

## Chapter 9 Consultation Process



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## 9 CONSULTATION PROCESS

### 9.1 Introduction

When an ESIA is implemented it is normal practice for consultations (preceded by information disclosure) with stakeholders to occur. 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, also, often during the post-approval construction and operational phases of a project.

This chapter includes a presentation of the stakeholder disclosure and consultation activities carried out for WREP-SR ESIA (the term 'consultation' is used below to cover both stakeholder disclosure and consultation). The ESIA consultation activities were conducted in accordance with a Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan (PCDP) prepared at the beginning of the ESIA process (see Section 9.3 and Appendix C).

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, the majority of consultation is undertaken during the scoping and disclosure stages of ESIA.

### 9.2 Previous and Existing Stakeholder Engagement

ESIA-related stakeholder consultations have been implemented for development of the WREP, BTC, SCP and SCPX pipelines (and associated facilities), the Supsa Terminal, and other developments such as the non-hazardous waste landfill near Rustavi. During the SCPX ESIA stakeholder consultation programme (2009 – 2012), initial information about the WREP-SR Project was also provided. This programme involved inter alia national and local government entities, NGOs and communities along the pipeline routes in Georgia.

Specific consultation for the WREP-SR ESIA, which is the focus of the PCDP (Appendix C) and of this chapter, was undertaken during early 2016, to inform the scope of the WREP-SR ESIA. Further consultation was undertaken during June 2016 as part of draft ESIA Report disclosure process, to inform preparation of the final ESIA Report.

The WREP-SR stakeholder consultation programme builds upon the lessons learnt from the BTC, SCP and SCPX projects and the existing established relationships between BP and key stakeholders.

### 9.3 Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan

Consistent with international industry standards and practices and BP's previous in country practice (particularly the BTC, SCP and SCPX ESIAs) a Public Disclosure and Consultation Plan (PCDP) has been produced for the WREP ESIA<sup>1</sup>. A PCDP was prepared at the beginning of ESIA work to provide a framework for management of the consultation

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<sup>1</sup> In preparing the PCDP, particular reference has been made to the (now archived) IFC Environmental and Social Review Procedure Guidance Note F entitled '*Guidance for Preparation of a Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan*' and the IFC Good Practice Manual entitled '*Doing Better Business through Effective Public Consultation and Disclosure*' issued in 1999.

programme. The PCDP presents the stakeholders, consultation activities to be implemented, and links them to key stages in the ESIA process. The goals of a 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 project decision-making.

In accordance with the requirements of the WREP Host Government Agreement (HGA) in particular, Appendix 1 entitled, "Pipeline Construction and Operating Agreement" (PCOA), the WREP-SR PCDP was based on the following:

- The EC Directive 85/337/EC on Assessing the Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment
- Georgian legislation pertaining to conduct of Environmental Impact Assessments.
- Key principles of 'good international practice', regarding ESIA consultations, as exemplified by IFC's Performance Standard 1 (P-S 1) on Social and Environmental Assessment and Management Systems (and accompanying Guidance Note).<sup>2</sup>

In addition, it incorporates BP's internal guidance with regard to the conduct of ESIA consultations.

Taken together, these requirements and 'good practice' principles ensure that consultations are free, prior and informed and are based on disclosure of relevant and adequate Project information.

The PCDP was developed as a flexible, working and 'live' document, whilst still adhering to 'good practice' principles. As preparing a PCDP is one of the first ESIA tasks to be undertaken, it is realistic to expect that changes will have to be made as it unlikely that all ESIA activities will be undertaken exactly as projected. Amendments may have to be made, on occasions, to the intended scope and timing of consultation activities in line with the overall ESIA process.

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 final version of the PCDP is provided in Appendix C.

## 9.4 Stakeholder Identification

BP and the ESIA consultants worked together to identify the key stakeholders to be consulted. This was done using a combination of previous experience during construction and ongoing operation of WREP, and knowledge of both Georgia and the local communities in the vicinity of locations of proposed WREP-SR works.

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

- National, regional and local government authorities

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

- Project-affected communities (essentially, settlements located wholly or partly within defined distances from WREP-SR Project components (such as pipeline re-route sections and access roads)
- International and national NGOs
- Academic/scientific community
- Media (print, radio and TV)
- BP staff
- WREP-SR Project partners.

#### **9.4.1 National, Regional and Local Government Authorities**

The box below shows the key central government stakeholders sub-divided into those with a formal role in the approval process and those with a recognised interest in WREP-SR Project.

<p><b>1. Central Government stakeholders with a formal role in the ESIA approval process:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <i>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development (Construction Permit issuing authority)</i></li><li>- <i>Ministry of Environment Natural Resources Protection (MENRP), the key governmental environmental institution within Georgia (ESIA report approver). Within MENRP there is one key division: Environmental Permitting Department and two key agencies: National Agency of Environment and the Agency of Protected Areas</i></li><li>- <i>The Georgian Oil and Gas Corporation (GOGC) - Government representative for Caspian oil/gas transportation projects in Georgia (ESIA and design changes approver)</i></li></ul> <p><b>2. Central Government stakeholders with a recognised interest in the WREP-SR Project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <i>Ministry of Energy</i></li><li>- <i>Ministry of Agriculture (irrigation department)</i></li><li>- <i>Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection (which includes the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Protection)</i></li><li>- <i>National Commission on Communications</i></li><li>- <i>Ministry of Internal Affairs</i></li><li>- <i>Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure (Roads; River Protection Departments)</i></li><li>- <i>Ministry of Justice, including the National Agency of Public Register</i></li></ul>
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Local government stakeholders are the appointed officials and elected representatives in those regions (*mkhare*) and municipalities (*municipalitete*bi), in whose territories WREP-SR Project activities will take place. The current regional and local government structure is illustrated in Table 9-1.



**Table 9-1: 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> Elected by citizens of the municipality Head - <i>Sakrebulo</i> Chairperson Elected by the <i>Sakrebulo</i> members	Executive Council – <i>Gamgeoba</i> : members appointed by <i>Gamgebeli</i> Head – <i>Gamgebeli</i> : appointed by <i>Sakrebulo</i> Chairman, in agreement with <i>Sakrebulo</i>
Towns		Municipality <i>Gamgebeli</i> Representative: sub-ordinated to the Municipality in whose territory they are located
Territorial Organ <sup>1</sup>	N/A	Municipality <i>Gamgebeli</i> Representative: appointed by <i>Gamgebeli</i> or Mayor
Village	N/A	Village Specialist

<sup>1</sup> Territorial Organs can consist of one village, but usually consist of several villages

On this basis, the following local government entities have been identified as local government stakeholders for this project:

- Regions of Kvemo Kartli, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Imereti and Guria
- City of Tbilisi
- Territorial organs of Gardabani, Tbilisi, Tshvaritchamia, Korbouli, Mandaeti, Sveri, Nigozeti, Supsa and Ghrmaghele.

#### **9.4.2 Project-affected Communities**

A Project-affected community (PAC) is defined (based on an update of criteria used for the BTC/SCP ESIAs) as an inhabited settlement that falls within the following boundaries or has at least one inhabited structure that is on/within the boundary:

- Pipeline: 2km either side of the centre-line resulting in a 4km wide zone
- 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. Firstly 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 taking the following factors into account:

- Number of private land plots owned and worked by residents of the community, and their total surface area, that are located within a boundary
- Surface area of communal land, or 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 state and the community) and is located within a boundary
- Judgment by the ESIA team that, on basis of previous experience and available data, there is 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.

Fifteen settlements were identified as PACs and included in scoping consultations (Table 9-2).

**Table 9-2: Project-Affected Communities**

Region/city	District/city	Territorial Organ	PACs	Nearest Section (or Access Road)
Tbilisi	Tbilisi	Gldani	Village Gldani	RR-001 & ARs
			Gldanula	RR-001 & ARs
			Avchala 2	RR-001 & ARs
Mtskheta-Mtianeti	Mtskheta	Tshvaritchamia	Mamkoda	RR-001 & ARs
Imereti	Sachkhere	Korbouli	Shomakheti	AR to PRS1
			Korbouli	AR to PRS1
	Chiatura	Mandaeti	Mandaeti	AR 223
			Tkemlovana	RR-004a
		Sveri	Sveri	RR-004a
		Nigozeti	Tskalshavi	AR to PRS1
			Usakhelo	AR to PRS1
			Zeda Beretisa	AR to PRS1
Guria	Lanchkhuti	Supsa	Khidmaghala	Supsa crossing
			Grigoleti	Supsa crossing
		Ghrmaghele	Tskaltsminda	Supsa crossing

Consultation with PACs was a central feature of the ESIA consultation process, and engagement with PACs will continue, post-ESIA, during construction and operation of the upgraded WREP.

#### **9.4.3 International and National NGOs**

NGOs which 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 to be key stakeholders for the Project. BP Georgia retains a database on NGOs, and their area(s) of interest, for NGOs which 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 will be used as required to engage this stakeholder group in consultation on the WREP-SR Project.

#### **9.4.4 Scientific Community**

It was recognised that the scientific community should be engaged in the WREP-SR Project as members of this community can provide advice and consultancy assistance to the government regulators in the ESIA Report review process and in 'approval' decision-making and can contribute to the ESIA process in general.

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

### **9.5 Consultations to Inform Scope of ESIA**

These consultations involved national, regional and local government authorities and project-affected communities (PACs), as defined in Section 9.4.2.

#### **9.5.1 National, Regional and Local Government Authorities**

National government authorities include the approval authorities and those that have a legitimate interest in WREP-SR and its likely impacts. Following previous practice, a number of face-to-face meetings were held with both types of authority as follows:

- One meeting with representatives of the Georgian Oil and Gas Corporation (GOGC) and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection and Agency of Protected Areas
- Two meetings with the UNESCO and International Relations Department of the National Agency of Cultural Heritage Preservation (NACHP).

Minutes were taken by a Project representative and the issues recorded were added to the overall list of issues to be included in the scope of the ESIA. These meetings were held during January 2016.

#### **9.5.2 Project-affected Communities**

In line with previous pipeline ESIAs a decision was made to consult each of the 15 PACs, subject to the willingness of their representatives to participate. Owing to the geographic spread of PACs, consultations were undertaken only after three key activities were implemented: preparing a strategy for consulting the geographically dispersed PACs; prior disclosure of information; and notification of regional and municipal/city authorities.

##### *Strategy for PAC consultations*

In previous pipeline ESIAs a strategy of clustering PACs was implemented successfully. Thus, it was decided to use a similar approach for WREP-SR with a single meeting held in each territorial organ. In total, 7 clustered consultation meetings were organised.



A number of options were considered for the consultation meetings:

- 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 clustered PAC
- Non-public meetings with selected representatives, from each 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 interests.

Following 'lessons learnt' from previous pipeline ESIs 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 officers) and sometimes members of both teams. These BP specialists are familiar with PAC-related issues and, should WREP-SR be 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 direct and not from a third party.

In order to provide an adequate amount of time for meeting participants to contribute to the meeting and encourage participation it was decided that each PAC should be represented by Municipality Gamgebeli Representative (or nominated alternative if unable to attend) and between 4 and 7 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 representative at the Municipality Gamgebeli Representative's discretion (i.e. a 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 Municipality Gamgebeli Representative (or equivalent) of the individual PACs. However, a guidance document was prepared and given, in advance of the consultation meetings, to each representative to assist him/her select the appropriate residents to invite to the meetings. The Municipality Gamgebeli Representatives were briefed and given the guidance document at a series of pre-consultation notification meetings. The nature and role of the notification meetings is discussed below.

### *Disclosure of information*

Two means of disclosing information were used. First, a community leaflet, in Georgian (and English), was produced. This leaflet presented key basic details (text and maps) about the WREP-SR Project and the ESIA process. BP's address and telephone number were included to provide the opportunity for comments on WREP-SR to be submitted to BP at any time not just within the context of the 'formal' consultation events. These leaflets were distributed via notification meetings with local government entities.

At the notification meetings PAC officials were asked to leave copies of the leaflet in public places which PAC residents could access easily.

Secondly, at the beginning of each consultation meeting there was a brief presentation of the WREP-SR Project followed by a session providing an opportunity for attendees to ask clarification questions. This enabled those who had not been able to read the leaflet to gain an understanding of WREP-SR 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 WREP-SR.

### *Notification meetings*

A series of notification meetings was organised in the Districts within which the WREP-SR Project will be implemented. These meetings had two main purposes; to notify key appointed officials and elected local government members of the WREP-SR Project and the ESIA and to request the support and co-operation of PAC-level local government officials (i.e. the Municipality Gamgebeli Representatives) in preparing for the meetings and their subsequent participation.

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

- Location/time of the meetings
- Format and agenda for the meetings
- Role of the meetings in terms of the ESIA process
- The 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 PAC consultation meetings. 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 leaflet and form an opinion, 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 Municipality Gamgebeli Representatives between the notification and consultation meetings to re-confirm the meeting venue, date and attendees.

### *PAC consultation meetings*

The consultation meetings occurred in February 2016 and 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 Georgian. They were opened by the host Municipality Gamgebeli Representative (or equivalent) and facilitated by a local member of the ESIA team. Following a presentation on the WREP-SR Project and a 'question/answer' session, most of the agenda time was allocated to obtaining views, issues and concerns regarding the possible WREP-SR impacts on the PACs/residents.

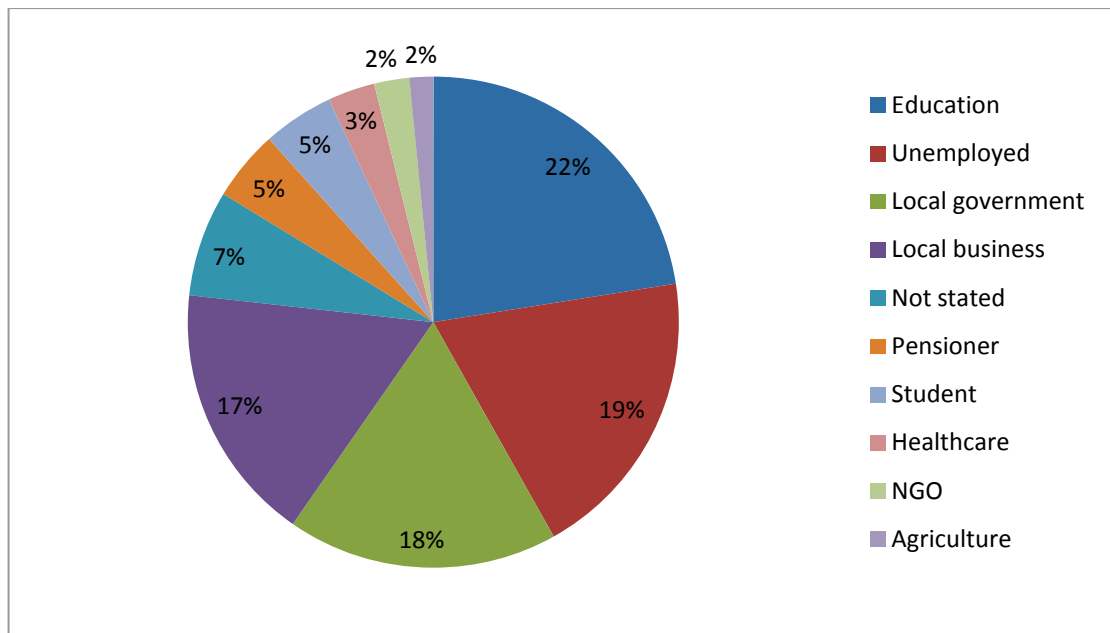
During the meeting another member of the local ESIA team was taking notes of the proceedings. After each meeting minutes were prepared recording the details of the meeting (date, time, location) and the participants (for example, name, gender, and job) and the key issues and concerns raised. A summary of issues raised is provided in Table 9-5.

Table 9-3 and Figure 9-1 present an overview of participants in all of the PAC consultation meetings. Key points are as follows:

- All 15 PACs were represented at the meetings. Residents from Supsa were also present at the consultation meeting held in their community.
- In total 127 PAC residents and Municipality Gamgebeli Representatives (or equivalents) attended the meetings (as well as 7 people from Supsa). Average attendance was 18 (6 women) with the smallest meeting being attended by 8 and the highest by 23
- Approximately 35% of the participants were women (exceeding the minimal requirements indicated in the selection guidance given to local government officials). Women were present at all the meetings except Mandaeti
- Approximately 5% of the participants were students and 5% were pensioners
- Approximately 19% of the participants were classed as “unemployed”
- Only 2 participants (c. 2%) were employed in agriculture
- Approximately 17% of the participants were employed by local businesses, with a further 22% employed in education and 3% in healthcare
- Approximately 18% of the participants were representatives of local government and 2% of NGOs
- Approximately 7% of attendees did not provide information about their employment status.

**Table 9-3: Analysis of the Attendees of the PAC Consultation Meetings**

Location	PACs/Meeting	Number of PACs	Total number of PAC attendees	Non-PAC attendees (no.)	Male	Female
Gldani	Gldani village Gldanula Avchala 2	4	19		10	9
Mamkoda	Mamkoda	1	22		20	2
Korbuli	Shomakheti Korbouli	2	23		13	10
Mandaeti	Tkemnovana Mandaeti	2	18		18	0
Beretisa	Tskalshavi Usakhelo Zeda Beretisa	3	18		8	10
Sveri	Sveri	1	8		6	2
Supsa	Khidmaghala Tskaltsminda Grigoleti	3	19	Supsa(7)	15	11
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>44</b>



**Figure 9-1: Employment of Consultation Meeting Attendees**

## 9.6 Pre-disclosure Consultation Results

### 9.6.1 National, Regional and Local Government Authorities

A summary of the impact issues/concerns raised by national government entities during meetings in 2016 are presented in Table 9-4 below.

**Table 9-4: Impact Issues Raised by National Government Stakeholders**

Stakeholders	Impact Issues
GOGC	Requested, and received, confirmation of the location of section RR-004a in Chiatura district. Provided information about the alignment of the Supsa section of the proposed Abasha to Kobuleti pipeline. Both parties subsequently exchanged shape files. There is ongoing dialogue to ensure the land and engineering requirements of both pipelines can be met. Agreed to develop a common approach to land acquisition and compensation for GOGC and BP pipelines at Supsa. Approved appointment of RSK Environment to prepare the ESIA.
GOGC, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection and Agency of Protected Areas	Provided information about the revised boundary of Tbilisi National Park. Confirmed that RR-001 is no longer within TNP. Confirmed finalisation of ESIA is required within 1 year of public disclosure date.
National Agency of Cultural Heritage Preservation and UNESCO	Crossing the Mtskheta Landscape Protection Zone. Shape files provided to allow overview of WREP-SR route in relation to LPZ. Follow-on discussions about actions required to seek consent from UNESCO. Direct and indirect risks to cultural heritage monuments and the landscape area.

The issues raised during these, and all other, consultation meetings have been taken into account during preparation of this ESIA. For example route selection in the vicinity of Tbilisi National Park and the Mtskheta Landscape Protection Zone is addressed in Section 4.4.

### 9.6.2 *Project-affected Communities*

Following review of all PAC consultation meeting minutes a synthesis of the issues and concerns raised about 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. Care was taken to avoid omission of any impact issues or concerns, with the exception of air quality issues relating to Supsa Terminal which are not included as they are not associated with the WREP-SR Project. Table 9-5 presents the synthesis of PAC impact issues and concerns.

**Table 9-5: Summary of Key Issues Raised by Project-Affected Communities**

Issue	Summarised comments and questions	Questioner's location
Project clarification	Is this a new pipeline or a replacement?	Mamkoda, Mandaeti
	What is the scope of work near our village?	Nigozeti, Sveri, Supsa
	Where are the new sections of pipeline located?	Korbuli, Mamkoda, Mandaeti
	Who will build the pipeline?	Mamkoda
	Will any new access roads be built?	Tskaltsminda
	Will you use internal roads within settlements?	Nigozeti
	What accommodation will be provided for the workforce, and where?	Gldani village, Korbuli
	What license is required for the works?	Mandaeti
	Is the new section near the river Supsa? How will it be crossed?	Tskaltsminda
	When will construction begin/end?	Korbuli, Mamkoda, Mandaeti
Ecology	What will be the impact on ecology and the natural environment?	Gldani village, Mamkoda
	How will the pipeline affect ecology here, compared to mining?	Nigozeti
Infrastructure: roads	Will roads be repaired/built before construction begins?	Mamkoda, Mandaeti
	Will heavy machinery damage our road?	Mamkoda
	The road from Gomi is category 3 and not suitable for HGVs. What will you do if it is damaged?	Korbuli
	We have had a really bad experience with contractors who were relocating a pipe and damaged the road.	Mamkoda
	Who will be responsible for repairing any damage to the roads?	Mandaeti
	Will we have interruptions in terms of the road usage?	Mamkoda

Issue	Summarised comments and questions	Questioner's location
Infrastructure: buildings	If the road passes our kindergarten, will impacts on the school be assessed?	Gldani village
	Our school has old and new buildings. Will it be damaged by the construction vehicles?	Gldani village
Infrastructure: services	Previously water pipes supplying our village have been damaged by heavy machinery using the road and we had a long period with no water supply. Will this happen again?	Gldani village
Employment	Will there be jobs for local people?	Korbuli, Mandaeti, Supsa, Gldani village
	Can you help us halt out-migration? People are leaving because of the lack of jobs.	Sveri
	Will everyone in Gldani have employment opportunities or only specific districts?	Gldani village
	What type of jobs will be available and will they require specific knowledge or skills?	Sveri, Gldani village
	What will the application process be for employment and who do we contact?	Mandaeti, Khidmaghala
	What are the security checks will be undertaken for potential employees?	Sveri
	Concern that only unskilled jobs will be available to local people as they do not have the relevant qualifications to operate machinery.	Khidmaghala
Land acquisition	Will private properties/land be affected?	Mamkoda
	How will landowners be compensated?	Nigozeti
	Will land compensation details be confidential?	Gldani
Livelihoods	What plants can be cultivated over the pipeline?	Usakhelo
	Will crop irrigation affect the pipeline?	Nigozeti
	Will you need to use our stone quarry?	Mandaeti
Community liaison	Will there be more meetings this year?	Korbuli
	Who do we contact with comments?	Mandaeti, Usakhelo
Community health, safety and security	We were originally told that WREP had a 20 year life. Has this been extended? What conditions is it in?	Shomakheta
	Is the new section routed through/close to any landslides? What measures will be taken to ensure the safety of our community?	Mamkoda
	We have heard that the pipeline could have been a target during the 2008 conflict. Could this happen in the future?	Beretisa
	How will the pipeline affect our community?	Gldani village
	How far is the pipeline from our village? Will there be much noise?	Gldani
	We are concerned that we will be subject to nuisance during construction.	Mamkoda
	Health concerns re perceived link between increase in cancer and the existing pipelines	Shomakheta
	What happens if there is an accident?	Mamkoda



Issue	Summarised comments and questions	Questioner's location
	Will there be much traffic?	Korbuli
Community investment	Can you provide assistance for our community? If so - in what areas? Assistance with road repair and schools was most frequently requested.	Mandaeti, Mamkoda, Usakhelo, Nigozeti, Sveri
	Do you only repair what gets damaged or can you fund resolution of other environmental problems in the village?	Sveri
	Who do we contact with requests for community investment?	Sveri, Tskaltsminda

## 9.7 Consultation on Draft ESIA Report

The disclosure consultations were implemented in accordance with the requirements of HGA and PCOA and Georgian legislation. The ESIA Report and associated documents were issued in Georgian and English.

### 9.7.1 Information Disclosure

To assist effective disclosure consultations BP ensured that:

- The ESIA (and associated documents) was provided in the Georgian and English language and included a non-technical summary that was freely available
- The ESIA is comprehensive and provides a fair reflection of the beneficial and adverse impacts of the proposed WREP-SR Project
- The stakeholders identified in this document were informed of the publication of the ESIA and were advised about how to access a copy and obtain copies of the non-technical summary. They were allowed adequate time, within limits defined by the Georgian regulations, in which to reflect on the proposals and formulate their response.

Prior to disclosure, information about the ESIA process, the availability of the ESIA and the consultation process was publicised through the following media outlets and other mechanisms:

- Notification in regional newspapers with specific emphasis on those with a circulation focused on municipalities/cities where WREP-SR activities are proposed for implementation
- WREP-SR email databases
- Community notice-boards
- Public information displays at selected venues close to the main centres of Project activities
- Leaflets and posters.

The press notification included the following information:

- The name, aims and place of the development
- The address, where stakeholders can obtain/read an EIA 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) were made available at certain key public locations in order to allow stakeholders to review it and provide feedback. Such locations included:

- Regional and city government offices in Tbilisi, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Kvemo Kartli (Rustavi), Imereti (Kutaisi), Guria (Ozurgeti)
- Municipal offices in Gardabani, Tbilisi (Gldani-Nazaladevi), Mtskheta, Sachkhere, Chiatura and Lanchkhuti
- Tbilisi National Library.

In addition, and particularly to assist PAC residents, the ESIA Non-Technical Summary (NTS) was made available at Municipality Gamgebeli Representatives offices within each Territorial Organ and at locations within each Project-affected community. Feedback forms were also be provided to allow comments on the ESIA Report/Non-Technical Summary to be received and considered during the disclosure period.

Finally, the draft ESIA Report, the Non-Technical Summary, and other accompanying documents was accessible via the Reports and Publications Section of [www.bp.com/caspian](http://www.bp.com/caspian) and [www.bpgeorgia.ge](http://www.bpgeorgia.ge).

### 9.7.2 Disclosure Announcements

The disclosure period started on 12 April 2016 with media announcements placed in national-, regional- and municipality-level media (Table 9-10), which included information on the disclosure period (45 days), the location of ESIA documentation, the main public meeting dates and the mechanisms for providing feedback (see Appendix C1).

**Table 9-6: ESIA Disclosure Announcements**

Newspaper Name / Website	Publication Date	Project Area	Newspaper Circulation Area
Rezonansi	11/4/16	National / Tbilisi	National
Kviris Palitra	11/4/16		National
Mtskheta-Mtianeti Information Centre website	11/4/16	Mtskheta-Mtianeti	Mtskheta-Mtianeti
Alioni	11/4/16		Sachkhere
Chiatura	11/4/16	Chiatura	Chiatura
New Newspaper	11/4/16		Imereti region
Guria News	11/4/16	Lanchkhuti	Lanchkhuti, Ozurgeti and National
Lanchkhuti Plus	12/4/16		Lanchkhuti
Trialeti Express	11/4/16	Gardabani	Gardabani (special publication)

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 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 BP website
- Electronic versions of the feedback form were available on the BP Georgia website in both English and Georgian. Forms could be completed and submitted by email
- Six 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 key locations near the main areas of project activity. Meeting dates and times are shown in Table 9-7.

**Table 9-7: ESIA Disclosure Meetings**

Public Meetings	Date	Time	Building
Sachkhere	01.06.2016	11:00	Gamgeoba administrative building
Chiatura	01.06.2016	14:00	Gamgeoba administrative building
Lanchkhuti	02.06.2016	11:00	Gamgeoba administrative building
Mtskheta	06.06.2016	11:00	Gamgeoba administrative building
Gardanbani	07.06.2016	11:00	Gamgeoba administrative building
Tbilisi	08.06.2016	12:00	National Museum of Georgia

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 5 days of the date of each meeting, BP prepared a summary of all written or oral comments received at the meeting. BP has considered these comments, with additional comments received via other consultation mechanisms, when preparing the final ESIA Report; the draft ESIA Report has been amended as appropriate.

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 ESIA 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 that WREP-SR Project were to be approved. The suggestions provided by stakeholders will be used as a basis for the proposed consultation framework and mechanisms to be contained in the updated PCDP.

Since the completion of the disclosure period, a meeting was held with the National Forestry Agency and Biodiversity Protection Service on 23rd June 2016 to agree the methodology for preparing tree inventories and proposed mitigation and/or compensation for loss of GRL and CITES species. The agreed methodology for preparing tree inventories is provided in Section 7.7.4; mitigation and compensation measures are addressed in Section 10.7.4.