Example of failures to implement the Convention

Nenskra dam in Georgia

June 2016

www.bankwatch.org
Basic facts

• Capacity: 280 MW
• Type: storage dam
• Project promoter: Korea Water Resources Corporation; Georgian state JSC Partnership Fund

• International Finance Institutions Considering to Finance Nenskra
  - European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
  - Asian Development Bank
  - International Finance Corporation
  - European Investment Bank
  - SACE (Italy)
  - Korean Development Bank (not confirmed)
  - EU Neighbourhood Investment Facility (not confirmed)
Planned hydropower plants
Upper Svanetia, Georgia

www.bankwatch.org
Multiple hydro combined impact

- Nenskra is located in Upper Svanetia region
- 35 HPPs planned in the area size of one and half Luxembourg
- Cumulative impacts on the Enguri river basin ecosystems
- Inside the planned Upper Svaneti National Park > hydro development clash with conservation efforts
ESIA – international standards?

- Lack of addressing mudflow and geological risks
- No adequate Cumulative Impact Assessment (Svanetia, Transmission lines)
- Lack of Alternatives
- Inadequate stakeholder analysis and flawed scoping process
- Limited availability of ESIA documentation for affected people
- Lack of dissemination about the ESIA consultation process and public meetings
- Lack of information about the rights of the affected communities and the absence of a grievance mechanism
- Inconsistent information about resettlement, land acquisition and livelihood restoration
- Application of indigenous people policy

www.bankwatch.org
Nenskra dam

social impacts

Nenskra will cause:

• Physical resettlement of families in the power house area

• Flooding of communal land (pastures and forests)

• Impact livelyhood

• Affect vulnerable people (internally displaced people, women)

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Consultations with affected communities – flawed

- June 2015 – Public consultations meetings – no timely notice, ESIA available in 1 community only, no risks presented at public hearings
- May – German external review deems the ESIA as „in need of substantial revision“
- June – IFIs notified about ESIA gaps
- September – pre-construction works commenced
- October – environmental and construction permits issued, no significant changes to ESIA made
- Spring 2016
  - construction works start
  - Stakeholder Engagement Plan missing
  - Environmental and Social Management Plan lacking
  - It is already late for meaningful consultations with the affected people

www.bankwatch.org
Local community response: demands for actions

„we are approaching the international financial institutions considering to finance the project with a demand to withdraw from the project until:

• The assessment of project alternatives that do not require flooding of the gorge are provided;

• Cost benefit analysis of the project for the country, region and the community is carried out;

• Independent review of the geological risks by independent experts, not commissioned by the company is conducted and information provided;

• Open public hearings of the project is arranged and all the interested stakeholders including independent experts, national and international NGOs are invited to attend it;“

Letter by Chubery Community April 18, 2016

www.bankwatch.org
Protests in response to inaction
For more information:

- Bankwatch webpage on Nenskra
- Briefing on the Nenskra HPP
- Comments on the Nenskra ESIA
- Preliminary comments on the Nenskra hydropower plant Environmental and Social Impact Assessment consultation process

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