approaches to target the poor and vulnerable groups, mobilize women and young people, and monitor project activities and outputs.

For alignment with ADB's safeguards and objectives, the following should be considered:

- Avoid adverse impacts of projects on the environment and affected people, where possible.
- Minimize, mitigate, and/or compensate for adverse project impacts on the environment and affected people when avoidance is not possible; and
- Help borrowers/clients to strengthen their safeguard systems and develop the capacity to manage environmental and social risks.

With regards to information disclosure, ADB is committed to working with the borrower/client to ensure that relevant information (whether positive or negative) about social and environmental safeguard issues is made available in a timely manner, in an accessible place, and in a form and language(s) understandable to affected people and to other stakeholders, including the general public, so they can provide meaningful inputs into project design and implementation.

In addition, in 2011 the ADB issued a Public Communications Policy, to guide the institution's efforts to be transparent and accountable to the people it serves. The overall objective of the policy is to enhance stakeholders' trust in and ability to engage with ADB. On 1 Jan 2019, the Public Communications Policy was superseded by a new Access to Information Policy.

4 SEP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Road Department

The **RD** has the ultimate responsibility of implementing the SEP throughout the overall Project lifecycle.

RD: the RD identifies staff and resources for the overall implementation of the stakeholder engagement activities of the Project.

The RD is responsible for:

- Implementing the SEP, by carrying out the activities described throughout the plan;
- Acting as an interface between the RD management, the Project Management and Supervision (PMS) contractor, EPC contractors, subcontractors and stakeholders;
- Monitoring the SEP implementation and for proposing corrective actions and reports to the RD management and to the Lenders.
- Ensuring that this SEP is up to date and appropriate to the nature and scale of the Project;
- Proposing to the RD management, if necessary, amendments and/or updates to this procedure and issuing revisions;

The RD will keep track of all engagement activities performed in a Stakeholder Engagement Activities Register, which will include management forms, minutes of meetings and all relevant material used or prepared for the activity (announcements, posters, brochures, presentations, attendees' sheet, pictures, etc.). An example of the register and record forms to be used for the implementation of a Stakeholder Engagement Activities register is presented in **Appendix E**.

Communication specialist: an external communication specialist has been hired through ADB to support the RD to conduct activities, such as:

- Assisting the RD in conducting a Stakeholders' Mapping to identify key stakeholders,
- Assisting the RD in developing a draft Communication Strategy and Action Plan including a roadmap;
- Assisting the RD and ADB in facilitating the implementation of the Communication Action Plan

Communication activities are often performed as a support of stakeholder engagement, and likewise outcomes of stakeholder engagement can often provide valuable information for the communication strategy, hence the two activities will be performed in strong coordination.

Community outreach specialist: an external community outreach specialist has been hired through ADB, and will support the RD for activities such as:

- Assisting the RD and the communication specialist in conducting a Stakeholders' Mapping;
- Assisting the RD and the communication specialist in implementing the Communication Strategy and Action Plan developed under the project; in addition, the community outreach specialist will apply local knowledge of the country to ensure that all activities are appropriate and culturally sensitive;
- Assisting the RD and other government agencies in planning, conducting, and documenting consultation meetings on the project to ensure interested stakeholders are adequately informed and that the general public understands ADB's role in the project;
- Assisting the RD in compiling all findings and outcomes of consultations and stakeholder engagement meetings in a report to be shared with ADB and relevant government officials, affected people, and any other consultation participants. The community outreach specialist will also coordinate the dissemination of the report ensuring it reaches all relevant stakeholders in a form that is accessible to them;
- Providing overall communication support to the RD and to the project's communication specialist.

Contact details to liaise with the RD will be defined as below:

Address: Georgia 0160, Tbilisi, Kazbegi ave N12,

Phone Number: (995 32) 237-05-08

Email Address: info@georoad.ge

Corporate website: <http://www.georoad.ge/>

4.2 Contractor and Subcontractors

The implementation and update of the SEP is under the responsibility of the RD. Contractors and subcontractors (including the PMS contractor) are not allowed to implement engagement activities directly but have to collaborate with the RD within the framework of the SEP. Likewise, contractors are not allowed to handle grievances, but, if approached by stakeholders on this issue, have to address them to the RD. The RD, the contractors and subcontractors have to liaise regularly to discuss on status of activities and on emerging issues that should be included in engagement activities. The contractors and subcontractors have to report to the RD on a periodic basis regarding general activities progress so that the information can be disclosed to stakeholders during the planned activities.

5 MONITORING AND REPORTING

The present SEP should be updated upon major project changes and as the project enters a new phase (e.g. when construction ends). Previous versions will be archived, and the revised version will be made available to stakeholders.

5.1 Monitoring

The RD will be responsible of keeping track through a specific database of all activities performed within the framework of stakeholder engagement.

In particular, the database will contain:

- Stakeholder register, periodically updated;
- Stakeholder Engagement Activities register, with indication for each activity performed at minimum of date and location, participants, information disclosed and outcomes of the activity;
- Previous SEP versions;
- Periodical reports prepared.

The correct implementation of this SEP will be verified through existing environmental and social auditing/supervision activities undertaken by the RD or the Supervision Engineer and reported by the RD to ADB / EBRD. An indicative list of auditing and supervision activities shall include:

- The correct implementation of this SEP;
- The compliance to the frequency and to the planned schedule of activities indicated in the SEP;
- Timely and effective reporting.

The team shall also examine:

- Review of Stakeholder Engagement Activities register to ensure that record is filled correctly;
- Review of Stakeholder Engagement Activity forms and dossiers to ensure that information and material is filed and registered correctly;
- Review of Stakeholder Register to ensure that the list is continuously updated;
- Review of periodic reports prepared by the RD to ensure that they are compiled correctly
- Levels of stakeholder participation in activities and of stakeholder satisfaction based on the information presented in the “lessons learned” section of the SEA Record form.

The correct implementation of the Grievance Mechanism will be verified through existing bi-annual environmental and social monitoring arrangements during Project construction and during Project operation for at least the two-year defect liability period.

Internal auditing shall address:

- The correct implementation of the Grievance Mechanism methodology;
- Timely and effective responses to grievances.

During the inspections the audit team shall address in particular:

- Review of database, to ensure that the recording of grievances is entered correctly;
- Random review of 20% (or at least 4) grievance record forms and dossiers to ensure that information and material is filed and registered correctly;
- Review of all record forms and dossiers for grievances falling under categories 3-5 dossiers to ensure that information and material is filed and registered correctly;
- Levels of satisfaction to the Grievance Mechanism effectiveness based on the information presented in

the “lessoned learned” section of the Grievance Record form.

The RD management will review the outcomes of the audits and will implement corrective actions, if deemed necessary, to the Grievance Mechanism methodology and to roles and responsibilities.

In addition, an External Monitoring Consultant (EMC) will be appointed to monitor and report on the implementation of the LARP. Full information on the roles and responsibilities of this EMC are provided in the LARP.

5.2 Reporting

The outcomes of stakeholder engagement activities will be regularly reported both internally and externally.

5.2.1 Internal Reporting

With regards to internal reporting, the RD is responsible for liaising with its RD management on a regular and on an as-needed basis, to inform on general progress of the Plan implementation and to seek advice when needed.

In addition, the RD, with the support of the community outreach specialist will prepare formal periodic reports on a three-monthly basis during the construction phase and annually during the operation phase. Reports have to contain the following information:

- Overall data on number and typology of activities performed;
- Attendance and feedback from Stakeholders;
- Problems and critical issues emerged;
- Status of Grievance Mechanism performance and critical issues emerged;
- Corrective actions taken within the Plan and schedule;
- Decisions to be taken with the management;

Reports will be shared with the RD management, with contractors and subcontractors, with Lenders and with any other party deemed necessary.

5.2.2 External Reporting

With regards to external communication, the RD must report back to communities within the framework of periodic external communication. The following information will be reported in suitable format:

- Progress on the Project, including statistics, description of phases completed, and milestones planned in the phase;
- Outcomes of environmental monitoring activities;
- Outcomes of Stakeholder engagement activities, with an outline of initiatives carried out and main issues emerged;
- Information and data on grievances (in anonymous form);
- Data on local employment and local procurement (if available).

The report will be issued on a semi-annual basis during the construction phase and on an annual basis during the operation phase for the first five years of operation. The Report will be sent to all Stakeholders involved in previous activities, also if they are no longer active participants and to Lenders. The same version of the report should be posted on the RD's website.

In addition, semi-annual Environmental Monitoring Reports and Social/Resettlement Monitoring Reports will be posted on the RD's and ADB's website during the construction phase as per ADB's SPS requirements.

6 PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

For the purpose of this SEP, stakeholders are defined as persons or groups (i) who are affected or likely to be affected (directly or indirectly) by the project (affected parties); or (ii) may have an interest in the project (other interested parties).

In order to implement the effective organization of engagement activities and to build strong relationships with local communities, a number of community representatives were identified during the EIA process to reflect community interests to the extent possible, and facilitate dialogue. Community representatives include community or religious leaders, local government representatives, civil society representatives, politicians, and teachers, amongst others.

The following sections describe the stakeholder identification process and analysis of stakeholders undertaken for the Project. It is important to note that stakeholder analysis will be regularly reviewed and updated if necessary, to reflect changes in affected or interested parties that may occur during the Project's planning stages, development and operation. To enable this, a Stakeholder Register has been developed as part of the EIA that will be kept up to date throughout the Project by the RD. The current list of stakeholders (following the review of this SEP in January 2023) targeted by and/or involved in engagement activities to date is presented in **Appendix A**.

6.1 Stakeholder identification

The table below presents the main categories and groups of stakeholders affected by, or interested in, Project activities.

Table 1: Stakeholder identification

Category	Group	Definition and Impact
Affected stakeholders		
Communities	Affected communities and individuals	<p>Affected communities: settlements affected both by Project impacts and benefits. Impacts include loss of land, assets (including cultural heritage sites), noise, vibration and air quality impacts; severance impact. Benefits include reduced travel time to villages, increased access to services and safer road conditions.</p> <p>The following settlements will be directly affected by the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Kvesheti, ■ Arakhveti, ■ Zakatkari, ■ Tskere,

Category	Group	Definition and Impact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mughere, ■ Sviana-Rostani, ■ Gomurni, ■ Begoni, ■ Beniani ■ Ukho ■ Seturebi ■ Jaghmiani ■ Kaishaurni <p>Affected individuals: people who will be affected by loss of land, assets or livelihoods, including access to these through severance impacts, and will require compensation and / or relocation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Shepherds <p>Vulnerable groups: defined by EBRD as people who by virtue of various factors “<i>may be more adversely affected by project impacts than others and who may be limited in their ability to claim or take advantage of project benefits</i>”¹. In the Georgian regulatory context vulnerable groups are defined as women headed households, people with disability or other people receiving disability support from the Government, those living below the national poverty line, pensioners, and internally displaced people.</p>
Businesses, utilities and other infrastructure owners	Affected businesses Affected utilities and other infrastructure	<p>Businesses that will experience both Project impacts and benefits. Impacts include loss of land, assets or revenue, including roadside market stall owners, and formal and informal businesses affected by land acquisition. Benefits include reduced travel time, increased economic opportunities and easier access to customers and markets.</p> <p>State owned or private utility and infrastructure owners such as telecommunications, power supply, waste management facilities, local roads.</p> <p>Man-made utilizes i.e., utilities arranged by local residents independently such as water supply system, septic tank, etc, Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Gas Transportation Company
Government	Municipal and regional administrations National government and	<p>Relevant government authorities including Dusheti municipality, Kazbegi municipality and Mtskheta-Mtianeti region.</p> <p>Lead agencies mandated to review and advise on the project's</p>

¹ Source: EBRD. 2014. Environmental and Social Policy. Accessed: <https://www.ebrd.com/downloads/research/policies/esp-final.pdf>

Category	Group	Definition and Impact
	authorities	development, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Roads Department of Georgia ■ Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture ■ Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure ■ Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection ■ Agency for Protected Areas ■ National Environmental Agency ■ Police ■ National Tourism Administration National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia
Interested parties		
Communities	Surrounding communities	Settlements that have an interest in or influence on project development such as Gudauri.
Businesses, agencies	Surrounding businesses	Businesses that operate or plan to operate in the vicinity of the project or will have an interest in the project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Gudauri Ski Resort ■ Chambers of Commerce Trade Unions Kobi Water Company
Civil Society Organizations	NGOs and local associations	Organizations active in the Project area of influence, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ World Wildlife Fund (WWF) ■ ICOMOS Georgia ■ National Trust of Georgia ■ National Research Centre for Georgian Art History & Heritage Preservation ■ CENN ■ Georgian Greens ■ Green Alternative ■ Greens Movement of Georgia. ■ CAREC ■ Georgian Environmental Outlook (GEO) ■ Georgian Centre for Biodiversity Conservation and Research (NACRES)

Category	Group	Definition and Impact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Caucasus Nature Fund ■ Center for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSRDG) ■ Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF) ■ Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC) ■ Mountain Development Center (MDC) ■ SABUKO ■ Association for Well-being of Society (AWS) ■ Regional Development Center (RDC) ■ Dusheti Development Fund ■ Stefantsminda ■ Women for Regional Development ■ Future of Khevi Stepantsminda-based NGO ■ Georgian Centre for the Conservation of Wildlife ■ Blue Shield Georgian National Committee ■ Georgian Eco-Tourism Association <p>Georgian Incoming Tour Operators Association</p>
Civil Society Organizations	Academia and sector experts.	<p>Sector experts that can provide support throughout engagement activities to respond to questions and comments from stakeholders, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Stepantsminda Institute of Alpine Ecology of Ilia State University ■ Tbilisi State University ■ G. Chubinashvili National Research Centre for Georgian Art History & Heritage Preservation <p>Georgian National Museum</p>
International partners	Project financiers	Organizations providing finance for the development of the project including EBRD and ADB.
Press and media	Local and national press and media	Press and general media groups can have the role of informing the general public about the Project's impacts and benefits.

6.2 Stakeholder analysis

An analysis of the potential expectations and concerns of stakeholder categories is presented in the table below. The table is based on the outcomes of engagement and EIA activities performed to date and on what can be likely expected.

Table 2: Stakeholder analysis

Group	Stakeholders	Description and Interest in Project Development and Operation	Influence on Project	Current state of engagement	Category of engagement
Affected communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Affected settlements - Affected Persons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be directly affected by the project land acquisition, air quality, noise, vibration and severance impacts. - Will experience benefits including reduced travel time to villages, increased access to services and safer road conditions. - Will require compensation for loss of livelihoods, land or assets - May be exposed to environmental and social issues (e.g., Interactions with temporary workforce.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May delay project development and /or cause disruption to project property. - May cause loss of financing for the project. - Project success contingent on acceptance by affected communities. - Can provide input into the project design, identifying potentially sensitive areas, impacts or solutions. 	Fully engaged	Anticipate and meet needs
Vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women-headed households - Pensioners - Disabled persons and other people receiving disability support from the Government. - Internally Displaced People. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May be disproportionately affected by project activities due to vulnerable status. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May have difficulties in participating in engagement activities and in providing feedback. 	Fully engaged	Anticipate and meet needs; Make special provisions to ensure participation in engagement activities (see stakeholder engagement)

Group	Stakeholders	Description and Interest in Project Development and Operation	Influence on Project	Current state of engagement	Category of engagement
					nt program).
Affected businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roadside market stallowners - Formal and informal businesses, including those involved in tourism. - Other industries (utilities) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Businesses that will experience loss of land, assets, revenue, services and livelihoods. - Businesses that will experience benefits including reduced travel time, increased economic opportunities and easier access to customers and markets. - Support local and regional economy through direct employment opportunities for local communities, provide government revenue in taxes, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May delay project development. - May disagree with compensation and / or relocation process and request large compensation. 	Moderately engaged	Anticipate and meet needs
Municipal and Regional Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dusheti municipality - Kazbegi municipality - Mtskheta-Mtianeti region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible for local rural development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May be able to act in a support role for the project e.g. supervision, grievance management. - Can facilitate project information disclosure 	Moderately engaged	Manage closely
National stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lead agencies and ministries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have direct interest in aspects of the project (e.g., cultural heritage sites, biodiversity, rural development, tourism) - Legally mandated to oversee different 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ultimate decision makers on project development. - Can influence public opinion about the project. - Information dissemination. 	Fully engaged	Manage closely

Group	Stakeholders	Description and Interest in Project Development and Operation	Influence on Project	Current state of engagement	Category of engagement
		aspects of the project.			
NGOs and Local Associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGOs working in the fields of rural development and livelihood diversification, biodiversity conservation, governance capacity. - Sector experts in road development, rural planning and development, geomorphology, etc. - NGOs working in the field of Cultural Heritage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have understanding of local issues, cultural heritage, community needs and local governance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can provide a positive or negative perspective on the project to affected and interested stakeholders. - Can offer partnerships and assistance with implementation of the RAP and community development programs. - Can facilitate project information disclosure. - Can assist mobilizing communities during consultations to solicit their feedback and generate support for the project during project implementation. 	Moderately engaged	Show consideration
Academia and sector experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sector experts in road development, rural planning and development, geomorphology, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interest on project impacts on specific sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can facilitate project information disclosure. 	Moderately engaged	Show consideration
International partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ADB, EBRD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide project financing. - Mandated to ensure organization specific environmental and social safeguards are adhered to. - Liable for the project's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May delay project development. - May withhold financing - Can offer technical support into environmental and social management and risk mitigation of the project. 	Fully engaged	Keep informed

Group	Stakeholders	Description and Interest in Project Development and Operation	Influence on Project	Current state of engagement	Category of engagement
		environmental and social risks.			
Press and media	- Local and national newspapers, websites, radio and televisions	- Informing the public on the project, collecting and disseminating comments and opinions from different stakeholders	- Can facilitate project information disclosure.	Moderately engaged	Keep informed

Please also see Appendix D for how and why Civil Society Organizations (including NGOs) are participating in helping to promote stakeholder engagement, ensure Project transparency and to help gather relevant information and feedback from the various stakeholder groups identified above.

7 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

7.1 General principles for engagement

The following general principles will govern the stakeholder engagement activities in relation to this Project:

- The content of documents for public comment will provide accessible and adequate information on the Project, and not create undue fears (regarding potential negative impacts) or expectations (regarding potential positive impacts such as job creation, etc.).
- Written information will be accompanied by visual illustrations and explanations as needed to build understanding of the project.
- The information will be disclosed to stakeholders in Georgian and in a manner that is accessible and culturally appropriate, taking into account vulnerable people.
- Documents to be disclosed by the RD, ADB and EBRD will be provided either in Georgian or in English or, whenever relevant, in both languages.
- If key issues of particular concern arise, workshops may be offered to explain technical processes, assessment techniques, and quality assurance measures to verify results and ensure mitigation procedures are followed; and
- Efforts will be made to explain not only the proposed project and EIA process, but also applicable national laws and legislations, international principles and standards and how the RD will address compliance.
- Efforts will be made to enable all stakeholders to participate in engagement activities, including through both in person and virtual access to consultation meetings.

ADB is committed to putting meaningful consultation processes into practice. Meaningful consultation is a process that:

- begins early in the project preparation stage and is carried out on an ongoing basis throughout the project cycle;
- provides timely disclosure of relevant and adequate information that is understandable and readily accessible to affected people;
- is undertaken in an atmosphere free of intimidation or coercion;
- is gender inclusive and responsive, and tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups; and
- enables the incorporation of all relevant views of affected people and other stakeholders into decision making, such as project design, mitigation measures, the sharing of development benefits and opportunities, and implementation issues.

Provision for the participation of vulnerable groups

Vulnerable groups may be defined as people that by virtue of gender, ethnicity, age, physical or mental disability, economic disadvantage or social status may experience different or unique effects from the Project than others. RD will ensure that stakeholder engagement activities are accessible to vulnerable groups and will facilitate dedicated engagement activities aimed at vulnerable groups, as required by EBRD PR10.

The following measures will be implemented to enhance the ability of vulnerable stakeholder groups to

participate meaningfully in the EIA and project development process:

- Vulnerable groups will be identified during the EIA and LARP processes, through community surveys to confirm census information available from the Government of Georgia.
- Through regular dialogue with community representatives, the RD will ensure that disadvantaged or vulnerable persons and groups are identified and included in the Stakeholder Register; and
- Staff will identify consultation approaches and activities that will support effective engagement of vulnerable persons. Engagement may be facilitated through open (community wide meetings) and selective methods (targeted engagement):
 - Provision of transport to meetings,
 - Hosting engagement activities in central accessible locations or multiple locations to reduce travel distance,
 - Meeting with vulnerable households individually on a regular basis. Where individuals or households are not fluent in Georgian, provide an interpreter at the meeting.
- Ensuring vulnerable groups have access to methods of providing feedback to the RD and receiving information that do not require travel.
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of engagement methods will be tracked through indicators such as number of identified vulnerable individuals / groups participating or attending engagement activities.

Engagement methods

Different engagement methods will be used throughout the project lifecycle to facilitate outreach to and participation of all stakeholders that have an interest in the project. A detailed description of the methods that will be used is provided in **Appendix C**.

7.2 Implementation of activities

Engagement activities will be implemented by the RD during the EIA process, and construction and operation phase. The frequency, scope and method of engagement will vary depending on the stage of the project, as described below. Key roles and responsibilities in implementing the Project's stakeholder engagement program are described in Section 4.

Implementation of the stakeholder engagement program includes the following project phases and sub phases:

- Pre-construction phase
 - Scoping phase
 - EIA preparation phase
 - EIA disclosure phase (also post disclosure prior to the commencement of construction)
- Construction phase
- Operation phase.

A program of stakeholder engagement activities to be implemented during each phase is outlined in Figure 2 and described in the sections below.

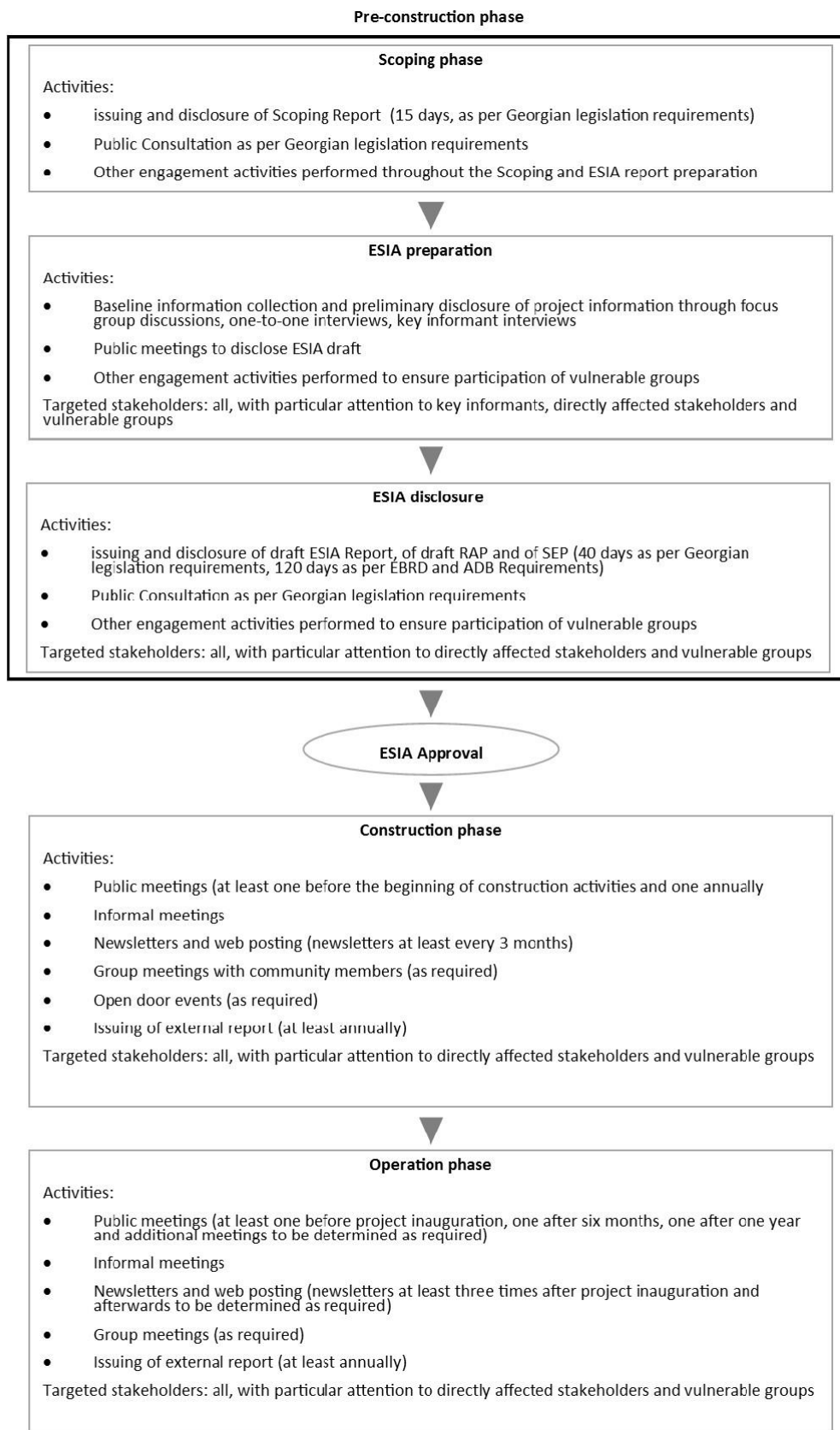


Figure 2: Diagram of program of Stakeholder Engagement activities during each phase of the Project

7.2.1 Meaningful Disclosure

Table 3 presents documents to be disclosed during each project phase and disclosure method to be used.

Table 3: Documents to be disclosed throughout the engagement phases

Project phase	Document disclosure	Methods of disclosure
Pre-construction: Scoping phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoping report 	<p>Electronic version published on the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Department (http://www.georoad.ge/?lang=geo)
Pre-construction: national EIA disclosure phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National EIA report, including Non-Technical Summary and Environmental and Social Management Plan; 	<p>Electronic version will be published on the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Environment (http://www.moe.gov.ge/en/home) Road Department (http://www.georoad.ge/?lang=geo) <p>Hard copy will be accessible at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head Office of the Kazbegi and Dusheti municipality, <p>Hard copies will be available upon request at no cost:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Village representatives During public meetings. <p>In addition, Frequently Asked Questions and project Factsheet documents will be available digitally and in hard copy, in Georgian.</p>
Pre-construction: International ESIA disclosure phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International ESIA report, including Non-Technical Summary and Environmental and Social Management Plan; Resettlement Framework; Stakeholder Engagement Plan. <p>In addition, the EBRD will disclose the Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP).</p>	<p>Electronic version will be published on the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EBRD for 120 days (EIA Report) (https://www.ebrd.com/esia.html) ADB for 120 days (https://www.adb.org/projects/51257-002/main#project-documents)
Project construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LARP; SEP Leaflet on Frequently Asked Questions Stakeholder Brief on Alignment 	<p>All documents are being posted in electronic version on the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Department (http://www.georoad.ge) Project's webpage (www.kveshetikobi.ge)

	<p>Alternatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Leaflet on GRM ■ Temporary Facilities Assessment Report ■ Community Needs Assessment Report ■ Stakeholder Brief on Community Development ■ Stakeholder Brief on Cultural Heritage ■ Summary of Specific EMSPs ■ Review of Cultural Heritage Management Implementation (2019-2022) ■ Other, non-project related documents.² 	
--	--	--

² Besides above-mentioned documents, there are some documents which are not part of the project, but were prepared under ADB’s technical assistance and will be disclosed for interested parties, these documents are: Preliminary draft of Historic Heritage Reference Plan (HHRP) (presentation for local communities, CSOs, professional organizations) and Draft concept of Khada Valley Development Plan (KVDP). All Stakeholder Engagement Activities implemented with respect to the Historic Heritage Reference Plan and Khada Valley Development Plan will be disclosed as part of the separate SE plan to be posted on the Project website.

Project phase	Document disclosure	Methods of disclosure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ External reports, as described in section 5.2.2 ■ Newsletters and web postings. ■ Community programs (if available). 	<p>A hard copy of all documents will be provided to the executive body and/or representative body of the Kazbegi and Dusheti municipality.</p> <p>In addition, hard copies will be made available at no fee upon request and during public meetings.</p> <p>Newsletters and reports will be made available to all stakeholders involved in engagement activities (through email/'project desks' in the municipalities and other means).</p>
Project operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ External reports, as described in section 5.2.2 ■ Newsletters and web postings. ■ Community programs (if available). 	<p>All documents will be posted in electronic version on the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Road Department (http://www.georoad.ge) ■ Project's webpage (www.kveshetikobi.ge) <p>A hard copy of all documents will be provided to the executive body and/or representative body of the Kazbegi and Dusheti municipality.</p> <p>In addition, hard copies will be made available at no fee upon request and during public meetings.</p> <p>Newsletters and reports will be sent via mail and e-mail to all stakeholders involved in engagement activities.</p>

7.2.2 Pre-construction phase

Scoping phase

In compliance with the requirements of Georgian legislation, following the submission of the Scoping Report, two public consultation meetings were held by the Ministry of Environment to provide information about the outcomes of the report and to collect feedback from stakeholders. The first meeting was held in the morning of July 10, 2018 at the administrative unit of Kvesheti village, in Dusheti municipality.

The second meeting was held in the afternoon of July 10, 2018 at the administrative unit of Kobi village, in Kazbegi municipality.

EIA preparation phase

During the EIA preparation phase, stakeholder engagement is important to support the collection of baseline information, to start informing stakeholders about the project, about potential impacts and mitigation measures, as well as to collect feedback and concerns on the project. In addition to disclosing project information, the aim

of activities performed during this phase is to prepare a sound impact assessment report that is based on primary information and that addresses concerns raised by the local community.

EIA disclosure phase

The objective of stakeholder engagement during the EIA disclosure phase is to inform the public on impact assessment findings and associated management plans. Public meetings for the disclosure of the National EIA according to the requirements of the Georgian Legislation were performed on December 10th 2018 in Kobi and Mleta, as indicated in Table 4. Engagement during this phase was conducted in line with the requirements of the Georgian legislation, and those of the ADB and EBRD, as described in Section 3.

During this phase stakeholder have been informed about the presence of a Grievance Redress Mechanism and on the procedure to be followed to submit a grievance.

Key activities implemented during the EIA disclosure phase are summarized in the table below:

Table 4: Program of engagement activities during the EIA disclosure phase

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Information to be disclosed	Schedule / Frequency
All stakeholders	Open public consultation meeting, as per Georgian legislation requirement	Disclosure of National EIA	Performed on December 10 th 2018 in Kobi and Mleta.
Vulnerable households identified through EIA, particularly those that are unable to participate in public meetings	One-to-one interviews as needed	Disclosure of EIA with focus on household impacts and mitigation measure identified.	Shortly after the first public consultation / Once per HH as needed
Environment interest group(s) e.g. Stepantsminda Institute of Alpine Ecology of Ilia State University, WWF, CENN and more	Key Informant Interview (KII) / small group interview	Disclosure of EIA with focus on environmental issues and relative mitigation measures identified.	Shortly after the first public consultation / Once, additional meetings on an as needed basis
Tourism, business and local development interest group(s)	KII / small group interview	Disclosure of EIA with focus on local development opportunities and relative enhancement measures identified.	Shortly after the first public consultation / Once, additional meetings on an as needed basis
All stakeholders that during previous engagement activities have expressed the interest in participating in further consultation	KII / small group interview	Disclosure of EIA with focus on environmental issues and relative mitigation measures identified.	Shortly after the first public consultation / Once, additional meetings on an as needed basis

7.2.3 Construction phase

Engagement activities during pre-construction and construction are particularly important, as this is the phase when impacts will peak and hence a proactive communication engagement channel must be kept open with stakeholders. Engagement will continue throughout this phase with periodic activities at regular intervals, as summarized in the table below:

Table 5: Program of activities to be performed during the project construction phase

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Information to be disclosed	Schedule / Frequency
All stakeholders (special provisions will be made for the participation of vulnerable groups)	Open public consultation meeting	Description of activities and of schedule, presentation of EPC contractor, update on progress of activities and of monitoring measures. Information on Health and Safety aspects and emergency plans during construction will be provided.	Once before the commencement of construction activities of each lot. Additional public consultations to be organized when deemed necessary. If possible, consultation meetings should be held in spring/summer months, when most of the population is present
Vulnerable groups and other project affected people	Periodic meetings	Update on progress of project activities and of monitoring activities	To be determined as required, on a need's basis
Governors of Dusheti and Kazbegi	Periodic meetings	Update on progress of project activities and of monitoring activities	To be determined as required, indicatively on a quarterly basis
Environment interest group(s) e.g. Stepantsminda Institute of Alpine Ecology of Ilia State University, WWF, CENN and more.	Key Informant Interview (KII) / small group interview	Update on progress of project activities and of monitoring activities	Shortly after the beginning of construction activities and at least annually
Tourism, business and local development interest group(s)	KII / small group interview	Update on progress of project activities and of monitoring activities	Shortly after the beginning of construction activities and at least annually
All stakeholders that during previous engagement activities have expressed an interest in participating in further consultation	KII / small group interview	Update on progress of project activities and of monitoring activities	Shortly after the beginning of construction activities and at least annually
All stakeholders, particularly those interested in technical aspects of the	Open Door Events	Opportunity to see in first person how construction activities are carried out	To be determined as required, indicatively on a semester basis

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Information to be disclosed	Schedule / Frequency
project (students, universities, associations of professionals etc.)		and what techniques are used (particularly for the tunnel construction).	
All stakeholders that have been involved in engagement activities and that are on the mailing list	Newsletter and web posting	Regular updates on progress of activities, changes to schedule and outcomes of monitoring activities and of Grievance Mechanism. Newsletter to be sent in electronic version and in hard copy for those that do not have e-mail addresses. In addition to be posted on the RD website.	Newsletters to be issued every three months, web posting as required when there is news worth sharing
All stakeholders that have been involved in engagement activities and that are on the mailing list	External reports, as described in section 5.2.2	Regular updates on progress of activities, changes to schedule and outcomes of monitoring activities. External report to be sent in electronic version and in hard copy for those that do not have e-mail addresses. In addition to be posted on the RD website.	Once every six months
Cultural Heritage and Tourism CSOs and Professional Organizations with a specific interest in the Five Phase Archaeological Strategy	Virtual Meetings and Consultation Meetings	Provide updates on the status of mitigation measures for cultural heritage impacts, present draft strategic documents, gather feedback from interested parties.	As needed

7.2.4 Operation phase

During the operation phase stakeholder engagement will be important particularly during the two-year defect liability period once the road is operational. This is the period when stakeholders will start perceiving impacts and possible concerns might arise. If no particular problems seem to emerge after the first year, the intensity of stakeholder engagement activities can be reduced however at least one report should be issued annually and stakeholder should always be informed on the point of contact to get in touch with the RD.

Key activities during the operation phase are summarized in the table below:

Table 6: Program of activities during the operation phase

Stakeholders	Engagement method	Information to be disclosed	Schedule / Frequency
All stakeholders, special provisions will be made for the participation of vulnerable groups	Open public consultation meeting	Description of main impacts expected during the operation phase and of mitigation/monitoring measures implemented.	Once before the inauguration, once after six months and once after one year. Afterwards on an as-needed basis. If possible, consultation meetings should be held in spring/summer months, when most of the population is in the project area
Vulnerable households identified through EIA, particularly those that are unable to participate in public meetings	Periodic meetings	Description of main impacts expected during the operation phase and of mitigation/monitoring measures implemented.	To be determined as required, on an as-needed basis
Governors of Dusheti and Kazbegi	Periodic meetings	Disclosure of information on outcomes of monitoring measures.	To be determined as required, indicatively on a quarterly basis for the first year and then on an as needed basis.
Environment interest group(s) e.g. Stepantsminda Institute of Alpine Ecology of Ilia State University, WWF, CENN and more	KIIs / small group interview	Disclosure of information on outcomes of monitoring measures.	Shortly after the first public consultation / Once, additional meetings on an as needed basis
Tourism, business and local development interest group(s)	KIIs / small group interview	Disclosure of information on outcomes of monitoring measures.	Shortly after the first public consultation / Once, additional meetings on an as needed basis
All stakeholders that have been involved in engagement activities and that are on the mailing list	Newsletter and web posting	Regular updates on progress of activities, changes to schedule and outcomes of monitoring activities.	Newsletters to be issued every three months during the first year of operation, further issues to be

Stakeholders	Engagement method	Information to be disclosed	Schedule / Frequency
		<p>Newsletter to be sent in electronic version and in hard copy for those that do not have e-mail addresses. In addition to be posted on the RD website.</p>	<p>determined. Web posting as required when there is news worth sharing</p>
<p>All stakeholders that have been involved in engagement activities and that are on the mailing list</p>	<p>External reports, as described in section 5.2.2</p>	<p>Regular updates on progress of activities, changes to schedule and outcomes of monitoring activities. External report to be sent in electronic version and in hard copy for those that do not have e-mail addresses. In addition to be posted on the RD website.</p>	<p>At least annually for the first two years of operation, then on an as needed basis</p>

8 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED TO DATE

Prior to ADB's involvement in the project (May 2018), consultation events were held during the pre-feasibility, feasibility, and design stages of the Project, but due to the limited availability of information, they are not included in the following summary. Details of all the stakeholder events that have been held from the Pre-Construction Phase up to January 2023 are included in **Appendix B**.

As envisaged in the EIA and this SEP, the Project has consistently delivered systemic and timely opportunities for key cultural heritage and tourism focused stakeholders to regularly participate in, and provide input to, the project preparation and implementation process. Heritage and tourism stakeholders were regularly consulted and meaningful engagement took place throughout the EIA process during the pre-construction phase, following disclosure and during the current construction phase. The scope of stakeholder engagement activities included the identification of cultural heritage sites and their users/custodians beyond the project alignment area, determination of the level of significance for some sites identified, the design of mitigation measures, etc.

8.1 Pre-Construction Phase (April 2018 – September 2020)

As outlined in Section 5.2 of this SEP, the Pre-Construction Phase comprises:

- Scoping phase
- EIA/ preparation phase
- EIA/ disclosure phase

8.1.1 EIA Preparation Phase (April 2018 – May 2019)

Between April 2018 and the disclosure of the National and International EIA Reports, a total of 42 stakeholder engagement events were held; organized by the RD with support from ADB and EBRD experts, as well as consulting firms. Guided by the SEP, the events were carried out in line with national requirements as well as those of both ADB and EBRD.

The meetings broadly covered three main topics: The EIA process, the Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan (LARP), Biodiversity and a proposed tourism component of the project, as listed below:

Environmental (and Social) Impact Assessment Process:

- 27 one-on-one meetings with members of affected communities
- 1 public meeting to discuss the route alignment and alternatives with affected communities (Mleta)
- 2 National EIA Scoping disclosure events with affected communities and interested stakeholders (Kvesheti and Kobi)
- 2 civil society meetings with residents, NGOs and Government representatives (Tbilisi)
- 7 consultation meetings with NGO and national Government technical experts
- 2 National EIA Public Disclosure Meetings (Kobi and Mleta)

The EIA related events assisted with the collection of environmental and social baseline data, disclosed the National EIA Scoping Report and subsequent draft national and international EIA reports, and gathered feedback to refine the international EIA before its finalization and final disclosure. Georgian law requires one public meeting to disclose the National EIA Scoping Report and one public meeting to disclose the National EIA Report. The Project exceeded this requirement by holding two meetings for each of these disclosure requirements.

Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan (LARP):

- 7 focus group discussions with affected communities (Begoni (2), Kvesheti. Kobi (2), Kvesheti, Tskere, Beniani)
- 7 public meetings with affected communities and government representatives (Begoni, Tskere, Kvesheti (2), Zakatari, Mleta, Kaishaurebi).

In addition, each household that will be directly affected by the Project was engaged in preparation of the Detailed Measurement Survey (DMS) as part of the LARP (to ascertain land take).

Biodiversity:

- 5 meetings with NGO experts
- 1 meeting with a national Government expert

Potential Tourism Component of the Project:

- 2 meetings with Local Municipality Mayors (Dusheti and Kazbegi)
- 3 meetings with NGOs

The proposed tourism component of the Project was still in the early stages of planning during the Pre-Construction Phase, following initial consultations with civil society and local and national government representatives. Consultation with affected communities on potential tourism opportunities have continued throughout the Pre-Construction and Construction Phases.

A project Communications Plan was also finalized in February 2019 to guide a range of activities to implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan that are not event-related. For example, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and Fact Sheet were produced and disseminated.

8.1.2 Post EIA Disclosure Phase (June 2019 – September 2020)

Following the disclosure of the EIA but prior to the commencement of construction, further stakeholder engagement events were held that included another meeting with an NGO on eco-tourism opportunities and two meetings with NGOs to discuss the road alternatives assessment and biodiversity issues. Various meetings were organized to introduce the Project team to local affected communities and exchange contact information, to provide information on, and agree on the locations of the Campsites and other temporary Project facilities including concrete batching plants and to discuss leasing land plots for access roads and improving existing access roads. The meetings that were held can be summarized as follows:

- 22 One on one meetings to introduce the Project Team to affected villages
- 4 focus group discussions with affected communities covering the locations of Project camps and the layout and locations of temporary facilities, and access roads
- One-on-one meeting concerning leasing a land plot for an access road.

8.2 Construction Phase (October 2020 – Present)

During the construction phase of the Project various stakeholder engagement events have been organized including to keep local communities updated on the progress of civil works and employment opportunities, to disclose information concerning planned blasting activities, to undertake pre-construction building condition surveys, and to outline the Grievance Mechanism. Additionally, RD staff conducted two community and 1 one-on-one meetings to discuss negative impacts caused by construction activities and proactively plan additional mitigation measures. The events held are summarized as follows (see **Appendix B** for full details).

Lot 1

- 2 one-on-one meetings to facilitate pre-construction surveys of residential buildings
- 3 one-on-one meetings to address community concerns
- 7 public consultation meetings covering Project progress, disclosure of information on blasting activities, awareness raising of communicable diseases, the Grievance Mechanism, Project impacts and planned mitigation measures, the location of temporary facilities.
- 10 one-on-one meetings to disclose information on project progress, blasting activities and the planned locations of temporary facilities.

Lot 2

- 3 one-on-one meetings and 4 focus group discussions concerning access road number 4 (including leasing land plots).
- 19 further one-on-one meetings and 6 public consultation meetings to introduce the Project Team and exchange contact information, as well as present the location of temporary facilities and outline the Grievance Mechanism.
- 4 one-on-one meetings to discuss progress of the Project works and possible impacts including the planned acquisition of houses and land and resettlement plans and offers.
- Two public consultation meeting covering the LARP and IEE for the Gudauri access road.
- One public consultation meeting to provide information to project affected landowners and users on unit cost updates.
- 4 public consultation meetings to discuss the status of the SEMP and Community Health & Safety.
- 1 community meeting to address local residents' concerns.
- 1 community meeting and 2 public consultation meetings on the SDA.

Since a Project review mission in June 2021, a number of communications related activities have been implemented: (i) the project information center/booth was installed, furnished, and put into operation in Kvesheti; (ii) village information boards were installed in all villages; (iii) quarterly newsletters were released for Q3 and Q4 2021 and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) have been updated; (iv) a series of documents have been prepared and disclosed on the project website including stakeholder briefs on cultural heritage and community development, a temporary facilities assessment report, summary of specific environmental management plans, review of cultural heritage management implementation (2019-2022), and workshop presentations; (v) a series of posts and videos have been prepared and disclosed on Facebook and YouTube, respectively; and (vi) one media tour was organized in May 2022.

8.3 Key Stakeholder Engagement Outcomes

As a result of stakeholder engagement activities performed, a number of anticipated Project benefits have been identified by stakeholders, including the following:

- The new road will be safer.
- Travel will take less time and be more comfortable.
- There will be increased opportunities for local livelihoods, such as selling woven socks and other

produce.

- There will be increased trade for local hotels and restaurants.
- There will be the potential for the development of tourism and income generating activities.
- There will be more employment opportunities for the local population.
- There will be access to the Khada Valley villages all year round and more people will decide to live permanently in these villages.
- There will be better access to health, education, markets and other facilities.
- Improved availability of public transport; and
- Increased promotion of overall economic and social development of the project area, especially in villages.

The engagement events held have also provided important feedback on project issues from the perspective of affected communities and interested stakeholders. Table 7 synthesizes these into 15 key issues, of which nine were raised during multiple consultation events. They range from social and environmental issues such as the impact of the Project on cultural heritage sites and local biodiversity, to challenges with land registration and questions about compensation.

Some of the issues raised have been addressed by providing more detailed information (for example on project alignment alternatives) while others required additional mitigation measures. For example, the inclusion of a Cultural Heritage Monitor as an EIA mitigation measure to ensure cultural heritage sites are not affected by construction. These, and other actions are also summarized in Table 7 below.

Considering the predicted scale of the cultural heritage impacts as a result of the Kvesheti-Kobi Road Project, the Project has adopted a comprehensive set of mitigation measures, also referred to as the 'Five-Phase Archaeological Strategy', that are outlined in the ESMP, and the EIA (including Appendix E and Appendix N of the EIA). The Five-Phase Archaeological Strategy specifically includes the following: (i) Phase 1, Review of Existing Data and Materials related to Cultural Heritage; (ii) Phase 2 Extensive and Intensive Surveys and Studies; (iii) Phase 3 Pre-Construction Excavations; (iv) Phase 4 Chance Finds During Construction; and (v) Phase 5 Reporting. A detailed report setting out all mitigation measures that were implemented between 2019 and 2022 was prepared and disclosed publicly in June 2022 on the project website <https://kveshetikobiroad.ge/en/public-information/>

As part of the Five-Phase Archaeological Strategy, a series of additional studies and mitigation measures were rolled out, which included, among other things, NACHP report. To ensure meaningful engagement with the widest group of key stakeholders possible, the main documentation and materials, as well as the implementation of the Five-Phase Archaeological Strategy have also been disclosed on the RD's and Project's websites. Key disclosed documents relating to the cultural heritage focused mitigation measures include the following:

- (i) Leaflet on Frequently Asked Questions;
- (ii) Community Needs Assessment Report;
- (iii) Stakeholder Brief on Cultural Heritage;
- (iv) Review of Cultural Heritage Management Implementation (2019-2022);
- (v) Summary of Specific EMSPs.

Table 7: Key Issues and Responses from Stakeholder Engagement to Date

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
<p>1. Impact of the Project on cultural monuments such as graves, shrines, churches</p>	<p>Residents from Kvesheti, Kobi, and Almasiani, Representative of the Georgia Tourism Association</p>	<p>According to the project design, cultural monuments will not be damaged during construction and the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia is collaborating with the project to ensure this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The engineer employed two Cultural Heritage Monitors to and they are on site during topsoil stripping and initial earthworks in high sensitivity areas identified in the EIA. • Specific vibration monitoring is on-going at St. George’s Church and castle located in vil. Kobi and it will continue near identified cultural heritage sites to ensure that there are no impacts • A “chance find” procedure was developed for all cultural heritage and is being implemented by the Contractor. 	<p>PCR in the Project area identified in Section E.4.5 – PCR. Impacts to PCR, cemeteries, and specific monuments (e.g. St George cross and soldier’s monument near Kobi) are addressed in Section F.8.7 – PCR and Section F.7.5 – Spoil Disposal. Supervision of the works by a Cultural Heritage Monitor is foreseen as per Section F.8.7 – PCR. Chance Find covered in Annex E/</p>
<p>2. Impact of the Project noise and vibration on households</p>	<p>Residents from Kvesheti, Begoni Plateau villages, Arakhveti, Zakatkari, and Mleta</p>	<p>Vibration and noise impacts, and mitigation measures are part of the EIA process. Compensation will be provided in case of construction-caused damage. Pre-construction, RD will do property inventories as necessary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vibration: Pre-construction surveys was conducted for all properties <50m from the new road to identify potential vibration impacts during construction. • Appropriate mitigation actions and compensation will occur. The Contractor will also monitor vibration onsite, particularly in sensitive 	<p>Impacts of vibration and the requirements for pre-construction surveys included in Section F.8.6 – Vibration. Noise impact modelling and mitigation provided in Section F.8.5 – Noise</p>

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
			<p>locations where buildings are in poor condition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot 1 Contractor conducted preconstruction survey of all houses in affected villages Kobi, Almasiani and Tskere. Constant vibration monitoring is on-going vil. Almasiani and Kobi. No complaints have been received so far. As for Tskere activities have not yet commenced. • As for Lot 2 preconstruction survey of the houses located within <50m from new road is on-going. The commenced activities are away from settled areas and there are no vibration concerns. The Engineer has prepared checklist for the Contractor which should be filled before commencement of the works at specific section. Preconstruction survey of the houses is one of the preconditions to commence the works. • Noise: Barriers will be installed to ensure that project standards are met. 	
<p>3. Impact of the Project on protected areas, biodiversity</p>	<p>Residents from Kvesheti and Kobi.</p>	<p>No impact expected on protected areas such as the Kazbegi national park and Emerald Network Site. Noted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five meetings with NGOs (events 23, 24, 25, 26, 31) held to generate additional information about biodiversity in the area to inform the 	<p>Migration of animals and birds has been studied in detail as part of Section</p>

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
	Representatives from Green Alternative, SABUKO, Tbilisi State University, NACRES, CENN.	<p>need for further area survey on bird species such as the Egyptian vulture and the importance of buckthorn.</p> <p>Mitigation actions for potential environmental impacts in the project area, including the Khada valley, addressed in the EIA.</p>	<p>project's Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity Action Plan is finalized and approved. Both Contractors have engaged Ecological Clerks of Works and Biodiversity Experts. The Project will employ an Ecological Clerk of Works as well as an International Biodiversity Expert to ensure biodiversity focused mitigation occurs and the BAP is implemented. Engagement with NGOs and government will continue as the project is implemented. 	E.2 – Biodiversity Analysis of protected areas, including the Emerald Network, has been undertaken as part of Section E.2.2 – Protected and Notable Areas and specific impacts for affected species prepared under Section F.6.1 – Habitat and General Ecological Impacts and Section F.6.2 – Notable Species
5.Impact of project on road and other access for potentially affected communities	Residents from Kvesheti, Arakhveti, Khada, and Tskere,	New vehicle access roads, crossing points, underpasses, walking pavements will be constructed – traffic will not be hampered, and overall access will be maintained or improved for communities, including moving livestock.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on consultations, additional underpasses have since been included in the design and the Bedoni access road alignment changed to avoid going through the village. The tunnel section at Tskere will be extended to ensure pedestrian access to the cemetery is maintained. 	Access routes are extensively covered in Section B.5.4 , and their impacts assessed in Section F.7.9 – Access and Access Roads . Underpasses covered in Section B.4.3 .
6.Impact of project on utilities	Residents from Kobi, Almasiani,	The gas pipeline in Kobi won't be moved.		Utilities in the Project area will be managed according

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
infrastructure	Begoni plateau villages, Arakhveti, Kvesheti. Representative of Green Movement of Georgia			to the measures outlined in Section F.7.2 – Social Infrastructure.
7.Lack of information about, input into, and consideration of project design alternatives	Residents from Arakhveti, Kvesheti, Mleta, Representatives of Green Alternative, and GeoGraphic, SABUKO, CENN, and an individual activist	RD agreed that there should have been a round of public consultations during feasibility and design stages. Pointed out nine alternatives were assessed in detail and more information will be provided in the final EIA scoping report and final EIA. Geological conditions and geometrical curves important determinant of the project road alignment. Upgrading the existing road to meet requirements was deemed not feasible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In consultation events from no.9 onwards, RD provided more comprehensive information on road alignment selection and the alternatives. • The EIA has been strengthened to include justification on the proposed final route and to include more data collected in relation to why upgrading the existing road or using the existing corridor was not feasible. • Consultation event 44 for CSOs was held specifically to present detailed information, and answer questions on the alignment selection analyses. Clear evidence was shown to summarize why geological constraints and risks ruled out all options except the Khada valley. • To complement consultation event 44, the project team committed to compiling 	Alternatives discussed in detail in Section C – Alternatives.

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
			a stakeholder brief to explain the alignment assessment process and conclusions in non- technical language.	
8.Difficulties with land registration	Residents from Arakhveti, Kvesheti, Kobi, Beniani, Begoni Plateau villages, Tskere, Mleta	RD offered to assist individual households in the registration process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RD and the Land Recognition Committee are working together with residents on each case where land registration has been having difficulties. Each case is open for resubmission and further analysis. 	<p>Registration of land ownership is included in Section F.7.4 – Land Use and Natural Resources</p> <p><i>(the Land Acquisition and Resettlement plan covers this issue in detail)</i></p>
9.Clarity about compensation arrangements for affected households	Residents from Kveseheti, Tskere, Beniani, Begoni, Arakhveti,	LARP process is designed to address this and will be in line with the guidelines of ADB and EBRD. Assessments of affected households is being done via private consultations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APs made aware of compensation allowances through the LARP preparation and to further support, RD and the Land Recognition Committee are working with APs who do not have full documentation, to further access grounds for claims. 	<p>Compensation arrangements are included in Section F.7.4 – Land Use and Natural Resources</p> <p><i>the Land Acquisition and Resettlement plan covers this issue in detail</i></p>
10.Project impacts on Khada valley eco-tourism	Local activist, National Trust of Georgia, Georgian Mountain Guides Association,	The project's tourism component will actively support community-based tourism development for the Khada valley, for example, potentially a new visitor's center.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seven tourism consultation events subsequently held with the Georgian Eco-Tourism Association (event no. 34) national NGOs: CENN, SABUKO, WWF (36, 37, 38, 43) and the mayors of Dusheti and Kazbegi (events 26 & 27). Broad consensus that the Khada 	<p>Local livelihood mitigation included in Section F.7.1</p> <p>– Local Economic and Livelihoods Impacts and Appendix Z for proposed Visitor Center Concept</p>

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
	Explore Georgia		valley has significant eco-tourism development opportunities that the Project could potentially support. As a result, an eco-tourism component of the Project is being planned and consultations for this are ongoing.	
11.Impact of construction camps	Representative of Green Movement of Georgia Affected communities	Contractor has the right to determine where the construction camps are placed. The locations of Campsites and temporary facilities are agreed with local residents and there are no concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment made in EIA and EMP to locate construction camps >500m from residential areas. 	Construction camp management and mitigation measures based on best practice are outlined in Section F.7.8 – Construction Camps, Asphalt Plants, Concrete Batching Plants and Temporary Facilities.
12.Project employment opportunities for potentially affected communities	Affected communities	Local population will be given preference for project employment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets have been included in the EIA for local employment with an estimate of 70% being from local labor. • Social Specialists of both Contractors are maintaining log of persons who express willingness in employment by the Project. • Information on jobs is posted on Project's facebook and webpages. • Both Contractors posted message boards in each affected village. 	Conditions for the use of local labour are outlined in Section F.8.2 – Workers Rights and OHS.

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
			Information on vacancies will be posted there as well	
13. Road safety for school children	Residents from Begoni plateau villages	n/a (focus group discussion)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design of road includes tunnelsection in Begoni, reducing risks to resident’s children andlivestock. • The contractor will provide a series of road safety awareness sessions for schools in the Project area. • On 10 June 2022 Engineer and RD organized safety training for school children in Kvesheti. The training provided information about hazards associated with construction and operation of mobile equipment, color coding of safety signs and road safety. 	The EIA has specific recommendations for the Contractor to provide traffic safety awareness sessions for schools in the Project area – Appendix A – EMP.
14. Project works will increase landslide risks	Residents of Rostiani village	Independent expert will be invited to investigate the situation.	Experts from Samkharauli Forensics Bureau visited the village in April 2021 and by June 2021 provided conclusion that considering the construction method and structural condition of the house even mild geodynamical processes may cause their damage. Therefore, even though the distance between the houses and Project bridge No. 5 is 171m considering the poor condition of the houses the Road Department expressed good will to include the houses in LARP.	

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
			<p>49. Several consultation meetings were conducted since then with the residents of vil. Rostiani. However, consensus was not reached between the local residents whether they want inclusion in LARP or not. They are also unhappy as they consider offered compensation amount low and are dissatisfied with the request of Road Department to dismantle the houses after acquisition.</p> <p>50. Currently, Road Department is engaged in active consultations with the local residents. On the hand the Contractor has updated his vibration management plan and included mitigation measures of the negative impact of vibration caused by piling works on the village houses. Particularly, the Contractor is planning to do preconstruction survey of the houses and trial tests of vibration before commencement of the works. Based on the results of trial vibration test the extent of negative impact on the structural condition of the houses will be determined and further mitigation measures will be planned accordingly.</p> <p>51. On 27 April 2022 representatives of ADB team, RD and the Engineer met the residents of vil. Sviana-Rostiani. Deputy</p>	

Main issues raised	Issues raised by	Initial clarifications/responses	Project actions in response to engagement	EIA reference
			<p>Chairman of Road Department explained to them that it is very important for the Project to preserve village due to its cultural heritage value and offered them the following:</p> <p>Acquisition of the houses including registered lands after which Road Department will invite private investor for restoration of the buildings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of the buildings preserving the object's original appearance and cultural heritage value. For implementing of these works there are two options. Road Department will either pay directly to the owner and the owner will do restoration works by himself, or Road Department will invite qualified company for restoration works. 	
<p>15. Dust and over speeding on access road No. 2</p>	<p>Residents of village Bedoni and Seturebi</p>	<p>Locals were explained that the Contractor will use administrative control measures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toolbox talks were conducted to the drivers. • The Contractor changed watering schedule of the road. Another machine will be added. 	

9 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

9.1 Purpose and Scope

The Grievance Mechanism is the key tool that allows stakeholders to provide feedback, concerns and complaints related to the project. The Grievance Mechanism aims at demonstrating responsiveness to stakeholder needs and at facilitating a trustworthy and constructive relationship with the stakeholders, by developing appropriate mitigation strategies.

The objectives of the grievance mechanism are to:

- provide affected people with culturally appropriate ways and means of stating their grievances during the course of the project (from site preparation to decommissioning phase);
- ensure that grievances are treated confidentially and are not shared outside the process;
- establish a transparent and mutually respectful relation with communities;
- ensure that corrective actions are identified and taken;
- verify that affected people are satisfied with the corrective actions taken
- avoid the need for judicial actions; the grievance mechanism however does not prevent stakeholders from accessing the Georgian judiciary system.

The grievance mechanism will be in place through the entire project cycle. This mechanism refers to external grievances coming from all Stakeholders; it does not apply to the following grievances:

- Grievances coming from workers directly or indirectly employed on the Project: workers' grievances are to be addressed and managed through a similar procedure that will be specifically set up.

9.2 Georgian Regulations

The Administrative Code of Georgia defines procedures for issuing and enforcing administrative acts in relation to complaints. It is the legal document defining the rules and procedures for the grievance review and resolution.

According to the law, the Administrative body receiving officially lodged claims is obliged to review the claims and engage the claimant in the grievance review and resolution process, and issue final decision in that regard.

Clause 181. Defines the content and the grievance submission forms. In particular, the grievance package should include: a) Name of the administrative body to whom the complaints are addressed; b) Name, address and contact details of the claimant; c) Name of the administrative body, who's decisions or administrative acts are the subject of complain; d) Name of the administrative act or decision, which is subject of complain; e) Content of the claim; f) The context and facts, based on which the complaint is substantiated; g) list of attachments

Clauses 194 and 198 define the rules and procedures ensuring participation of the claimants in the grievance review process.

According to the clause 202, the decision issued by the Administrative Body in relation with the reviewed claim has a status of individual administrative legal act.

The standard period given for the issuance of the decision in relation with the grievance is 1 month.

9.3 Grievance mechanism process

Stakeholders will have the right to file complaints and/or queries on any aspect of the Project, including land acquisition and resettlement and may appeal any decision, practice or activity related to them. The RD will ensure that grievances and complaints on any aspect of the Project are addressed in a timely and effective manner.

Project GRM's objectives are to:

- reach mutually agreed solutions satisfactory to both, the Project and the PAPs, and to resolve any grievances locally.
- facilitate the smooth implementation of the EIA, particularly to cut down on lengthy litigation processes and prevent delays in Project implementation.
- facilitate the development process at Project-level, while maintaining transparency as well as establish accountability to the affected people.

Project Affected People (PAPs) were fully informed of their rights and of the procedures for addressing complaints whether verbally or in writing during EIA and LARP consultations and surveys and will be informed again during the time of compensation and prior to the start of Project works (by the Contractor).

Care will be taken to prevent grievances rather than going through a redress process. This can be obtained through careful design and implementation of the LARP and EIA, by ensuring full participation and consultation with the PAPs and by establishing extensive communication and coordination between the affected communities, the Executing Agency, and local governments in general during the Construction phase (including monthly community meeting with the Contractor and local communities). If the issues cannot be resolved through this basic channel, the complaints and grievances will be addressed through the process described below.

- Village or Municipal level, Grievance Redress Committee (GRCE)
- National level, Grievance Redress Commission (GRCN)

According to the Georgia legislation, a Grievance Redress Committee (GRCE) and a Grievance Redress Commission (GRCN) are established for the entire duration of the project for the resolution of grievances. Involved in the grievance mechanism.

The GRCE is an informal, project-specific grievance redress mechanism established to administer grievances at Stage 1. This informal body is established at the community level in each affected municipality (village/community authority). The GRCE includes representatives of municipal Land Acquisition and Resettlement (LAR) teams and local communities. The RD representative in the municipal LAR team coordinates the GRCE formation. He/she is responsible for the coordination of GRCE activities and organizing meetings (conveyor). In addition, GRCE comprises the village Rtsmunebuli or his/her representative, representatives of APs, women APs, and appropriate local NGOs to allow the voices of the affected communities to be heard and ensure a participatory decision-making process.

The GRCN is formed by the order of the Head of the RD as a permanent and functional informal structure, engaging personnel of RD from all departments to work on LAR issues and complaint resolution. This includes the top management of the RD, safeguard or LAR units, legal other relevant departments (depending on the specific structure of the IA). The GRCN is involved in Stage 2 of the grievance resolution process. The order states that if necessary, a representative of local authorities, NGOs, auditors, APs and any other persons or entities can be included in the Commission as its members.

GRCEs were established at the municipality level for the Project with an office order from the RD.

The GRCE for the Kazbegi municipality will be based in Kobi.

Table 8: GRCE at Kazbegi Municipality

Name	Position	Telephone/email	Status
Mamuka Basilashvili	Representative of Resettlement Division at RD	577500492	Conveyor; Contact person
Nana Bregadze	Representative of LAR Commission (GRCN) of RDMRDI	593333373	Member
Givi Chkareuli	Representative of Mayor in Kobi village	598240334	Member Secretary
Kakha Chopikashvili	Representative of Kobi village in Sakrebulo of Kazbegi municipality	595555918	Member
Fatima Koblova	Representative of Kobi population	599567894	Member
Tamar Javakhi	Social Specialist from CSC	599613196	Member
Nikoloz Sofadze	Environmental Specialist from CSC	579728871	Member
Lela Bachiahvili	Contractor's Environmental Specialist	593132361	Member
Davit Bughadze	Contractor's Social Specialist (Lot 1)	577055445	Member

The GRCE for Dusheti Municipality will be based in Kvesheti.

Table 9: GRCE at Dusheti Municipality

Name	Position	Telephone/email	Status
Mamuka Basilashvili	Representative of Resettlement Division at RD	577500492	Conveyor; Contact person
Nana Bregadze	Representative of LAR Commission (GRCN) of RDMRDI	593333373	Member
Davit Sisauri	Representative of Mayor in Kvesheti	591089507	Member

Ketevan Kakhurashvili	Elected Representative of Kvesheti village	591113462	Member
Ushangi Zakaidze	Representative of APs	595012903	Member
Vasiko Burduli	Representative of Kvesheti population (Male)	597212120	Member
Marta Mezvrishvili	Representative of Kvesheti population (Female)	555916273	Member
Tamar Javakhi	Social Specialist from CSC	599613196	Member
Nikoloz Sofadze	Environmental Specialist from CSC	579728871	Member
Gocha Mgebrishvili	Contractor's Social Specialist	577318634	Member
Tamta Kapanadze	Contractor's Environmental Specialist (Lot 2)	591814883	Member

The Grievance Redress Commission with the order N224, was established at the RD level as a permanent GRM structure. It consists of 13 permanent members of the Commission, 2 secretaries and 1 non-permanent members without right of vote. The list of the members is presented in the following table:

Table 10: Grievance Redress Commission (GRCN)

No	Name of Member	Position
1	Giorgi Tsereteli	Head of the Commission
2	Salome Tsurtsunia	Deputy Head of the Commission
3	Davit Getsadze	Member
4	Levan Kupatashvili	Member
5	Pikria Kvernadze	Member
6	Vaja Adamia	Member
7	Davit Sajaia	Member
8	Giorgi Eragia	Member
9	Nodar Agniashvili	Member
10	Mikheil Ujmajuridze	Member
12	Gia Sopadze	Member
13	Eldar Neparidze	Member
14	Avtandil Kirvalidze	Member
15.	Davit Kaladze	Member
15	Mariam Begiashvili	invited t member of commission

9.4 GRM Staff Roles and Responsibilities

A representative of the resettlement service of the RD is responsible for coordination of the Committee's work and at the same time, he/she is nominated as a Contact Person who receives the grievances and handles the grievance logbook. The local authorities at the municipal level, the civil works Contractor, the Supervising Company (Engineer), as well as APs (through informal meetings) are informed about the Contact Person and his contact details are available in the offices of all mentioned stakeholders.

The Contact Person collects and records the grievances, informs all members of the Committee and the management of RD about the essence of the problem, engages the relevant stakeholders in discussions with the applicant of grievance and handles the process of negotiation with AP at the stage 1 of the grievance resolution. The Contact Person prepares the minutes of meetings and ensures signatures. In case the grievance is resolved at the stage 1, the Contact Person records the fact of closing the grievance in his logbook and informs RD management about this in writing.

If the complainants are not satisfied with the GRCE decisions, they can always use the procedures of Stage 2 of grievance resolution process. In that case, the Contact Person helps the PAP in lodging an official complaint (the complainant should be informed of his/her rights and obligations, rules and procedures of lodging a complaint, format of complaint, terms of complaint submission, etc.).

The PAPs were informed about the available GRM. This was achieved through implementing information campaigns, distributing Project information brochure, keeping all focal points up-to-date & maintaining regular

communication with them, allowing multiple entry points for complaints and introducing forms for easier reporting of complaints.

The grievance mechanism process entails four steps, briefly described in the table below. A full description of the process can be found in the EIA, in the Resettlement Framework and in the LARP.

Table 11: Grievance Mechanism Process

Steps	Process
Step 1	The complaint is informally reviewed by the focal point at the village level, which takes all necessary measures to resolve the dispute amicably.
Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the grievance is not solved at the previous level, the municipality level LAR representative will assist the aggrieved APs to formally lodge the grievances with the respective GRCE at the municipality level. The aggrieved APs will lodge the complaint if there is failure of negotiation at the village level and produce documents supporting his/her claim. • The GRCE member secretary will review the complaint and prepare a Case File for a GRCE hearing and resolution. A formal hearing will be held with the GRCE at a date fixed by the GRCE member secretary in consultation with the conveyer and the aggrieved APs. • On the date of the hearing, the aggrieved AP will appear before the GRCE at the village office and produce evidence in support of his/her claim. The member secretary will note down the statements of the complainant and document all procedures. • The decisions will be issued by the conveyer and signed by other members of the GRCE. The case record will be communicated to the complainant by the LAR Team at the village level. <p>The grievance redress at this stage shall be completed within 4 weeks.</p>
Step 3	If the aggrieved AP is unsatisfied with the GRCE decision at the municipality level, the next option will be to lodge grievances with the Grievance Redress Commission (GRCN) at the Resettlement Division of the RD at the national level within two weeks after receiving the decision from GRCE. The complainants must produce documents supporting his/her claim. The GRCN will review the GRCE hearing records and convey its decisions to the aggrieved APs within four weeks after receiving the complaint
Step 4	<p>If the RD decision fails to satisfy the aggrieved APs, they can pursue further action by submitting their case to the appropriate court of law (local courts) without reprisal.</p> <p>The aggrieved AP can take legal action over the amount of compensation or any other issues, e.g. occupation of their land by the contractor without their consent, damage or loss of their property, restrictions on the use of land/assets, environmental concerns such as dustcaused by the contractor's machinery, etc.</p>

9.5 Visibility and Communication

Prior to start of site works, the Contractor shall:

- Communicate the GRM to communities in the project impact zone.
- Set-up and publicize a 24-hour hotline for complaints;
- Ensure that names and contact numbers of representatives of GRCE, the RD and the Contractor are placed on the notice boards outside the construction site.

APPENDIX A - List of affected stakeholders and interested parties

ID number	Stakeholder name	Category	Type of Affected Stakeholders and Interested Parties
1	Mtskheta-Mtianeti Governor	Regional government and administration	Affected stakeholder
2	Dusheti Municipality	Municipal administration	Affected stakeholder
3	Kazbegi Municipality	Municipal Administration	Affected stakeholder
5	Agency for Protected Areas	National government and authorities	Affected stakeholder
6	Georgian National Museum	National authorities	Interested parties
7	Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection	National government and authorities	Interested parties
8	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture	National government and authorities	Affected stakeholder
9	Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure	National government and authorities	Affected stakeholder
10	Mountain Resorts Development Agency of Georgia	National government and authorities	Interested parties
11	National Environmental Agency	National government and authorities	Affected stakeholder
12	National Tourism Administration	National government and authorities	Interested parties
13	Police	National government and authorities	Affected stakeholder
14	Roads Department of Georgia	National government and authorities	Affected stakeholder
15	Chamber of Commerce	Surrounding businesses	Interested parties
16	Gas Transportation Company	Affected Utility	Affected stakeholder
17	Gudauri Ski Resort	Surrounding businesses	Interested parties

18	Trade Unions	Surrounding businesses	Interested parties
19	Residents of Jagmiani village	Affected Community	Affected stakeholder
20	Residents of Kaishauri village	Affected Community	Affected stakeholder
21	Centre for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSR DG)	Academia and sector experts	Interested parties
22	National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia	National government and authorities	Affected stakeholder
23	Roland Topchishvili	Academia and sector experts (Historic Ethnographer)	Interested parties
24	Stepantsminda Institute of Alpine Ecology of Ilia State University.	Academia and sector experts	Interested parties
25	Tatia Gvineria	Academia and sector experts (Cultural Heritage expert)	Interested parties
26	Tbilisi State University	Academia and sector experts	Interested parties
27	Association for Well-being of Society (AWS)	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
28	Blue Shield Georgian National Committee	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
29	CAREC	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
30	Caucasus Nature Fund	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
31	CENN	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
32	Center for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSR DG)	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
33	Dusheti Development Fund	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
34	Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC)	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties

35	Future of Khevi Stepantsminda-based NGO	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
36	Georgian Centre for Biodiversity Conservation and Research (NACRES)	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
37	Georgian Eco-Tourism Association	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
38	Georgia's Environmental Outlook (GEO)	NGOs and local associations	Interested Parties
39	Georgian Greens	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
40	Georgian Incoming Tour Operators Association	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
41	Greens Movement of Georgia	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
42	Georgian National Foundation	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
43	Georgian Tourism Association	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
44	Green Alternative	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
45	Greens Movement of Georgia	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
46	ICOMOS Georgia	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
47	Mountain Development Centre (MDC)	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
48	National Research Centre for Georgian Art History & Heritage Preservation	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
49	National Trust of Georgia	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
50	REC Caucasus Georgia	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties

51	Regional Development Center (RDC)	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
52	Society for Nature Conservation – SABUKO	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
53	Stefantsminda	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
54	Women in Europe for a Common Future(WECF)	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
55	Women for Regional Development	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
56	WWF Caucasus	NGOs and local associations	Interested parties
57	Citizens of Georgia	Country General population	Interested parties
58	Residents of the Almasiani village	Surrounding communities	Interested parties
59	Residents of the Arakhveti village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
60	Residents of the Begoni village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
61	Residents of the Beniani village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
62	Residents of the Gudauri village	Surrounding communities	Interested parties
63	Residents of the Gomurni village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
64	Residents of the Kobi village	Surrounding communities	Interested parties
65	Residents of the Korogo village	Surrounding communities	Interested parties
66	Residents of the Kvesheti village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
67	Residents of the Mleta village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
68	Residents of the Mughure village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder

69	Residents of the Nagvarevi village	Surrounding communities	Interested parties
70	Residents of the Seturebi Village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
71	Residents of the Sharmiani village	Surrounding communities	Interested parties
72	Residents of the Sviana-Rostiani village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
73	Residents of the Tskere village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
74	Residents of the Ukhati village	Surrounding communities	Interested parties
75	Residents of Ukho Village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
76	Residents of the Zakatkari village	Affected communities	Affected stakeholder
77	Mleta church	Religious Institutions	Interested parties
78	Nunnery in vil. Almasiani	Religious Institutions	Interested parties
79	Kobi Water Company	Surrounding Business	Interested parties

APPENDIX B - Stakeholder Engagement Log

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement Activities Conducted During the Pre-Construction Phase (April 2018 – September 2020)

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
1	One-on-one meetings (x5)	Village residents of Tetri Aragvi and Khadistskail gorge settlements	Affected communities	4 April 2018, various	Approx. 5	EIA discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather information on project area's aquatic environment
2	One-on-one meetings (x5)	Village residents of Natvani, Baidara, and Tergi	Affected communities	11 April 2018, various	Approx. 5	EIA discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather information on project area's aquatic environment
3	One-on-one meetings (x8)	Village residents of Tskere, Kobi	Affected communities	19 April 2018, various	Approx. 8	EIA discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather information on project area's biodiversity
4	One-on-one meetings (x3)	Village residents of Zakatkari	Affected communities	8 May 2018, Zakatkari	Approx. 3	EIA discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather information on project area's biodiversity
5	One-on-one meetings (x6)	Residents of settlements along Kvesheti-Kobi alignment	Affected communities	12 May 2018	Approx. 6	EIA discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather information on project area's cultural heritage
6	Public consultation	Village residents of Kvesheti	Affected communities	14 May 2018, Kvesheti	Approx. 16 (15 males, 1 female)	Introduce the project specifications and discuss issues related to the LARP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants need more information about the road project • Questions from participants on basic project aspects such as scope, size, and potential benefits

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges with the land-registration process and eligibility to compensation Interest in employment opportunities
7	Public consultation	Village residents of Kvesheti, Arakhveti and Khada, NGO representatives	Affected communities and interested stakeholders	10 July 2018, Kvesheti	Approx. 16 (11 males, 5 females)	To disclose the EIA Scoping Report and to collect feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General interest in project benefits Project impacts on building and cultural heritage Stakeholder engagement in project design and decision-making process
8	Public consultation	Village residents of Kobi, NGO representatives	Affected communities and interested stakeholders	10 July 2018, Kobi	Approx. 11 (6 females, 5 males)	To disclose the EIA Scoping Report and to collect feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project impacts on protected areas and cultural heritage Project impacts on utilities and infrastructure Question whether the project had undergone a Strategic Environmental Protection Assessment
9	Civil society meeting	NGOs, residents, government representatives	Affected communities, national, regional and local administrations, NGOs and local associations	13 August 2018, Ministry of Environment and Agriculture, Tbilisi	Approx. 27 (15 males, 12 females)	EIA consultation with civil society experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More information required on the alternatives analysed Project impacts on protected areas Quality of procedure for the scoping public consultation, and amount of participation Project impacts on current eco-tourism activities in the Khada valley Queries about construction techniques particularly for the tunnel
10	Focus group discussion	Residents of Begoni, Beniani, Gomurni, Sviana-Rostiani, Tskere.	Affected communities	30 August 2018, Begoni Plateau	Approx. 10 (6 males, 4 females)	Land Acquisition and Resettlement planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tskere's access to the proposed road Land registration challenges Potential for vibration effects on homes during construction/operations of the road Question on whether the road will have lighting

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on the gas pipeline near Kobi during construction phase • Project impacts on identified grazing and hay collection areas, water sources for villages on the plateau • No specific development plans are in place for the Khada valley, although there are state/national level programs to support people who want to develop a business plan
11	Focus group discussion	Residents of Arakhveti Begoni, and Kvesheti villages	Affected communities	31 August 2018, Arakhveti and Kvesheti	Approx. 11	Land Acquisition and Resettlement planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions on crossing points along the road, particularly for cattle • Questions on service road alignment • Impact on tourism • Project impacts on existing infrastructures (water, telecommunications, etc.) • Request that an upgrade to the sewerage system is performed together with the project • Bedoni village: discussion on access road alignment through the riverbed to avoid using the current road that passes through the middle of the Bedoni village • Road alignment in the Kvesheti village and impacts the • project may have on properties and on quality of life in the village
12	Focus group discussion	Residents of Kobi Almasian villages	Affected communities	31 August 2018, Kobi	Approx. 8 (6 men, 2 women)	Land Acquisition and Resettlement planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on St George Cross and the church above it • Discussion about the Soldiers Monument • Impact on gas pipeline alignment during construction • Questions on project schedule • Discussion on possible spoil disposal sites

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
							<p>andwhen/how these will be decided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development plan is being developed and currently waiting Prime Ministers approval; mainly relates to theski lift development
13	Civil society meeting	NGOs, businesses, authority representatives	National government authorities, NGOs, local associations, affected businesses	4 September 2018, Tbilisi	Approx. 28 (17 males, 11 females)	EIA consultation with civil societyexperts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions on geophysical aspects, particularly for the tunnel section • Adequacy of information/details in the EIA ScopingReport and participation challenges • Location of spoil area and construction camps • Request that evaluation of impacts on habitats is performed according to IUCN guidelines • Project impacts on accessibility to cemeteries and cultural monuments • Impacts on current tourism activities and expectations on possible development opportunities • Impacts on archaeological heritage • More information required on the alternatives analysis that has been performed
14	Public consultation	Residents of Kvesheti, Arakhveti, Benian-Begoni, Kobi, Tskere, and Zaqtakari villages, Representatives of NGOs and government	Affected communities, national NGOs, national and local government authorities	7 September 2018, Mleta	Approx. 60	Disclosure of project alignment and alternatives considered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions on the alternative analysis performed • Question on the reasons behind the chosen road alignment • Clarifications about land acquisition and compensation

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
15	Expert meeting	Representative from Georgian Center for the Conservation of Wildlife	National NGO	10 September 2018, Tbilisi	1	EIA consultation with civil society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of community support programs, wildlife information and available data
16	Expert meeting	Representative from NACRES	National NGO	10 September 2018, Tbilisi	1	EIA consultation with civil society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion regarding status of NACRES conservation programs, biodiversity in the project area and grounds for delimitation of Emerald network sites
17	Expert meeting	Representative from MOEPA biodiversity department	National government	11 September, 2018, Tbilisi,	1	EIA consultation with civil society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about biodiversity in the project area
18	Expert meeting	Representatives from Caucasus Nature Fund	International NGO	11 September, 2018, Tbilisi	2	EIA consultation with civil society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion regarding CNF activities in Georgia, main issues, plans, ways for cooperation during wildlife monitoring
19	Public consultation	Residents of Begoni and Beniani villages	Affected communities	14 September 2018, Begoni	Approx. 10 (6 males and 4 females)	Land Acquisition and Resettlement planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impact of challenges with land registration on compensation entitlements • Impacts on agricultural activities • Interest in potential economic benefits
20	Public consultation	Residents of Tskere village	Affected communities	14 September 2018, Tskere	Approx. 4 (3 females, 1 male)	Land Acquisition and Resettlement planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in the project due to the accessibility benefits that it would bring to the village • Difficulties registering land

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
21	Public consultation	Residents of Kvesheti village	Affected communities	15 September 2018, Kvesheti	Approx. 25 (20 males, 5 females)	Land Acquisition and Resettlement planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some residents commented the road should be built on the other side of the river • Some opposition to the project due to potential impact on properties and houses • More information on project design alternatives required
22	Public consultation	Residents of Zakatkari village	Affected communities	15 September 2018, Zakatkari	Approx. 6 (4 males, 2 females)	Land Acquisition and Resettlement planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues around land acquisition and resettlement process and eligibility criteria • Access benefits of the new road
23	Expert meeting	Georgian Centre for Biodiversity Conservation and Research (NACRES) representative	National NGOs	26 September 2018, Tbilisi	2	Gather baselinedata and information on project area biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information on NACRES' work • NACRES offered to support the biodiversity aspects of the project and valued the biodiversity assessment work done thus far
24	Expert meeting	Georgian Centre for the Conservation of Wildlife representative	National NGOs	26 September 2018, Tbilisi	2	Gather baselinedata and information on project area biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information about KfW-supported protected area project involving Kazbegi National Park • Highlighted issues between local people and protected area development due to strict controls impacting livelihoods
25	Expert meeting	Caucasus Nature Fund (CNF) representatives	International NGOs	28 September 2018, Tbilisi	3	Gather baselinedata and information on project area biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information on CNF work and issues relevant to Kazbegi National Park such as poaching, land use zoning, and tourism • CNF raised questions about the project regarding • impacts on Khada valley, alternative options to

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
							the proposed road, and ongoing freight transport issues and transport pollution
26	Expert meeting	Biodiversity and Forest Department, MoEPA representative	National Government	28 September 2018, Tbilisi	2	Gather baselinedata and information on project area biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information expansion plans for Kazbegi National Park and plans for the Emerald Network • Commented the road project impacts likely relatively benign, but pointed out impacts on sea buckthorn areas need to be avoided
27	Focus group discussion	Women from Kvesheti	Affected communities	16 October 2018, Kvesheti	n/a	LARP discussions	• n/a
28	Focus group discussion	Women from Tskere	Affected communities	16 October 2018, Tskere	n/a	LARP discussions	• n/a
29	Focus group discussion	Women from Beniani-Begoni	Affected communities	16 October 2018, Beniani Begoni	n/a	LARP discussions	• n/a
30	Focus group discussion	Women from Kobi	Affected communities	17 October 2018, Kobi	/na	LARP discussions	• n/a

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
31	Expert meeting	SABUKO representative	National NGOs	16 November 2018, Tbilisi	2	Gather baseline data and information on project area biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information on SABUKO work in the area • Emphasized that the endangered Egyptian vulture is in the project area
32	Public consultation	Residents of Kobi village, representatives of SABUKO, Green Alternative, Mountain Development Center	Affected communities and interested stakeholders	10 December 2018, Kobi	Approx. 17 (11 males, 6 females)	Disclose the National EIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impact of construction to nearby shrines • Higher involvement of communities in assessment phase, i.e. for cultural heritage sites in the area • Questions asked and answered regarding alternative options to the Khada valley bypass • Total cost of the project
33	Public consultation	Residents of Mleta Bedoni, Arakhveti, Kvesheti village, representatives of 5 NGOs	Potentially affected and interested stakeholders	10 December 2018, Mleta	Approx. 29 (18 males, 11 females)	Disclose the National EIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical questions raised about geo-engineering aspects and the disposal of construction spoil • Positive comment on the quality of the EIA • Issues with the land registration process
34	Public consultation	Residents of Begoni, Arakhveti, Kvesheti	Potentially affected stakeholders, local	9 January 2019, Mleta	30	Public hearing on the LARP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally positive and constructive • Issues with the land registration process.

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
		villages, local government,	government				
35	Expert meeting	Georgian Eco-Tourism Association	National NGO	30 January 2019, Tbilisi	5	Discussions on potential eco-tourism component of project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information provided on the Association's work • Agreed that the Khada valley has considerable eco-tourism potential • Comment that more analysis needed than in the EIA to assess socio-economic and cultural heritage aspects to plan appropriate and sustainable tourism activities • Suggested no need for another tourist center
36	Expert meeting	CENN	National NGO	1 February 2019, Tbilisi	12	Discussions on potential eco-tourism component of project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commented that upgrading the existing road is the preferable option as concerns over the impacts on the Khada valley • Another meeting earmarked to discuss more in depth • the technical reasons why upgrading the existing road not feasible
37	Expert meeting	SABUKO	National NGO	1 February 2019, Tbilisi	6	Discussions on potential eco-tourism component of project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commented that the EIA assessment of bird biodiversity data needed more work and offered to provide more data • Agreed that eco-tourism activities had good potential, • but must be community-based and involve capacity building support
38	Expert meeting	WWF	International NGO	1 February 2019, Tbilisi	10	Discussions on potential eco-tourism component of project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quite positive about the project and the potential eco-tourism benefits for the area • Offered to collaborate on the biodiversity action plan

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
							forthe project
39	Meeting	Mayor of Dusheti	Local government	4 February 2019, Dusheti	8	Discussions on potential eco-tourism component of project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor highlighted Khada valley tourism development desirable and good potential, but so far constrained by seasonality and lack of infrastructure • Welcomed the proposed Gudauri access road initiative • of the project and also the potential of a tourist visitorcenter supported by the project.
40	Meeting	Mayor of Kazbegi	Local government	4 February 2019, Stepantsminda	8	Discussions on potential eco-tourism component of project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor said municipality/residents very supportive of theproject as current road has major problems that impact tourism • Interested in project support for tourism initiative on Kobi • side of the project area.
41	Public meeting	Residents of Arakhveti, Jaghmiani and Zakatkari	Affected communities	6 March 2019, Kaishaurebi	40	Public hearing LARP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sought on how to resolve land registration challenges and the impact on compensation. • Residents were positive about the project's proposed support of a tourist hub facility and shared ideas on howit could support local livelihoods.
42	Expert meeting	WWF	International NGO	25 June 2019, Tbilisi	11	Discuss EIA biodiversity aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWF responded positively to the species survey workand update on the Biodiversity Action Plan. They requested a draft copy of the BAP for comment, including a monitoring schedule.

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
43	Expert meeting	National Trust of Georgia, Green Alternative, GRETA, Georgian Mountain Guide Association, Geoland Ltd	NGOs	26 June 2019, Tbilisi	19	Discuss Khada valley tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project team clarified why geological risks and constraints meant the only feasible corridor for the newroad is the Khada valley. • Project team outlined tourism support component of theproject. The attending organizations agreed the tourism support plans are good initiatives, however some remain of the opinion that the road itself will be detrimental to sustainable tourism development in the valley.
44	Expert meeting	National Trust of Geogia, CENN, Explore Georgia	National and International NGOs	27 June 2019, Tbilisi	22	Discuss the alternatives analyses for the road alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDOM consultant gave a detailed presentation on the assessment process, methods, expertise, and findingsand answered • Although many factors considered (environmental, social, economic), ultimately geology was the main determinant, as high-risk geological conditions and constraints ruled out all alignment options except forKhada valley. • Organizations attending accepted that the analyses • were robust, comprehensive, and compelling. Some attendees still prefer no road built in the Khada valley.
45	Expert meeting	SABUKO, Green Alternative	National NGOs	27 June 2019, Tbilisi	6	Discuss EIA biodiversity aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on project surveys of Egyptian vultures andSABUKO shared its latest findings on the population status in the project area, which indicate to a rapidly declining population. • Ideas shared on Egyptian vulture conservation • measures the project could support, such as a vulture “restaurant,” or offset/compensation

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
							measures.
46	One-on-one meetings (X4)	Residents of vil. Kobi	Project Affected Community	27.04.20 Vil. Kobi	4 (all male)	To disclose plan of temporary facilities (Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area. • Possible impact of Construction Camp on the everyday lives of the village residents. • Operation of batching plant and crushing plant and their impact. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. • Employment opportunities.
47	One-on-one meetings (X6)	Residents of vil. Almasiani	Project Affected Community	28.04.20 Vil. Almasiani	6 (3 females)	To disclose plan of temporary facilities (Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area. • Possible impact of Construction Camp on the everyday lives of the village residents. • Operation of batching plant and crushing plant and their impact. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. • Employment opportunities. •
48	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of vil. Almasiani and vil. Kobi	Project Affected Community	01.09.20 Campsite of the Contractor in vil. Kobi	10 (4 females)	To disclose plan of temporary facilities (Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area. • Possible impact of Construction Camp on the everyday lives of the village residents. • Operation of batching plant and crushing plant and their impact. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals.

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment opportunities. •
49	Focus group discussion (FGD)	Residents of vil. Zakatkari	Project Affected Community	20.05.20 Temporary office of the Contractor in Kvesheti	9 (all males)	To disclose plan of temporary facilities (Construction Camp No. 2 and Batching Plant No. 2) and access road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp No. 2 and Batching Plant No. 2. • Possible impact of Construction Camp on the everyday lives of the village residents. • Operation of Batching Plant No. 2. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. • Employment opportunities. •
50	Focus group discussion (FGD)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 30.06.20	15 (8 females and 7 males)	Concerning location of Camp No. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp No. 1. • Possible impact of Construction Camp on the everyday lives of the village residents. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. • Employment opportunities.
51	Focus group discussion (FGD)	Residents of vil. Zaqatkari	Project Affected Community	16.07.20	4 (all male)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Construction Camp No. 2 and Batching Plant No. 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp No. 2 and Batching Plant No. 2. • Possible impact of Construction Camp on the everyday lives of the village residents. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. • Additional improvement of access road to the village (placing more gravel)

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
52	One-on-one meetings (X6)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 06.07.20	6 (4 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
53	One-on-one meetings (X5)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 07.07.20	5 (3 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
54	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 09.07.20	3 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
55	One-on-one meetings (X5)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 15.07.20	5 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
56	One-on-one meetings (X5)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 15.07.20	5 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
57	One-on-one meetings (X9)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 16.07.20	9 (4 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
58	One-on-one meetings (X4)	Residents of vil. Mleta	Project Affected Community	Vil. Mleta 17.07.20	4 (4 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
59	One-on-one meetings (X5)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 20.07.20	5 (3 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
60	One-on-one meetings (X5)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 20.07.20	5 (3 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
61	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 21.07.20	3 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
62	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 21.07.20	3 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
63	One-on-one meetings (X5)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 22.07.20	5 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
64	One-on-one meetings (X4)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 23.07.20	4 (2 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
65	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Kvesheti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Kvesheti 24.07.20	3 (2 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
66	One-on-one meetings (X5)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 27.07.20	5 (all male)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
67	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 28.07.20	3 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
68	One-on-one meetings (X7)	Residents of vil. Mleta	Project Affected Community	Vil. Mleta 28.07.20	7 (4 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Campsite No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Campsite No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
69	One-on-one meetings (X5)	Residents of vil. Kvesheti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Kvesheti 05.09.20	5 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Batching Plant No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Batching Plant No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
70	One-on-one meetings (X4)	Residents of vil. Kvesheti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Kvesheti 08.09.20	4 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Batching Plant No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Batching Plant No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
71	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Kvesheti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Kvesheti 14.09.20	3 (1 female)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Batching Plant No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Batching Plant No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.

No.	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder category	Date and location	No. of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed and issues raised
72	One-on-one meetings (X4)	Residents of vil. Kvesheti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Kvesheti 17.09.20	4 (2 females)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Batching Plant No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Batching Plant No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
73	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Nagvarevi	Project Affected Community	Vil. Nagvarevi 22.09.20	3 (2 females)	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Batching Plant No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Batching Plant No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
74	One-on-one meetings (X4)	Residents of vil. Sefe	Project Affected Community	Vil. Sefe 23.09.20	All male	Concerning location of temporary facilities (Batching Plant No. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Batching Plant No. 1. Possible impact of Batching Plant on the everyday lives of the village residents. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.

Summary of Stakeholder Engagement Activities Conducted During the Construction Phase (October 2020 to present)

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
Lot 1								
1	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Almasiani and vil. Kobi	Project Affected Community	19.10.2020 Vil. Almasiani and Kobi	Contractor under the supervision of the Engineer	3 (all females).	To disclose plan of temporary facilities (Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area) and Public information leaflets to those who could not attend Public consultation meetings organized by the Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area. • Possible impact of Construction Camp on the everyday lives of the village residents. • Operation of batching plant and crushing plant and their impact. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. • Employment opportunities.
2	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of vil. Almasiani and vil. Kobi	Project Affected Community	19.10.2020 Campsite of the Contractor in vil. Kobi	Contractor under the supervision of the Engineer	5 (1 female)	Blasting works of emergency tunnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the PPT concerning blasting activities. • Management of impacts caused by blasting works. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. • Employment opportunities.
3	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Almasiani	Project Affected Community	19.10.2020 Vil. Almasiani	Contractor under the supervision of the Engineer	3 (all females)	To disclose brochure on blasting works to the local residents who could not attend Public Consultation meeting conducted on the same date.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPT presentation was printed and delivered on hand. • Management of impacts caused by blasting works. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals.

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
							The team also visited Nunnery located close to vil. Almasiani.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment opportunities.
4	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Residents of vil. Ukhati	Project Affected Community	10.12.2020 Vil. Ukhati	Contractor	3 (2 females)	To disclose plan of temporary facilities (Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area. • Possible impact of Construction Camp on the everyday lives of the village residents. • Operation of batching plant and crushing plant and their impact. • Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. • Employment opportunities.
5	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of vil. Almasiani, Ukhati and Kobi	Project Affected Community	31.05.21	Contractor	11 (4 females)	To disclose progress of construction works and information campaign on communicable diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going construction activities. • Impacts of construction works. • Grievance Redress Mechanism. • Information campaign on communicable diseases.
6	Public Consultation Meeting	Kobi Water Company	Project Affected Business	Vil. Kobi 28.07.21	Engineer Contractor	6 (2 females)	To disclose location of temporary facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area. • Impact of operation temporary facilities on the operation of the Company. • Progress of the works. • Protection of water pipe located underneath the access road to SDA.

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During survey the Contractor's surveyors jump over the fence of protected area owned by the Water Company. It was agreed to inform the director when Contractor's employees need to access the fenced territory so as they will let them in.
7	Public Consultation Meeting	Tskere village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Tskere 20.07.21	ADB CLO Engineer Contractor	7 (2 male 4 female)	<p>To disclose location of temporary facilities</p> <p>To introduce Project team and plan of upcoming activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of temporary facilities: Construction Camp, batching plant, crushing plant and spoil disposal area. Impact of operation temporary facilities. Plan of upcoming activities. Grievance Redress Mechanism. Preconstruction survey. Employment opportunities.
8	One-on-one meetings	Tskere village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Tskere 11.08.21	Engineer Contractor	9 (2 female 7 male)	To make preconstruction survey of the houses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grievance Redress Mechanism. Preconstruction survey. Employment opportunities.
9	Public Consultation Meeting	Tskere village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Tskere 29.09.21	ADB Road Department External Monitoring Consultant Engineer Contractor	5 (3 male 2 female)	<p>To disclose information on Project impacts (noise, vibration, HS issues) and planned mitigation measures.</p> <p>Grievance Redress Mechanism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of planned construction activities, their impact and mitigation measures. Specifically, impacts of blasting and vibration and noise were discussed and plan of mitigation measures was disclosed. Structure of Project's GRM and the ways of filing grievances. Development plan of Khada valley.

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
10	One-on-one meetings	Tskere village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Tskere 06.10.21	Engineer Contractor	9 (all male)	To make preconstruction survey of the houses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grievance Redress Mechanism. Preconstruction survey. Employment opportunities.
11	One-on-one meetings	Benian-begoni village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Benian-begoni 19.07.2022	Engineer Contractor	3 (all male)	Community concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discuss issues related to watering access road.
12	One-on-one meetings	Tskere village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Tskere 24.08.22	Engineer Contractor	6 (5 male, 1 female)	Community concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction activities caused some disturbances to local people. Meeting was organized to prepare action plan to resolve outstanding issues.
13	One-on-one meetings	Benian-begoni village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Benian-begoni 22.09.22	Engineer Contractor ADB CLO	9 (all male)	Community concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to discuss issues related to newly arranged water supply system
14	Public Consultation Meeting	Kobi and Almasiani village residents	Project Affected Community	Contractor's Camp in vil. Kobi 12.10.22	Engineer Contractor	6 (1 male)	To disclose information related to progress of the works and status of SEMP's Raise awareness on AIDS, HIV, STD, hepatitis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress of the works. Status of implementation of SEMP's. Information related to transmittable diseases like AIDS, HIV, STD, hepatitis. Grievance Redress Mechanism
15	One-on-one meetings	Tskere village residents	Project Affected Community	Contractor's camp in vil. Tskere 10.11.22	Contractor	7 (all male)	To disclose information about Project progress and specifically about blasting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blasting procedure and blasting related risks and relevant mitigation measures like low explosive charges, preconstruction survey, crack markers and continuous vibration monitoring.
16	Public Consultation Meeting	Tskere village residents	Project Affected Community	Contractor's camp in vil. Tskere 16.11.22	Engineer Contractor	14 (1 female)	To disclose information about Project progress and specifically about blasting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blasting procedure and blasting related risks and relevant mitigation measures like low explosive charges, preconstruction survey, crack markers and continuous vibration monitoring.

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grievance Redress Mechanism.
Lot 2								
1	One-on-one meetings (X1)	Resident of vil. Rostiani	Project Affected Community	Kvesheti Temporary Campsite 17.10.20	Engineer	Male	Concerning leasing land plot for access road No. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of access road No. 4. Possible impact of movement of the Contractor's equipment. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
2	One-on-one meetings (X1)	Head of administrative unit of Dusheti Municipality in vil. Kvesheti	Project Affected Community	Benian – Begoni 17.10.20	Engineer	Male	Discussion on the progress of the Project works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify community needs. Discuss progress of construction works and it's possible impacts.
3	Focus group discussion (X4)	Residents of vil. Rostiani	Project Affected Community	Vil. Rostiani 03.11.20	Engineer	4 (1 female)	Concerning leasing land plot for access road No. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of access road No. 4. Possible impact of movement of the Contractor's equipment. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
4	Focus group discussion (X4)	Residents of vil. Rostiani	Project Affected Community	Vil. Rostiani 04.11.20	Employer	4 (1 female)	Concerning leasing land plot for access road No. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of access road No. 4. Possible impact of movement of the Contractor's equipment. Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals. Employment opportunities.
5	One-on-one meetings (X1)	Resident of vil. Kvesheti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Kvesheti 13.11.20	Engineer	Female	Concerning access road to the land plot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout of the Project road. Possible impact of movement of the Contractor's equipment.

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of Project's GRM as an instrument to address issues raised by the locals.
6	One-on-one meetings (X1)	Resident of vil. Benian-Begoni	Project Affected Community	Vil. Benian-Begoni 02.03.21	ADB Engineer	Male	Introduction of the Project team and exchange of contact information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project works. Possible impacts of the Project. Employment opportunities.
7	One-on-one meetings (X1)	Resident of vil. Benian-Begoni	Project Affected Community	Vil. Benian-Begoni 02.03.21	ADB Engineer	Female	Introduction of the Project team and exchange of contact information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project works. Possible impacts of the Project.
8	One-on-one meetings (X4)	Resident of vil. Benian-Begoni	Project Affected Community	Vil. Benian-Begoni 02.03.21	ADB Engineer	2 Females 2 Males	Introduction of the Project team and exchange of contact information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project works. Possible impacts of the Project. Employment opportunities.
9	One-on-one meetings (X3)	Resident of vil. Benian-Begoni	Project Affected Community	Vil. Benian-Begoni 02.03.21	ADB Engineer	3 Males	Introduction of the Project team and exchange of contact information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project works. Possible impacts of the Project. Employment opportunities.
10	One-on-one meetings (X1)	Resident of vil. Benian-Begoni	Project Affected Community	Vil. Benian-Begoni 02.03.21	ADB Engineer	Female	Introduction of the Project team and exchange of contact information.	Project works. Possible impacts of the Project.
11	One-on-one meetings (X2)	Resident of vil. Rostiani	Project Affected Community	Vil. Rostiani 02.03.21	ADB Engineer	1 Female 1 Male	Introduction of the Project team and exchange of contact information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project works. Possible impacts of the Project in vil. Rostiani. Visit of Independent Geologist
12	Workshop	Local valley residents.	Project Affected Community	18.06.2021 Gudaauri	ADB RD	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guide the livelihood improvement efforts of the Project. Inform the development of the Khada Valley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informing Khada valley residents about of the objectives of Khada valley development plan. emphasizing potential opportunities for sustainable community and livelihood development;

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
							Masterplan	
13	One-on-one meetings (X7)	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 29-30 June 21	Engineer Contractor	5 Male 2 Female	Introduction of the Project team.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project works. Possible impacts of the Project Employment opportunities. Grievance Redress Mechanism
14	One-on-one meetings	Zakatkari village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Zakatkari 05.08.21	Engineer Contractor	5 (3 female 2 male)	<p>Impact of construction activities and mitigation measures.</p> <p>Preconstruction survey of the houses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preconstruction survey of the houses. Project works, their impact and mitigation measures. Structure of GRM and ways to file grievances.
15	Public Consultation Meeting	Benian-Begoni village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Benian-Begoni 06.08.21	ADB CLO Engineer Contractor	7 (all male)	<p>Introduction of Project team.</p> <p>Location of temporary facilities.</p> <p>Grievance Redress Mechanism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location of campsite No. 3 Update on progress of the Project. Obtaining info/data regarding locals' craft/skills Community requests and grievances. GRM.
16	Public Consultation Meeting	Jagmiani village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Jagmiani 18.08.21	ADB CLO Engineer Contractor	14 (4 female 10 male)	<p>Introduction of Project team.</p> <p>Location of temporary facilities.</p> <p>Grievance Redress Mechanism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on progress of the Project. Obtaining info/data regarding locals' craft/skills Community requests and grievances, GRM.
17	Public Consultation Meeting	Seturebi village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Seturebi 18.08.21	Engineer Contractor	2 (1 female 1 male)	<p>Introduction of Project team.</p> <p>Location of temporary facilities.</p> <p>Grievance Redress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on progress of the Project, Obtaining info/data regarding locals' craft/skills

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
							Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community requests and grievances. GRM.
18	Public Consultation Meeting	Bedoni village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Bedoni 31.08.21	ADB CLO Engineer Contractor	9 (all male)	Introduction of Project team. Location of temporary facilities. Grievance Redress Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on progress of the Project, Obtaining info/data regarding locals' craft/skills Community requests and grievances. GRM.
19	Public Consultation Meeting	Kvesheti village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Kvesheti 31.08.21	ADB CLO Engineer Contractor	10 (5 female, 5 male)	Introduction of Project team. Location of temporary facilities. Grievance Redress Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on progress of the Project, Obtaining info/data regarding locals' craft/skills Community requests and grievances. GRM.
20	Public Consultation Meeting	Arakhveti village residents	Project Affected Community	Vil. Arakhveti 01.09.21	ADB CLO Engineer Contractor	8 (3 female, 5 male)	Introduction of Project team. Location of temporary facilities. Grievance Redress Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on progress of the Project, Obtaining info/data regarding locals' craft/skills Community requests and grievances. GRM.
21	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of Seturebi Jagmniani Kaishaurni Zakatkari villages	Project affected community	Gudauri Hotel Marco Polo 23.03.22	Road Department Engineer ADB	27 (6 female)	Public hearing for LARP and EIA for Gudauri access road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide information on the procedures envisaged in the Resettlement Action Plan and EIA to the persons affected by Gudauri access road (local road) construction project under the Kvesheti-Kobi project. GRM.
22	One-on-one meetings	Residents of Sviana-Rostiani	Project affected community	Vil. Sviana-Rostiani 27.04.2022	Road Department Engineer	7 (2 female)	Giving information to the residents about the plans of RD	RD offered residents the following:

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
					ADB		related to the village.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of the houses including registered lands after which Road Department will invite private investor for restoration of the buildings. Restoration of the buildings preserving the object's original appearance and cultural heritage value. For implementing of these works there are two options. Road Department will either pay directly to the owner and the owner will do restoration works by himself, or Road Department will invite qualified company for restoration works.
23	One-on-one meetings	Residents of vil. Sviana-Rostiani	Project affected community	Vil. Sviana-Rostiani 13.05.2022	Road Department Engineer	1 male 1 female	Offer temporary resettlement during construction period before making decision about resettlement	
24	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of Seturebi Jagmniani Kaishaurni Zakatkari villages	Project affected community	Gudauri Hotel Marco Polo 24.05.22	Road Department Engineer ADB	26 (7 female)	Public hearing of Land acquisition and resettlement plan and environmental impact assessment from Gudauri access road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information about the changes and news developed within the land acquisition and resettlement plan and social and environmental impact plan. Provide information to the project affected landowners and land users on land unit cost updates. <p>GRM.</p>
25	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of Vil. Bedoni	Project affected community	Vil. Bedoni 31.05.22	Contractor Engineer ADB	6 (2 female)	Discuss issues related to SDA SEMP status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project wants to arrange SDA to fill the area in front of the village. GRM

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
					RD		Community HS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of SEMP's and mitigation measures of environmental and social impacts. Community HS issues such as hazards related to construction sites and operation of mobile equipment, fencing and signage, colour coding of safety signs, road safety issues, etc.
26	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of Vil. Kvesheti	Project affected community	Vil. Kvesheti 31.05.22	Contractor Engineer ADB RD	5 (3 female)	Discuss issues related to SDA SEMP status Community HS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project wants to arrange SDA to fill the area in front of the village. GRM Status of SEMP's and mitigation measures of environmental and social impacts. Community HS issues such as hazards related to construction sites and operation of mobile equipment, fencing and signage, color coding of safety signs, road safety issues, etc.
27	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of Vil. Jagmiani	Project affected community	Vil. Jagmiani 02.06.22	Contractor Engineer ADB	11 (2 female)	SEMP status Community HS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRM Status of SEMP's and mitigation measures of environmental and social impacts. Community HS issues such as hazards related to construction sites and operation of mobile equipment, fencing and signage, color coding of safety signs, road safety issues, etc.
28	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of Vil. Seturebi	Project affected community	Vil. Jagmiani 02.06.22	Contractor Engineer ADB	5 (1 female)	SEMP status Community HS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRM Status of SEMP's and mitigation measures of environmental and social impacts.

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community HS issues such as hazards related to construction sites and operation of mobile equipment, fencing and signage, color coding of safety signs, road safety issues, etc.
28	Community meeting	Residents of Vil. Bedoni	Project affected community	Vil. Bedoni 05.06.22	Engineer	12 (1 female)	Identify locations of SDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of the meeting was to mark coordinates of SDA.
29	Community meeting	Residents of vil. Benian-Begoni	Project affected community	Engineer's Camp No. 1 14.06.2022	RD Engineer	11 (1 female)	Community Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents are disturbed by Project activities. Purpose of the meeting was to listen to their problems and plan solutions.
30	One-on-one meetings	Residents of vil. Kvesheti	Project affected community	Vil. Kvesheti 11.10.2022	Engineer Contractor	6 (2 female)	Community concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting was initiated by the local residents living close to Lomisa Niche. They invited priest and informed the Contractor and the Engineer that they wanted to relocate the niche in one of the local resident's yard. The Contractor technically supported relocation process.
31	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of vil. Zakatkari	Project affected community	Vil. Zakatkari 21.10.2022	Engineer Contractor	7 (3 female 4 male)	SEMP status Progress of construction activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRM Status of SEMP's and mitigation measures of environmental and social impacts. Community HS issues such as hazards related to construction sites and operation of mobile equipment, fencing and signage, colour coding of safety signs, road safety issues, etc.
31	One-on-one meetings	Residents of vil. Bedoni	Project affected community	Vil. Bedoni 04.11.2022	Contractor	7 (all male)	Issues related to newly arranged water pipeline and water tanks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents have some concerns and issues related to the pipeline operation.

ID	Engagement Activity	Participants	Stakeholder Category	Date and Location	Initiated by	Number of participants	Purpose of Engagement	Topics discussed ad issues raised
32	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project affected community	Contractor's camp No. 1 17.11.2022	Engineer Contractor	4 (all female)	SEMP status Progress of construction activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRM • Status of SEMP's and mitigation measures of environmental and social impacts. • Community HS issues such as hazards related to construction sites and operation of mobile equipment, fencing and signage, colour coding of safety signs, road safety issues, etc.
33	Public Consultation Meeting	Residents of vil. Arakhveti	Project affected community	Contractor's camp No. 1 23.12.2022	Engineer Contractor	7 (5 female)	To disclose information about Project progress and specifically about blasting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blasting procedure and blasting related risks and relevant mitigation measures like low explosive charges, preconstruction survey, crack markers and continuous vibration monitoring. • Grievance Redress Mechanism.

APPENDIX C - Outline of Engagement Methods to be Used

This Appendix describes the methods that will be used throughout the stakeholder engagement process and identifies how they will be used in the different phases of Project development. Each activity is targeted to achieve specific engagement objectives and to engage with different groups of stakeholders, implying various commitment levels from the RD. How these activities are to be implemented throughout the different project phases is described in Section 7.2 of this SEP.

It is advised that the planned Stakeholder Engagement Activities include the following:

- 1) **Public meetings open to all stakeholders:** this activity involves reaching out to a wide range of Stakeholders. The interactive approach of a public meeting will enable concerns and questions from stakeholders to be discussed directly with the RD and possible answers given during the meeting. However, public meetings can also lead to certain groups dominating the discussion, with the risk that recurring issues become the focus of the meeting. In addition, there is a risk that the same stakeholders always participate or that numbers of attendees dwindle in time. In such cases, the RD will consider implementing different activities.

Because of the geographic extent of the project area, meetings will need be organised in different locations to facilitate stakeholder attendance and participation, including Arakhveti, Kvsheti, Kobi, Begoni/Tskere, Sviana-Rotiani/Gomuni/Beniani and Zakatkari. The most appropriate location will be identified for each meeting based on the objectives of the meeting and on the stakeholders that have to be involved. If deemed necessary, the RD will organize a transport system to allow all stakeholders, even those with limited mobility, to participate in the meeting. Announcements of public meetings will be made at least two weeks before the meeting. Meeting details will be posted on the RD website (<http://www.georoad.ge/?lang=geo>). In addition, brochures or posters will be distributed to community representatives and made available in specific places such as the community center and the RD will liaise directly with community representatives to inform them about the meeting.

The meetings will be chaired by representatives of the RD and the contractors will also be present. Where possible, information provided orally during the meeting will also be provided in writing in the form of an information sheet or brochure. Stakeholder attendance will be registered on a specific form during the meeting.

Once the meeting is over, the RD is responsible for recording information on the Record form and of collecting meeting related material in the dossier.

Public consultation meetings held as part of the Scoping and the EIA process were in accordance with the requirements of Georgian legislation outlined below, ADB and EBRD (as described in Section 3).

Public meetings for the review of the EIA Report, open to all stakeholders, as required by Georgian legislation: The Ministry organized public meetings for the review of the EIA report between 25 and 30 days after the RD submitted the EIA application. Two meetings were held in the Dusheti and Kazbegi municipalities. During this phase the RD liaised with the Ministry to ensure that suitable locations were identified for the meetings and that transport was provided to allow all stakeholders, even those with limited mobility, to participate. The announcement of the meeting was made by the Ministry 10 days in advance through local and national newspapers, bulletins in villages and on the MoE and RD web-sites. The meetings were chaired by MoE representatives.

Focus Group Discussions (FGD): Community members identified as being representative of relevant groups (local authorities, local business representatives, or NGO representatives) or topics will be invited to attend focus group meetings. These will be smaller meetings, organized by the RD, with stakeholders covering specific interests within the scope of the Project, or who have proven to be proactive/particularly vocal during previous meetings. This activity will facilitate focusing on specific issues and possibly finding agreed solutions among parties. Announcement of the meeting will be done by the RD by directly liaising with the selected stakeholders. If deemed necessary, the RD should organize a transport system to allow

all stakeholders, even those with limited mobility, to participate in the meeting.

The meeting will be chaired by representatives of the RD management and the contractors will also be present. Information provided orally during the meeting also will be provided in writing in the form of factsheets or brochures. Attendance of stakeholders will be registered on a specific form during the meeting. Once the meeting is over, the RD is responsible for recording information on the Record form and of collecting meeting related material in the dossier.

- 2) **One to one interview:** This engagement method allows for a more in-depth dialogue with individual stakeholders. Through interviews it is possible to collect more detailed feedback from stakeholders and to address specific concerns by providing targeted information. This method is particularly useful for engaging with vulnerable stakeholders who may have difficulties in participating in certain other engagement activities such as public meetings.
- 3) **Key Informant Interviews (KII) / small group interviews:** this engagement method aims at collecting information and feedback relevant to the project from stakeholders (either individuals or small groups) that are knowledgeable on specific subjects of interest (e.g. cultural heritage, tourism etc.). This method was particularly important during the EIA preparation phase, as it assisted with gathering baseline information and discussing possible mitigation measures in collaboration with stakeholders.

NB: It should be noted that in all the above cases, there will be the option for stakeholders to attend meetings virtually; to ensure that the widest group of stakeholders possible can participate (e.g. including those who are unable to travel in person). Consideration will also be given to the EBRD Stakeholder Engagement Briefing Note relevant to Covid-19³

- 4) **Periodic informal meetings with local stakeholders:** It is expected that, particularly during construction, the RD will frequently be in the field to assess the progress of activities, address grievances and liaise with contractors. Field visits will hence provide an opportunity to informally reach out to stakeholders through conversation and to collect general feedback on project progress from stakeholders. This will be particularly important for maintaining communication channels as well as showing interest in, and responsiveness to, stakeholder requests and concerns. During these informal meetings, the RD can provide information on progress of works, can collect requests or concerns and can provide replies on simple issues. If the stakeholder has a formal grievance, the RD should inform them of the official Grievance Mechanism. Likewise, if the stakeholder has a complex request that requires the involvement of the RD management or contractors, the RD should provide an intermediate answer and then get back to the stakeholder once a full answer is available.

If certain issues or concerns seem to be a common theme, the RD and its management will consider holding a public meeting, in order to provide the same information to all stakeholders during a single event, or to prepare written communication addressing the issue

- 5) **Open House Site Visit Event:** This activity consists of inviting the public to directly interact with construction activities. In the case of the present Project, allowing the possibility of viewing tunnel construction activities can be considered an interesting opportunity to enable stakeholders to obtain a better understanding of the technologies being used and of the mitigation measures being implemented.

An Open House will typically include an introductory meeting, a tour of selected Site areas accompanied by RD staff and a final Q&A session. The activity will be carefully planned to ensure the full safety of attendees and therefore will be organized with the support of the appropriate resources. Benefits of this activity include the fact that public can see firsthand site activities, possibly reducing undue fears and

³ <https://www.ebrd.com/sustainability-covid.html>

gaining a better understanding the project and its nature. In addition, Open House events improve the proponent's reputation for conducting operations in a transparent and proactive manner. Specific stakeholder groups that are particularly interested in visiting the construction site should be involved, such as schools, university students or associations of professionals (e.g. engineers or geologists).

Announcements of Open House site visits will be made at least two weeks prior to the event by sending written invitations to all stakeholders that have previously participated in stakeholder engagement activities and are included on the Register. Meeting details will be posted on the RD website and brochures or posters will be distributed to community representatives and made available in specific places such as the community center. In addition, the RD should liaise directly with community representatives to inform them of the meeting. If deemed necessary, the RD should organize a transport system to allow all stakeholders, even those with limited mobility, to participate in the meeting. Due to safety issues linked to this activity, interested Stakeholders have to confirm their presence and only those that have responded will be admitted. The event will be led by the RD with the support of technical experts who can explain in better detail certain aspects of the Project. Attendance of stakeholders has to be registered on a specific form during the meeting. Once the meeting is over, the RD is responsible for recording information on the Record form and of collecting meeting related material in the dossier.

- 6) **News bulletins and web posting:** This approach is less time-consuming for the RD and allows for a wide array of stakeholders to be informed. A newsletter will be sent to all Stakeholders that are in the Stakeholder register and will also be posted on the RD's website. In addition, printed copies will be posted on a visible bulletin board in locations such as the community centre and sent to specific stakeholders for further distribution. The newsletter will provide information on the progress of Project activities, on possible changes to the construction schedule, on results of monitoring activities and on other relevant issues worth sharing with stakeholders. The newsletter will always contain a section on the grievance mechanism, to ensure that stakeholders are acquainted with the procedure to be followed to submit a grievance.
- 7) **Letters and phone calls:** when deemed necessary the RD will write to or call representativestakeholders to inform them on the progress of Project activities and to discuss possible critical issues that have emerged. This tool is simple to implement and allows a strong connection to be created with certain stakeholders to facilitate the identification of possible problems together in advance.
- 8) **External Report:** outcomes of activities performed and of the grievance mechanism implementation, as well as main issues emerged from stakeholders will be collected in a report to be periodically disclosed to stakeholders, as indicated in Section 5.2.2.

APPENDIX D - Civil Society Organization Engagement Plan

Civil Society Participation Plan

Civil Society Group	Objective of Their Intervention	Approach to Participation and Depth	Participation methods		Timeline
	Why included		Method	Who is Responsible	
<p>Civil society International civil society organizations (INGOs) with experience in environmental issues, conservation, rural development</p>	<p>To utilise their expertise to engage with target communities of the project, to strengthen local grass-roots civil society capacity to implement specific activities to contribute to the effective implementation of the project.</p> <p>They have experience in design and delivery of community awareness raising programs, and others have experience in promoting local development through community-based participatory integrated resource management planning.</p>	Collaboration (High)	<p>Consultations, interviews, public meetings with key project stakeholders (including local civil society) to solicit feedback and generate support for the project during project preparation and implementation at least every six months.</p> <p>Ensure understanding of project impacts, outcomes and outputs and importance of theme of inclusive growth.</p> <p>Regular updates on project activities and relevant developments</p>	<p>MoRDI, MoE, ADB, EBRD</p> <p>MoRDI, ADB, EBRD</p> <p>Lead CSO or development partner engaged for design and delivery of specific sub-activity working with local CSOs</p> <p>CSOs engaged by lead CSO or development partner</p>	During design of the project and throughout project implementation.
<p>Civil Society Beneficiary communities and villages (including affected people) vulnerable groups, households living in poverty, church groups, women's groups, youth groups</p>	To identify community needs/preferences, and build support for the project, and the eco-tourism development	Information generation/ Information sharing (High)	<p>Information: IAs to conduct community meetings and dissemination of information brochures on project scope, design elements, participation mechanisms and entitlements for person affected by the road project.</p>	MoRDI, MoE, ADB, EBRD	During design of the project and throughout project implementation.

	<p>component among beneficiaries.</p> <p>Church groups, youth groups and their leaders have strong links and influence in communities and can assist in building project awareness, project ownership among communities, and help identify community preferences and issues.</p>	<p>Consultation (medium)</p>	<p>Information sharing: IAs to convince public meetings implementation to inform them of the project purpose, scope, benefits and road schedules.</p> <p>Determine needs of local communities and input into project design; explain benefits of project, impacts during construction, gender awareness, etc.</p> <p>Participatory methods (focus groups, community consultations) used to engage with church, women's and youth groups in project design and early implementation for feedback on the design and delivery of the road project.</p> <p>Utilize existing community engagement mechanisms of church, women's and youth groups, working with local CSOs for delivery of the project (women's/youth group meetings, church services).</p> <p>Advocacy by influential leaders for an improved outcome of the project.</p> <p>Information dissemination to key project stakeholders by the implementing agency.</p> <p>Project implementation: capacity development on gender awareness, labor opportunities, etc.</p> <p>Conduct meetings with them to raise visibility of benefits of eco-tourism development & cross-</p>	<p>Lead CSO or development partner and local CSOs engaged/ partnered with for the design/delivery of the specific awareness raising component of the project</p> <p>MoRDI, MoE</p>	
--	--	------------------------------	--	--	--

			<p>border tourism cooperation for inclusive growth as key sector foreconomic development.</p> <p>Participatory Assessment: receive information on project components, benefits, impacts; provide inputs in consultation to consider sub-project design optionsto enhance project benefits to the neighbourhood.</p> <p>Construction: inform villages and prioritize qualified workers from low-income communities in the project site.</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--

<p>Civil Society National civil society organisations (including advocacy NGOs) with experience of economic policy and entrepreneurship development, social accountability tools and approaches</p>	<p>To identify community needs/preferences, and build support for the project, and the eco-tourism development component among beneficiaries.</p> <p>To promote transparency and citizen engagement.</p> <p>Civil society with experience of social accountability mechanisms can provide useful community feedback and monitoring during project implementation.</p>	<p>Collaboration (medium)</p>	<p>Contract CSOs with appropriate experience and expertise to conduct a study on possible business opportunities for local communities in the project affected areas.</p> <p>CSOs contracted to deliver training to contractor staff: CSOs conduct work safety, and first aid training with contractor staff, contracted as required.</p> <p>Contracting to deliver training for local communities and small-scale entrepreneurs for eco-business or livelihood options, including specific trainings for women to raise their understanding on business opportunities</p> <p>Social accountability tools and approaches used by CSOs to monitor and provide feedback on project activities, annually.</p> <p>Information dissemination to key project stakeholders by the implementing agency.</p>	<p>ADB, NGOC consultant</p> <p>Lead CSO or development partner</p>	<p>During design of the project and throughout project implementation.</p>
--	---	-------------------------------	--	--	--

			Regular updates on project activities and relevant developments.		
Civil Society Community-based organisations	To utilise local knowledge and effectively engage with the target communities of the project. Raise visibility of the benefits of eco-tourism development & cross-border tourism cooperation for inclusive growth as key sector for economic development.	Information generation/ sharing (High) Collaboration in partnership with an INGO or a national NGO	Consultations, interviews, public meetings with key project stakeholders (including local civil society) to solicit feedback and generate support for the project during project preparation and implementation at least every six months. Social accountability tools and approaches used by CSOs to monitor and provide feedback on project activities, annually. Project Implementation: direct consultations and participation in project implementation through collaboration with local government and representation in the municipal steering committee. Conduct meetings with them to raise visibility of benefits of eco-tourism development & cross-border tourism cooperation for inclusive growth as key sector for economic development. Monitoring: representation on municipal-level meetings and district resettlement/project affected committees.	MoRDI, MoE, ADB, EBRD	During design of the project and throughout project implementation.
Civil Society Professional associations and academia		Information generation/sharing (High) Collaboration (Medium)	Project Implementation: direct consultations and participation in project implementation. Regular email updates on project activities and relevant developments	MoRDI, MoE	During design of the project and throughout project implementation.

APPENDIX E - Example of StakeholderEngagement Activities Register

Example of Stakeholder Engagement Activities Register

ID number	Typology	Date	Location	Title of the meeting
1	Public Meeting			
2				
3				
4				

Example of Stakeholder Engagement Activity Form

ID Number:	
Engagement Activity:	
Location and Date:	
Description of the activity or event	
Project Phase:	
Typology:	
Announcements and communication:	
Minutes of Meeting reference:	
Attendees Stakeholders	
Attendees RD team	
Activity Details	
Agenda:	
Presentation material used:	

Discussion points:	
Outcomes:	
Actions to be taken:	
Lesson learned	
Other notes	



golder.com