

Improving Learning Environment Project APL 2
Strategic Guidelines for Environmental Management
(Environmental Management Framework)

Minutes of Consultation

Tbilisi

September 18, 2006

On September 18, 2006, discussion was held on the Strategic Guidelines for Environmental management developed for Improving Learning Environment Project APL 2. The meeting was hosted by the Social Investment Department of the Municipal Development Fund of Georgia.

Attendees:

- Tengiz Teneishvili – Chief specialist of the Office of Analysis of technogenic and physical factors at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources;
- Paata Chankotadze – Specialist of the Ecological Monitoring Office at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources;
- Zaza Gagnidze – Consultant, Ministry of Education and Science;
- Avtandil Pirtskhalava – G. Natadze Scientific-Research Institute of Sanitation and Hygiene;
- Irakli Kaviladze – International Center for Environment Study and Improvement (NGO);
- Nino Lomidze – Union of Forest Reserachers (NGO);
- Gia Aladashvili - Fund “World Experience for Georgia” (NGO);
- Marina Lashkhauri – Union ECOPOLISI (NGO);
- Manana Grdzlishvili – Association of Ecological and Biological Monitoring (NGO);
- Shalva Kokochashvili –
- Medgar Chelidze – Environmental and social specialist of the Municipal Development Fund.

Mr. Shalva Kokochashvili, the Project Coordinator, outlined APL2 project goals, tasks and anticipated outcomes. Mr. Medgar Chelidze, Environmental and Social Specialist of the Municipal Development Fund presented the plan of the Project’s Environmental Management Framework, nature of the possible environmental threats, mitigation strategy and explained how the Environmental Management Framework should be used in regard to individual projects for the construction of school buildings.

Notes and suggestions as well as questions and proposals raised during the discussion are outlined in the attached annex.

Signatures:

Tengiz Teneishvili	[signature]
Paata Chankotadze	[signature]
Zaza Gagnidze	[signature]
Avtandil Pirtskhalava	[signature]
Irakli Kaviladze	[signature]
Nino Lomidze	[signature]
Gia Aladashvili	[signature]
Marina Lashkhauri	[signature]
Manana Grdzlishvili	[signature]
Shalva Kokochashvili	[signature]
Medgar Chelidze	[signature]

**Information
On Notes and Suggestions during the Public Discussions**

No:	Authors of the questions, notes and suggestions	Questions	Answers
Questions and Proposals raised at the Public Discussions			
1	Avtandil Pirtskhalava – G. Natadze Scientific-Research Institute of Sanitation and Hygiene	According to Article 38 of the Georgian Code of Sanitation, task of planning architectural project shall require sanitary-hygienic study of the construction area and the study shall be carried out by Scientific Research Institute of Sanitation and Hygiene. Our Institute is also authorized to carry out research within the commission, which shall accept the schools in exploitation. In your plan you indicate generally some institute with the relevant competence but it does not specifically refer to our Institute.	According to Article 38 of the Georgian Code of Sanitation, scientific-research institution with hygienic profile and accredited sanitations supervision laboratory will complete their tasks in order to ensure implementation of the state sanitary supervision and they are part of sanitary supervision system. Based on a contract they participate in discussions on draft normative and technical documentation, hygienic certification of objects and products, state testing of hazardous chemical materials.” As we are aware your institute is included in the above mentioned category, but we did not think it was necessary to indicate your institute in the plan, since theoretically it is possible that in the future you are not the only authorized institution with sanitary profile. Therefore, in this case, contract for carrying out sanitary-hygienic research will be signed with a contractor who is selected based on relevant procedures of the World Bank (tender and etc).

2	Irakli Kviladze – International Center for Environment Study and Development (NGO)	On waste management: the plan elaborates in more detail on the waste management at the construction phase. It does not draw on details of how the waste management process will be managed once a school starts functioning.	Component of APL2 project which refers to environmental management framework plan is limited to the stage of projecting and construction of schools. Therefore, the plan itself draws more on projecting and construction, although it also refers to the stage of school functioning. Namely, in procedures for receiving permit it is noted that the project shall be first agreed with relevant sanitation services, and then the sanitation services participate in formal process of issuing permit to accept the school in exploitation. These services check the compliance with the sanitary norms and the standards of school design and construction, which are given in the basic text and separately as an attachment. The waste management in the school must be organized according to the procedures agreed with the standards mentioned above and local sanitary services.
3	Marina Lashkhauri – Union ECOPOLISI (NGO)	There is a real basis for the concern that despite the existence of the certification procedures and custom control, the construction materials with the signs of radiation still happen to reach the Georgian market of building and construction materials. What are the additional measures to be taken in the process of school constructions in order to avoid the possible risk?	Besides conducting the sanitary-hygienic research of the areas chosen for the construction of the schools and checking the built schools for the radiation, it is also possible to control the background radiation in the building process, in order to avoid any risk at the early stage (cycle 2-3). The proper instructions will be provided in the site-specific environmental management plans.

4	Manana Grdzlishvili – Association of Ecological and Biological Monitoring (NGO)	Does MDF possess resources sufficient for conducting the monitoring? Or would it be better to hire contractors?	Our recommendation suggests hiring one field officer to assist the MDF environmental specialists in implementing the routine procedures of the monitoring. In case of this small assistance, the resources of the MDF will be sufficient for providing the proper monitoring.
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