

TERMS OF REFERENCE

for

Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Government of Georgia (GoG or “the Government”), represented by the Roads Department of the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia (RD), has started a results-based Secondary Road Asset Management Project (SRAMP or “the Project”), which is financed by the Government and the World Bank through an International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) loan (Loan Agreement dated March 28, 2016).

Pursuant to Section II.C.1-3 of Schedule 2 to the Loan Agreement, the Government shall ensure independent monitoring and evaluation of the Project, through carrying out an Independent Performance Audit (IPA) on an annual basis. IPA over the seventh year of the Project implementation period starting from January 01, 2023 up to June 30, 2024 will be undertaken by the State Audit Office of Georgia (SAOG).

II. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

These Terms of Reference (ToR) describe the services to be provided by environmental & social safeguards expert. Primary objective of the assignment is to carry out the audit of environmental and social safeguards implementation under the Project during the period between January 01, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

III. SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Environmental & social safeguards expert will perform tasks focusing primarily on the following main sub-objectives:

- (a) Checking the civil works contracts, listed in Annex A, to ascertain whether Environmental and Social Management Plans of the Employer (RD) are included into the contract documents;
- (b) Review of monthly reports (starting from January 2023 and ending June 2024) of the supervision consultants to RD to ascertain actual reporting on the environmental and social performance of works providers;
- (c) Undertaking walk-through field trips to the construction sites under the civil works contracts that have been active at any time between January 01, 2023 and June 30, 2024 and reporting, if encountered based on visual observation, (i) disorganized dumping of construction material and waste in and around construction sites, (ii) damage to nearby vegetation and infrastructure (irrigation canals, power transmission lines, local roads, etc.) that may have been caused by road works, (iii) active erosion/failure of cut slopes, (iv) absence or significant damage to road safety signage and furniture (guard rails, warning and limiting road signs, etc.), (v) houses/structures along the work sites unsafe to access and/or containing visible damages

that may have been caused by road works, and (vi) evident violation of work-site safety rules (workers not wearing reflecting waists, adequate shoes, and helmets and other personal protective gear as required for the activities being performed);

- (d) Confirmation that grievance redress log related to environmental and social cases has been maintained;
- (e) Verification of the existence and functioning of the grievance redress mechanism for the civil works contracts, including the appointment of certain grievance focal points, public disclosure and availability of contacts of grievance focal points for the local population, and maintenance of a grievance log by Contractors and/or Supervisor as well as by RD. Verify that the grievance log provides reasonable evidence that grievances have been or are in the process of being resolved, and for pending grievances there are clear action steps RD intends to take;
- (f) Recommendations for improvement in any areas where discrepancies, issues of concern, or non-conformances have been identified and documented in the findings of this audit.

IV. TIMING OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The audit of the environmental and social safeguards implementation under the Project will be performed starting in March 2024 and will cover the period starting from January 01, 2023 up to June 30, 2024. Duration of the assignment is 120 calendar days.

V. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The expert will be reporting to the Roads Department of Georgia and State Audit Office of Georgia. The expert shall submit:

- **Preliminary Report** describing the methodology of inspection and preliminary findings of the audits within 25 calendar days from commencement of services
- **Final Report**, considering comments on the Preliminary Report within 45 calendar days from commencement of services.
- **Updated Final Report**, considering status of Climate Resilience Measures for Racha's Secondary Road Network Sections (Contract No. SRAMP/CW/NCB-21) updated as of June 2024, within 120 calendar days from commencement of services.

The reports shall be written in English and Georgian languages in a pre-agreed format with the SAOG and shall be transmitted electronically using standard software (e.g. MS WORD, EXCEL, PDF, etc.).

If requested, all evidences (electronic or printed) together with the narrative description of the identified issues and other project related materials shall be transferred to SAOG.

Project related materials and information obtained by experts is intended for the use of SAOG and RD and may not be distributed by experts to others, in whole or in part without the prior written permission of the Road Department and SAOG.

VI. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Selection of the environmental & social safeguards expert will be based primarily on the following

desired skills and knowledge:

- (a) An academic degree in one of the following fields: social science (sociology/geography), natural science, law, urban planning or civil engineering with at least 8 years of relevant work experience;
- (b) Minimum of 5 years' experience in monitoring and/or implementing environmental and social safeguards interventions;
- (c) Environmental and social safeguards expertise in IFI funded projects, preferably in the World Bank funded projects;
- (d) Knowledge of the Georgian environmental, as well as land management, registration and expropriation laws, regulations, and standards;
- (e) Strong Georgian or English language skills. Knowledge of both languages will be an advantage.

Selected expert shall have no conflict of interest under the Secondary Road Asset Management Project (SRAMP).

VII. PAYMENT

Environmental & social safeguards expert's services will be financed from the State Budget and payment will be made by the RD, which is an implementing agency of the Project.

Payments under the Lump-Sum contract to be signed with the expert will be linked to the deliverables with the following payment schedule:

Deliverable	Submission time	Payment percentage
Preliminary Report	25 calendar days from commencement	30%
Final Report	45 calendar days from commencement	50%
Updated Final Report	120 calendar days from commencement	20%

Annex A

List of Road Sections under SRAMP:

1. SRAMP/CW/NCB-09: Zhinvali-Barisakho-Shatili road (km16 – km25.5)
2. SRAMP/CW/NCB-10: Zhinvali-Barisakho-Shatili road (km25.5 - km32)
3. SRAMP/CW/NCB-11 Lot 1: Sajavakho-Chokhatauri-Ozurgeti-Kobuleti Road (sh02) km 35- km 43.6 and km 47.2- km 48
4. SRAMP/CW/NCB-11 Lot 2: Sajavakho-Chokhatauri-Ozurgeti-Kobuleti Road (sh02) km 54.0 - km 67.7
5. SRAMP/CW/NCB-11 Lot 3: Chokhatauri – Bakhmaro (sh81) road section 15.9 - km 21.4 and km 22.5 - km 24.5
6. SRAMP/CW/NCB-11 Lot 4: Chokhatauri – Bakhmaro (sh81) road section km 34 - km 50
7. SRAMP/CW/NCB-12 Lot 1: Chokhatauri – Zomleti (sh83) road section km 3.5- km 13.8
8. SRAMP/CW/NCB-12 Lot 2: Sajavakho-Chokhatauri-Ozurgeti-Kobuleti road (sh02) km 17 - km 19.5
9. SRAMP/CW/NCB-12 Lot 3: Ozurgeti – Natanebi – Ureki (sh46) road section km 0.0 – km 2.8
10. SRAMP/CW/NCB-13: Rehabilitation of Remaining Works of Tianeti-Akhmeta-Kvareli-Ninigori Road Section from km1 to km30
11. SRAMP/CW/NCB-21: Climate Resilience Measures for Racha’s Secondary Road Network Sections: Sh16 km106.5-km109; Sh16 km109.5; Sh16 km114; Sh16 km119-km120; Sh16 km123.5-km125.5.