

Chapter 9 Consultation Process



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9 CONSULTATION PROCESS

9.1 Introduction

It is normal practice for the ESIA process to include information disclosure followed by consultations with stakeholders. Stakeholders may be considered to be individuals, groups and organisations whose interests may be affected by a proposed project and who may have an ability to influence decisions concerning the location(s), construction and operation of the project prior to, and during, the approval process. Disclosure and consultations are required throughout the ESIA process and often during the post-approval construction and operational phases of a project.

This chapter includes a presentation of the stakeholder consultation (i.e. disclosure and consultation activities) carried out for the SCPX Project ESIA. The ESIA consultation activities were conducted in accordance with a Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan (PCDP) that was prepared at the beginning of the ESIA process (see Section 9.3).

Figure 3-1 shows the stages at which the different interactions between stakeholders and the ESIA process occur. As there is a significant range of stakeholders (see Section 9.4) the numbers of stakeholders involved and the intensity of input varies according to the type of ESIA stage/activity. However, most consultation is undertaken during the scoping and disclosure stages of ESIA.

9.2 Previous and Existing Stakeholder Engagement

BP has previously implemented ESIA-related stakeholder consultations for pipelines such as the Western Route Export Pipeline (WREP), BTC and SCP pipelines (and associated facilities), and other projects, such as the Supsa Terminal, a non-hazardous waste landfill near Rustavi and the WREP Sectional Replacement Project (WREP-SR). Therefore, BP already has well-established relationships with many key stakeholders.

During ESIA implementation for those pipeline projects, extensive stakeholder consultation programmes were undertaken, involving *inter alia* national and local government entities, NGOs and communities along the pipeline routes. The SCPX stakeholder consultation programme has built upon the lessons learnt from the WREP, BTC/SCP and the WREP-SR projects; and the pre-existing established relationships between current BP operations and key stakeholders.

ESIA work for the SCPX Project began in Q4 of 2010. A draft initial PCDP was prepared in 2010 and further developed in Q1 of 2011. Subsequent comprehensive ESIA consultations, implemented throughout 2011 and based on the PCDP, further informed the scope of the SCPX ESIA work. Consultations continued into 2012 with a focus on the public disclosure of the draft ESIA report. The results of these disclosure-related consultations have been used to assist preparation of the final ESIA report.

9.3 Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan

In accordance with the requirements of the SCP host government agreement (HGA) as presented in Chapter 6 Policy, Legal and Administrative Framework, the SCPX Project PCDP structure and content was developed to be consistent with the following:

- International natural gas industry standards and practice generally applied to comparable projects

- World Bank Group standards and practice regarding ESIA consultations, as exemplified by the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standard 1 on "Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impact"¹ (and accompanying Guidance Note)
- The EC Directive 85/337/EC (as amended) on "Assessing the Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment"
- Georgian legislation pertaining to conduct of environmental impact assessments and prescribed requirements for public disclosure and consultations.

In addition, the PCDP is aligned with BP's practice and recommendations with regard to the conduct of ESIA-related consultations.

The PCDP presents the range of stakeholders consulted, consultation activities implemented and proposed to be implemented, and links them to key stages in the ESIA process. The aims of the PCDP are to help ensure that:

- Adequate and timely information is provided to stakeholders
- Stakeholders are given sufficient opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns
- These opinions and concerns are considered in determining the ESIA work and in project decision-making.

The PCDP was developed as a flexible, working and 'live' document, to be used during the ESIA work, while still adhering to the HGA requirements.

Initially, a draft version of the PCDP was prepared, prior to initiation of the other key ESIA activities and was used as a basis for the consultations aimed at further informing the scope of the ESIA. Subsequently, as necessitated by changes in the progress of the ESIA, the initial PCDP was updated and amended. A copy of the current version of the PCDP is located in Appendix C1.

9.4 Stakeholder Identification

A stakeholder identification workshop was held in Tbilisi on 12–13 October 2010, involving key SCPX Project personnel and representatives of the BP Georgia Operations Team. The aims of the workshop were to identify key stakeholders, including vulnerable groups; key concerns; past and current relationships with stakeholders; and lessons learned from BTC/SCP and current BP operations in Georgia. The workshop participants also developed an initial consultation strategy and timetable, and defined roles and responsibilities for consultation activities.

Following this work a list of key stakeholder groups was developed:

- National and local government authorities
- Project-affected communities (PACs), essentially settlements located wholly or partly within defined distances from SCPX Project components (such as pipeline, compressor stations, access roads and construction camps)
- International and national NGOs
- Scientific community
- Media (print, radio and TV)

¹ In addition, cognisance was taken of the recommendations contained in IFC (2006) "Lessons of Experience: The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) Pipeline Project", Number 2. Washington, DC: IFC. Also, although an 'archived' document, account was taken of IFC's "Guidance for Preparation of a Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan", Environmental and Social Review Procedure Guidance Note F.

- Diplomatic missions and international organisations
- SCPX Project partners
- BP staff.

9.4.1 **National and Local Government Authorities**

The box below shows the key national government stakeholders sub-divided into those with a formal role in the ESIA report approval process and those with a recognised interest in the SCPX Project. The government stakeholders listed in the box were considered for consultation as discussed in the PCDP Appendix C1.

<p>1. National government stakeholders with a formal role in the ESIA report approval process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Georgian Oil and Gas Corporation (GOGC) - Government representative for Caspian oil/gas transportation projects in Georgia. GOGC is the formal ESIA report approver as per the HGA</i> - <i>Ministry of Environment Protection (MoE) – The MoE will review the draft ESIA report ('Ecological Expertise') Within MoE there are two key departments: Environment Agency and the Reserved Area Department</i>
<p>2. National government stakeholders with a recognised interest in the SCPX Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ministry of Economic and Sustainable Development</i> - <i>Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources: includes the Natural Resources Agency (which includes the Forest Department), Environmental Monitoring Inspection and Environmental Investigation Department</i> - <i>Ministry of Agriculture (Irrigation Department)</i> - <i>Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection (which includes the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Protection) (MoC)</i> - <i>Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Affairs</i> - <i>Ministry of Internal Affairs</i> - <i>Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure (Roads Department; River Protection Department)</i> - <i>Ministry of Justice: includes the National Agency of Public Register</i>

Local government stakeholders are the appointed officials and elected representatives in those regions (*mkhare*), municipalities (*municipalitetebi*), and self-governing cities in whose territories SCPX Project activities will take place. The current regional and local government structure is illustrated in Table 9-1.

Table 9-1: Regional and Local Government Structure

Government Entity	Elected Representatives	Appointed Representatives
State	President Parliament	Prime Minister, Ministers
Regions		Regional Governor
Self-governing cities	City council - <i>Sakrebulo</i>	Mayor
Municipalities	Legislative council - <i>Sakrebulo</i> Head - <i>Sakrebulo</i> chairperson	Executive council – <i>Gamgeoba</i> : <i>members appointed by Gamgebeli</i> Head – <i>Gamgebeli</i> : appointed by <i>Sakrebulo</i> Chairperson, in agreement with <i>Sakrebulo</i>
Towns*	Elected representative to municipality <i>Sakrebulo</i>	Trustee - appointed by <i>Gamgebeli</i> , or Mayor
Territorial organ*	Elected representative to municipality <i>Sakrebulo</i>	Trustee - appointed by <i>Gamgebeli</i> , or Mayor

**Towns that are not self-governing entities are constituent part of municipalities and they are considered to be equivalent to territorial organs. Territorial organs can consist of one village, but usually consist of several villages.*

On this basis, the following local governments have been identified as stakeholders:

- Regions of Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti
- Municipalities of Gardabani, Marneuli, Tetritskaro, Tsalka, Adigeni, and Akhaltsikhe
- The self-governing city of Rustavi.

Within local governments key appointed officials identified as stakeholders are:

- Municipality Heads of Police and Fire Departments
- Regional Heads of Melioration and Irrigation Departments.

9.4.2 Project-affected Communities

Forty-five settlements, of varying size, have currently been defined as PACs². A PAC is defined (based on an update of criteria used for the BTC/SCP ESIA) as an inhabited settlement that falls within the following boundaries or has at least one inhabited structure that is on/within a boundary of:

- The pipeline (including block valves, and the pigging station): 2km either side of the centre-line resulting in a 4km-wide zone
- Construction camps, compressor stations and pressure reduction and metering stations: 5km 'radius' based on the centre point of the facility
- Pipe lay-down and storage yards: 2km radius based on the centre point
- Access roads (new or upgraded; temporary or permanent): 300m either side of the centre-line resulting in a 600m-wide zone.

Two approaches to identifying PACs were used. First, application of the boundary criteria listed above. Secondly, consideration of settlements outside the above boundaries, but located nearby. Each such settlement was subject to a case-by-case analysis of its characteristics considering the following factors:

- Number of private land plots owned and worked by residents, and their total surface area, that are located within a boundary
- Surface area of communal (community owned) land, or municipality and state-owned land, which is used as if it were communal land (irrespective of whether such use is by legal or non-binding agreement between the municipality or state and the community/individual land-users) and is located within a boundary
- Judgement by the ESIA team that, on basis of previous experience and available data, there is a reasonable likelihood that the community might be affected.

This work was conducted by the ESIA team with input from BP social and land specialists and the outcome of each case-by-case analysis resulted in a decision as to whether a settlement outside of a defined boundary was identified as a PAC.

The PAC list has been updated during the ESIA disclosure period to take account of the pipeline construction camp location and the CSG2 access road camp construction location.

² The total is correct as of March 2013. An additional six PACs have been added during the disclosure phase owing to the relocation of the pipeline camp and identification of the CSG2 access road camp location (Section 9.7).

A list of the current SCPX PACs (as of March 2013) is provided in the PCDP (Appendix C1). This list will be revised and new PACs added, as necessary, should there be any additional changes to project design that may result in new PACs being identified.

Consultation with PACs was a central feature of the ESIA consultation process, and engagement with PACs will continue, post-ESIA, during SCPX Project construction and operations (Figure 9-1).



Figure 9-1: PAC consultation at Khaishi

9.4.3 *International and National NGOs*

NGOs that have previously participated in audit and monitoring programmes and shown an active interest in BP's activities in Georgia, along with the wider NGO community in Georgia are considered key stakeholders. BP Georgia retains a database of NGOs, and their area(s) of interest, for those NGOs that have been involved previously or are currently involved or interested in BP's activities.

The NGO community in Georgia also has a number of information-sharing networks/partner organisations including:

- Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (<http://www.cenn.org/wssl/index.php>)
- Regional Environment Centre for the Caucasus (<http://www.rec-caucasus.org/index.php?lang=en>)
- Eurasia Partnership Foundation (<http://www.epfound.ge/english/about-us.html>).

Existing internal NGO databases and/or NGO networks and partnerships, which include both international and national NGOs with offices in Georgia and the Caucasus, were used as required to engage this stakeholder group in consultations on the SCPX Project.

9.4.4 Scientific Community

It was recognised that the scientific community should be engaged in the SCPX Project as members of this community are the experts in their field and can contribute to the ESIA Report. They also provide advice and consultancy assistance to the government regulators in the draft ESIA report review process and in 'approval' decision-making, and can contribute to the ESIA process in general.

Many people in the scientific community in Georgia are also considered to belong to the NGO community due to the NGO involvement in scientific research projects. Therefore, the scientific community will be engaged through information sharing via the NGO community and through GOGC (the formal ESIA report approver).

9.4.5 Media

BP has existing relations with media organisations which participate in the regular briefings and updates that BP provides on its activities in Georgia. Information on the SCPX Project will be provided through these existing channels. Additional media organisations will be engaged through information sharing on NGO networks (which are subscribed to by various media organisations).

The media were involved in the ESIA consultation process, as different media outlets are one of the key mechanisms for disclosure of information on the SCPX Project and key consultation activities aimed at different stakeholders.

9.4.6 Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations

Diplomatic missions including foreign embassies in Tbilisi and international organisations, such as multi-lateral lending institutions (International Finance Corporation and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development), are stakeholders and will be provided high-level information about the project as part of ongoing engagement activities connected to existing operations.

9.4.7 SCPX Project Partners

SCPX Project partners are also stakeholders in the SCPX Project and will be kept informed and consulted on project progress at regular intervals, generally through quarterly partner meetings.

9.4.8 BP staff

BP staff members are stakeholders in the SCPX Project and will be kept informed of project progress at regular intervals.

9.5 Consultations to Inform Scope of ESIA Work

9.5.1 Introduction

These consultations involved:

- National and local government authorities
- PACs
- International and national NGOs
- The scientific community.

9.5.2 National and Local Government Authorities

National government

National government authorities include the 'approval' issuing entities and those that have a legitimate interest in SCPX and its likely impacts. Following previous practice, a 'face-to-

face' meeting was held with GOGC, MoE, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, and the Ministry of Economic and Sustainable Development. At this meeting both the SCPX and WREP-SR Projects were discussed. Minutes were taken by a BP representative and the issues raised were recorded.

Local government

Local governments (regions and the city of Rustavi) were briefed by BP on the project and discussions on key issues occurred. In addition, notification meetings (see Section 9.5.3 below) were held with municipalities and city of Rustavi as a precursor to the PAC consultations, and again discussions occurred on any project-related issues raised.

9.5.3 Project-affected Communities

Strategy for PAC consultations

In line with previous pipeline ESIAs, a decision was made to undertake consultations in all of the original 39 PACs.

Two approaches were used:

- Consultation meetings with key PAC representatives (approximately six in each PAC including the elected and/or government-appointed PAC leader)
- Interviews with a representative sample of PAC residents, via a household survey conducted in 1200 households, to record perceptions, views and issues about the SCPX Project.

The household survey was devised to ensure that the views of PAC residents (such as women, disabled/chronically sick and unemployed people) that are sometimes under-represented in more formal meetings, with limited number of individuals participating, were obtained.

Consultation meetings were held with the six additional PACs, but no household survey was undertaken.

PAC representatives

Owing to the number and diversity of PACs, and their geographic spread, consultations were undertaken only after three key activities were implemented: preparing a mechanism for consulting the geographically dispersed PACs; prior disclosure of information; and notification of regional and municipal/city authorities.

In previous pipeline ESIAs a strategy of clustering PACs was implemented successfully, so a similar approach was chosen for the SCPX Project ESIA. Once the PACs were identified an analysis was undertaken, to determine the feasibility of clustering, focusing on:

- Location
- Ethnicity/language
- Population size
- Legacy issues (arising from previous pipelines).

Based on these factors most PACs could be allocated to PAC clusters, 'centred' on one PAC where it was considered feasible to organise a meeting and to which access was considered likely to be relatively easy for all those to be invited. In total, 19 consultation meetings were organised with only 3 PACs not allocated to clusters and where individual meetings were held.

Once clustering of PACs had been finalised, attention turned to selecting a mechanism for consultation. A number of options were considered:

- Public meetings in each cluster
- Public meetings followed by focus groups representing key 'livelihood interests' (such as farming) and 'social categories' such as women and vulnerable groups taken from each PAC
- Non-public meetings with selected representatives, from each clustered or non-clustered PAC.

The advantages and disadvantages of these options were considered both in terms of consultation effectiveness and in the context of time/resource constraints. A decision was made to implement a series of non-public meetings with pre-selected and invited individuals who were considered to provide a reasonable representation of PAC residents and their likely range of interests.

Thus, it was decided that each PAC should be represented by a trustee (or nominated alternative if the trustee were unable to attend) and between four and seven PAC residents. The types of PAC residents recommended were:

- School director or teacher
- Clinic/hospital doctor or nurse
- Farmer, bee-keeper, shop-owner, carpenter (or other resident considered to represent an important PAC livelihood activity)
- A young person of 17–22 years (such as a school/college student)
- Internally displaced person (IDP)/refugee, or registered disabled person or person who is chronically sick
- Senior or long-standing members of community-based organisations or local associations.

These 'categories' of resident are generic; it was realised that not all PACs would have residents that could represent all of the categories. In addition, it was decided that at least one of the PAC residents (taken from the list) should be female, with no upper limit on the number of women from each PAC.

The selection of the individual PAC representatives was considered best left to the trustees (or equivalent) of the individual PACs. However, a guidance document was prepared and given, in advance of the consultation meetings, to each trustee (or equivalent) to assist him/her select the appropriate residents to invite to the meetings. The trustees (or equivalent) were briefed and given the guidance document at a series of pre-consultation notification meetings with local government entities. The nature and role of the notification meetings is discussed below.

Following 'lessons learnt' from previous pipeline ESIA's in Georgia, particularly the BTC pipeline, the meetings' schedule was devised to enable BP to be represented actively in all meetings. Therefore, each consultation meeting was attended by a member of either the social or land team (normally the community liaison officer and/or land officer) and sometimes members of both teams. These BP specialists are familiar with PAC-related issues and, if the SCPX Project is approved, will be the public 'face' of BP that PAC residents are likely to see in/around their communities. Their attendance at the meetings meant that PAC participants were able to receive information/response to their questions from the project proponent directly and not from a third party.

Disclosure of information

Two means of disclosing information were used. First, a community pamphlet was produced, in both Georgian and Russian languages (based on an English language original). This pamphlet presented key basic details (text and maps) about the SCPX Project

and the ESIA process. The BP address and telephone number were included in the pamphlet to provide the opportunity for comments on the SCPX Project to be submitted to BP at any time not just within the context of the formal consultation events. In total 25,000 copies were printed and distributed so that there would be approximately one pamphlet available for two households. These pamphlets were distributed via notification meetings with local government entities.

At the notification meetings PAC officials were asked to leave copies of the pamphlet in public places that PAC residents could access easily. In addition, BP personnel distributed pamphlets, in PACs, in the time period between notification meetings and the PAC consultation meetings and household survey. At the beginning of each consultation meeting there was a brief presentation of the SCPX Project followed by a session providing an opportunity for attendees to ask clarification questions. This provided a valuable opportunity for those who had not been able to read the community pamphlet to gain an understanding of the SCPX Project before contributing to the consultation meeting. In reality, during meetings, the sessions often tended to merge into more general discussion of issues, opinions and concerns about the SCPX Project.

Notification meetings

As the consultations were organised on the basis of clustering PACs in one location and use of public facilities for the meetings, the cooperation of local government entities was crucial. Thus, a series of notification meetings was organised for all local government entities in whose administrative boundaries the SCPX Project would be implemented. These meetings had two main purposes; to notify key appointed officials and elected local government members about the SCPX Project and the ESIA and to request the support and cooperation of PAC-level local government officials (essentially trustees and so reference will be made only to trustees below) in preparing for the meetings and their subsequent participation.

A key element of the notification meetings was obtaining support and assistance, from trustees and other officials, for the consultation meetings. Information and guidance was provided to trustees and other officials, on the following:

- Location/time of the meetings
- Format and agenda for the meetings
- Role of the meetings in terms of the ESIA process
- Numbers and type of PAC residents to be invited to attend the meetings.

Notification meetings were attended by BP staff and were organised one week prior to the start of the PAC consultations. A one-week period between notification meetings and consultation meetings was selected to balance the need to allow PAC residents time to read, consider and discuss the project information, provided in the community pamphlet, and form an opinion (to be passed to the trustee or other PAC residents known to be attending the meetings), and the need for the consultations to occur sufficiently soon after notification while issues were fresh in the minds of those attending the meetings. Follow-up telephone calls were made to trustees between the notification and consultation meetings to re-confirm the meeting venue, date and attendees.

PAC consultation meetings

The consultation meetings occurred in September 2011 (original 39 PACs) and July 2012 (6 new PACs); they were held at different times during the working day. Local government officials were involved in setting meeting locations/times and assisted in confirming that the selected participants could attend.

All meetings followed a standard agenda and were held in either Georgian or Russian depending on the ethnicity of the majority of participants. They were opened by the host trustee (or equivalent) and facilitated by a member of the local ESIA team. Following a presentation on the SCPX Project and a 'question/answer' session, most of the agenda time

was allocated to obtaining views, issues and concerns regarding the possible SCPX impacts on the PACs/residents.

During the meeting another member of the local ESIA team was taking notes of the proceedings. After each meeting a 'Minute' was prepared recording the details of the meeting (date, time, location) and the participants (for example, name, gender, and job) and the key issues and concerns raised. A summary of issues raised is provided in Table 9-4 (issues from the both the September 2011 and July 2012 sets of consultation meetings).

Table 9-2 presents an analysis of participants in all of the consultation meetings involving the original 39 PACs. Key points are as follows:

- Two of the PACs (5%) allocated to clustered meetings were not represented at the meetings
- Eight PACs were not represented by an official leader
- In total 288 PAC residents (not including the trustees or equivalents) attended all meetings with the average attendance being 17 (provisional average attendances by gender are 12 for men and 5 for women) with the smallest meeting attendance being 9 and the highest being 26
- Approximately 28% of the participants were women (exceeding the minimal 'requirements' indicated in the selection guidance given to local government officials). Women were represented at all meetings
- Approximately
 - 4% of the participants were classed as "youth/young person"
 - 24% of the participants were classed as "unemployed"
 - 3% of the participants were classed as "entrepreneur"
 - 1.4% of the participants were classed as "farmer"
 - 6.3% of the participants were classed as "pensioner" or "veteran"
 - 47% of the participants were classed as "skilled or semi-skilled"
- Three individuals described themselves as "refugee"
- No attendees were described as registered disabled/chronically sick.

Although two PACs were not represented at the meetings and the numbers attending each meeting varied, as did the identity/characteristics of the participants, it is not believed that this affects adversely the 'representativeness' of the consultation meetings. The non-attendance of certain PACs and variation in attendance between individual PACs (in terms of PAC 'representatives') is unlikely to have been sufficient to reduce significantly the likelihood that the overall consultation meeting results are robust in terms of presenting a credible account of the main impact issues/concerns for all PAC residents.

Table 9-2: Analysis of the Attendees at the PAC Consultation Meetings

PACs/Meeting (all invited PACs=39, Sept. 2011)	Total Number of Attendees	Total Number of <i>Gamgebelis</i> / Trustees/ Specialists ³	Male	Female	PACs Not Represented
Aghtakla, Karatakla	18	2	14	4	-
Akhali Samgori, Gamarjveba 1	15	2	8	7	-
Arali, Tsarbastumani, Ude	12	2	6	6	Tsarbastumani
Avranlo, Rekha, Khando	13	3	9	4	-
Berta	21	1	15	6	-
Gardabani (town), Pobeda, Tbiltskaro	13	1	11	2	-
Jandari 1	13	1	11	2	-
Kesalo, Nazarlo, Vakhtangisi	23	2	18	5	-
Khaishi, Kotishi	13	1	9	4	-
Kizilkilisa, Ozni, Burnasheti	21	3	19	2	-
Krtsanisi, Akhali Kumisi	10	2	6	4	-
Mzianeti, Lemshveniera, Nagebi	26	2	19	7	Nagebi
Marneuli (town), Jandari 2	25	2	22	3	-
Aiazmi, Nardevani	12	2	10	2	-
Rustavi	18	1	6	12	-
Tsinubani, Tskaltbila, Naokhrebi, Julda, Abatkhevi	26	3	20	6	-
Vale	9	1	5	4	-
Totals	288	31	208	80	-
Average number (people/men/women) present	17	-	12 (rounded down)	5 (rounded up)	-
Lowest number of attendees at any one meeting	9	-	-	2	-
Highest number of attendees at any one meeting	26	-	-	12	-

Owing to the relocation of the pipeline construction camp (discussed in Chapter 4) and the identification of a location for the CSG2 access road construction camp, additional PACs were identified using the criteria described in Section 9.4.2. Clustered consultation meetings, following the same process outlined in Section 9.5.3, were carried out with these PACs in July 2012. The meetings followed a similar format to the earlier PAC consultation meetings with information provided on the project, including a focus on the construction camps.

³ A 'specialist' works for a trustee and may be considered to be a member of a trustee's administration.

These meetings occurred before the Draft ESIA public meetings in these areas (Section 9.7), with information given on the date and time of these meetings, should residents wish to attend.

An analysis of the attendees at the additional PAC consultation meetings is shown in Table 9-3. The meeting at Sakdrioni attracted a very high attendance because of a local rumour that the meeting had an 'employment' focus. This factor may also explain why no women attended.

Table 9-3: Additional PAC Consultation Meetings

PACs/Meeting (all invited PACs = 6)	Total Number of Attendees	Total Number of <i>Gamgebelis</i> / Trustees/ Specialists ⁴	Male	Female	PACs Not Represented
Gamarjveba, Poladantkaari, Karajalari	18	1	13	5	-
Sakdrioni, Gantiadi, Kushi	72	3	72	0	-
Totals	90	4	85	5	

PAC household survey

The 39 original PACs were sub-divided into three groups based on proximity to the main SCPX Project components:

- Pipeline loop (pipeline and associated block/check valves)
- CSG1 and CSG2 (compressor stations and associated construction camps)
- PRMS (and construction camp).

Household surveys were conducted in a number of PACs in each of these groups according to the household sampling strategy, primarily to obtain socio-economic baseline data on households. The household survey was based on a common and standardised questionnaire. In total 1200 respondents were interviewed in 34 PACs. All CSG2/CSG2 access road and PRMS PACs were included in the sample, but not all CSG1/pipeline loop PACs (see Chapter 8 for an explanation of the sampling strategy applied).

The household survey presented an opportunity to ask residents about their knowledge of the SCPX Project components proposed for their areas and to obtain their views and concerns regarding likely impacts. To enable questions on these topics to be asked, three different versions of the questionnaire were prepared and used in the survey. The individual versions contained tailored questions relating to the main SCPX Project components: pipeline loop; compressor stations and PRMS. Interviewers distributed copies of the pamphlets to respondents who had not seen/read a pamphlet prior to the interviews.

9.5.4 NGOs and Scientific Community

NGOs based in Georgia (national NGOs and international NGOs with offices in Georgia) and representatives of the scientific community were invited to attend a workshop in Tbilisi held on 10 November 2011. The workshop was organised and led by BP personnel and the workshop agenda and structure followed that used on similar previous occasions:

- Project description presentation
- Environmental and social baseline surveys and results

⁴ A 'specialist' works for a trustee and may be considered to be a member of a trustee's administration.

- Question and answer session.

Representatives of seven NGOs and one university attended; a GOGC representative also attended. As in the case of the meeting with national government stakeholders, both the SCPX and WREP-SR Projects were discussed. A workshop summary was prepared by BP.

9.5.5 *Consultation on Potential Cumulative Projects*

Information was requested from a number of governmental organisations in order to obtain information on current or future planned developments which may have the potential for cumulative impacts with the proposed SCPX Project. The organisations consulted and the results of the consultations are detailed in Chapter 11, Cumulative and Transboundary Impacts.

9.6 Consultation Results

9.6.1 *National, Regional and Local Government Authorities*

A summary of the concerns/impact issues raised by national government stakeholders during a series of meetings in 2011 is presented in Table 9-4.

Table 9-4: Summary of Concerns/Impact Issues Raised by National Government Stakeholders

Stakeholders	Concerns/Impact Issues
GOGC	Adequacy of the number and location of groundwater 'test' boreholes in terms of providing adequate data Safety issues related to integrity of the pipe given increased throughput and pressures during operations and query regarding the nature of hydrostatic testing that had been implemented

A summary of the concerns/impact issues raised by local governments during the series of municipality/city notification meetings in 2011 is presented in Table 9-5. These meetings were attended by senior officials from municipality/city governments, selected officials from lower tiers of local government, and BP staff members.

Table 9-5: Concerns/Impact Issues Raised by Local Government Stakeholders

Stakeholders	Concerns/Impact Issues
Adigeni municipality	Request as to whether BP would provide gas supply to villages Sought information on the benefits the SCPX Project would bring to villages
Akhalsikhe municipality	Sought information on progress on the outstanding Naokhrebi court cases regarding land acquisition and compensation Request for information on the environmental control and management measures to be applied to the project
Gardabani municipality	Issues raised regarding certain local perceptions that BP had ignored community problems and concerns in previous projects

Stakeholders	Concerns/Impact Issues
	<p>Highlighted previous problems relating to access across the pipeline right of way. Also, some restrictions had prevented communities/individuals from undertaking needed activities, such as creating a pipe to transfer water over the pipeline route</p> <p>Stated that BP's previous/current community development projects had made valuable contributions and hope expressed that such projects would be part of SCPX Project implementation.</p>
Marneuli municipality	Sought information on the benefits the SCPX Project would bring to villages
Rustavi city	Sought information on the benefits the SCPX Project would bring to villages
Tetritskaro municipality	Requested maps of pipeline loop route and technical details of SCPX Project design.
Tsalka municipality	Requested more information on locations of CSG2 and the access road

9.6.2 *Project-affected Communities*

The results are presented separately for the series of PAC consultation meetings and for the household survey results.

PAC consultation meetings

Following review of all PAC consultation meeting minutes, a synthesis of the issues/concerns raised regarding possible impacts (and related matters) was prepared. Many of the same issues/concerns raised at different meetings, are similar in focus, but are expressed in different ways. The synthesis allows all these to be captured without repetition. Particular care was taken to avoid omission of any impact issues or concerns. Table 9-6 presents the synthesis of PAC impact issues/concerns and the number of PACs in which a topic was mentioned

It can be seen that there are a limited number of key generic concerns and impact issues raised by representatives of a range of PACs (not in order of importance):

- Land acquisition and compensation arrangements:
 - Compensation issues at level of individual landowners/users
 - Compensation issues at PAC level for use of grazing land and possible restriction in use of, and access to, such land
 - Legacy issues regarding previous compensation and relationship to negotiations on possible future compensation
 - Potential for intra-village social disputes from compensation payments
- Increased environmental and health risks and compensation:
 - Equity issues relating to 'communal' compensation and individuals adversely affected, but not in direct receipt of land or damage-related compensation
 - Risks are not equally distributed over villages and those that are more exposed to these risks, than others, should be compensated
- Impacts of heavy construction vehicles on and off roads and effects on local residents from possible decline in road network conditions and concern over liability for repair

- Desire to see benefits for villages not just compensation for land take or damage including:
 - Social facilities (for example, schools) support/repair
 - Support for vulnerable people
 - Social support to focus on needs of local residents
 - Gas supply to villages
- Impacts on/damage to nearby infrastructure (such as water supply networks) or to already planned local infrastructure development and concern over liability for repair
- Environmental impacts including subsequent potential health effects on people and animals) from:
 - Unplanned incidents such as leaks and likely impacts on local people
 - Air quality changes (mainly from particulates) and impacts on public health and bees
 - Impact of vibration on houses
 - Impacts of radiation and public health
- Impacts of heavy machinery use on monastery near Berta
- Effects on job opportunities and accompanying concern that job allocation is equitable and non-discriminatory in terms of gender, ethnicity and age, but to favour PAC residents. Particular interest is 'spreading' the benefits from jobs and in ensuring that language is not a barrier to recruitment
- Concern that local people obtain sufficient knowledge on job opportunities early to enable them to submit application in good time.

Table 9-6: Summary of Key Issues Raised by PACs

Main Impact Issues	Comments on Impacts/Concerns	Raised in ¹
Livelihoods (see also 'Land Acquisition and Compensation' below):	In CSG2 vicinity concerns raised about BP building a compressor station on pastureland. This would prevent residents from grazing their cattle on this land; Also, the compressor station will prevent easy direct access to other grazing lands. Grazers pay a tax for this land and then may not be able to use the land to the extent previously.	Avranlo
	Question raised about possible reduction in the gas tariff after implementation of the project.	Gamarjveba
Infrastructure <i>Impact on road conditions of construction traffic</i> <i>Road network repair</i> <i>Damage to utility infrastructure (for example, water supply pipes) from heavy construction traffic</i> <i>Utility improvement (for example, mains (piped) gas supply) and/or provision</i>	Local people are interested in scope for the construction/repair of a road/s in their settlements arising from SCPX implementation.	Avranlo, Pobeda, Tbiltskaro, Kizilkilisa, Burnasheti, Nardevani, Rustavi, Tsinubani
	BP is asked to assist with developing infrastructure in the village.	Jandari 1
	BP is asked to repair the existing road, which is badly damaged, to the school.	Jandari 1
	Concerns are raised about heavy machinery damaging the roads and bridges. During construction of the last project, water pipes were damaged, but never repaired.	Kizilkilisa, Burnasheti, Lemshveniera, Nardevani
	BP is asked to solve the problem of drinking water and natural gas supply in the village, as the company will benefit from the pipeline passing through it.	Akhali Samgori
	BP is asked to solve the problem of mains (piped) gas supply in the village.	Kizilkilisa, Burnasheti, Krtsanisi, Vale
	Residents would like to know if they will be provided with mains (piped) gas supply. Known that Georgian authorities will be supplied with gas free of charge.	Ude, <i>Sakdrioni</i>
	Concern that the pipeline may adversely affect the planned gasification of the village.	<i>Kushi</i>
	Concern that the existing first aid centre in Gamarjveba maybe used by pipeline workforce.	<i>Gamarjveba</i>
	The building that used to function as the local school is empty due to the lack of pupils. Suggested that it could be used by BP as a location for workers' camp.	Pobeda
Labour and Working Conditions <i>Selection of workers and allocation of priorities for recruitment (for example, locals, poor people, women)</i> <i>Potential for job sharing to spread benefits from employment</i>	Questions raised about the scope and type of training opportunities, to be provided by BP, which will make people more employable in BP projects.	Lemshveniera
	Question asked whether those employed in BTC/SCP construction would be given priority in SCPX recruitment.	<i>Gamarjveba</i>
	Suggested that the social status of individuals should be taken into account in recruitment, e.g. the poorest people should be given priority over those who have been employed previously on BP projects.	Lemshveniera
	Hopes expressed that the project will create (permanent) employment opportunities.	Karatakla, Krtsanisi, Lemshveniera
	Hopes expressed that the project will bring employment opportunities (e.g. for local drivers, young people etc.). In particular, there are experienced drivers with their own tractors, who can be trained further by BP as necessary.	Gamarjveba 1, Khaishi
	Desire to know if local people will be preferred candidates when applying for jobs, and to understand the recruitment decision-making process.	Ude, <i>Sakdrioni</i>

Main Impact Issues	Comments on Impacts/Concerns	Raised in ¹	
<i>Type and duration of employment opportunities</i>	Interest expressed in employment terms and conditions such as salaries, employment of women, the number of people to be employed, and length of employment contracts.	Berta, Pobeda, Tbiltskaro, Jandari 1, Rustavi, Naokhrebi	
	Suggestion made that there could be a system of work rotation/job share, so more individuals would have a chance of working for a set period of time, e.g. one year rather than fewer individuals being employed for longer.	Berta	
	<i>Timing and local availability of information on application process and job availability</i>	Questions asked about the type of jobs that will be available.	Krtsanisi
		Questions asked about the criteria to be used when employing people.	Marneuli (town), Jandari 2
	<i>Equity in recruitment for non-native Georgian speakers</i>	Concerns are raised about equal employment opportunities, because during the last construction project workers were brought from outside the region, and local residents were not employed.	Marneuli (town), Jandari 2, Nardevani, <i>Gantiadi</i>
		Information requested on the job application procedure.	Marneuli (town), Jandari 2
		Questions asked about the method to be used for providing employment to the locals (e.g. last time a “voting” system was used).	Rustavi
		Questions raised about the documents needed to support job applications and about the fairness of the employment process (e.g. the likelihood that the main contractor will give a preference to its own staff).	Berta
		Hopes expressed that young people will be given preference in the employment process.	Naokhrebi
Hopes expressed that Georgian, Armenian and Azerbaijani people will have equal opportunities when applying for jobs. However, based on past experience, non-native Georgian speakers have not been given jobs in many cases as knowledge of the Georgian language was required.	Aghtakla, Karatakla, Naokhrebi, <i>Gantiadi, Kushi</i>		
Social Assistance <i>Social facilities (for example, schools) support/repair</i>	Hopes expressed that BP will help in mending the fence around the school and replace the doors and windows at the school.	Aghtakla, Karatakla	
	Landowners will receive compensation, but question asked as to how a village would benefit from the project.	Jandari 2	
	<i>Support for vulnerable people</i>	Questions are raised about BP providing social assistance to the local population.	Pobeda, Tbiltskaro, Krtsanisi
		Hopes are expressed that BP will provide social assistance to the local school, which did not benefit from the past project.	Jandari 1
	<i>Social support should focus on needs of local residents</i>	Questions are raised about BP providing social assistance to the chronically ill and/or disabled people; and also, about the category of people likely to be eligible for assistance.	Tsinubani, Kesalo, Nazarlo
		Questions are raised about BP financing youth initiative projects in the village.	Nazarlo
		Questions asked what type of social projects BP will finance.	Marneuli (town), Jandari 2
		Questions are raised about the project benefiting villages (apart from compensating landowners) via such measures as local investment projects.	Jandari 2, Nardevani. <i>Gamarjveba</i>
		Hopes expressed that BP will continue to assist local schools and kindergartens.	Marneuli (town), Jandari 2, Rustavi
		Hope expressed that BP will assist local residents with their needs; residents will inform BP representatives about these needs later.	Gamarjveba 1

Main Impact Issues	Comments on Impacts/Concerns	Raised in ¹
	Questions asked about BP providing assistance to socially vulnerable people.	Tsinubani
	BP asked if it would implement a healthcare project.	Rustavi
<p>Land Acquisition and Compensation <i>Compensation issues at level of individual landowners/users</i></p> <p><i>Compensation issues at PAC level for use of grazing land and possible restriction in use of, and access to, such land</i></p> <p><i>Equity issues relating to 'communal' compensation and individuals adversely affected, but not in direct receipt of compensation</i></p> <p><i>Legacy issues regarding previous compensation and relationship to negotiations on possible future compensation</i></p> <p><i>Compensation at PAC level for 'general' environmental/social disruption during construction phase</i></p> <p><i>Potential for intra-village social disputes from compensation payments</i></p>	Questions raised about the amount of compensation for land plots and how the compensation amount will be calculated.	Berta, <i>Sakdrioni</i>
	Questions raised about the type of compensation for damage to land and property and the kind of damages for which compensation will be paid.	Kesalo, Nazarlo, Krtsanisi, Lemshveniera
	Queries raised about the land assessment/evaluation standards and if they will be the same as during the last project. Hopes expressed that the land will be evaluated correctly to take into account owners' interests.	Krtsanisi
	The majority of the local population has not yet 'legalised' land that is owned (land plots are not yet included in the public register). Some documents come from Soviet/Shevardnadze's times, and these are the only documents that can be used to prove ownership. This causes concern and BP is asked to help deal with land 'legalisation' issues. Also, the residents would like to know which documents are required for registering land ownership.	Berta
	Concerns are raised about BP not having paid compensation for the previous project. As a result, a court case was filed 10 years ago. People do not want to discuss new compensation issues until compensation amounts related to the previous project are paid.	Naokhrebi
	The village council receives an annual compensation amount from BP (GEL 2500) for using pastures. However, village residents do not receive any benefits.	Naokhrebi
	Query raised about BP not having settled compensations for pastures used by the previous project, and the likelihood of a similar situation occurring again.	Vale
	Distribution of land compensation among the village population causes social confrontation and disputes as land ownership boundaries are not always clear and there are no registration records of ownership.	Tskaltbila
	Some residents stated that their "people are ready to prevent BP activities in a new project implementation process" [understood to be due to legacy issues not being resolved to satisfaction of certain residents].	Tsinubani, Naokhrebi
	Questions regarding land plots that are not cultivated by the owners but by other people. Who receives compensation in this situation, the owner or the user?	<i>Kushi</i>

Main Impact Issues	Comments on Impacts/Concerns	Raised in ¹
	Will the pipeline affect the new land plots at Poladaantkari, Karajalari and Gamarjveba?	<i>Gamarjveba</i>
Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	Questions asked whether an ecologist/s will be involved in the project.	Akhali Samgori
	Question asked whether there will be tree planting within the nearby construction camp boundary	<i>Gamarjveba</i>
Pollution Prevention and Abatement <i>Unplanned incidents such as leaks and likely impacts on local people</i> <i>Air quality changes (mainly from particulates) and impacts on public health and bees</i> <i>Impact of vibration on houses</i> <i>Impacts of radiation and public health</i>	Concerns are raised about potential incidents at the pipeline (e.g. oil leaks.) that might have an impact on the village. Village not insured against such risks.	Karatakla
	Concerns are raised about dust pollution as a result of heavy machinery operation, as well as heavy vehicles damaging local roads, and the type of mitigating measures to be used	Jandari 1, Lemshveniera, <i>Gamarjveba</i>
	Concerns are raised about the air pollution resulting from the pipeline construction and operation affecting the health of local residents.	Kizilkilisa
	People raised concerns that the air will become polluted as a result of construction. This, in particular, has a very negative impact on bees, increasing their mortality. A query was raised about a potential compensation to the beekeepers for loss of bees and honey production.	Tskaltbila, Kizilkilisa
	Concerns are raised about the impact of heavy machinery on the houses in the vicinity.	Vale
	Concerns are raised about potential radiation in the vicinity of the pipeline that might affect public health.	Kizilkilisa
Community Health, Safety and Security <i>Unplanned incidents and increased exposure to health and safety risks.</i> <i>Some villages are more exposed to these risks than others and should be compensated</i>	Questions asked whether the pipeline would pose any risk to local people (especially if it passes through populated areas), as potential accidents will affect a large number of people.	Ude, Rustavi, Vale
	Concerns are raised about the safety of the pipeline and the gas pump station.	Berta
	Residents concerned that the “risk” is bigger for their village compared to other villages, and thus they should be compensated accordingly.	Jandari 1
	Concern expressed about certain small earth tremors/ quakes (‘pushes’) that local people experience above the pipeline.	Krtsanisi
	Concern expressed that the pipeline poses a threat to the village, since if there is a military conflict the pipeline will be attacked first.	Jandari 2
Cultural Heritage <i>Impacts of heavy machinery use on monastery near Berta</i>	BP asked to make sure that heavy machinery is not used in the vicinity of the local monastery.	Berta
Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement	Questions raised about the exact routing of the pipeline. Residents of Rustavi would like to have a detailed map of pipeline routing.	Kizilkilisa, Nardevani, Rustavi

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Main Impact Issues	Comments on Impacts/Concerns	Raised in ¹
<i>Information on pipeline route and location of worker's camps should be provided to PACs</i>	A question was raised about the start date and the duration for the construction.	Pobeda, Tbiltskaro
	Local people would like to know the exact location of the workers' camp.	Pobeda, Tbiltskaro, Krtsanisi
<i>Need for direct communication link between PACs and BP</i>	More information requested about the timing of the project, the type of works to be carried out, and how this will affect the village.	Jandari 1
	Concerns expressed about not receiving sufficient information about job application process and, as a result, not being able to get the jobs.	Kesalo, Nazarlo
<i>More information on SCPX key design characteristic desired (for example, width of pipeline corridor, start dates, duration of works in specific areas etc.)</i>	The local residents would like to know the width/length of the pipeline corridor.	Khaishi
	Suggested that BP to employ a local resident from each village to be a communication link between BP and that village, so that local people will be informed about BP's plans etc.	Krtsanisi
	The local residents would like to know if (construction) activities will be agreed in advance with the local authorities.	Lemshveniera
	Local residents believe it is important for BP to have discussions with the whole village, rather than selected representatives, as the latter might not be concerned with the project or their interests might not be affected.	Akhali Samgori
	Residents would like to be informed in advance about the potential restrictions associated with the construction (for example on land use).	Aghtakla, Karatakla
	Question raised on whether the engagement of local people is necessary for [community] investment projects.	Arali
¹ Issues raised during additional consultation meetings with PACs at the new pipeline camp location and the CSG2 access road camp location are identified with the community name in <i>italics</i> . These have been considered in the same manner as comments from the early consultation meetings.		

PAC household survey

The results from the household survey are provided below by PAC group (see Section 9.5.3 above).

Pipeline loop

The results presented below are derived from interviews in the following PACs: Akhali Samgori, Gamarjveba 1, Rustavi, Aghtakla, Karatakla, Krtsanisi, Marneuli, and Jandari 2.

Most people (58% approximately) are undecided about support for construction of a pipeline and compressor station. About 37% approve and 5% do not support the project. Regarding possible benefits under half of all respondents (43%) are not able to identify specify benefits. Of those who consider that there will be benefits, most (45%) consider employment opportunities to be the most important benefit (see Figure 9-2 and Figure 9-3).

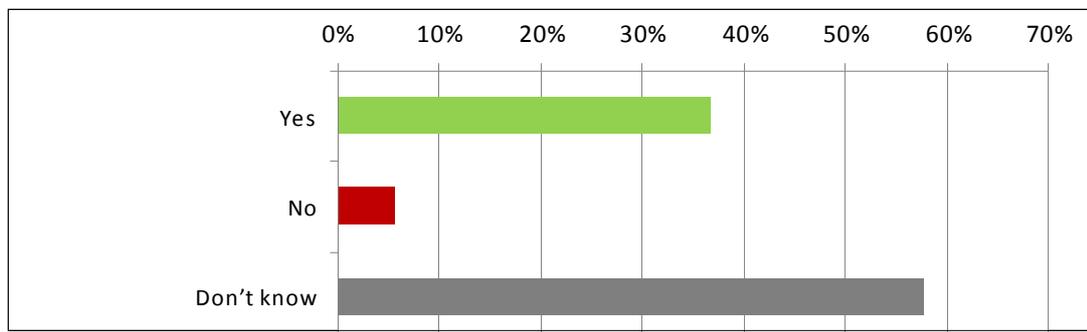


Figure 9-2: Pipeline Loop – PAC Support for SCPX Project

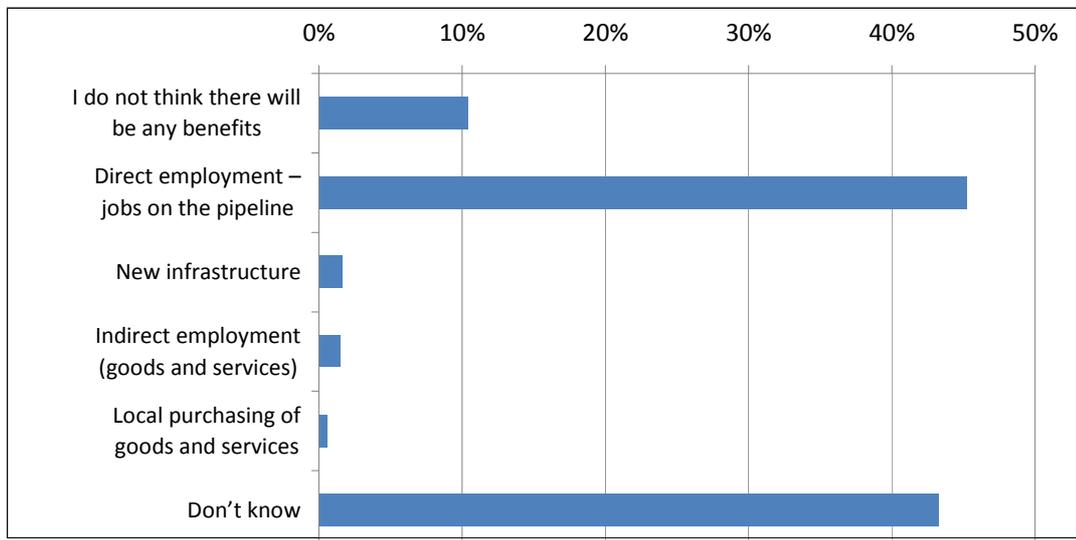


Figure 9-3: Pipeline Loop – PAC Opinion on the Main Benefits

Safety is the main concern followed by a range of pollution and other environmental problems. Disruption to roads is also mentioned by some respondents (see Figure 9-4).

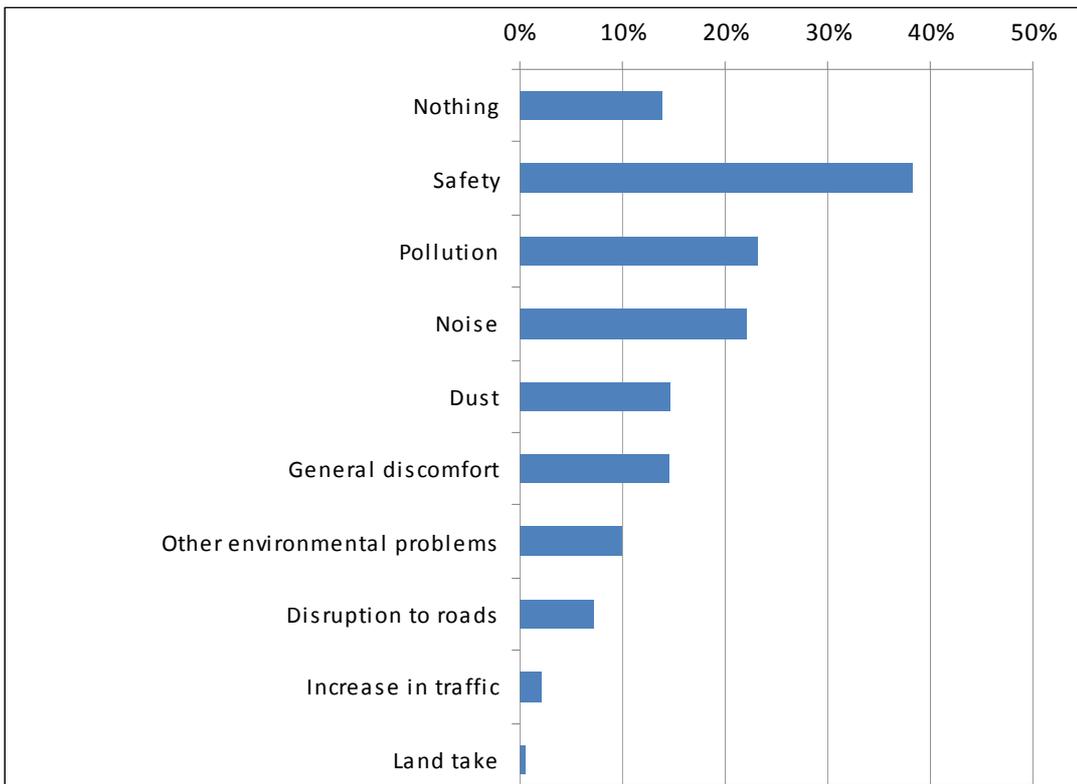


Figure 9-4: Pipeline Loop – PAC Main Concerns

CSG1 and CSG2

The results presented below are derived from interviews in the following PACs: Vakhtangisi, Nazarlo, Kesalo, Jandari 1, Mzianeti, Lemshveniera, Gardabani, Pobeda, Avranlo, Rekha, Khando, Kizilkilisa, Ozni, Burnasheti and Berta.

Most people (64% approximately) are undecided about support for construction of a compressor station. Almost one-third (32%) approves and 4% do not approve of the project. Regarding possible benefits, slightly more than half of the respondents (55%) are not able to specify them. Of those who consider that there will be benefits, most (37%) consider employment opportunities the most important (see Figure 9-5 and Figure 9-6).

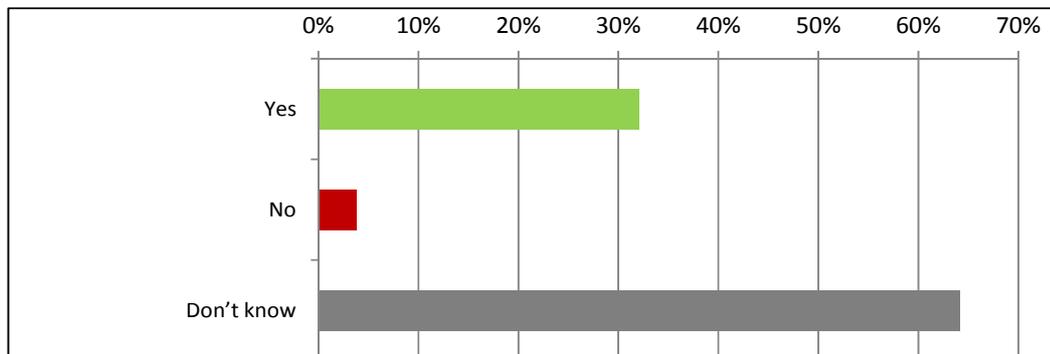


Figure 9-5: CSG1 and CSG2 – PAC Support for SCPX Project (Compressor Station)

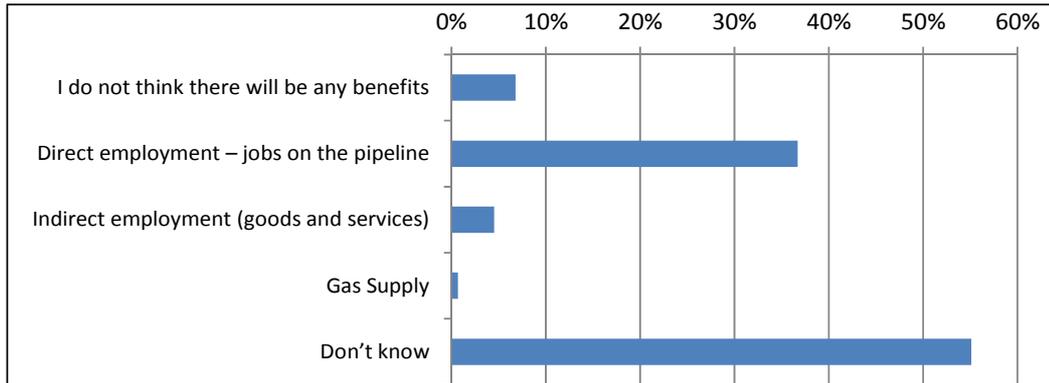


Figure 9-6: CSG1 and CSG2 – PAC Opinion on the Main Benefits (Compressor Station)

In contrast to the pipeline loop PACs, pollution (especially noise) and other environmental problems are the main concerns followed by disruption to roads and traffic (almost 15%). Safety is mentioned by only about 10% of respondents (see Figure 9-7).

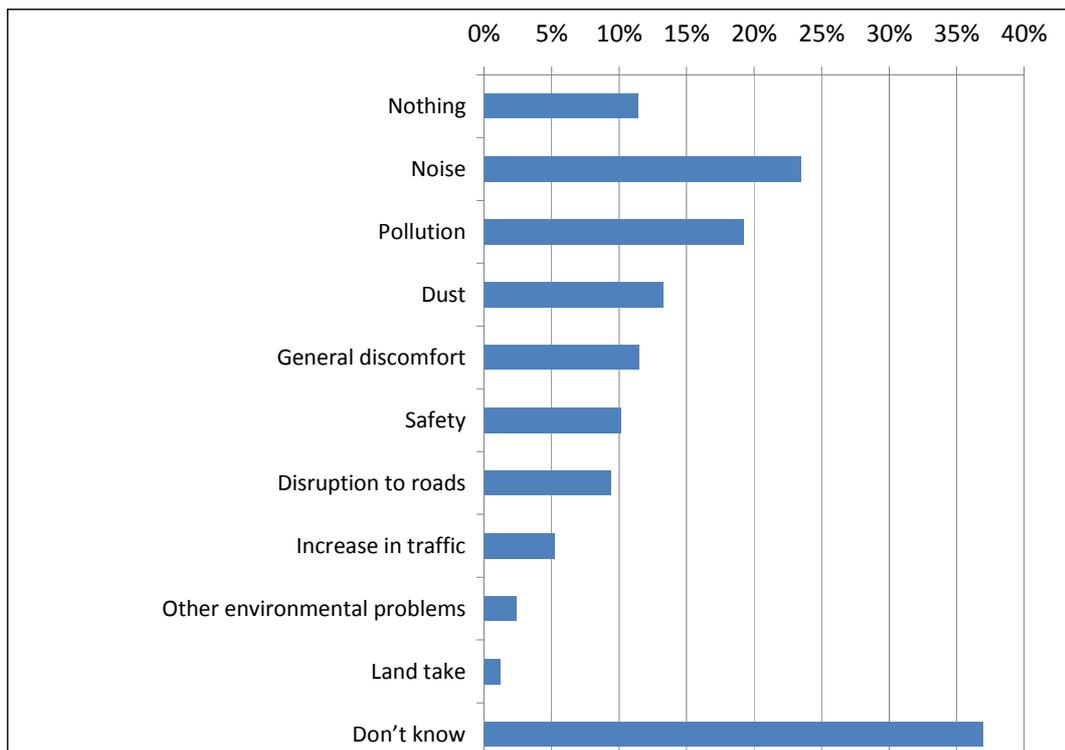


Figure 9-7: CSG1 and CSG2 – PAC Main Concerns (Compressor Station)

With respect to the siting of a construction camp, half of all respondents had no view on whether it would be beneficial or not. Just under half (about 37%) expressed the view that it would make no difference. About 10% thought the camp would be 'good' and 3% thought it would be 'bad' for the local area and communities (see Figure 9-8).

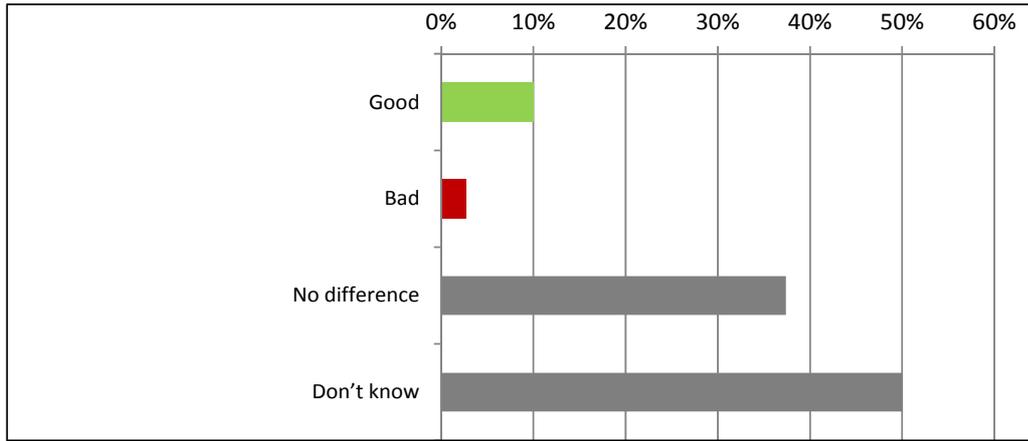


Figure 9-8: CSG1 and CSG2– PAC Views on Construction Camp

The main positive and negative aspects mentioned by respondents are shown in Table 9-7. The presence of new economic opportunities in terms of being able to sell produce was seen a key positive aspect and the main negative aspect was concern about the presence of strangers in the villages.

Table 9-7: CSG1 and CSG2 Construction camp – Positive and Negative Aspects Identified by PACs

Positive aspects (in order of importance)	Negative aspects (in order of importance)
Opportunity to sell products	Uncomfortable to have strangers in the village
Job opportunity	Noise, alcohol use
Increase of income	Noise and traffic on a road
	Possible crimes/theft

PRMS

The results presented below are derived from interviews in the following PACs: Vale, Arali, Tsarbastumani, Ude, Tsinubani, Tskaltbila, Naokhrebi, Julda and Abatkhevi.

Almost 75% of respondents are undecided about support for construction of a metering station. About 25% approve and 2% do not approve of the project. Regarding possible benefits, approximately 60% of respondents are not able to identify specify them. Of those who consider that there will be benefits, most (32%) consider employment opportunities the most important (see Figure 9-9 and Figure 9-10).

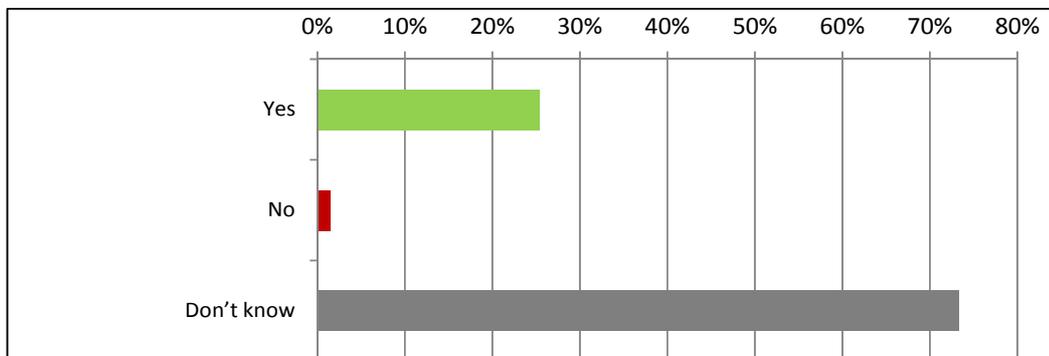


Figure 9-9: PRMS – PAC Support for SCPX Project (Pressure Reduction and Metering Station)

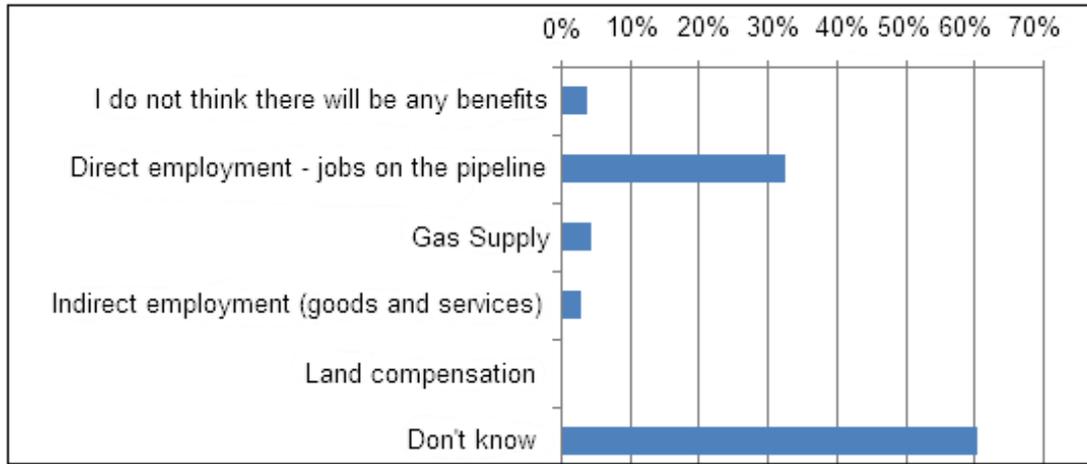


Figure 9-10: PRMS – PAC Opinion on the Main Benefits (Pressure Reduction and Metering Station)

Pollution (especially noise) and other environmental problems are the main concerns followed closely by safety issues. Disruption to roads and traffic is mentioned only by under 5% of respondents (see Figure 9-11).

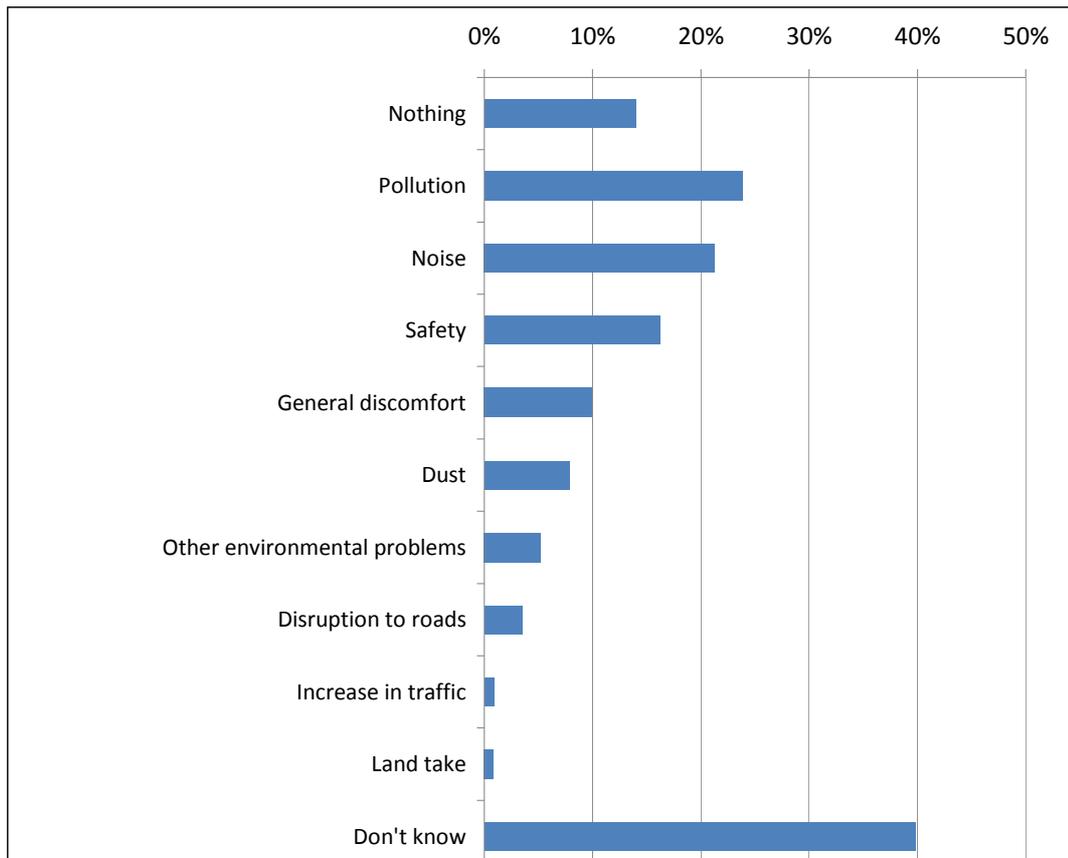


Figure 9-11: PRMS – PAC Main Concerns (Pressure Reduction and Metering Station)

With respect to the siting of a construction camp, more than half of all respondents (55%) had no view on whether it would be beneficial or not. About one-third (about 32%) expressed the view that it would make no difference. About 11% thought the camp would be 'good' and 2% thought it would be 'bad' for the local area and communities (see Figure 9-12).

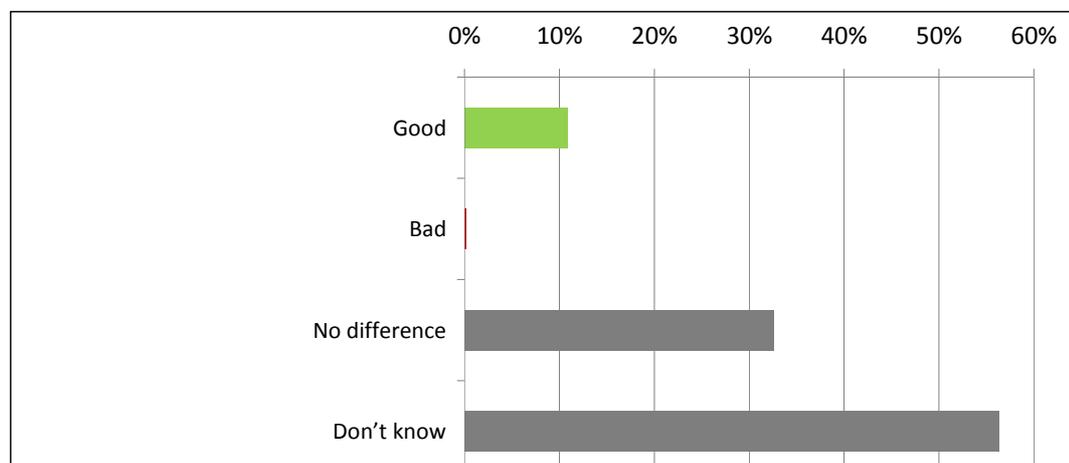


Figure 9-12: PRMS – PAC Main Concerns (Construction Camp)

The main positive and negative aspects mentioned by respondents are shown in Table 9-8. The presence of new economic opportunities in terms of being able to sell produce was seen as a key positive aspect and the main negative aspect was concern about the noise and possible social impacts of alcohol abuse by workers.

Table 9-8: PRMS Construction Camp – Positive and Negative Aspects Identified by PACs

Positive aspects (in order of importance)	Negative aspects (in order of importance)
Opportunity to sell products Job opportunity	Noise, alcohol abuse

9.6.3 International and National NGOs/Scientific Community

A summary of the impact issues/concerns raised in the NGO/Scientific community workshop is provided in Table 9-9.

Table 9-9: Summary of Concerns/Impact Issues Raised by NGOs/Scientific Community

Stakeholders	Concerns/Impact Issues
"Orchis", the Georgian Society of Nature Explorers	Sought confirmation that the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's environmental policy (2008) would be applied to the project and the ESIA Also, requested information on which United Nations Environment Programme recommendations would be applied to the project and the ESIA

The issues raised during these and all other consultation meetings have been taken into account during preparation of this ESIA.

During the ESIA process attention was paid to stakeholder concerns as expressed during the series of consultation meetings. Key SCPX Project design and location decisions were made after taking account of such concerns. To the extent practical, and without prejudicing the safe and efficient operation of the project, changes were made to avoid, prevent and/or reduce adverse impacts. For example, the pipeline will have a thicker wall where it is in close proximity to inhabited sites thus reducing the hazard potential.

In addition, certain impact mitigation commitments were devised, and included in a series of environmental and social management plans, to achieve the same objectives. Examples of mitigation commitments designed to deal, specifically, with stakeholder concerns are as follows:

- Land acquisition and livelihoods: a Land Acquisition and Compensation Framework (setting out the principles and key mechanisms by which livelihoods would be maintained) and an accompanying Guide to Land Acquisition and Compensation will be prepared and provided to those likely to be affected by land acquisition. Also, natural resource features such as wetlands that are used for watering of livestock will be preserved or, if that is not possible, a substitute will be provided and access to grazing will be maintained or, if restricted, to the minimum extent practical. Finally, special commitments to avoid harm to bees and reduced honey production will be implemented
- Infrastructure damage: there are a number of commitments relating to avoiding damage and, to repair, should any damage occur
- Employment opportunities: there is a presumption in favour of employing local people if the required skills are available. Targets for local recruitment will be set and local recruitment will be monitored regularly to ensure that this commitment is met
- Pollution: there will be commitments applied to suppressing dust and lowering noise to acceptable levels. Air pollutants will be monitored to ensure that the commitments are being applied and achieving their objectives.

9.7 Consultations on Draft ESIA Report

The disclosure consultations were implemented in accordance with the requirements of HGA as described in Section 9.3. The draft ESIA report (and associated documents) were issued in Georgian and English languages. The non-technical summary was also issued in Russian. In addition, a community leaflet that summarised the ESIA process and results was prepared in Georgian and Russian. Ten thousand copies of the leaflet were distributed between all PACs.

9.7.1 Information Disclosure

To assist effective disclosure, and subsequent consultations, BP ensured that:

- The draft ESIA report is comprehensive and provides a fair reflection of the beneficial and adverse impacts of the proposed SCPX Project
- The draft ESIA report, and associated documents, were provided in the Georgian and English languages (and in the Russian language for the non-technical summary)
- The non-technical summary and a mechanism of providing feedback (to allow comments to be submitted to BP) were made freely available in the PACs
- The stakeholders were informed of the publication of the draft ESIA report and advised about how they could access a copy and obtain copies of the non-technical summary. They were allowed adequate time, within limits defined by Georgian law, in which to reflect on the proposals and formulate their response.

Prior to disclosure, information about the ESIA process, the availability of the draft ESIA report (and associated documents) and the consultation process was publicised through the following media outlets and other mechanisms:

- Regional and national local newspapers with a circulation focused on municipalities/cities where SCPX activities are proposed for implementation
- SCPX email databases
- Community noticeboards
- Public information displays at selected venues close to the main centres of project activities
- Leaflets, brochures and posters.

The press notification included the following information:

- The name, aims and place of the development
- The address, where stakeholders can obtain/read the draft ESIA report and related materials, as well as the name and address to which written comments must be sent
- The deadline for submitting comments
- The time and venue of the public meeting.

The draft ESIA report (and accompanying documents) was made available at certain key public locations in order to allow stakeholders to review it and provide feedback. Such locations included national and regional government offices, public libraries in key locations (selected, partly, for ease of access for all PACs) and offices of main academic institutions and NGOs that participated in the ESIA consultations. Thus, the draft ESIA report was made available in:

- GOGC offices
- Tbilisi Parliamentary Library
- Regional Governor's office of the two SCPX-affected regions
- Rustavi Mayor's office
- Gardabani, Marneuli, Tetritskaro, Tsalka, Adigeni and Akhaltsikhe *Gamgeoba* offices
- Rustavi Central Library
- Offices of selected NGOs (Caucasus Environmental NGO Network, CENN; Regional Environment Centre for the Caucasus, REC, Aarhus Centre).

Copies of the NTS were made available in each territorial organ in the trustee's office and/or in another publicly accessible location and in the trustee's office of the 18th–19th micro districts in Rustavi. Community leaflets were distributed to municipality and territorial organ administrative buildings, but mainly in public places in each PAC (for example schools, shops, "*chaikhana*" (teahouse), etc.).

Finally, the draft ESIA report and the non-technical summary were posted on the BP Caspian (English version) and BP Georgia (English and Georgian versions) websites.

9.7.2 Disclosure Announcements

The disclosure period started on 29 May 2012 with media announcements placed in national-, regional- and municipality-level media (Table 9-10), which included information on the disclosure period (60 days), the location of ESIA documentation, the main public meeting date and the mechanisms for providing feedback (see Appendix C1).

Table 9-10: ESIA Disclosure Announcements

Publication Title	Announcement Language	Coverage
Resonancy	Georgian, Russian	National
Resonancy	Georgian	National
24 Hours	Georgian	National
Rustavi News	Georgian, Russian	Rustavi/Marneuli
Rustavi News	Georgian, Russian	Rustavi/Marneuli
Rustavi	Georgian, Russian	Rustavi/Marneuli
Samkhretis Karibche (South Gate)	Georgian	Regional – Samtskhe Javakheti
Express of Trialeti	Georgian, Russian	Regional – Kvemo Kartli

The announcement was also placed on the Kvemo Kartli Regional website, www.kvemokartli.info, in Georgian and Russian at the request of the regional administration.

In addition, announcements were placed with all copies of the ESIA and NTS documents.

9.7.3 Feedback Mechanisms

Stakeholders had access to the following mechanisms for providing feedback on the draft ESIA:

- Feedback forms (in Georgian and Russian) were distributed with all copies of the ESIA and NTS and were made available to all PACs. Feedback forms could be returned by post to the BP office address or via passing completed forms to the BP community liaison officers who made regular visits to communities during the disclosure period
- A telephone number for the BP Office in Georgia was provided on the ESIA, NTS and community leaflets
- A dedicated email address was provided on the ESIA, NTS and community leaflets
- Electronic versions of the feedback form were available on the BP Caspian website in English and the BP Georgia website in both English and Georgian. Forms could be completed and submitted by email
- Four public meetings were held, which provided the opportunity for interested parties to attend and provide feedback directly to the ESIA team.

9.7.4 Disclosure Consultations – Public Meetings

These consultations were based, primarily, on the following series of public meetings that BP organised in Tbilisi and at other key locations near the main areas of project activity, namely Rustavi, Tsalka (Figure 9-13) and Akhaltsikhe.



Figure 9-13: ESIA Public Disclosure Meeting (Tsalka)

Meeting dates and times were as follows (Table 9-11).

Table 9-11: ESIA Disclosure Meetings

Meeting Location	Venue	Date	Time
Tbilisi	Georgian National Museum	19 July	1100
Rustavi	Democratic Engagement Centre	20 July	1100
Tsalka	Municipality <i>Gamgeoba</i> Offices	23 July	1200
Akhaltikhe	Municipality <i>Gamgeoba</i> Offices	25 July	1100

In accordance with Georgian law these meetings were held no earlier than 50 days and no later than 60 days after publishing the media notification. The timing of these meetings was selected to assist attendance by members of the public.

Within five days of the date of each meeting, BP prepared a summary of all written or oral comments received at the meeting. BP considered these comments, with additional comments received via other consultation mechanisms, when preparing the final version of the ESIA report.

The consultation results and responses are included in Appendix C2.

9.8 Tracking Consultation Results

Recording and structured 'storage' of stakeholder consultation results are important actions to make consultation results available to all involved in the ESIA and project design work.

A stakeholder database was designed and located on a central server. A protocol was developed to manage the inputting of data including allocating permissions to key ESIA and project team members in terms of rights to enter data and amend information already in the database.

9.9 Post-ESIA Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement

During certain consultations, advice and guidance was sought on the principles that should apply to the design and implementation of consultation procedures for the post-ESIA report phase, assuming the SCPX Project were to be approved. The suggestions provided by stakeholders will be used as a basis for formulating recommendations for a post-ESIA framework for information disclosure and consultations with key stakeholders, especially PACs and local governments. This will build on existing and historical stakeholder consultation mechanisms with which key stakeholders including many PACs are already familiar.