

Bi-annual Environmental Monitoring Report

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Reporting period January-June 2017

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Republic of Uzbekistan: Solid Waste Management Improvement Project

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For: “State Unitary Enterprise “Maxsustrans” and Tashkent Municipality

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
DC	Design Consultant
EA	Executing Agency
EHS	Environmental Health & Safety
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIP	Environmental Impact Permit
EMP/ SSEMP	Environnemental Management Plan/ Site-Spécifique Environmental Management Plan
ES/ SES	Environmental Specialist/ Senior Environmental Specialist
GoU	Government of Uzbekistan
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
IA	Implementing Agency
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
LARP	land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan
Maxsustrans	State Unitary Enterprise “Maxsustrans”
SC	Supervision Consultant
SCNP	State Committee for Nature Protection
SLF	Sanitary Landfill Facility
SPS	Safeguard Policy Statement
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste

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PART I – INTRODUCTION

1.1 Construction activities and project progress during the previous 6 months

A. General information about the project

1. The present Bi-annual Environmental Monitoring Report covers January-June 2017 time period.
2. The city of Tashkent intends to improve its solid waste management (SWM) system for its 2.3 million residents. This endeavor will involve rehabilitating the existing waste collection and transfer systems, and establishing an environmentally acceptable disposal facility reducing any potential environmental impacts. Given the current SWM practices, the option converting and allocating an area adjacent to the existing dumpsite to an engineered Sanitary Landfill was decided. The proposed sanitary landfill facility (SLF) concept is based on the Best Environmental Practices (BEP) resulting to a *state-of-the-art* design consistent with international acceptable standards. This “stand alone” facility will drastically improve the SWM system (i.e. the handling and final disposal of MSW) with a possible integration capability for a long-solution to cover the entire Tashkent Oblast. The inclusion into the design of a multi-barrier system, leachate and gas collection systems will result in a significant reduction of anticipated impacts. With the significant environmental issues identified and evaluated, mitigation measures and monitoring plans are also proposed to prevent or minimize the negative impacts and further enhance positive effects.
3. The Project shall comprise:

- Part A – National Municipal Solid Waste Strategy:

(a) preparation of a draft national strategy for the management of solid waste, including a draft sector investment program;

- Part B – Solid Waste Management in Tashkent Municipality:

(b) construction and rehabilitation of municipal solid waste collection facilities;

(c) procurement of municipal solid waste collection bins;

(d) procurement of municipal solid waste collection vehicles and municipal solid waste transfer vehicles;

(e) rehabilitation of municipal solid waste transfer stations and possible closure of an existing municipal solid waste transfer station;

(f) design and construction of a new sanitary landfill, solid waste facility and closure of an existing landfill solid waste dumpsite;

(g) capacity development support for Maxsustrans, including in the areas of operation and management and Project implementation; and

(h) development and implementation of a waste minimization and recycling program and a parallel media and public awareness campaign about waste minimization and recycling.

B. Construction activities and project progress during the previous 6 months

1. A PIU Consultants (*H.P. Gauff Ingenieure GmbH & Co. KG – JBG- (Germany)* and *GKW Consult GmbH (Germany)* and *ENG-INVEST Consulting Ltd.(Uzbekistan)*) were selected through the tender, and the agreement was concluded with them in December of 2016.
2. Under the terms and conditions of the tender, the PIU Consultant Company hired a National Environmental Expert – Julia Alekseeva who is with Bachelors Degree in English Philology that does not fully meet National Environment Experts criteria. SUE Maxsustrans having

negotiation with PIU Consultant to replace to another candidate. Specialist will be replaced by the end of July 2017.

3. International Construction Contractor has not been hired yet and project is on early stage of development. It is intended to announce bidding for Construction Contractor in December 2017;
4. Additionally, it should be noted that, on 19 of June 2017 an advertisement was published to hire Landfill Design and Supervision Consultants. This consulting company will do design works of closing old landfill and establishing of new landfill, and additionally will supervise all construction works related to Landfill establishment.
5. Gender Action Plan has been approved. Gender Report *January-June 2017* was submitted to ADB on 05 of June 2017.

1.2 Changes in Project Organization and Environmental Management Team

A. Agencies Involved in Investment Program Implementation

4. The following agencies are involved in implementing the investment program: State Committee for Nature Protection (SCNP) and Tashkent Hokimiyat (Municipality) are the Executing Agencies (EA). Tashkent Hokimiyat responsible for management, coordination and execution of all activities funded under the loan and has overall responsibility for compliance with loan covenants. SCNP is responsible for implementation of Part A of the contract – preparation of National Municipal Solid Waste Strategy of city Tashkent.
5. State Unitary Enterprise “Maxsustrans” (Maxsustrans) is the implementing agency (IA), which is responsible for administration, implementation (design, construction and operation) and all day-to-day activities under the loan. An Investment Program Implementation Unit (PIU), is established within the Maxsustrans for Investment Program related functions. The PIU coordinates construction of subprojects, and ensures consistency of approach and performance.
6. Currently, Draft Decree of President “On receiving SUE Maxsustrans under new established (restructured) Committee of Ecology of Uzbekistan” is being developed. It is to be noted that Environmental Specialists from Ecology Committee are planned to involve them to perform their activities under PIU.
7. Maxsustrans hired International Project Management and Supervision Consultant (PIU Consultants) - H.P. Gauff Ingenieure. The Company has a many-year-long work experience in the field of waste management. Under the Tender terms and conditions, the said Company hired a national environmental expert and Social Safeguard and Development Specialist.
8. All mitigation measures during construction will be implemented by the contractor and these will be monitored by the Supervision Consultant (SC).
9. The Contractor will have the following obligations:
 - to prepare site-specific environmental management plan (SSEMP) for endorsement by the Supervision Consultant and for approval by the Employer prior to the Contractors taking possession of the construction site;
 - to employ Environmental Specialist responsible for developing and implementing the SSEMPs for construction phase and for providing the corresponding information to Maxsustrans and SC;

- Carry out the monitoring and mitigation measures set forth in the IEE/EMP/SSEMP;
 - Allocate the budget required to ensure that such measures are carried out;
 - Develop waste management plan, contingency plan and other required environmental management plans;
 - Agree all environmental management plans with the Maxsustrans PIU;
 - Prepare monthly progress reports on SSEMP implementation, which should contain information on the main types of activities carried out during the reporting period, status of any clearances/permits/licenses which are required for carrying out such activities, mitigation measures applied, and any environmental issues that have emerged in relations with suppliers, local authorities, affected communities, et;.
 - Coordinate community relations issues through acting as the Contractor's community relations focal point (proactive community consultation, complaints investigation and grievance resolution).
10. Construction Supervision Company will be responsible for preparing quarterly progress reports which cover the implementation of the SSEMP, discrepancies from the SSEMP and list all HSE relevant incidents and accidents that occur during the implementation; Submits periodic reports based on the monitoring data and laboratory analysis.
11. ADB is the donor financing the Investment Program.
12. The structure of environmental team of PIU Maxsustrans is shown in Figure 1. **Project Organization Structure** is shown on Figure 2.

Figure 1: Structure Diagram of the Environmental Management Team of PIU

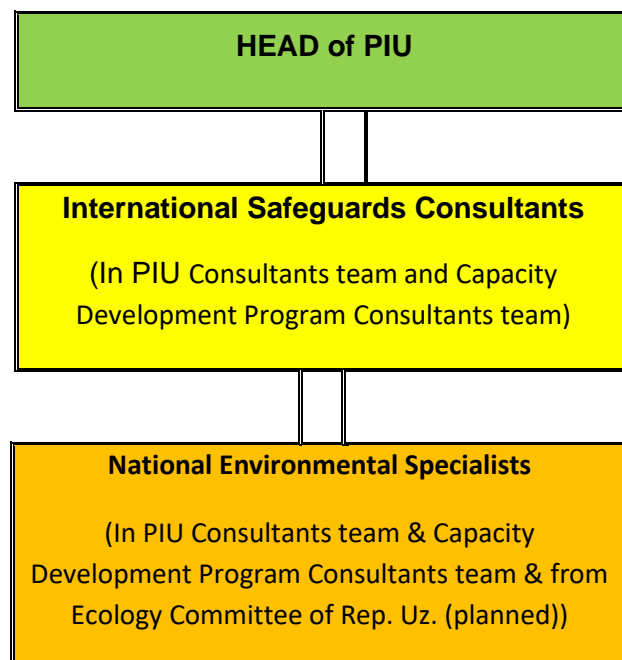
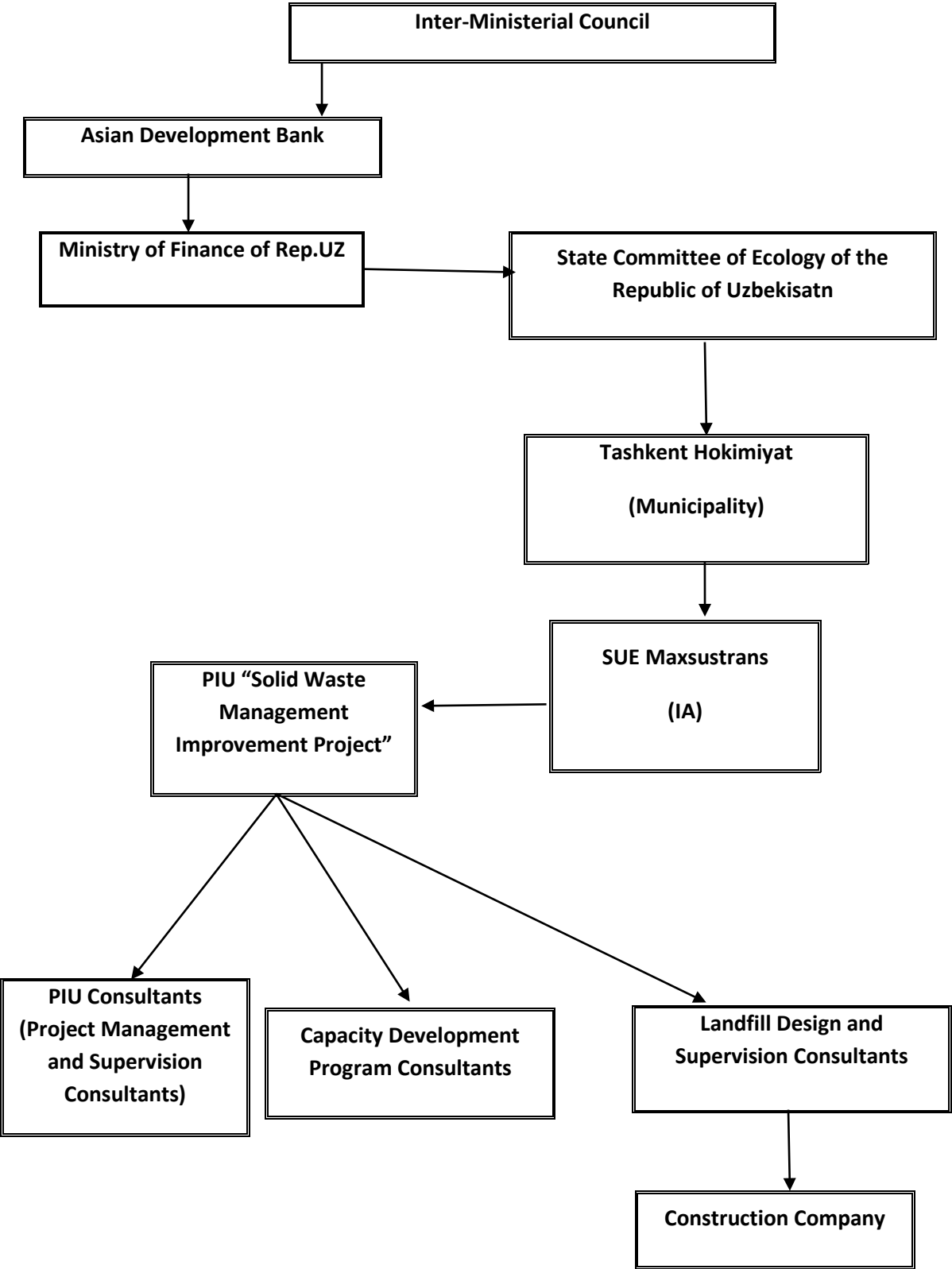


Figure 2: Structure Diagram of the Agencies Involved in Investment Program Implementation



1.3 Relationships with Contractors, Owner, Lender, etc

13. The Supervision Consultant will work closely with the SUE “MAXSUSTRANS” Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and the ADB Project Officer. The consultant will submit to PIU the following reports: (i) Inception Report; (ii) Progress Report; (iii) Annual Report; (iii) Completion Report (iv) Quality Assurance Plan; (v) Project Coordination Mechanism; (vi) Project Work Program and Implementation Schedule; (vii) Safeguard Compliance and Monitoring Report.
14. State Committee for Nature Protection (SCNP) and Tashkent Hokimiyat (Municipality) are the Executing Agencies (EA). Tashkent Hokimiyat responsible for management, coordination and execution of all activities funded under the loan and has overall responsibility for compliance with loan covenants. SCNP is responsible for implementation of Part A of the contract – preparation of National Municipal Solid Waste Strategy of city Tashkent.
15. ADB will oversee project sites regularly and give clear instructions for the project sites improvements with regard to environmental safeguards.

PART II - ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

16. No baseline monitoring for environmental conditions has been done for proposed project. Baseline environmental measurements will be carried out by the contractor before commencement of the civil works.
17. Permanent environmental monitoring will start immediately after the commencement of the civil works by the contractor under the “Solid Waste Management Improvement Project”.

PART III - ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

3.1 The Environmental Management System, site-specific environmental management plan (SSEMP) and work plans

18. SSEMP for the project “Solid Waste Management improvement Project” will be prepared by Environmental Specialist of construction company before commencement of the civil works. SSEMP will be approved by PIU, after which construction company can start construction activities.

3.2 Site Inspections and Audit

19. Not yet applicable.

3.3 Non-Compliance Notices

20. Not yet applicable.

3.4 Corrective Action Plans

21. Not yet applicable.

3.5 Actions taken to reflect the findings of ADB mission

22. Not yet applicable.

3.6 Consultations and Complaints

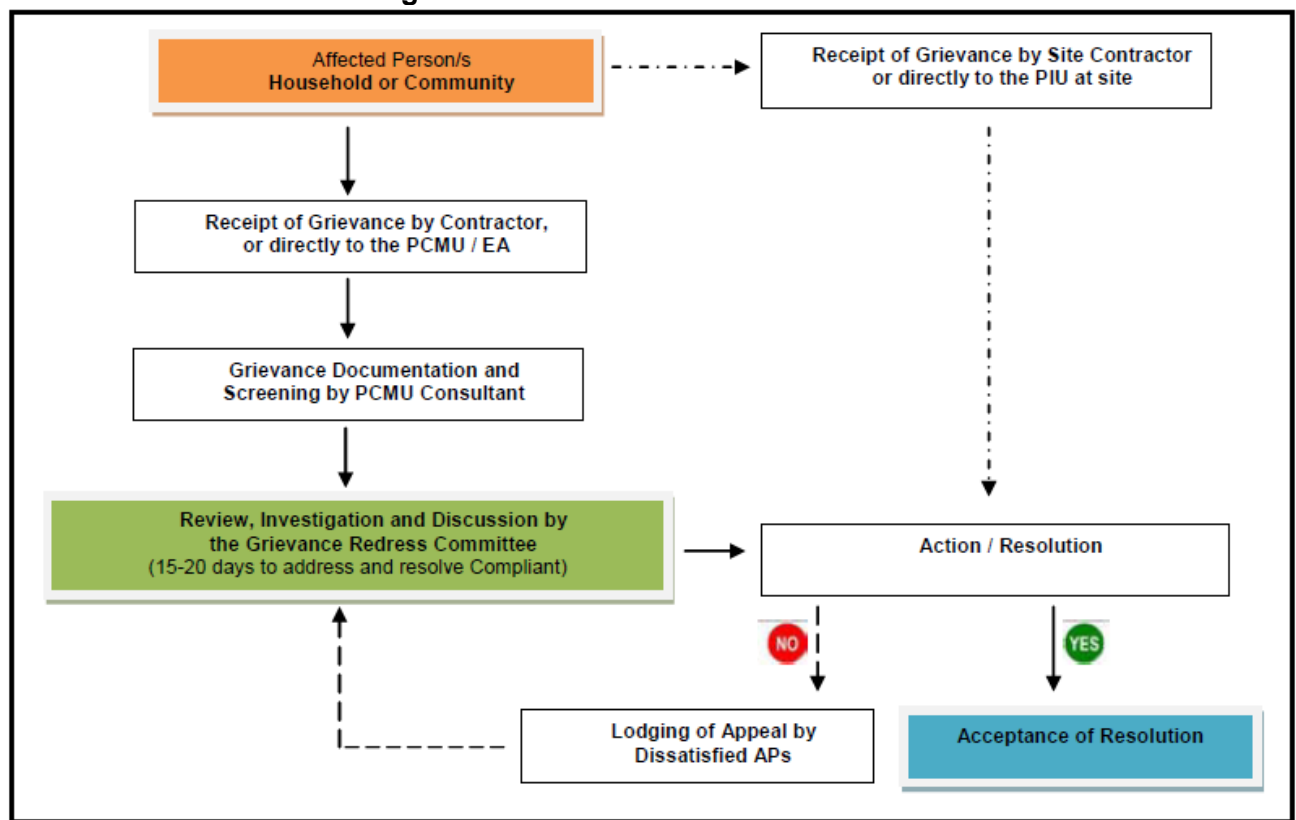
Public Awareness Activities:

23. No public awareness activities were carried out within the project during the period of January-June 2017.
24. Orientation training was conducted by RETA/ADB International-Regional Environmental Consultant – Ketig Dgebuadze on 30th of June 2017 for PIU-Maxsustrans representatives.

Grievance redresses mechanism (GRM)

25. A project-specific grievance redress mechanism (GRM) is established by the EA to provide a transparent mechanism to voice and resolve environmental concerns linked to the project. According to the Decree of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan SUE Maxsustrans established (organized) “People’s Reception Room” in its each district branch in Tashkent city, including one in SUE Maxsustrans building for PIU related queries. The EA ensures that grievances and complaints are addressed in a timely and satisfactory manner to avoid any potential delays in the establishment of the project. Figure 3 gives the details of the grievance redress mechanism.

Figure 3 Grievance Redress Mechanism



26. The PIU has established Grievance Redress Committee (GRC). GRC provides any APs a venue to file complaints and queries on any environmental (or social) aspect related to the project. Grievances can be submitted in writing or orally to the contractor or directly to the PIU / EA contact person. These are properly documented (i.e. indicating the date it was received, details of the complaint and complainant/s) and screened by the designated PCMU safeguard consultant for its veracity and validity. The committee has 15 to 20 days to address and come up with a resolution. Under this GRM, unsatisfied grievances may be able to appeal for a final resolution. This mechanism also does not prevent any AP to approach regulatory agencies to assist and resolve complaints at any stage of the process. In occasions wherein grievances are perceived by the AP to be immediate and urgent; the contractor, EHS officer and PIU on-site supervisor will provide the most accessible and practical solution for a quick resolution of grievances. Such grievances and respective resolutions submitted to the PIU for proper documentation. The PIU contact person is responsible for recording the complaint, the step taken to address grievance, minute of the meetings and preparation of a report for each complaint. Records is kept by the PIU of all grievances received including contact details of AP, date the complaint waste received, nature of grievance, agreed remedial / corrective action and the date this was implemented, and the final outcome in Complaints Log Book kept at the PIU office.
27. The complaint handling process will be reported to ADB through semi-annual reports. The PIU safeguard consultant will periodically review and record the efficiency and effectiveness of the GRM highlighting the project's ability to prevent and address grievances.
28. However, until the current report preparation (June 2017), there was no official filing of any grievances.

PART IV – CONCLUSIONS AND ACTION PLAN FOR THE NEXT PERIOD

4.1 Conclusions and Action Plan for the Next Period

31. Establishment of environmental and social team within the PIU was completed according to the ADB request.
32. The following activities will be performed during the next reporting period:
- Project Work Program and Implementation Schedule – Q3, 2017 ;
 - Tender documents for construction contractor – Q4, 2017;
 - Inception report prepared by PIU Consultants – Q3, 2017;
 - Safeguard Compliance and Monitoring Report (quarterly) prepared by PIU Consultants National Social Safeguards and Development Specialist– Q3, 2017;
 - Training on GRM system, SSEMP preparation, monitoring will be conducted by RETA Regional Environmental Safeguards Consultant for PIU and SC representatives – October, 2017.
 - SUE Maxsustrans – Capacity Development Program Consultants will be hired – Q4, 2017
 - Landfill Design and Supervision Consultants will be hired – Q4, 2017
 - An Advertisement to hire a Construction Company will be published – Q4, 2017