



## **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**ADB LOAN NO.: 3067-UZB**

**MANAGEMENT CONSULTING SERVICES,**

**PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND SUPERVISION**

**Contract No.: SUE/Maxsustrans/QCBS-Cons\_1-2016-01**



## **Annual Progress Report January - December 2023**

### **IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**

**State Unitary Enterprise (SUE) "Maxsustrans" (Uzbekistan)**

### **PIU CONSULTANT**

**Infratech Consulting SDN LLC (Uzbekistan)**



Tashkent – January 2024

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**Annex 3 – Project Action Plan for 2024**

**Annex 4 – SLF Construction Schedule until June 2024**

**List of abbreviations**

<b>ADB</b>	ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
<b>AFS</b>	AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
<b>TD</b>	TENDER DOCUMENTATION
<b>SW</b>	SCOPE OF WORK
<b>CDP</b>	CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
<b>SCQ</b>	SELECTION OF A CONSULTANT FOR QUALIFICATION
<b>EA</b>	EXECUTIVE AGENCY (Tashkent City Municipality)
<b>EIA</b>	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
<b>EMP</b>	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN
<b>IFCE</b>	INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS
<b>GAP</b>	GENDER ACTION PLAN
<b>GCC</b>	GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT
<b>GOU</b>	GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
<b>GIS</b>	GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
<b>IB</b>	INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIDDERS
<b>IA</b>	IMPLEMENTING AGENCY (SUE “Maxsustrans”)
<b>ICB</b>	INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
<b>IEA</b>	INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
<b>LARP</b>	LAND ACQUISITION AND RESETTLEMENT PLAN
<b>MSW</b>	MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE
<b>MOF</b>	MINISTRY OF FINANCE
<b>NGO</b>	NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
<b>O&amp;M</b>	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
<b>PAM</b>	PROJECT ADMINISTRATION MANUAL
<b>PIU</b>	PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UNIT
<b>QCBS</b>	QUALITY AND COST BASED SELECTION
<b>RFP</b>	REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
<b>SCC</b>	SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT
<b>SCEEP</b>	STATE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
<b>SPR</b>	SAFEGUARD POLICY REPORT
<b>SLF</b>	SANITARY LANDFILL FACILITY
<b>SWMIP</b>	SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
<b>TCM</b>	TASHKENT CITY MUNICIPALITY
<b>TS</b>	TECHNICAL SUPPORT
<b>TOR</b>	TERMS OF REFERENCE
<b>\$</b>	U.S. DOLLARS
<b>UZB</b>	UZBEKISTAN
<b>UZS</b>	UZBEK SUMS
<b>WA</b>	APPLICATION FOR WITHDRAWAL

## 1 **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This Annual Progress Report contains information on the activities of PIU Support Consultant, the results achieved and current issues within the framework of the Solid Waste Management Improvement Project (the Project or SWMIP) for the reporting period from **1 January to 31 December, 2023**. The Project financed by the ADB Loan L3067-UZB which Closing Date has been prolonged until 31 December 2024. This report presents the annual progress of the Consultant tasks as per Terms of Reference, especially the consultancy support in project management, procurement, contract administration, financial management, safeguard monitoring and other activities as requested by the Client.

The structure of the report is similar to the previously presented reporting form developed for the Client and the PIU and submitted to ADB. This report covers comprehensive progress achieved in project management, procurement activities and all other aspects of the Project during the year of 2023.

The following is a summary of the main activities and achievements of the Project during the reporting period:

- **Contract CW1R: Sanitary Landfill Establishment.** The negotiations with the Contractor on the draft Amendment No. 1 to the Contract could be completed and all necessary changes of design and BoQ have been considered. The Amendment 1 includes the technical variations caused by the site conditions, changes proposed by the Employer and corrections of the quantities due to omissions made during the design phase in 2019. The total amount to be added to the Contract is about \$1.5 million that will be covered by the unused loan proceeds of the Project.
- **Contract Cons\_2: Sanitary Landfill Design and Supervision Consultant.** The negotiations with the Consultant on the draft Amendment No. 4 to the Contract have been completed in August 2023. The Amendment includes the two-month extension of the service period, the key expert changes, remuneration rate adjustments of the key experts and reallocation of reimbursable costs required until the extended service period (31 December 2023). However, after ADB mission of the Loan Midterm Review in December 2023, the Project stakeholders decided to extend the service period of the Consultant at least until 31 August 2024 due to extension of the SLF construction period until 30 June 2024.
- **Contract CW2: Transfer Station Rehabilitation.** On 31 August 2023 the Defect Liability Period of the Contractor has been ended. After remediation of the identified defects by the Contractor the Supervision Engineer has issued the Performance Certificate on 11 December 2023. Based on this the Employer has paid to the Contractor the final tranche of the retention money and the Contract is completed.
- **Contract CW4: Garage Rehabilitation.** Referring to the Judgement of court the Employer has paid to the Contractor the final tranche of the retention money on 7 July 2023. So, the Contract is completed and there are no disputes between the parties.
- **Additional procurement packages:** After no-objection of ADB on 23 June 2023 the Invitation for Bids for the new packages G7 and G8 has been published in ADB and local web sites. On 18 August 2023 the bids of package G8 have been opened. Based on the bid evaluation all proposals have been rejected due to significant exceeding the bid prices over the cost estimate. The bids of package G7 were not opened by the deadline due to TCM request to change the technical specifications of the waste collection and transfer trucks and to publish a rebid.

- **Disbursements:** The disbursements of the Project during the reporting period reached \$1.805 million, including PIU expenses, fees and interests paid to ADB during the implementation period. The total disbursements since the beginning of the Project totalled to almost \$57.557 million, which is 83.4% of the ADB loan as of 31 December 2023.
- **Safeguard compliance monitoring:** The safeguard experts responsible for the environmental and social safeguard monitoring have continued their tasks to monitor and report on the safeguard compliancy issues, especially related to the construction works on the sanitary landfill.
- **Progress reports:** The Consultant submitted to PIU and Maxsustrans the Semi-Annual Progress Report for the period from January – June 2023, two Quarterly Reports for January – March 2023 and July – September 2023. The reports included the updated procurement plan, project implementation plan and disbursement schedule and other relevant information.
- **ADB Loan review mission:** Two loan review missions were fielded in 2023, the first one is during 7-13 March 2023 led by Mr. Ruoyo Hu, Senior Urban Development Specialist and the second one during 4-11 December 2023 led by Mr. Xijie Lu, Urban Development Specialist. The first mission in March has discussed the physical and financial progress of the project, environment safeguard compliance, utilization of loan savings, proposed Public Private Partnership initiative, and additional scope of works and modification of design in the SLF project.

The Mission in December held discussions with the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Tashkent City Hokimiyat, SUE “Maxsustrans” and others about the project progress and status, the current issues and future plans. The Aide Memoire has been prepared based on the findings, recommendations and agreements made by the stakeholders during the Mission.

- **National Feasibility Study:** According to local regulation, any IFI funded project in Uzbekistan shall be accompanied by the Feasibility Study to be prepared based on due diligence and definition of the objectives and outputs during the preparation of the Project. The Government and TCM have requested SUE Maxsustrans to submit the updated Feasibility Study, which shall include all technical, financial and institutional changes made during the Project implementation and the progress achieved up to date. Maxsustrans hired a local design company to update the Project’s Feasibility Study according to national standards and rules, which will help also to agree the updated FS with the local authorities.

## **2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

### **2.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

ADB approved the Project on 27 November 2013 with a loan of US\$69 million from its ordinary capital resources. The total cost of the Project is the equivalent of US\$76.0 million, including tax and customs benefits of the Government of Uzbekistan, as well as financial expenses during the implementation of the project. The Loan Agreement and the Project Agreement have been signed with ADB on February 27, 2014. The loan became effective on 29 December 2014. Initially, the Project was designed for a five-year implementation (2014-2018) with a loan closing date of 30 June 2019.

On the request of the Government from 17 December 2018, ADB approved a two-year loan extension with the revised loan closing date of 30 June 2021 in order to complete all remaining Project activities, including civil works. However, during the first extension the EA and IA were unable to sign the contract CW1 – Sanitary Landfill Establishment and Dumpsite Closure, which is the largest component of this project with the amount of \$23.53 million.

On 26 March 2021 the Government has requested ADB on the second extension of the Loan closing date from 30 June 2021 to 30 June 2023. After clarifications and corrective action plan provided by the Government ADB has confirmed the second loan extension until 31 December 2023 (+30 months) on 23 June 2021.

On 18 September 2023 the Government has requested ADB on the third and final extension of the loan closing date from 31 December 2023 to 31 December 2024 in order to complete properly the civil works for establishment of the sanitary landfill and to additional procurement of the goods. On 25 December 2023 ADB has approved the third extension request of the Government and the Loan closing date has been prolonged until 31 December 2024.

#### **The Project outputs**

The project impact is improved urban environment and quality of life for the residents of Tashkent. The expected outcome is improved SWM services and management in Tashkent city. The Project has three outputs: Output 1 – rehabilitated and expanded solid waste management (SWM) system in Tashkent; Output 2 – strengthened operational capacity; and Output 3 - national SWM strategy. The Tashkent City Hokimiyat is the executing agency (EA) for Outputs 1 and 2, while the State Committee for Nature Protection is for output 3. The State Unitary Enterprise “Maxsustrans” is the implementing agency (IA) responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the project.

#### **Output 1: Rehabilitated and expanded SWM system in Tashkent**

- (i) complete rehabilitation of two transfer stations with the possibility of closing one existing transfer station without losing the current waste handling capacity of at least 1,950 tons per day
- (ii) prudently install a recycling system with a capacity of approximately 750,000 tons per year by restoring and building a sanitary landfill in the Akhangaran district of Tashkent region in accordance with international environmental standards
- (iii) creation of an operating system to achieve an improvement in production capacity while replacing old garbage trucks and equipment in the fleet

- (iv) improving the capacity and quality of collection by sorting household waste by the population and small businesses.

### Output 2: Strengthened operational capacity

- (i) at least 90% of households actively sort waste at the source,
- (ii) waste sorting awareness campaign will reach 90% of households with the participation of female household members,
- (iii) improvement of management, operation and maintenance of SUE “Maxsustrans”.

### Output 3: National SWM strategy

- (i) Preparation of a national strategy for the management of municipal solid waste, including a draft sector’s investment program

To date, output 1 is still on-going, output 2 was not completed partially in 2023, and output 3 was completed in 2019, while the National Strategy for municipal SWM was approved by the Government of Uzbekistan through Decree of the President of Uzbekistan No. 4291 from 17 April 2019.

## 2.2 SOURCE OF FINANCING AND CATEGORY OF LOAN FUNDING

The total cost of the project is **US\$76 million** equivalent, of which ADB loan is US\$69 million and the Government's share is US\$7 million equivalent in the form of capital investments and tax/customs exemptions. During the project implementation the actual amount of the local tax/customs exemptions has been increased from US\$5.8 million to US\$66.4 million equivalent due to the actual amount of the imported goods, works and services.

**Table 1: Funding Sources**

Funding Source	Total amount (million USD)	%
<b>Asian Development Bank funding</b>		
Loan 3067-UZB (Ordinary Capital Resources)	69.00	90.79%
<b>Uzbekistan Government funding</b>		
Government of Uzbekistan (Government)	7.00	9.21%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>76.00</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 2: Allocation of Loan 3067-UZB (after reallocation in August 2019)**

Loan category	Category Description	Total Funding Amount (USD)	Total Funding Percentage (%)
<b>1</b>	<b>Civil Works</b>	<b>33,600,480</b>	
a+b	Sanitary Landfill Establishment & Dumpsite Closure	23,531,000	100% of the total amount of declared expenses*
c	Rehabilitation of transfer stations, garages and waste collection points	7,779,000	100% of the total amount of declared expenses*
d	Design and supervision services	2,290,480	100% of the total amount of declared expenses*
<b>2</b>	<b>Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>26,756,900</b>	
a	Landfill Equipment and Machinery	3,800,000	100% of the total amount of declared expenses*



b	Waste collection and transfer trucks	17,088,900	100% of the total amount of declared expenses*
c	Bins and other equipment	5,768,000	100% of the total amount of declared expenses*
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Management, Capacity Development and Studies</b>	<b>4,168,193</b>	
a	Project Management Personnel and Support	2,517,958	100% of the total amount of declared expenses*
b	Capacity Support Programs	1,650,235	100% of the total amount of declared expenses*
<b>4</b>	<b>Interest and Commitment Charges of ADB</b>	<b>4,474,427</b>	<b>100% of the amount due</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Unallocated</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>69,000,000</b>	
* Without taxes and fees in Uzbekistan. Source: Loan agreement with ADB dated February 27, 2014.			

### Request to utilize loan savings (2023)

On April 6, 2023, MOEF submitted an official request to ADB to utilize loan savings **\$7.62 million**, of which **\$7.28 million** for additional procurement of goods like solid waste collection trucks (G7) and container bins (G8) and **\$0.34 million** for additional costs of the project (on-going contracts and PIU budget). Per Tashkent Municipality, Maxsustrans' service area is extended substantially due to the expansion of the municipality and fast-growing population, additional household waste collection and transfer vehicles need to be provided. However, this proposal became outdated, because it was prepared without due consideration of the additional costs to the on-going contracts CW-1R, Cons-2, Cons-1, Cons-9 and PIU, which amounts shall be increased due to changes of scope of works and extension of the service period.

ADB advised the Tashkent Municipality and Maxsustrans that the Bank may consider the revised proposal with the updated loan savings subject to: (i) all efforts are prioritized for timely completion of the construction of landfill and its auxiliary facilities by June 2024; (ii) sufficient additional resources from the loan proceeds (estimated up to **\$2.3 million** – for details refer to **Annex 2**) allocated to on-going contracts CW-1R, Cons-2, Cons-1, Cons-9 and PIU costs, in view of the required contract amendments and loan extension of 12 months; (iii) project performance should be "On Track", all loan covenants are complied with; and (iv) in case the implementation of the additional scope cannot be completed by the loan closing date, ADB will close the loan as scheduled, and the government will fund the balance from government resources.

The ADB Mission in December 2023 discussed with Tashkent City Municipality and Maxsustrans in detail the required contract amendments, and emphasized that the budget and quantity of additional procurement of goods should be revised accordingly based on the actual loan savings remained after the contract amendments.

As of 31 December 2023 the updated proposal on loan reallocation would be as follows:

**Table 3: Breakdown of Loan Proceeds (USD)**

Project component	Current allocation of loan	Proposed reallocation of loan	Revised allocation of loan
CIVIL WORKS	33 600 480	- 5 551 698	28 048 782
PLANT & EQUIPMENT	26 756 900	5 052 619	31 809 519
PROJECT MANAGEMENT	4 168 193	331 818	4 500 011
INTEREST & FEES	4 474 427	0	4 474 427
UNALLOCATED	0	167 261	167 261
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69 000 000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>69 000 000</b>

The detailed Loan Allocation Table updated based on the latest amount of the amendments and actual needs of the PIU until the end of December 2024 as well as the revised amount of the additional procurement goods is presented in **Annex 1**.

### 3 TASKS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CONSULTANT IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

#### 3.1 PROJECT MANAGEMENT (TOR TASK A)

The Consultant has continued to perform its tasks to support the PIU and the Client (SUE Maxsustrans) in implementation of the Project in accordance with its contractual obligations. These activities included assisting the project stakeholders in implementing, managing, administering, exchanging information and reporting on project progress, including safeguard monitoring and procurement administration. The Consultant's specialists attended in the construction progress meetings and site visits on the sanitary landfill with participation of the Employer, Contractor and Supervision Consultant and sometimes with the ADB specialists.

In accordance with the terms of reference and deliverables schedule, the PIU Consultant has prepared and submitted to PIU and the Client the Semi-annual progress report for the period January-June 2023 and two Quarterly reports for January-March 2023 and July-September 2023. In addition, the Consultant supported and advised the Client and the PIU in preparation of ad-hoc and specific reports, statistic data and other updates on the Project upon request of TCM and other local authorities.

The Consultant team has intensively supported the PIU and the Client in preparation and conduction of the ADB Loan review missions in March and December 2023.

#### 3.2 PROCUREMENTS (TOR TASK B)

Based on the reallocation proposal of the SUE Maxsustrans and TCM from May 2023 the Procurement Plan of the Project was updated and posted at ADB website after approval of the Bank (PP version No. 11 from 9 May 2023). The main updates are the new procurement packages G7: Supply of Waste Collection and Waste Transfer Trucks (\$5.0 million) and G8: Supply of Waste Collection Bins and Containers (\$2.28 million). However, after the last Loan Review Mission of ADB in December 2023 the stakeholders agreed to revise the scope and cost estimate of the additional procurement of G7 and G8, which shall be reflected in the next update of the Procurement Plan.

The Consultant has assisted to PIU and the Client in preparation of the bidding documents for the G7 and G8 packages, conduction of the procurement process and bid evaluation. Clarification requests during the bid preparation and evaluation was also part of assistance of the Consultant's procurement specialists. The current status of the on-going contracts and un-disbursed loan amount is presented below:

**Table 4: The contracts and outstanding balance (as of December 2023)**

Procurement categories	Total Contracts USD	Signed Contracts USD	Balance of funds USD	Notes
WORKS	24 823 193,00	23 436 932,00	1 500 000,00	Additional construction costs (contract CW1)
GOODS	32 479 519,00	26 509 519,00	5 300 000,00	Additional procurement goods (packages G7 and G8)
SERVICES	7 222 861,00	6 937 861,00	698 000,00	Additional services (Consultants, PIU and project auditor)
UNALLOCATED	24 000,00	-	167 261,00	Contingency for unexpected costs for SLF construction or goods procurement
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64 549 573,00</b>	<b>56 884 312,00</b>	<b>7 665 261,00</b>	

### 3.3 SUPERVISION AND MONITORING OVER CONSTRUCTION (TOR TASK C)

As part of this task, the Consultant shall assist the PIU and Maxsustrans in administration of the supervision of all construction works, which includes: (i) studying and quality control of design and other documentation and monitoring of works that are being carried out in accordance with approved projects, (ii) developing and implementation of a construction quality assurance program, (iii) monitoring contractors' work schedules, (iv) control of supplies, in particular customs clearance in Uzbekistan, and (v) rectification of deficiencies in any of these matters.

During the reporting period, the Consultant assisted to administrate the supervision activities related to the following works contracts:

#### **CW1 / Sanitary Landfill Establishment**

Supervision Specialist of the PIU Support Consultant has continued to monitor the construction supervision on the new landfill provided by the SLF Design and Supervision Consultant (CUCD, China). The Supervision Specialist participated in the weekly progress meetings of the Contractor and Employer conducted in the engineer's office on site and also in site visits when ADB or TCM representatives have visited the SLF. In addition, the Consultant helped in communication between the Employer, the Contractor and the Engineer on the current construction issues and resolving/clarification of technical and contractual requests of the Contractor, as well as in communication with local authorities like customs, tax office etc.

#### **CW2 / Rehabilitation of Transfer Stations**

The defects liability period as per Contract is ended by 31 August 2023. Some minor defects in civil works of the both transfer stations identified by the Supervision Consultant and the Employer. The Consultant has supported PIU and the Client in communication with the Contractor to remediate the identified defects and also to resolve the debts dispute between the Contractor and the Supplier of the press equipment from Germany. The Supervision Engineer has issued the Performance certificate about completion of all obligations of the Contractor after correction of all identified defects in the transfer stations and based on this the Employer has paid to the Contractor the final tranche of the retention money in the amount of \$ 6,797.15. The contract CW2 is now completed.

### 3.4 ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRACTS (TOR TASK D)

The Consultant assisted PIU in administration of the on-going works and service contracts, in particular:

- i) preparation of the withdrawal applications for direct payment and liquidation of the loan proceeds;
- ii) review of the interim payment certificates of the contractors and invoices of the consultants;
- iii) review of contract variation requests, preparation of amendment documents and cost estimates;
- iv) monitoring of the validity of bank securities for advance payment and performance bond provided by the contractors and the consultants;
- v) other administrative support to PIU and Maxsustrans.

The following disbursements have been made during the period January – December 2023 (according to PIU data):

1) Direct payments	\$7,114,130.72
2) ADB Interests and Fees	\$1,562,703.80
3) Payments from imprest account:	\$132,686.22
<b>TOTAL for 2023:</b>	<b>\$8,809,521.32</b>
<b>TOTAL from the beginning:</b>	<b>\$57,557,591.31 (83.42% of the total)</b>

The Consultant's financial management specialist and accountant have supported PIU in communication with the financial controllers of ADB regarding submitted loan withdrawal applications.

### 3.5 IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SAFEGUARDS (TOR TASK E)

According to Terms of Reference the Consultant shall assist the PIU in the implementation of project development, in particular civil works in accordance with ADB's 2009 Safeguard Policy. The Consultant shall assist the PIU in managing the environmental and social risks associated with the implementation of the project and provide recommendations for minimizing, mitigating and, if not avoiding, potential adverse impacts.

#### 3.5.1 Social Safeguards Monitoring

The main purpose of monitoring social safeguards under the Project is to provide an assessment of involuntary resettlement issues, taking into account any negative potential project impacts or any other social issues that may arise during project implementation. Monitoring and evaluation of social safeguards in the reporting period were aimed at confirming that project implementation does not lead to violation of the requirements of the ADB Safeguard Policy.

During the reporting period the monitoring of social safeguard issues was carried out by the Social Protection and Development Specialists of the PIU Consultant, only concerned the civil works that going on at Akhangaran landfill.

The initial project document for social protection monitoring is the Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan (LARP) prepared in 2012 for the construction of a new landfill in Akhangaran district of Tashkent region. In accordance with the ADB Safeguard Policy, the LARP was published in 2013 and has been updated from time to time. Protective and mitigating measures under the LARP included the following:

- (i) land on account of land compensation;
- (ii) compensation for lost crops and profits;
- (iii) compensation to 4 workers of the affected leasehold farm (loss of income/livelihood of workers).

Based on the Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 895 dated November 1, 2018, the South Korean company "Sejin G&E Co., Ltd" shall implement a waste-to-energy project on the existing dumpsite. No physical progress of the project was observed during the reporting period, and it seems the further implementation of the project is suspended. The Executing Agency of the project is SCEEP.

During the reporting period, as part of the ADB loan review mission Farida Djumabaeva, Gender and Social Development Officer of ADB has visited the landfill site in Akhangaran district in order to check the current status and compliance with the social safeguards.

#### 3.5.2 Environment Safeguards Monitoring

In accordance with the Loan and Project Agreement for loan L3067-UZB: Solid Waste Management Improvement Project, Maxsustrans and PIU are required to ensure that:

- (i) the project is constructed and operated in accordance with national and local environmental regulations and guidelines, the ADB Environmental Policy (2002) and the Initial Environmental Assessment Report (EAR);
- (ii) any adverse environmental impacts arising from the construction and operation of the project facilities are minimized through the adoption of mitigation measures; and
- (iii) the implementation of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and violations of safety or environmental standards, if any, be regularly reported to ADB.

During the reporting period, the Consultant prepared and submitted the semi-annual environmental safeguard monitoring report for the period from July – December 2022 and January to June 2023. These monitoring reports describe the implementation of the environmental monitoring and mitigation measures during the SLF construction as specified in the EMP of the Project.

The main focus of the environmental safeguards monitoring is directed to access the compliance of the SLF Contractor with the safeguard measures specified in the Site-Specific EMP. The environmental specialists of PIU Consultant and PIU have visited the site to check the compliance with the environmental safeguards and monitor the status of the mitigation measures (if any) as specified in the monitoring reports updated regularly by the Consultant and reviewed by PIU and ADB's Project team.

Given that the ADB project involves the PIU Consultant and the Supervision Consultant, the following task distribution of monitoring and reporting on environmental safeguards issues was agreed:

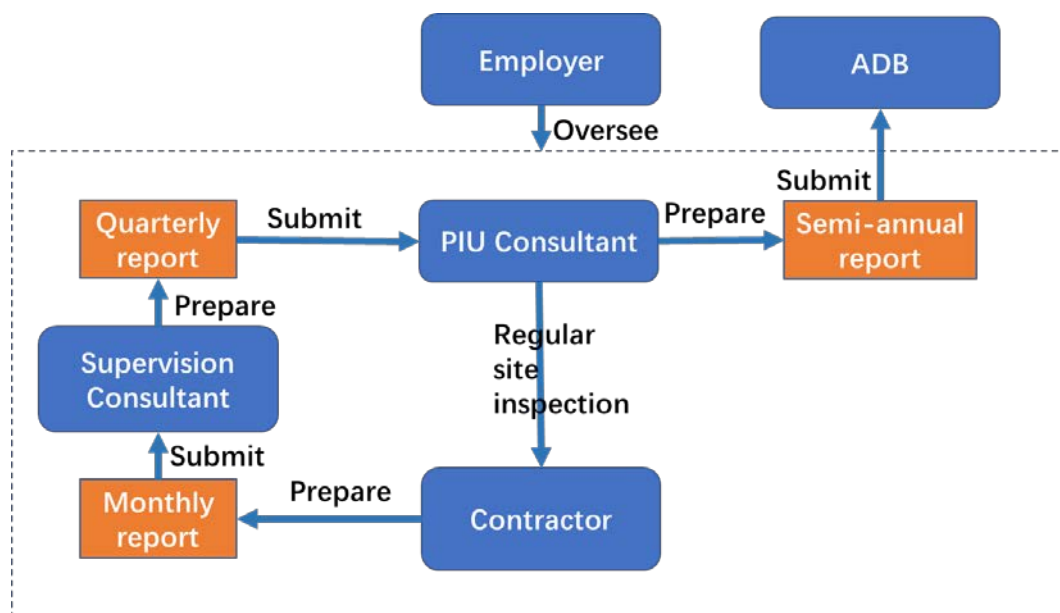


Fig. 1. Environmental monitoring & reporting scheme

During the Environmental Safeguards Review Mission of ADB held in July 2022, some non-compliances were identified, and corrective actions were proposed with the timeframe. The project was rated “For Attention” for safeguards implementation due to delayed completion of the actions (i) recruitment of PIU Environment Specialist by 31 August 2022, and (ii) installation of impermeable secondary containment vessel under the fuel storage tanks by 20 July 2022 were not implemented by the agreed deadline as of 7 October 2022.

The PIU submitted on 3 February 2023 the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) implementation report, which indicates that there was no chance to attract a separate Environment specialist, due to limited qualified experts and low salary. In the interim, the PIU Head covers the environment issues and assists in the preparation of the semi-annual safeguards reports, with the support of PIU Consultant's and Contractor's Environment Specialists. The secondary fuel containment vessel for the storage tanks at the present camp has not been installed. Also, a storage of petroleum products, which sample has been provided to the Contractor during the site monitoring missions of PIU EHS Specialist from August until November 2022 has not been installed at the new camp yet.

The Mission followed up with the Maxsustrans on the delayed hiring of Environment Specialist for PIU which was highlighted in the July ADB's review mission for environmental compliance. The mission confirmed the PIU Environment Specialist, Mr. Akmal Begimkulov has been engaged and mobilized starting March 2023.

The Mission visited on 8 March 2023 the construction site for the sanitary landfill to review the implementation of the CAP and Environmental Management Plan (EMP), addressing the non-compliance on the storage area of fuel tanks on site. No civil works were ongoing due to weather conditions at the construction site. A roof was constructed to protect the fuel tanks from extreme

weather conditions. The area has a fire extinguisher, which is in compliance with safety rules. However, the bottom of the fuel tanks requires improvement although absorption of fuel into the ground was not observed. The Contractor proposed to remove the fuel tanks and clean the location. The Mission clarified with the Contractor on refueling of vehicles for continuation of civil works. The Contractor informed that refueling will be implemented using direct delivery method to avoid storage of fuel for civil works vehicle. During the second inspection by the Mission on 11 March 2023, it was confirmed that the fuel tanks were completely removed.

### **3.6 MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS (TOR TASK F)**

The Consultant shall assist the PIU in becoming aware of the environmental and social risks that could potentially be affected by project implementation activities. The Consultant shall guide the PIU in conducting media and public relations activities; public consultations with potentially affected populations, detailed measurements of lands identified for development, recommend appropriate actions that can be taken.

During the reporting period, there were no public relations activities and public consultations with potentially affected persons, such as a farmer or local residents living in the area of the new landfill in the Akhangaran district of the Tashkent region. As reported in paragraph 3.5.1 above, the latest peer review of the state of affairs has confirmed that the project will not require land acquisition and involuntary resettlement for the construction of a new landfill in the Akhangaran region. No potential environmental, social and property risks are expected at the start of construction work on the new landfill.

The Consultant assisted to update the website of SUE “Maxsustrans” by updating the project activities information (procurement, finance and in general), as well as to establish a grievance mechanism for the project for the public and potential affected persons through the website of the IA (SUE “Maxsustrans”). All project relevant documents are available on the website of SUE “Maxsustrans” and are regularly updated in Russian, Uzbek and English.

### **3.7 OTHER SERVICES AND TASKS PERFORMED BY THE CONSULTANT**

In addition to activities above, the Consultant has performed the following additional tasks:

- Drafting letters, formal requests, small ad hoc reports and other documents on progress, issues and projections of the Project (contract award and disbursements) upon request of Maxsustrans and PIU;
- Assistance to PIU in organization and conduction of the tender process on the additional Goods packages (G7 and G8) by leadership of the Procurement Commission (PC) of the Tashkent City Municipality, including preparation of minutes of meetings and other information as requested by the TCM and PC;
- Assistance in communication and reporting to the local Governmental agencies (MIIT, MOEF, TCM, etc.) on the project progress and current implementation issues;
- Coordination and communication with the Supervision Consultants (CUCD and Quality Planning) on the contractual and administrative issues of the works contracts CW1 and CW2;
- Assisting the ADB project team during site visits and loan review mission by updating the procurement, disbursement and safeguard data;
- Documentary support to Maxsustrans and PIU in updating the national Feasibility Study of the Project according to the local standards and requirements, based on the actual loan disbursement, investment program and performance of the institutional strengthening and capacity building programs.

#### 4 **ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD**

In the next reporting period (January – March 2024), the Consultant intends to conduct the following activities:

##### 4.1 **PROJECT MANAGEMENT (TASK A)**

The updated Project action plan for 2024 is provided in **Annex 3**. The Consultant will continue to perform the project management tasks (planning, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on implementation progress) and assist the Client and the PIU in coordinating and interacting with other Consultants involved in the Project, as well as with local authorities regarding progress, planning, monitoring and reporting on project development activities. The Consultant will provide some support to the PIU on accounting and financial matters related to disbursements under the Project, withdrawal applications, financial and audit reports.

The following reports and key outputs are expected from the PIU Support Consultant during the next reporting period:

Action / result according to the contract	Submission deadline*	Responsibility in the PIU Consultant team
ADB Project Final Report	One month before the Project end	Deputy Team Leader (DTL), Team Leader (TL) and Specialists
Annual Social Safeguard Monitoring Report for 2024	15 days before the Project end	Social Safeguard Specialist with support of DTL
Annual Environmental Safeguard Monitoring Report for 2024	15 days before the Project end	Environmental Specialist with support of DTL
Procurement related documents	As and when needed	Procurement specialists with support of DTL
Withdrawal applications	As and when needed	Financial Management Specialists / Accountant
Other documents	As and when needed	Consultant's whole team

\* - The Project Completion and the Loan Closing Date is 31 December 2024

##### 4.2 **PROCUREMENTS (TASK B)**

The Consultant will assist PIU to prepare and negotiate the amendments to the current contracts:

Contract	Description of activity
CW1-R (civil works)	Support in finalization of Amendment 1 documents with the Contractor, the Employer and the Engineer. If required, help with clarification and communication with local authority and ADB at review of the amendment documents
Cons_2 (services)	Support in finalization of Supplementary Agreement No. 4 with the Construction Supervision Consultant and its coordination with the local authority.

The Consultant will assist PIU to prepare the bidding documents and conduct the bidding process on the following additional Goods packages:

Package	Description of activity
G7 (2 lots)	Preparation of bidding documents, cost estimate and IFB, coordination with the IA, EA and ADB and assistance during the bidding process (publishing, submission, opening and evaluation of bids) in line with ADB Procurement Guidelines. Support



during contract negotiations in case of contract award.

G8 (2 lots) Preparation of bidding documents, cost estimate and IFB, coordination with the IA, EA and ADB and assistance during the bidding process (publishing, submission, opening and evaluation of bids) in line with ADB Procurement Guidelines. Support during contract negotiations in case of contract award.

The Consultant will update the Procurement Plan and Schedule of the Project upon request of ADB and local Government. After contract signing the Contract Award Notice will be published with support of the Consultant on the web site of ADB and Maxsustrans.

#### 4.3 CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION AND MONITORING (TASK C)

Further monitoring of supervision over construction works of CW1R - Sanitary Landfill Establishment and also coordination of activities and monitoring the services provided by the Supervision Consultant (CUCD). Referring to the Government decision and ADB agreement, the civil works on the landfill site will be extended at least until 30 June 2024 in order to complete the remaining works properly, as shown in the detailed SLF construction schedule – **Annex 4**. In case of availability of the project funds, the national Supervision Specialist of the Consultant will continue his supervision monitoring tasks and help to review of the Contractor's construction progress reports as well to participate in the weekly progress meetings in the Engineers' office on site.

#### 4.4 ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRACTS (TASK D)

The Consultant will assist the Client and PIU in further administration of the on-going contracts CW1, Cons\_2, Cons\_7 and the new contracts for supply of goods G7 and G8, in case of award:

<b>WORKS</b>	<b>Description of activity</b>
CW1	Review of interim payment certificates, checking the Contractor's requests on technical and other matters. Participation in site meetings on works progress and in negotiations on the contract variation.
<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>Description of activity</b>
C2	Support in the finalization and signing of Addendum No. 4 to the contract, assistance to Maxsustrans in submission of formal request to local authority for review and approval of Addendum No. 4.
<b>GOODS</b>	<b>Description of activity</b>
G7	In case of contract award, support the Client and PIU in contract negotiations, including the tax issues and delivery schedule. Review of bank guaranties, insurance policies, advance payment claim etc., acc. to contract terms and conditions.
G8	In case of contract award, support the Client and PIU in contract negotiations, including the tax issues and delivery schedule. Review of bank guaranties, insurance policies, advance payment claim etc., acc. to contract terms and conditions.

#### 4.5 IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SAFEGUARDS (TASK E)

The Consultant will continue to assist the Client and the PIU in monitoring safeguards issues under the Project. This activity will include monitoring compliance with ADB's environmental and social safeguard policy, in particular at the construction site of the new sanitary landfill. The Consultant will assist the Client and the PIU in understanding the environmental and social risks that could potentially be affected by project development activities.

It should be noted that social safeguards monitoring means monitoring the Project's Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan, in particular all aspects and progress of the land acquisition process for the new landfill, as described in the paragraphs above. If the Project is re-classified from Involuntary Resettlement Category B to C and ADB approves this, LARP monitoring will be stopped. However, the next monitoring step is the development of social monitoring indicators during the construction phase (Contract CW1). Social security tasks at the construction site are included in the scope of work of the Contractor CW1. The Contractor shall consider the implementation and monitoring of social and gender issues and the PIU Consultant will follow this. Gender aspects are monitored by PIU's focal person and reported to ADB accordingly.

Monitoring of social safeguard issues will be summarized and reported in the Semi-annual Social Safeguards Monitoring Report for the period July-December 2023 after the end of the second half of 2023.

The preparation of semi-annual environmental monitoring report(s) will continue, but paragraphs that have not been changed or expanded will not be repeated in the report. Environmental monitoring reports, after review and approval by ADB, will be posted on the website of SUE "Maxsustrans" and, as before, published on the ADB website. The next semi-annual environmental monitoring report for the reporting period from July to December 2023 will be submitted to the Client and PIU in December 2023.

#### **4.6 MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS (TASK F)**

The Consultant will guide the Client and PIU in conducting public and media relations activities during the reporting period, and as part of this work will assist the Client in posting relevant progress reports on the Maxsustrans website.

As part of the contract CW1 - Sanitary Landfill Establishment, special attention will be paid to public relations and information program addressed to local residents and Mahallas located near the construction site in Akhangaran district, Tashkent region.

## 5 USED STAFF INPUT AND CONSULTANT BUDGET

During the reporting period, the Client has paid the Consultant's interim invoices No. 20-23 with the total amount of \$244,931 for services performed in the period December 2022 – November 2023.

According to the invoice No. 24, as of 31 December 2023 the total amount of performed services is \$2,368,398.80 (98.27%), the outstanding balance for the services in the next year is **\$41,601.11**, of which \$36,328.71 the remaining remuneration and \$5,272.40 the remaining reimbursable costs:

Form FIN-2 SUMMARY OF COSTS (in USD)

Item	Contract Amendment No.6 dd 09.12.2021	Accumulated costs prior the claimed period (after rate adjustments)	Costs for the period 01.12.2023 - 31.12.2023	Accumulated costs after the claimed period (after rate adjustments)	Remaining cost as per 31.12.2023 (after rate adjustments)
Remuneration, Key Experts (01.08.2017 - 30.06.2019)	724 796,00	724 796,00		724 796,00	0,00
Remuneration, Non-Key Experts (01.08.2017 - 30.06.2019)	48 916,00	48 916,00		48 916,00	0,00
Remuneration, Key Experts (01.07.2019 - 31.12.2023)	1 080 154,22	1 046 908,05	7 708,80	1 054 616,85	25 537,37
Remuneration, Non-Key Experts (01.07.2019 - 31.12.2023)	311 751,02	293 448,26	7 511,41	300 959,67	10 791,35
Sub-Total	2 165 617,23	2 114 068,31	15 220,21	2 129 288,52	36 328,71
Reimbursable Expenses	211 400,00	206 016,42	941,63	206 958,05	4 441,95
Provisional Sums	32 400,00	32 152,32	0,00	32 152,32	247,68
Contingency	582,77	0,00	0,00	0,00	582,77
Sub-Total	244 382,77	238 168,74	941,63	239 110,37	5 272,40
<b>Total Amount excl. VAT in Uzbekistan</b>	<b>2 410 000,00</b>	<b>2 352 237,05</b>	<b>16 161,84</b>	<b>2 368 398,89</b>	<b>41 601,11</b>

The following Annex 1 of the invoice No. 24 includes the used and remaining input of key and non-key personnel of the Consultant as of December 31, 2023. The reference is the signed Supplementary Agreement No. 6 dated December 9, 2021. As of December 31, 2023 the unused input was **22.72 per/month**, of which 11.36 per/month for key personnel and 11.36 person/month for non-key personnel.

In December 2023 the Consultant has agreed with the Client the Supplementary Agreement No. 7 covering the service period extension for additional 12 months, i.e. until 31 December 2024, increasing the contract amount by \$37,000.00 (the revised total amount is \$2,447,000). This Agreement No. 7 is currently under review of the MIIT and after shall be sent for review and no-objection to ADB team.

The available input of experts is 20.50 person-month, of which 11.50 PM for the national key experts and 9.50 PM for the non-key experts. This input is foreseen for implementation and completion of the Project within 2024.

## Annex 1 to Interim Invoice No. 24 dated 22.01.2024

Form FIN-3 BREAKDOWN OF REMUNERATION (in USD)				Contract Amendment No.6 dd 09.12.2021		Total Claimed Costs until 30.11.2023		Total Claimed Costs until 30.11.2023 (after rate adjustments)	
	<b>Key Experts (International)</b>								
K-1	Ingo Schoebe SWM Specialist (Team Leader)	German Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	11,06 24,83	204 910,94 454 634,06	10,73 24,82	198 790,32 454 448,60	11,06 24,83	209 939,56 456 296,56
K-2	Romain Revol Theo Schneider (effective 01.07.2018) Matthias Schoenfeldt (effective 01.04.2020) SWM Engineer	German H.P. Gauff Ingenieure GmbH & Co	USD	6,57 4,91	117 263,13 86 948,00	5,57 4,91	99 211,54 86 948,00	5,55 4,91	98 853,42 86 980,65
K-3	Aleksandr Maksimov Procurement Specialist	Tajik Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	9,20 1,60	166 074,63 28 636,88	9,11 1,60	164 449,95 28 636,88	9,09 1,59	165 435,25 28 456,31
BS	Dr. Joachim Glasenapp Backstopper	German H.P. Gauff Ingenieure GmbH & Co	USD	3,42 0,66	62 779,99 12 122,66	3,42 0,66	62 779,99 12 122,66	3,71 0,66	68 057,99 12 122,66
	<b>Sub-Total Costs</b>			<b>62,25</b>	<b>1 133 370,13</b>	<b>60,82</b>	<b>1 107 387,94</b>	<b>61,40</b>	<b>1 126 142,40</b>
	<b>Key Experts (National)</b>								
K-4	Dilshod Mavlyan-Kariev SWM Specialist (Deputy Team Leader)	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	68,24	249 014,23	64,70	237 638,36	64,75	244 191,86
K-5	Tairjon Kabashev Akmal Khikmatullaev (effective 01.07.2019) Financial Management Specialist	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	67,56	205 397,76	58,60	178 008,02	58,78	181 660,86
K-6	Tair Khaydarov Dilshod Khalmukhamedov (effective 01.07.2019) Procurement Specialist	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	42,84	130 051,02	42,84	130 314,77	42,62	131 131,35
K-7	Maria Malinovskaya Social Safeguard and Devel. Specialist	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	16,50	41 779,15	16,48	41 728,31	16,43	41 999,78
K-8	Julia Alekseeva Sergey Karandaev (effective 01.07.2018) Environmental Specialist	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	17,88	45 337,93	17,88	45 337,50	17,93	46 577,80
	<b>Sub-Total Costs</b>			<b>213,02</b>	<b>671 580,09</b>	<b>200,50</b>	<b>633 026,96</b>	<b>200,51</b>	<b>645 561,65</b>
	<b>Total Costs: Key Experts (International and National)</b>			<b>275,27</b>	<b>1 804 950,22</b>	<b>261,32</b>	<b>1 740 414,90</b>	<b>261,91</b>	<b>1 771 704,05</b>
	<b>Non-Key Experts</b>								
NK-1	Grigoriy Tsay Bunyod Pulatkhodjaev (effective 01.07.2019) Akrambek Danyarbekov (effective 01.12.2020) Shokhzod Mavlonkoriev (effective 01.04.2023) Supervision Specialist	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	45,86	116 828,35	39,86	102 102,48	39,36	104 718,35
NK-2	Gulshan Khakimbekova (effective 10.12.2021) Financial Management Specialist / Accountant	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	13,50	34 391,25	13,50	34 777,80	13,32	37 492,95
NK-3	Amirbek Gaybullayev Sardorbek Rikhsitillayev (effective 05.09.2022) Contract Administration Specialist	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	26,00	66 235,00	19,81	51 583,85	19,77	56 072,65
SEC	Nargiza Mavlyan-Karieva Firuz Maksudova (effective 05.09.2022) Office Manager	Uzbek Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	59,31	143 212,42	58,75	142 255,63	58,26	144 080,31
	<b>Total Costs: Non-Key Experts (National)</b>			<b>144,67</b>	<b>360 667,02</b>	<b>131,92</b>	<b>330 719,76</b>	<b>130,71</b>	<b>342 364,26</b>
	<b>Total Costs: Key and Non-Key Experts</b>			<b>419,94</b>	<b>2 165 617,23</b>	<b>393,24</b>	<b>2 071 134,66</b>	<b>392,62</b>	<b>2 114 068,31</b>

(\*) - One person-month equals twenty two (22) working (billable) days. One working (billable) person-day shall be not less than eight (8) working (billable) hours.

## Annex 1 to Interim Invoice No. 24 dated 22.01.2024

## Form FIN-3 BREAKDOWN OF REMUNERATION (in USD)

Form FIN-3 BREAKDOWN OF REMUNERATION (in USD)				Costs for the period 01.12.2023 - 31.12.2023			Total Claimed Costs until 31.12.2023 (after rate adjustments)		Remaining Costs as per 31.12.2023 (after rate adjustments)		
	Key Experts (International)			1,168	Adjusted index						
K-1	Ingo Schoebe	German	USD	21 257,60	0,00	0,00	11,06	209 939,56	18 200,00	0,00	-5 028,62
	SWM Specialist (Team Leader)	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		21 257,60	0,00	0,00	24,83	456 296,56	18 200,00	0,00	-1 662,50
K-2	Romain Revol		USD								
	Theo Schneider (effective 01.07.2018)	German		20 691,12	0,00	0,00	5,55	98 853,42	17 715,00	1,02	18 409,71
K-3	Matthias Schoenfeldt (effective 01.04.2020)		USD								
	SWM Engineer	H.P. Gauff Ingenieure GmbH & Co		20 691,12	0,00	0,00	4,91	86 980,65	17 715,00	0,00	-32,65
K-3	Aleksandr Maksimov	Tajik	USD	20 691,12	0,00	0,00	9,09	165 435,25	17 715,00	0,11	639,38
	Procurement Specialist	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		20 691,12	0,00	0,00	1,59	28 456,31	17 715,00	0,01	180,57
BS	Dr. Joachim Glasenapp	German	USD	21 257,60	0,00	0,00	3,71	68 057,99	18 200,00	-0,29	-5 278,00
	Backstopper	H.P. Gauff Ingenieure GmbH & Co		21 257,60	0,00	0,00	0,66	12 122,66	18 200,00	0,00	0,00
	Sub-Total Costs				0,00	0,00	61,40	1 126 142,40		0,85	7 227,73
	Key Experts (National)										
K-4	Dilshod Mavlyan-Kariev	Uzbek	USD								
	SWM Specialist (Deputy Team Leader)	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		4 204,80	1,00	4 204,80	65,75	248 396,66	3 600,00	2,49	617,57
K-5	Tairjon Kabashev	Uzbek	USD								
	Akmal Khikmatullaev (effective 01.07.2019)	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		3 504,00	1,00	3 504,00	59,78	185 164,86	3 000,00	7,78	20 232,90
K-6	Tair Khaydarov	Uzbek	USD								
	Dilshod Khalmukhamedov (effective 01.07.2019)	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		3 504,00	0,00	0,00	42,62	131 131,35	3 000,00	0,22	-1 080,33
K-7	Procurement Specialist	Uzbek	USD								
	Maria Malinovskaya	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		2 920,00	0,00	0,00	16,43	41 999,78	2 500,00	0,07	-220,63
K-8	Social Safeguard and Devel. Specialist		USD								
	Julia Alekseeva	Uzbek		2 920,00	0,00	0,00	17,93	46 577,80	2 500,00	-0,05	-1 239,88
	Sergey Karandaev (effective 01.07.2018)	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.									
	Environmental Specialist										
	Sub-Total Costs				2,00	7 708,80	202,51	653 270,45		10,51	18 309,64
	Total Costs: Key Experts (International and National)				2,00	7 708,80	263,91	1 779 412,85		11,36	25 537,37
	Non-Key Experts										
NK-1	Grigoriy Tsay		USD								
	Bunyod Pulatkhodjaev (effective 01.07.2019)	Uzbek									
	Akrambek Danyarbekov (effective 01.12.2020)										
NK-2	Shokhzod Mavlonkoriev (effective 01.04.2023)		USD								
	Supervision Specialist	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		2 920,00	1,00	2 920,00	40,36	107 638,35	2 500,00	5,50	9 190,00
	Gulshan Khakimbekova (effective 10.12.2021)	Uzbek									
NK-3	Financial Management Specialist / Accountant	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.	USD	2 920,00	0,00	0,00	13,32	37 492,95	2 500,00	0,18	-3 101,70
	Amirbek Gaybullaev	Uzbek									
	Sardorbek Rikhsitillayev (effective 05.09.2022)	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		2 920,00	1,00	2 920,00	20,77	58 992,65	2 500,00	5,23	7 242,35
SEC	Contract Administration Specialist		USD								
	Nargiza Mavlyan-Karieva	Uzbek									
	Firuz Maksudova (effective 05.09.2022)	Infratech Consulting SDN Ltd.		2 785,68	0,60	1 671,41	58,86	145 751,72	2 385,00	0,45	-2 539,30
	Office Manager										
	Total Costs: Non-Key Experts (National)				2,60	7 511,41	133,31	349 875,67		11,36	10 791,35
	Total Costs: Key and Non-Key Experts				4,60	15 220,21	397,22	2 129 288,52		22,72	36 328,72

## **ANNEXES**