

Municipal Development Fund of Georgia

## **Social Audit Report**

**On**

**Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan for  
Second Regional Development Project**

Integrated Revitalization Of Cultural Heritage Site in Gelati Monastery

## ***Background / Introduction***

**Name of Sub-project:** Integrated Revitalization Of Cultural Heritage Site in Gelati Monastery.

**Location of the Sub-Project:** Gelati, Georgia.

The Government of Georgia has asked the World Bank to support regional development in Imereti by applying a vertical programmatic approach. The proposed program of interventions will emphasize tourism as key pillars and drivers of economic growth. The proposed initial project will focus on support for the tourism sector and enabling the environment for the private sector to invest in Imereti.

A sub-project for Construction of the visitors' center and rehabilitation of the water supply and waste water system for the Gelati Monastery complex is a part of the Second Regional Development Project (RDPII), and the preparation, review, approval and implementation is in agreement with the requirements of the Georgian legislation and World Bank policies applicable to the RDP II.

The Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (aRAP) complies with relevant Georgian laws and provisions of the WB OP 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement, as well as the Resettlement Policy Framework. Preparation entailed survey and consultations:

- I) A detailed census of affected commercial entities
- II) Description of project related impacts, valuation of losses and temporary losses and estimation of required compensations and rehabilitation allowances and measures
- III) Intensive consultations with all PAPs were conducted during the process.

*The Design drawing of the Gelati Visitors' Center is provided below on Figure 1*

**Figure 1: Design of Gelati Center of Visitors**



The Gelati Sub-Project does not affect private houses and privately owned land plots, therefore there is no impact on households as a result of project implementation. The review of the alternative options of placing the Visitors’ Center has not been performed under the sub-project; Due to the local landscape and the arrangement of the land plots privately owned located adjacent to the Gelati Monastery rehabilitation of the existing Center for Visitors was considered as the optimal option. As a result of the project implementation, 39 PAPs come under direct and indirect impacts. 32 PAPs – permanent impact; 7 PAPs – Temporary impact.

**Compensations**

During consultations, Project Affected Persons (PAPs) have been given the chance to determine the support they would get to restore livelihoods and they have stated that they would like cash compensations. PAPs rejected other options. Compensation agreements were signed by all PAPs and they received amounts in accordance with aRAP. Provided compensations are fair and adequate.

During the calculation of compensation amounts, the following principle was taken. For 32 PAPs (permanents impact), they received 1 year compensation, the amount equivalent to subsistence minimum level of a family of five members determined by the Geostat according to Georgian legislation and compensation for the booth. Compensation determined for each PAP 3-3.5 times exceeds their actual annual income. For 7 PAPs (temporary impact), they received half of the monthly minimum subsistence income for a family of five during 6 months.

According to the aRAP, TOTAL Number of PAPs	Total Number of Compensated PAPs	Total Number of Vulnerable PAPs
39	39 (100%)	16 (Out of Total 39 PAPs)

**All these compensations were fully paid timely in accordance with the Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan prepared for the Sub-Project.**

### ***Identification of vulnerable groups***

As a result of the project implementation, 39 PAPs come under direct and indirect impacts. Out of this number, 16 PAPs belong to the vulnerable category, including:

- 5 PAPs below poverty line;
- 10 PAPs having Family member with disability;
- 1 PAP is a single mother bringing up an underage child

All of above mentioned PAPs were eligible for an additional one-time allowance, equal to a monthly minimum subsistence income for a family of five for three months These PAPs are listed below:

**All these compensations were fully paid timely in accordance with the Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan prepared for the Sub-Project.**

**All Project Affected Persons have opened personal Bank Accounts. MDF assisted PAPs in these procedures.**

**Since all PAPs were present there was no need to exercise the mechanism of escrow accounts.**

### ***Consultations***

Consultation and participation has been a major principle in the planning and preparation of the detailed design of the Project (RDP Imereti). WB OP 4.12 gives high priority on public consultation and participation to enhance the community voice and assure incorporation of community views in the design and implementation of a socially and environmentally compliant project. The Georgian law also place strong emphasis on consultation and notification to ensure that PAPs participate in the process.

Public Consultation meetings with PAPs during RAP preparation - June 5-6 of 2012 in City Tkibuli, Administration (Gamgeoba) of Municipality. The meeting was attended by 84 residents.

The survey and consultation activities have been carried out in August 2014 and further consultations were carried out in November 2014.

August, 2014 - public consultation meeting was held in the area adjacent to the Gelati Monastery. The meeting was attended by the representatives of both, the companies engaged in developing the Resettlement Action Plan and Local authorities. The meeting was also attended by 23 people subject to either direct or indirect impact of the Project.

November, 2014 – Another public consultation meeting was organized on the territory of the Gelati Monastery. The meeting was attended by 36 people.

All Project Affected Persons were informed and encouraged to attend Public Meetings. Besides, all important and necessary information was provided to PAPs on the goals and objectives of the Sub-Project and about the eligibility to fair compensation to mitigate the impacts.

- ✓ Compensation eligibility cut-off for the project is 14 August 2014.
- ✓ Census Survey was conducted between 14-24 August 2014.
- ✓ Further Consultations were carried out in 12 November 2014.
- ✓ Further Consultations, including via Telephone.

During consultations, Project Affected Persons (PAPs) have been given the chance to determine the support they would get to restore livelihoods and they have stated, that they would like cash compensations. Other options were rejected by the PAPs. Full amount of compensations for all 39 PAPs were paid, complies with entitlements as envisaged in the aRAP (PAPs are listed above in Table 1 and Table 2). Vulnerable people were served the specific entitlements and were paid in accordance with the aRAP. Some PAPs are continuing the business activities by their desire.

### ***Grievance Redress process***

<b>Mechanisms available for project affected persons to register their grievances and complaints.</b>	<b>Are the Grievance mechanisms and procedures affordable and accessible</b>
Yes	Yes

Grievance Redress mechanism was available for the Project Affected Persons to register their grievances and complaints. The mechanism and procedures were affordable and easily accessible. PAPs were given direct cell phone number of the Head of Safeguards Unit and they were very well informed to any information they wanted to know. This was the easiest way for them (as they stated) to contact to MDF. They were also given the Phone number of deputy head of local municipality.