

Minute of Inception Report

Borjomi

03 November 2023

The inception meeting within the project on BUILDING UP INTEGRATED MONITORING AND EARLY WARNING FOREST FIRES DETECTION SYSTEM IN THE BORJOMI - KHARAGAULI NATIONAL PARK BY INNOVATIVE REMOTE SENSING TOOLS, IN GEORGIA was held on November 3,2023 in the administration office of Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park.

The inception meeting is activity A.1.2. of the contract with a contribution to Output 1 of the project: Contextualize, map the stakeholders, analyze current practices used in Borjomi – Kharagauli National Park to monitor forest fires.

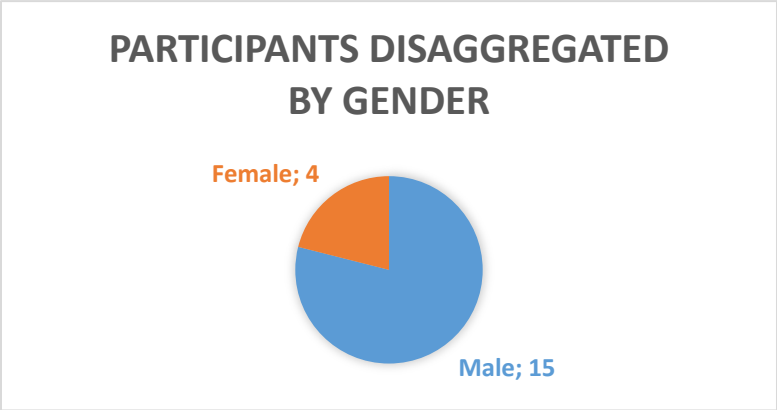
The National Agency of Protected Area, Beneficiary of the services, supported the organization of the inception meeting by endorsing the invitation letter sent to relevant public authorities and potential stakeholders.

At the meeting attended 19 participants including IBEDC team and project stakeholders, as it follows:

No.	Name of the representative	Gender M / F	Institution and position
1.	Toma Dekanoidze	M	Deputy of Head of Agency of Protected Area
2.	Davit Kobakhidze	M	Head of division on biodiversity of Agency of Protected Area
3.	Levan Sabanidze	M	Head of Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park
4.	Tekle Gurgenidze	F	Representative of Climate Change Department of Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection – online participant
5.	Shalva Nozadze	M	Representative of Biodiversity Department of Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection
6.	Koba Silagadze	M	Representative from National Forestry Agency
7.	Mamuka Kemertelidze	M	Representative from Ministry of Internal Affairs Emergency Management Service
8.	Giorgi Abramashvili	M	Head of Borjomi-Kharagauli Division of Ministry of Internal Affairs Emergency Management Service
9.	Nino Chkhobadze	F	Head of Green Movement of Georgia/Friends of Earth
10.	Dimitri Labadze	M	Representative of Business

11.	Davit Tsukhishvili	M	Chief specialist of City Hall of Adigeni Municipality
12.	Mariam Kutsishvili	F	Agency of Protected Area
13.	Giorgi Kapanadze	F	Agency of Protected Area
14.	Levan Papachashvili	M	Representative from Ministry of Internal Affairs Emergency Management Service
15.	Giorgi Maisuradze	M	Representative of Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park
16.	Avtandil Mikaberidze	M	Representative of Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park
17.	David Tsiskaridze	M	N(N)LE International Business and Economic Development Center (IBEDC) – Project Manager
18.	Merab Machavariani	M	N(N)LE International Business and Economic Development Center (IBEDC)
19.	David Kurdgelaidze	M	N(N)LE International Business and Economic Development Center (IBEDC)

Tabel no.1 – Participants disaggregated by gender



The scope of the meeting was to deliver a presentation of the project and the expected results to interested parties and to establish the structure of the stakeholders working group. The PowerPoint presentation of the project as delivered by Mr. David Tsiskaridze is attached to the report. A second objective of the meeting was to

gather input from the participants and to feed it, if the case, into the implementation plan.

The presentation provided background information on the Technical assistance granted by UNEP through CTCN (Climate Technology Centre and Network) to Agency for Protected Areas and introduced IBDEC as the service provider in charge with implementing the measures sustained by TA.

The objective of the contract was presented, i.e. to benchmark, select, design, and test a suitable integrated monitoring and early warning forest fire detection system in Borjomi - Kharagauli National Park. It was stated that besides identification, design and build of the most suitable fire detection system in the protected area as a pilot project, training to users and administrators of the system will be provided and a monitoring policy will be developed and implemented. The aim of such a policy is to allow local populations with high risks of exposure to forest fire hazards to

take appropriate actions to avoid or reduce risks and to prepare effective responses, which is the ultimate scope of the project.

Further on, the presentation introduced the main activities and their expected results.

The main aspects that were highlighted regarded the following:

- the whole project is based on consultation processes with stakeholders and insertion of received feedback in the deliverables
- gender balance and an adequate representation from vulnerable groups are important for all project activities
- the scope is not only to identify the best solution for early fire detection and warning but also to identify financial resources for duplication of the pilot project in the whole protected area.

Thus, it was stressed the fact that the project will not provide a solution to cover the whole area of the natural park of Borjomi – Kharagauli, but a pilot system to be tested and further expanded once financial resources will be identified.

Afterwards it was opened discussion between the project team and stakeholders about project details.

Most questions were related to practical aspects such as the components of the system. It was explained that the actual architecture of both the physical system and the ITC component are to be established within the project following a survey of existing solutions and the results of the feasibility study.

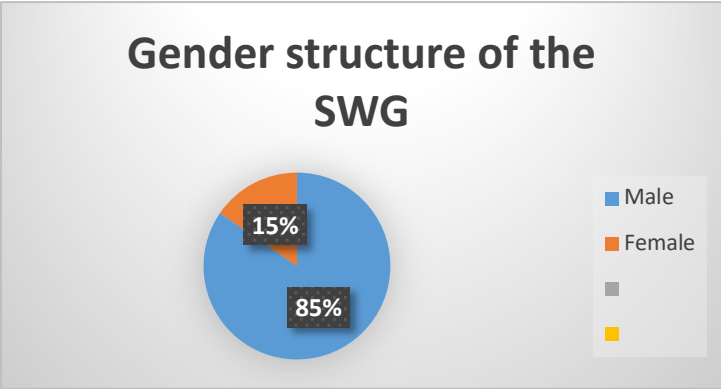
At the second part of the meeting, it was created stakeholders working group with involvement of the following persons:

No.	Name of the representative	Gender M / F	Institution and position
1.	Toma Dekanoidze	M	Deputy of Head of Agency of Protected Area
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			Emergency Management Service
9.	Nino Chkhobadze	F	Head of Green Movement of Georgia/Friends of Earth
10.	Dimitri Labadze	M	Representative of Business
11.	Davit Tsukhishvili	M	Chief specialist of City Hall of Adigeni Municipality

The structure of the stakeholders’ working group (SWG) disaggregated by gender is the following:

Tabel no.2 – Gender structure of SWG



Taking into account the fact that most representatives of public bodies that are stakeholders of the project are men, a distinct attention will be given to involve in all local activities more young people and women form the local communities that are actual direct beneficiaries of the project.

The aspect of the existing documents, including maps, reports, studies, regulations, frameworks or else related to forest fires monitoring in Borjomi - Kharagauli National Park was discussed. A formal request will be sent to the members of the working group in order to collect the relevant documentary sources.

Annex – PowerPoint presentation used during the Inception meeting

Team leader
David Tsiskaridze