

Public Participation in the Energy Projects

# THE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT FOR CIVIL CONTROL OF THE IMPACTS OF OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS IN AZERBAIJAN

(case study: Baku-Tbilisi – Jeyhan pipeline)

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The total length – 1750 km  
 The Azerbaijani plot – 443 km  
 The bulk is 1 million barrel per day or  
 50 million tones per year.  
 Passes through the 14 wards  
 (administrative districts)  
 With 135 settlements nearby,  
 16 river crossings  
 Holding alley area – 2548,7 hectare

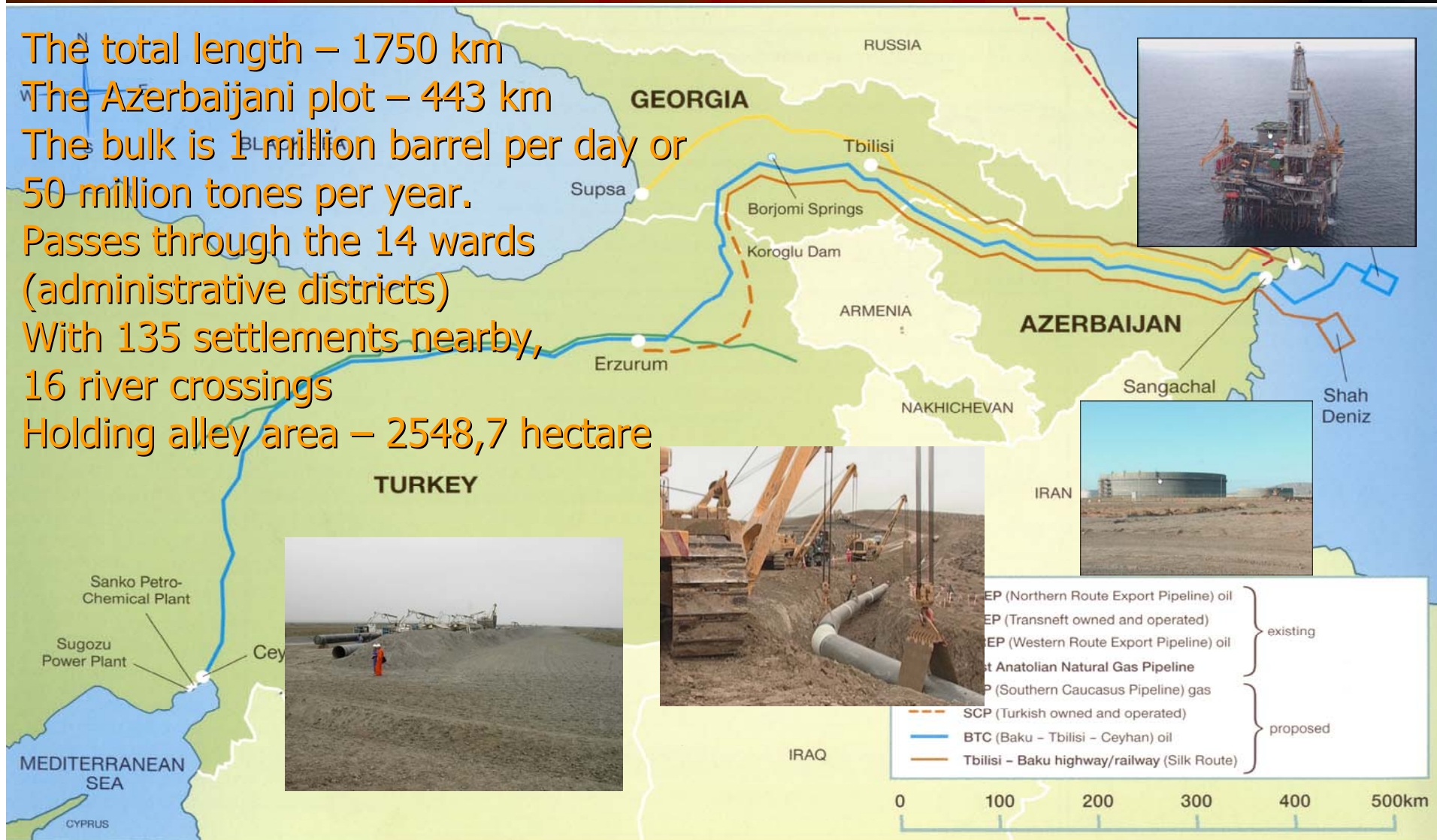


Схема трубопровода БТД

# Protected areas near BTJ (Baku-Tbilisi – Jeyhan)



Bucharest, Romania 20 may  
2008 г.

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## Public Participation in the Energy Projects

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- In 2004 the Open Society Institute – Azerbaijan Support Fund and BP Exploration Limited, having considered the concerns by public, signed “The Memorandum of Understanding” to improve dialogue with NGO`s and development of public monitoring.
- Another “Memorandum of Understanding” to improve capacity of local NGOs in the field of public audit was signed in 2005.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Development of cooperation between NGO-s and business structures in the field of public monitoring according to the international standards.
- Access to reliable and independent information about impact of oil companies on environment and social sphere.

# GROUPS BY TOPIC

- Environment and Ecology – 12 NGOs
- Human Rights – 9 NGOs
- Cultural Heritage Protection – 7 NGOs
- Social Problems – 9 NGOs
- Local Economies – 9 NGOs

# The pipeline corridor monitoring



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# PROBLEMS AND WEAKNESSES

- Weak public awareness and lack of public control mechanism.
- National civil society organizations with weak potential and lack of team-work skills.
- NGO`s, state and business are not ready to dialogue and cooperation.
- Low public activity of local communities.
- Lack of experience of NGO activists in public monitoring.

# RESULTS

- There has been the biggest ever NGO participation (46) and conditions created for better cooperation as well as capacity building of national NGO`s. The civil society representatives have passed the trainings on methodology of public control and audit.
- The social monitoring revealed the defects and breaches in the course of construction. Some of them were eliminated during monitoring itself.
- The discussions of monitoring results with BP representatives promoted additional program development on identified defects elimination.

# BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION PROGRAM



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# MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- For the first time in Azerbaijan history a dialogue was carried on between transnational oil companies, governmental structures and civil society representatives.
- Better awareness of fulfillment by BP/BTJ of relevant procedures.
- Quick decisions have been taken to address deficiencies revealed improved project implementation and social atmosphere.
- Capacity raised of national NGO`s, experience gained to ensure undisguised, equal, professional and constructive dialogue with oil companies.
- The civil society representatives are recognized as equal partners

# THE CIVIL CONTROL NETWORKING

- The experience in social monitoring organization and conduction has proved the efficiency of public control and the necessity to broaden its activity. In 2007 NGO proceeded to set up public control network with support of the Open Society Institute.
- The major task is strengthening the civil participation in elimination and reduction of extractive industry impacts.

# STRATEGIS AIMS

- Widening cooperation with all civil society institutes, mobilization of all interested groups.
- National and regional public control networking
- International co-operation.

Благодарю за внимание!  
THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION!

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