

Nenskra HPP NEWSLETTER



#3

2019

Nenskra Hydropower Plant Project Newsletter

October

ONGOING SOCIAL PROJECTS ►

MECHANIZATION PROJECT

The Mechanization Project envisages technical assistance with heavy equipment for Chuberi and Nakra villages for agricultural and small infrastructure works. The program was originally envisioned to allow members of the community to request the use of heavy machineries through a simplified procedure that would satisfy communal or individual needs.

The company allotted ten units of heavy equipment for the project. Nenskra Hydro fully covers the costs associated with use of the heavy equipment.

From March to September 2019, the company received 109 individual and 21 collective applications. All have been fulfilled.

In order to bring more benefits to the local community with this project and improve the communal infrastructure of the villages, from October 16 only collective applications will be accepted in the framework of the Mechanization Project in Chuberi. Within the project, Mestia Municipality, through its Local Village Trustee, will receive requests from members of the community and forward those requests, which are evaluated as beneficial to the community collectively, to JSC Nenskra Hydro for implementation.

For more information about the project, please contact Community Investment Program Coordinator
Ana Maghradze - 598 421 202

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPUTER COURSES

Within the "Community Investment Program" of Nenskra Hydro, according to the needs and priorities of the population, English language and computer courses are being offered to the residents of Chuberi and Nakra villages. Applicants are provided with lessons in the information centers of Nenskra Hydro in Chuberi and Nakra. The company has equipped the centers with furniture, computers and other items necessary for the teaching process.

There are currently 25 people attending the English language courses. In 2018, the courses had 58 beneficiaries.

Eleven women are currently attending the computer courses.

These courses aim to expand the career opportunities of the local residents and at the same time support the development of local tourism.

All teachers delivering the courses are locals.

For more information about the courses, please contact
the Community Liaison Officers:

Rodam Gvaramiani (Nakra) - 599 866 543

Goga Ansiani (Chuberi) - 599 862 206



ONGOING SOCIAL PROJECTS



LAND REGISTRATION SUPPORT PROJECT

In the framework of the Land Registration Support Project, the company offers to provide families in Chuberi and Nakra cadastral surveys of land in their ownership and /or use.

JSC Nenskra Hydro has provided assistance to up to 400 families, with a total land area of 450 hectares. Nenskra Hydro fully covers the consultation costs of planning and measuring, the preparation of cadastral surveys and land registration procedures.

The main objective of the Land Registration Support Project is to support the local population in the development of small and medium enterprises. Official registration of land in their ownership will allow the population of Chuberi and Nakra to develop agricultural businesses and guest houses.

At this stage, the company has received 178 applications from local residents to measure land plots. Cadastral surveys have already been done for 133 families. In total, the company has prepared 373 surveys that cover 219 hectares.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAM

More than 1,000 jobs will be created during the active phase of the Nenskra Hydropower Plant construction and priority hiring will be given to the local population.

To have the local workforce conform with the standards of international construction companies, Nenskra Hydro decided to support the local population in vocational training and sponsor training courses for heavy equipment operators, as this position will be in high demand throughout the construction of the Nenskra HPP.

Nenskra Hydro signed an agreement with LEPL College Spectri to ensure the quality of vocational education. Within the framework of the program, Spectri teachers prepare operators of forklift, excavators, graders and loader trucks.

The aim of the program is to prepare not only the staff needed for the construction of the Nenskra HPP, but also to support the local population to be more competitive on the employment market.

Currently, the program has 90 beneficiaries in Chuberi and Nakra.



For more information about the project, please contact the Land Acquisition and Compensation Officers:

Koba Gagnidze - 595 007 799
Otar Rukhadze - 599 700 501

For more information about the courses, please contact the Community Liaison Officers:

Rodam Gvaramiani (Nakra) - 599 866 543
Goga Ansiani (Chuberi) - 599 862 206

INVENTORY FOR NAKRA KINDERGARTEN

In April 2019, JSC Nenskra Hydro donated furniture, kitchen appliances, accessories and other necessary items to a kindergarten in Nakra that had been renovated by the Mestia Municipality.

The supplies were donated to the kindergarten within the "Community Investment Program" of JSC Nenskra Hydro.

As Nino Tsindeliani, director of the kindergarten in Nakra, said in a letter of gratitude, JSC Nenskra Hydro has helped the kindergarten with the necessary items several times over. She thanked the company team for their support.

The learning process in the kindergarten, where there are currently 18 children, began on October 1st.



NATIONAL COSTUMES FOR THE "NENSKRA" ENSEMBLE

In April 2019, JSC Nenskra Hydro donated national costumes to all 25 members of the National "Nenskra" Folk Ensemble of Chuberi School within the "Community Investment Program" of JSC Nenskra Hydro.

The ensemble often participates successfully in various events. In 2018, at the festival "Svanetoba 2018", the Mayor of Mestia, Kapiton Zhorzholiani, awarded the ensemble for the "Best Performance" in folk song and dance.



KOREAN VOLUNTEERS IN CHUBERI AND NAKRA



On August 18-24, Korean volunteers invited by JSC Nenskra Hydro visited the Nenskra and Nakra valleys within the framework of the Svaneti Sustainable Development Project.

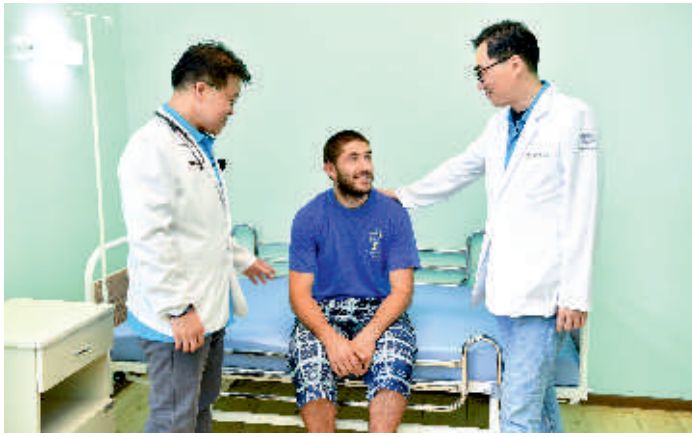
Among the volunteers were 30 employees of the Nenskra HPP investor company K-Water, four representatives from the medical field and two employees of the International Fund.

Within the framework of the project, JSC Nenskra Hydro staff, together with the Korean volunteers, participated in cleaning and arranging infrastructure in the areas adjacent to the Sulphur waters of Chuberi and Nakra.



In addition, the volunteers offered educational and sports activities at the Kar-Sgurishi School, giving lessons in art and Korean culture and organizing sports competitions.

The volunteers also participated in the opening ceremony of the Chuberi ambulatory clinic on August 23.



REHABILITATION OF THE CHUBERI AMBULATORY CLINIC

The Chuberi ambulatory clinic has been fully renovated. The rehabilitation was funded by JSC Nenskra Hydro, the Nenskra Hydropower Plant (HPP) project company and Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-Water), the project investor company.

Prior to the opening of the ambulatory clinic, on August 21-23, Georgian and Korean doctors provided pro bono medical services to the residents of Chuberi and Nakra villages in the clinic. Up to 200 locals had medical check-ups.

The opening ceremony of the ambulatory clinic was attended by Governor of the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region Alexander Motserelia, Vice Governor Nino Vibliani, Mayor of Mestia Municipality Kapiton Jzhorzholiani, Vice CEO of JSC Nenskra Hydro Sunick Lee, and Chairman of the Labor Union of K-Water, Cholmin Noh.



"WELCOME TO CHUBEKHEVI"

"Welcome to Chubekhevi" is the name selected by Nenskra Hydro along with the residents of Chuberi and Nakra for an information campaign aimed at promoting tourism in the Nenskra and Nakra valleys.

The campaign, which was launched in July 2019, is ongoing.



As part of the campaign, Nenskra Hydro invited journalists from TV and news agencies up to Chuberi and Nakra in July and September. As a result, TV reports and articles were created through which Georgian audiences were introduced to the tourism potential of Chubekhevi. An English-language translation of television stories was also provided for foreign tourists.

Also a part of the information campaign, in August 2019 a Facebook page with the same title - "Welcome to Chubekhevi" - was created. From time to time, interesting information is posted with professional photos about the tourist sites, history, legends and traditions of the two valleys in order to present the distinctive nature of Chubekhevi.



In addition, to promote family-owned hotels in Chuberi and Nakra, Nenskra Hydro, in cooperation with the real estate platform AREA.GE, has placed advertisements for guest houses in Georgian and English languages.

Currently, Nenskra Hydro is working on a bilingual website that will enable both Georgian and foreign readers to obtain comprehensive information about Chuberi and Nakra guest houses, tourist routes, local tour guides, and more.

If you have a guest house and would like to place information about it on AREA.GE, please contact Ketevan Kitiashvili, PR Specialist at JSC Nenskra Hydro: 591 545 470



CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Work on the Nenskra HPP Project Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report and Supplementary Environmental and Social Studies (SESS) was carried out in 2011-2017. Both Georgian and international specialists worked on these studies, which were conducted within the scope of the project.

The studies cover and describe the various aspects of the project, among them geology, hydrology, climate, biodiversity, social impact, meteorology, seismology, natural hazards, dam safety, archeology, cultural heritage and land acquisition.

To address the impact assessment, the report includes a list of mitigation measures and management plans, which are being implemented and monitored by JSC Nenskra Hydro.

The results of the studies were reflected in 10 volumes and, in total, make up 3000 pages.

The EIA Report and Supplementary E&S Studies of Nenskra HPP are available on the project website www.nenskra.ge/reports/ in both Georgian and English.

JSC Nenskra Hydro is implementing a number of environmental measures that are set out in the Environmental and Social Management Plan. The plan includes all environmental mitigation measures to be undertaken during construction and exploitation, the main goal of which is to avoid negative impact on the lives of the local population and to promote environmental protection.

MONITORING OF THE BROWN BEAR POPULATION



JSC Nenskra Hydro, together with international experts, annually monitors the brown bear population. Monitoring started in 2016 and will continue five years after construction is completed. Within the scope of monitoring, the project's environmental team, together with international specialists and local residents, assesses the population of bears based on DNA analysis and prepares reports.

The monitoring aims to determine the movement of bears and conditions of their population.

MONITORING OF THE NENSKRA AND NAKRA RIVERS

Since September 2017, the project's environmental team, along with international experts, has been working on a hydro-morphological study of the Nenskra and Nakra rivers, as well as monitoring fish, invertebrates and otters. The monitoring of river / lake trout populations and of macroinvertebrates is also being carried out. Within the scope of monitoring, the company also checks the water quality and water flow of both rivers.

The results of water quality and river flow monitoring are submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture of Georgia on a quarterly basis.



HEAVY EQUIPMENT MOVEMENT REGULATION

Within the Nenskra HPP project, roads are being rehabilitated and bridges constructed in Chuberi. Throughout this process, Nenskra Hydro pays particular attention to maintaining high standards of labor safety for heavy machinery traffic on the construction site and in the surrounding area.

In order to ensure the safety of the local population and the employees on the construction site, the construction company follows a number of traffic management procedures:

- Prior to commencement of works, the construction company draws up a document providing detailed information on the number of heavy machinery units and the times of movement. In addition, an illustrated presentation of the traffic management route is given to Nenskra Hydro;
- Prior to commencement of works, the Social Team of Nenskra Hydro holds meetings with the local community and provides information about the planned works on the construction site;
- The Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) Officer of the construction company places warning signs in appropriate places;
- The Flagman attends the movement of heavy equipment, controls the entry and exit of transport on the construction site and regulates traffic in the surrounding area;
- After completion of construction works, temporary warning signs are dismantled and the area is returned to its original condition.



ONGOING AND PLANNED WORKS

The construction subcontractor of JSC Nenskra Hydro, the LTD Georgian Construction Consortium, is rehabilitating roads and bridges damaged by the flood of June 7. On June 7, 2019, the Nenskra River flooded Chuberi due to heavy rain. Papalara Bridge was damaged, which paralyzed the traffic flow. In Kvemo Marghi village, traffic was restricted on the River Marghula bridge due to safety concerns. The full management of JSC Nenskra Hydro visited the site to assess the situation. At the same time, heavy equipment from the JSC Nenskra Hydro subcontractor was mobilized.

JSC Nenskra Hydro's subcontractor has undertaken intensive cleaning of the river-bed and road rehabilitation works. The Papalara Bridge, connecting Tita village with Okrili Valley, was rebuilt in three weeks, after which the population could assess the bridge and equipment was once again able to be moved.

A 211-meter section of the road to Tita village has been fully rehabilitated and access restored. Bank-strengthening works are complete.

As part of the rehabilitation works, the damaged Chuberi Bypass (945 m) was partly rehabilitated: the river-bed was cleaned, the existing road was widened and bank-strengthening measures were undertaken.



In addition to the restoration work, four new bridges are being constructed in full compliance with international standards in Nenskra Valley, in the villages Lekulmakhhe, Lukhi, Devra and Tita. Currently, 86 local residents are employed on the construction site. Within the framework of the Nenskra HPP project, 14 bridges will be constructed in the Nenskra and Nakra valleys. The capacity of each bridge will be 100 tons.



DAM SAFETY

With the increase in population and growth of electricity consumption, humanity has reaped great benefits from the construction and operation of dams and reservoirs.

Today, there are around 35,000 dams in the world. Their design quality and safety standards are assured with advanced modern methods. Dams help to store and collect water and regulate the natural flow of a river, which in turn allows an increased water supply, renewable energy production and, most importantly, reduces the damage caused by floods and drought.

The Nenskra HPP project envisages the construction of a 125-meter-high and 870-meter-long rockfill asphalt face dam. It will create a reservoir with a mirror face of 2.7 sq.km (for comparison, the mirror face of the Enguri Reservoir is 13.5 sq.km).

A rockfill dam built with modern methods has several advantages:

- Low water leakage;
- The strength of the foundation of the rockfill dam provides seismic stability;
- This type of dam remains flexible even at low temperatures;
- Adapts to settling without cracking.

Nenskra HPP project investor company K-Water has many years' experience in the construction and operation of hydropower plants. K-Water has designed and built a number of hydropower plants in Korea, including the 123-meter-high rockfill Soygangang dam and 93-meter-high Chungju dam. The company currently operates 16 multi-purpose dams.

Numerous studies were conducted in the fields of hydropower and dam safety during the Nenskra HPP design phase. Apart from Georgian specialists, Swiss, German, Italian and Turkish experts participated in the research. The Nenskra and Nakra valleys, as well as the water flow of the Nenskra and Nakra rivers, were thoroughly studied, soil and rock layers analyzed and laboratory tests conducted. The dam design was selected with a foresight to future changes in the climate and following all possible risk assessments.

Technical supervision of the Nenskra HPP dam construction is being provided by leading Swiss design and consulting company Stucky Ltd., an internationally recognized expert in the field of dam safety.



How to raise a grievance

If you prefer, you can contact other members of the Social team or another project representative and they will pass the information to the Social team.



Verbally

To raise a grievance verbally, please approach one of our Community Liaison Officers and they will register your grievance.



598 088 285
598 421 202
599 855 543
599 862 206

By phone

You can call one of our Community Liaison Officers and they will register your grievance.



info@nenskrahydro.ge
www.nenskra.ge/grievance

In writing

Fill in a form available at the Chuberi and Nakra information centers.

Request a form from the Social team.

Write us an e-mail at: info@nenskrahydro.ge

Fill in the form on our website:
www.nenskra.ge/en/grievance

For more information, please contact our Social team members:

Natia Tevzadze (Chuberi and Nakra): 598 088 285
Anna Maghradze (Chuberi and Nakra): 598 421 202
Giorgi Ansiani (Chuberi): 599 862 206
Rodam Gvarmiani (Nakra): 599 855 543



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