Rehabilitation of Gurjaani Public Park

Environmental and Social Screening Report

February 2017
Project Description

The project will be implemented in the city of Gurjaani, in the Memorial of Glory complex with its area making 2,400 m². It is located on Kakheti Ridge on the southern branch of Tsiv-Gombori Ridge. The complex looks over the resort Akhtala, found in Akhtala basin, Alazani Valley and the Caucasus mountain ridge. The complex has three terraces: terrace I has five stone pillars built in the style of a Svanetian tower; there are 3 fountains and a free territory on the II terrace; as for the III terrace, it is the highest point of the complex, with a 15-metre-high bronze monument of the main hero of “The Soldier’s Father” (a Georgian movie, a Laureate of many international contests) erected off the cobblestone pedestal. There is a museum on the terrace housing the paintings and sculptures about the topic of the II World War. A “Round Fortress” with the function of depicting Georgian martial symbolism and open amphitheater are found on the third terrace. The complex is a landmark of the city of Gurjaani and a gathering place for Gurjaani residents, particularly, youth. The territory of the complex needs rehabilitation.

The sub-project (SP) envisages the following works:

1. Installation of tourist information desk on the I terrace;
2. Repair of 220 damaged staircases between the five pillars and 3 fountains on the II terrace;
3. Installation of 2 wooden huts for vending ethnic cultural products and souvenirs;
4. Installation of 3 benches in the area adjacent to the fountains;
5. Installation of a tourist telescope with a bilingual (Georgian and English) panoramic map on the territory of the “Round Fortress” on the III terrace;

Gurjaani self-government will undertake the material investment into the SP: it will rehabilitate the toilet, ensure meeting the sanitary norms and provide cleaning services.
### ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING AND CLASSIFICATION

#### (A) Impact Identification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has sub-project a tangible impact on the environment?</td>
<td>The construction phase covers 8 months’ period. Consequently, the SP will have a small-scale and short impact on the environment only in the construction phase, while its long-term impact on the natural and social environment will be positive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are the significant beneficial and adverse environmental effects of the sub-project?</td>
<td>SP is expected to have positive long-term environmental and social impact through arrangement of multifunctional complex and will improve touristic attraction. The increased tourist flows will have positive social impact through improvement of employment opportunities. Rehabilitation of Gurjaani Park will improve infrastructure services and institutional capacity to support the development of tourism-based economy and cultural heritage circuits in the Kakheti region. The expected negative environmental and social impacts are likely to be short term: as a result of initialization of new staircases, dust and emissions from the operation of construction machinery will be increased, background noise and vibration levels will rise, generation of different types of construction waste is expected, the flow of traffic not expected to be obstructed. It should be mentioned that there are no residential areas near the SP area. In operation phase increased tourist flows may have indirect negative environmental impacts: waste generation etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May the sub-project have any significant impact on the local communities?</td>
<td>The long-term social impact of the SP will be beneficial (improvement of local population living conditions and growth of tourist flow), which will cause significant improvement of social conditions of local population and tourists. Negative environmental impacts described above will be short term and limited to the construction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Significant social impact of rehabilitation activities, like change of local demographic structure, influx of new settlers and secondary development is not likely.

| What impact has the sub-project on the human health? | Within the scope of the SP, no large-scale construction works are planned. Consequently, the dust, vibration and noise originated during the small-scale rehabilitation/construction works will not have impact on the human health or safety. No residential houses are found adjacent to the SP zone. |

(B) Impact Mitigation

| Were there any alternatives to the sub-project design considered? | At the designing stage, a no-project alternative was considered, which was discarded, as the implementation of the SP will help attract both, the local and foreign visitors what will have a positive impact on the social standing of the local population. |

| Have concerned communities been involved and have their interests and knowledge been adequately taken into consideration in sub-project preparation? | During community mobilization several priorities were identified, including rehabilitation of the public park, drinking water system and local roads. Since these were not directly linked to tourism, rehabilitation of the public park was selected. |
(C) CATEGORIZATION AND CONCLUSION

Conclusion of the environmental screening:

- Sub-project is declined □
- Sub-project is accepted ■

- Sub-project is classified as environmental Category B and needs EMP ■

- Sub-project is classified as environmental Category C and does not need EMP □
### Social and Cultural Screening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social safeguards screening information</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Is the information related to the affiliation, ownership and land use status of the sub-project site available and verifiable? (The screening cannot be completed until this is available)</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Will the sub-project reduce people’s access to their economic resources, such as land, pasture, water, public services, sites of common public use or other resources that they depend on?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Will the sub-project result in resettlement of individuals or families or require the acquisition of land (public or private, temporarily or permanently) for its development?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Will the sub-project result in the temporary or permanent loss of crops, fruit trees and household infrastructure (such as ancillary facilities, fence, canal, granaries, outside toilets and kitchens, etc.)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If answer to any above question (except question 1) is “Yes”, then OP/BP 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement is applicable and mitigation measures should follow this OP/BP 4.12 and the Resettlement Policy Framework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural resources safeguard screening information</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Will the sub-project be implemented in the vicinity of a cultural heritage site?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Will the sub-project require excavation near any historical, archaeological or cultural heritage site?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If answer to question 5 is “Yes”, then OP/BP 4.11 Physical Cultural Resources is applicable and possible chance finds must be handled in accordance with OP/BP and relevant procedures provided in the Environmental Management Framework.
Rehabilitation of Gurjaani Park

Environmental Management Plan

March 2017
## PART 1: GENERAL PROJECT AND SITE INFORMATION

### INSTITUTIONAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Empowering Poor Communities and Micro-Entrepreneurs in the Georgia Tourism Sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Project title</td>
<td>Rehabilitation of Gurjaani Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope of sub-project and activity**

The sub-project (SP) envisages the following works: (i) tourist information desk will be installed on the I terrace; (ii) 220 damaged staircases between the five pillars and 3 fountains on the II terrace will be repaired; (iii) 2 wooden huts for the realization of the ethnic cultural products and souvenirs will be installed; (iv) 3 benches will be installed in the area adjacent to the fountains; (v) A tourist telescope with a bilingual (Georgian and English) panoramic map with the descriptions of the objects viewed through the telescope will be installed on the territory of the “Round Fortress” on the III terrace; (vi) 2 benches for visitors to rest will be installed nearby; and the rehabilitated complex will be electrified lighting 6 locations.

### Institutional arrangements (Name and contacts)

**Task Team Leader:**
- Gloria La Cava

**Safeguard Specialist:**
- Darejan Kapanadze, Environment
- Rebecca Lacroix and David Jijelava, Social

### Implementation arrangements (Name and contacts)

**Implementing entity:**
- Biological Farming Association “Elkana”

**Works Supervisor:**
- Biological Farming Association “Elkana”

**Contactor:**
- TBD

### SITE DESCRIPTION

**Who owns the building to be constructed/extended/reconstructed?**
- Gurjaani Municipality

**Who owns the land allocated for sub-project?**
- Gurjaani Municipality

**Who uses the land (formal/informal)?**

**Description of geographic, physical, biological, geological, hydrographic and socio-economic context**

Gurjaani Municipality is located at 415 m above sea level, on the north-eastern slope of Gombori Ridge. As per the information of the local authority 10129 people live in Gurjaani, with 95 refugees and 486 disabled people.

The territory of the municipality is in the moderate humid Subtropical climatic zone. On the plane eastwards, there is moderate humid climate with moderate winter and hot summer. The climate on Gombori Ridge is moderately humid climate with hot summer. The climate on Iori Plateau is dry Subtropical with moderately cold winter and hot summer. The average annual temperature is 12.4°C; the temperature of January, the coldest month of the year is 0.9°C and the temperature in July, the hottest month of the year is 23.6°C. Average annual precipitation on the most part of the territory is up to 800 mm, decreasing to 500-600 mm towards the Plateau.
Most of the relief of Gurjaani Municipality is low-mountainous with the mountains of average height at some locations. The height of the territory mostly varies from 300-450 to 850-1000 m. The Municipality occupies an area in the river Alazani basin, with averagely low mountain Gombori ridge erected in its central part. It is built with Cretaceous and Neogene clays, sandstones, limestones, conglomerates and tuffogenic sedimentary strata. West of Gurjaani Municipality, there is Alazani intermontane plane. The water regime of the river Alazani is characterized by insignificant spring floods caused by snow-melt and freshets caused by autumn rains. Discharges of the freshets caused by autumn rains exceed those of spring floods.

The project zone is located in the city center and is the territory subject to strong anthropogenic impact. Consequently, the flora and fauna in this area is poor.

| Which of the project intervention sites does sub-project related to and how? | Regional Development Project finances rehabilitation and provision of light tourist infrastructure, water supply and sanitation for Kovladtsminda monastery complex in Gurjaani. |
| | |

**LEGISLATION**

| Identify national & local legislation & permits that apply to sub-project activity | According to the law of Georgia on Permit on Environmental Impact (2008), the SP does not require Environmental Impact Assessment and an Environmental Permit. The SP triggers to the OP/BP 4.01 Environmental Assessment of the World Bank. According to this safeguard policy, and the Environmental Management Framework of the Project for Empowering Poor Communities and Micro-Entrepreneurs in the Georgia Tourism Sector, the SP is classified as environmental Category B and requires preparation of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP). |

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

| Identify when / where the public consultation process took place | SP-specific draft EMP was made available for village Gurjaani population and was discussed in a consultation meeting on March 7, 2017. |

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment 1: site map and pictures;
- Attachment 2: SP support letter from Gurjaani municipality;
- Attachment 3: Minutes of public consultation meeting
## ENVIRONMENTAL /SOCIAL SCREENING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Triggered Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Building rehabilitation</td>
<td>[X] Yes [ ] No</td>
<td>See Section A below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Minor new construction</td>
<td>[X] Yes [ ] No</td>
<td>See Section A below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Individual wastewater treatment system</td>
<td>[ ] Yes [X] No</td>
<td>See Section B below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Historic building(s) and districts</td>
<td>[ ] Yes [X] No</td>
<td>See Section C below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Acquisition of land¹</td>
<td>[ ] Yes [X] No</td>
<td>See Section D below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Hazardous or toxic materials²</td>
<td>[ ] Yes [X] No</td>
<td>See Section E below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Impacts on forests and/or protected areas</td>
<td>[ ] Yes [X] No</td>
<td>See Section F below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Handling / management of medical waste</td>
<td>[ ] Yes [X] No</td>
<td>See Section G below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety</td>
<td>[ ] Yes [X] No</td>
<td>See Section H below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Land acquisitions includes displacement of people, change of livelihood encroachment on private property this is to land that is purchased/transfered and affects people who are living and/or squatters and/or operate a business (kiosks) on land that is being acquired.

² Toxic / hazardous material includes but is not limited to asbestos, toxic paints, noxious solvents, removal of lead paint, etc.
## PART 3: MITIGATION MEASURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>MITIGATION MEASURES CHECKLIST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 0. General Conditions | Notification and Worker Safety | (a) The local construction and environment inspectorates and communities have been notified of upcoming activities  
(b) The public has been notified of the works through appropriate notification in the media and/or at publicly accessible sites (including the site of the works);  
(c) All legally required permits have been acquired for construction and/or rehabilitation;  
(d) The Contractor formally agrees that all work will be carried out in a safe and disciplined manner designed to minimize impacts on neighboring residents and environment.  
(e) Workers’ PPE will comply with international good practice (always hardhats, as needed masks and safety glasses, harnesses and safety boots)  
(f) Appropriate signposting of the sites will inform workers of key rules and regulations to follow. |
| A. General Rehabilitation and/or Construction Activities | Air Quality | (a) During interior demolition debris-chutes shall be used above the first floor  
(b) Demolition debris shall be kept in controlled area and sprayed with water mist to reduce debris dust  
(c) During pneumatic drilling/wall destruction dust shall be suppressed by ongoing water spraying and/or installing dust screen enclosures at site  
(d) The surrounding environment (sidewalks, roads) shall be kept free of debris to minimize dust  
(e) There will be no open burning of construction / waste material at the site  
(f) There will be no excessive idling of construction vehicles at sites |
| | Noise | (a) Construction noise will be limited to restricted times agreed to in the permit  
(b) During operations the engine covers of generators, air compressors and other powered mechanical equipment shall be closed, and equipment placed as far away from residential areas as possible |
| | Water Quality | (a) The site will establish appropriate erosion and sediment control measures such as e.g. hay bales and/or silt fences to prevent sediment from moving off site and causing excessive turbidity in nearby streams and rivers. |
| | Waste management | (a) Waste collection and disposal pathways and sites will be identified for all major waste types expected from demolition and construction activities.  
(b) Mineral construction and demolition wastes will be separated from general refuse, organic, liquid and chemical wastes by on-site sorting and stored in appropriate containers.  
(c) Construction waste will be collected and disposed properly by licensed collectors  
(d) The records of waste disposal will be maintained as proof for proper management as designed.  
(e) Whenever feasible the contractor will reuse and recycle appropriate and viable materials (except asbestos) |
| B. Individual wastewater treatment system | Water Quality | (a) The approach to handling sanitary wastes and wastewater from building sites (installation or reconstruction) must be approved by the local authorities  
(b) Before being discharged into receiving waters, effluents from individual wastewater systems must be treated in order to meet the minimal quality criteria set out by the national guidelines on effluent quality and wastewater treatment  
(c) Monitoring of new wastewater systems (before/after) will be carried out  
(d) Construction vehicles and machinery will be washed only in designated areas where runoff will not pollute natural surface water bodies. |
### C. Historic building(s)
**Cultural Heritage**

(a) If the building is a designated historic structure, very close to such a structure, or located in a designated historic district, notification shall be made and approvals/permits be obtained from local authorities and all construction activities planned and carried out in line with local and national legislation.

(b) It shall be ensured that provisions are put in place so that artifacts or other possible “chance finds” encountered in excavation or construction are noted and registered, responsible officials contacted, and works activities delayed or modified to account for such finds.

### D. Acquisition of land
**Land Acquisition Plan/Framework**

(a) If expropriation of land was not expected but is required, or if loss of access to income of legal or illegal users of land was not expected but may occur, that the Bank’s Task Team Leader shall be immediately consulted.

(b) The approved Land Acquisition Plan/Framework (if required by the sub-project) will be implemented.

### E. Toxic Materials
**Asbestos management**

(a) If asbestos is located on the sub-project site, it shall be marked clearly as hazardous material.

(b) When possible the asbestos will be appropriately contained and sealed to minimize exposure.

(c) The asbestos prior to removal (if removal is necessary) will be treated with a wetting agent to minimize asbestos dust.

(d) Asbestos will be handled and disposed by skilled & experienced professionals.

(e) If asbestos material is stored temporarily, the wastes should be securely enclosed inside closed containments and marked appropriately. Security measures will be taken against unauthorized removal from the site.

(f) The removed asbestos will not be reused.

**Toxic / hazardous waste management**

(a) Temporarily storage on site of all hazardous or toxic substances will be in safe containers labeled with details of composition, properties and handling information.

(b) The containers of hazardous substances shall be placed in a leak-proof container to prevent spillage and leaching.

(c) The wastes shall be transported by specially licensed carriers and disposed in a licensed facility.

(d) Paints with toxic ingredients or solvents or lead-based paints will not be used.

### F. Affected forests, wetlands and/or protected areas
**Protection**

(a) All recognized natural habitats, wetlands and protected areas in the immediate vicinity of the activity will not be damaged or exploited, all staff will be strictly prohibited from hunting, foraging, logging or other damaging activities.

(b) A survey and an inventory shall be made of large trees in the vicinity of the construction activity, large trees shall be marked and cordoned off with fencing, their root system protected, and any damage to the trees avoided.

(c) Adjacent wetlands and streams shall be protected from construction site run-off with appropriate erosion and sediment control feature to include by not limited to hay bales and silt fences.

(d) There will be no unlicensed borrow pits, quarries or waste dumps in adjacent areas, especially not in protected areas.

### G. Disposal of medical waste
**Infrastructure for medical waste management**

(a) In compliance with national regulations the contractor will insure that newly constructed and/or rehabilitated health care facilities include sufficient infrastructure for medical waste handling and disposal; this includes and is not limited to:

- Special facilities for segregated healthcare waste (including soiled instruments “sharps”, and human tissue or fluids) from other waste disposal;

- Appropriate storage facilities for medical waste are in place; and

- If the activity includes facility-based treatment, appropriate disposal options are in place and operational.
| H Traffic and Pedestrian Safety | Direct or indirect hazards to public traffic and pedestrians by construction activities | (b) In compliance with national regulations the contractor will ensure that the construction site is properly secured and construction related traffic regulated. This includes but is not limited to  
- Signposting, warning signs, barriers and traffic diversions: site will be clearly visible and the public warned of all potential hazards  
- Traffic management system and staff training, especially for site access and near-site heavy traffic. Provision of safe passages and crossings for pedestrians where construction traffic interferes.  
- Adjustment of working hours to local traffic patterns, e.g. avoiding major transport activities during rush hours or times of livestock movement  
- Active traffic management by trained and visible staff at the site, if required for safe and convenient passage for the public.  
- Ensuring safe and continuous access to office facilities, shops and residences during renovation activities, if the buildings stay open for the public. |
## PART 4: MONITORING PLAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>What (Is the parameter to be monitored?)</th>
<th>Where (Is the parameter to be monitored?)</th>
<th>How (Define the frequency / or continuous?)</th>
<th>When (Is the parameter being monitored?)</th>
<th>Why (Is responsible for monitoring?)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Transportation of construction materials and waste** | Technical condition of vehicles and machinery  
Confinement and protection of truck loads with lining  
Respect of the established hours and routes of transportation | Construction site | Inspection | Unannounced inspections during work hours and beyond | Limit pollution of soil and air from emissions;  
Limit nuisance to local communities from noise and vibration;  
Minimize traffic disruption. |
| **Movement of construction machinery** | | | | | Elkana |
| **Earth works (small scale)** | Temporary storage of excavated material in the pre-defined and agreed upon locations;  
Backfilling of the excavated material and/or its disposal to the formally designated locations;  
In case of chance finds immediate suspension of works, notification of the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection, and resumption of works exclusively upon formal consent of the Ministry. | Construction site | Inspection | In the course of earth works | Prevent pollution of the construction site and its surroundings with construction waste;  
Prevent damage and loss of physical cultural resources |
| **Trafic disruption and limitation of pedestrian access** | Installation of traffic limitation/diversion signage;  
Storage of construction materials and temporary placement of construction | At and around the construction site | Inspection | In the course of construction works | Prevent traffic accidents;  
Limit nuisance to local residents |
<p>| | | | | | Elkana |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waste management and sanitation</th>
<th>Workers’ health and safety</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of historical features of cite approved design</td>
<td>Provision of uniforms and safety gear to workers; Informing of workers and personnel on the personal safety rules and instructions for operating machinery/equipment, and strict compliance with these rules/instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During operation of facilities</td>
<td>Construction site Inspection Unannounced inspections in the course of work Limit occurrence of on-the-job accidents and emergencies</td>
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<td>Elkana</td>
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<td>Elkana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Attachment 1: site map and photos
აღსანიშნავი დარგის გარდაქმნილი დოკუმენტი
გურჯანის რაიონის ადმინისტრაციის

№ 6345

“4” 10 2016 წ.

ქართულად:

ქართული „ფერდობი“ სოფლის შემაჯამებელი კომუნალური საქმიანობის დარგი (გურჯანი)

ქართულად:

თანხადგენი კანონი „ფერდობი“ სოფლის შემაჯამებელი კომუნალური საქმიანობის დარგი (გურჯანი)

მიუხედავად იმაით, რომ გურჯანის რაიონის ადმინისტრაციის დარგი უკანასკნელ პერიოდში შეიცვალა, მიუხედავად იმაით, რომ გურჯანის რაიონის ადმინისტრაციის დარგი უკანასკნელ პერიოდში შეიცვალა, გურჯანის რაიონის ადმინისტრაციის დარგი უკანასკნელ პერიოდში შეიცვალა

ქართულად:

გურჯანის რაიონის საქმიანობის დეპარტამენტი

მოქანდაკე, გ. ჯონი ჯანგუშიძე
Attachment 3: Gurjaani Community Meeting Minutes

Date: March 7, 2017
Venue: Gurjaani municipality, Gurjaani town
Donor: Biological Farming Association “Elkana”, through funding from the Japanese Social Development Fund and the World Bank
Aim: Consult with the local community on the Draft Environment and Social Management Plan for the projects “Upgrading area around Nato Vachnadze museum in village Gurjaani” and “Rehabilitation of Gurjaani public park”

Elkana Project Manager, representatives of NGOs “Media Center Kakheti” and “Vejini” and local community attended the meeting. In total 14 people participated in the gathering, including 11 women.

Elkana Project Manager presented planned projects and activities, as well as the draft Environment Management Plans prepared to mitigate their possible negative impacts on the natural and social environment. After the presentation, meeting participants were given the floor for questions and comments. During the meeting participants asked the following questions:

Question: Will rehabilitation of the public park require cutting of any trees?
Answer: Rehabilitation will not require tree-cutting.

Question: Who will be responsible for waste management after completion of projects?
Answer: Gurjaani municipality will be responsible for waste management and they have provided support letter of October 4, 2016.

Question: Who will be responsible for maintenance of wooden huts?
Answer: The ownership of huts will be transferred to Gurjaani municipality, which will be responsible for maintenance as documented in the support letter of October 4, 2016.

Question: Who will cover WiFi expenses in the Vachnadze museum?
Answer: Gurjaani Union of Libraries and Museums will cover expenses as documented in the support letter of November 24, 2016.

Community members were satisfied with the received information and supported implementation of the project.
Signatures of attendees: