



Terms of Reference

Support to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources in Improving the Environmental Planning Framework

Position: Risk assessment Expert

Background

One of the major obstacles to achieving an environmental sustainability in Georgia is the lack of planning frameworks in the environmental field. Since there exists no strategy on environmental protection, and no common understanding of what should be prioritized, an efficient and effective allocation of investments is difficult.

Apart from an absence of a general environmental planning framework, the country lacks environmental media-specific plans and policies in many areas of environmental protection. Among them, waste management is one of the most neglected areas. Today Georgian waste management has no legal-regulatory and planning frameworks, and a very weak institutional set-up.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources (MoEPNR) considers the need for development of overarching and specific environmental media-specific planning frameworks as one of its immediate priorities. However, it lacks technical and financial resources to achieve these objectives in an efficient manner and within a short period of time. Consequently, the Ministry requested the UNDP Country office in Georgia to assist in developing a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) and a National Waste Management Plan (NWMP).

In response to the request of the Ministry of Environment, UNDP has developed a project proposal and allocated USD 100,000 core resources for project implementation.

The overall goal of the project is to improve the planning framework in the area of environment. In working towards this goal, the project plans to achieve this through the following objectives:

- To support the development of a National Environmental Action Plan;
- To support the initial phase of development of a National Waste Management Plan

In order to achieve the first objective, i.e. developing the National Environmental Action Plan, the project will fully rely on local expertise.

At this stage the Team Leader for NEAP development and NEAP Development Expert have been recruited. They elaborated NEAP development work plan and methodology which have been approved by the Project Executive Board composed of the representative of the Ministry of Environment and UNDP. In accordance with the approved methodology the Team is now in the process of identification and evaluation of essential environmental problems (cases of substantial environmental deterioration) in Georgia.

The next step in the process is assessment of the health, social and economic risks imposed upon the Georgian society which are caused by or connected with the identified environmental problems. This information will further be used for prioritization of the environmental problems during the stakeholders seminar.

For assessment of the risks connected with the environmental problems three short-term experts are to be recruited:

- 1) Human health risk assessment expert;
- 2) Social risks assessment expert;
- 3) Economic development risks assessment expert;

Duties and Responsibilities:

Human health risk assessment expert

The expert in the field of human health risk assessment should provide evaluation of the health risks which the Georgian population is facing as a result of its exposition to the identified essential environmental problems. For this purpose the expert should:

1. Select appropriate methodology (provide justification for such selection) and provide its description;
2. Assess health risks of each of the environmental problem taking into account both existing conditions and its possible further deterioration in case of postponing the resolution of that problem until 2010 (based on the assumptions provided by the Team);
3. Provide qualitative and whenever possible also quantitative description (expressed in money value of the cost of the relevant risk to the society) of the revealed health risks for each environmental problem;
4. Compile report of his/her activities and findings with full reference list of the used literature and materials.

Social risks assessment expert

The expert in the field of social risk assessment should provide evaluation of the social risks (including tenure security and safety) which the Georgian population is facing as a result of its exposition to the identified essential environmental problems. For this purpose the expert should:

1. Select appropriate evaluation methodology (provide justification for such selection) and provide its description;
2. Assess Social risks of each of the environmental problem taking into account both existing conditions and its possible further deterioration in case of postponement of resolution of that problem until 2010 (based on the assumptions provided by the Team);
3. Provide qualitative and whenever possible also quantitative description (expressed in money value of the cost of the relevant risk to the society) of the revealed social risks for each environmental problem;
4. Compile report of his/her activities and findings with full reference list of the used literature and materials.

Economic development risks assessment expert

The expert in the field of economic development risk assessment should provide evaluation of the economic risks (including lost opportunities) which the Georgian population is facing as a result of its exposition to the identified essential environmental problems. For this purpose the expert should:

1. Select appropriate evaluation methodology (provide justification for such selection) and provide its description;
2. Assess Economic Development risks of each of the environmental problem taking into account both existing conditions and its possible further deterioration in case of postponement of resolution of that problem until 2010 (based on the assumptions provided by the Team);
3. Provide qualitative and whenever possible also quantitative description (expressed in money value of the cost of the relevant risk to the society) of the revealed economic risks for each environmental problem;
4. Compile report of his/her activities and findings with full reference list of the used literature and materials.

The full work of the experts is to be completed during the 4 weeks starting from the moment they receive full list and description of the essential environmental problems and perspectives of their further deterioration.

The experts have to also be available after this period for the 1-day stakeholders workshop where the environmental problems will be prioritised based on their evaluation. Experts should be prepared to

provide further clarification, explanation and justification of their findings if requested by the workshop participants. Relevant corrections should be introduced in the expert's reports if necessary.

Qualifications and Skills Required

- University degree in natural sciences or related fields;
- Experience in relevant risk assessment;
- Work experience in international projects;
- Good analytical and writing skills;
- Experience in development of strategic documents.

Deliverables

- Relevant risk assessment report with full list of references (in Georgian);

Duration

Up to 1 month.

Duty Station

Tbilisi, Georgia, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia

Application Details

All Interested and qualified candidates should e-mail their resumes (CVs) to Ms Tamar Mamulashvili, Project Manager at tamotbilisi@yahoo.com the CC: to Mr. Givi Kalandadze at basel-pops@internet.ge no later than 6 P.M. September 8, 2006. The announcement will also be posted on UNDP web site at www.undp.org.ge.