

**INOGATE** Interstate Oil and Gas Transport to Europe  
INO 97-03.02 Caucasus: Priority Emergency Investments in Oil and Gas  
Infrastructures

Project INOGATE 97-03.02

Caucasus: Priority Emergency  
Investments in Oil and Gas  
Infrastructures

# Completion Report

October 2002

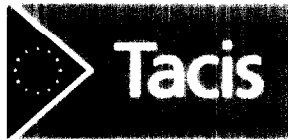


**INOGATE** Interstate Oil and Gas Transport to Europe  
 INO 97-03.02 Caucasus: Priority Emergency Investments in Oil and Gas Infrastructures

Project Title	: Caucasus: Priority Emergency Investments in Oil and Gas Infrastructures	
Project Number	: INOGATE 97-03.02	
Country	: AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA, ARMENIA	
Beneficiaries		EC Consultant
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Date of report	: October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2002
Reporting period	: 3 January 2000 – 31 August 2002
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# 1 PROJECT SYNOPSIS.

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>: Caucasus: Priority Investments in Oil and Gas Infrastructures</b>
<b>Project Number</b>	<b>: INO 97-03.02</b>
<b>Countries</b>	<b>: AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA, ARMENIA</b>

*Relevant project context :* The countries, which are involved in the project, are Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia.

From a technical point of view, and in comparison with an integrated system without national borders, the gas transportation network, presently, is not in the best position to be operated rationally due, sometimes, to the lack of facilities normally necessary where national borders exists (i.e. metering facilities).

Moreover, the lack of financial resources is causing, also, difficulties to financially support the maintenance and repair works on the pipelines and associated facilities, bringing the system to a gradual deterioration.

This project, as a follow-up and on the basis of the results of the INOGATE 9604 project, aims at selecting and implementing, in close co-operation with the Partner Countries, priority projects which will address the most urgent needs of these countries.

These actions will most likely consist of small scale cross-border investments in material and equipment required to support projects aiming at improving maintenance of existing facilities, restoring the availability of spare parts and building limited additions to existing facilities to improve the operational efficiency of the Oil and Gas transmission infrastructure.

## 1.1 PLANNED OBJECTIVES

The general objectives of the project are:

- to implement priority investments in Oil and Gas infrastructures with the aim of improving their operational efficiency, maintainability, safety and environmental conditions. These projects will be implemented on a pilot basis with the support of Tacis financing and the participation of local counterparts,



- to train local firms in implementation techniques including identification, preparation, evaluation, supervision and monitoring of projects.

## 1.2 PROJECT PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- *Identify and select priority investments* that meet pre-defined technical, operational and economic criteria,
- Set up the technical and other conditions for these investments to be implemented efficiently on a *pilot project basis* with the support of Tacis financing and the participation of local counterparts, firms and experts,
- Monitor the installation of the pilot project investments aiming at optimising all components which will enhance the *standardisation of selected investments* in terms of operational and environmental conditions, maintainability, safety and health conditions,
- *Train local firms* in project identification, preparation evaluation and supervision and implementation techniques, including the possibility of local manufacturing of project components, by establishing joint venture(s).

## 1.3 PLANNED APPROACH

*Main steps :* The project activities will be performed according to the following phases :

### **Phase 1: Project Identification**

In order to identify individual projects that will meet the above criteria of the INOGATE 97 programme a rational and transparent process of project identification and project selection has to be established. This process will contain the following sequential steps:

- a) Collection/generation of individual project plans and proposals



- b) Screening and categorising of project proposals
- c) Evaluating and ranking of project proposals

### **Phase 2: Project Selection**

It is expected that as a result of the screening process the *number of qualifying projects will exceed the funding options provided by INOGATE 97*. As a consequence a project evaluation and ranking process is proposed in order to develop a priority list.

The evaluation criteria will be based upon the project's potential to fulfill the objectives of the INOGATE 97 programme. The ranking is not an estimate of the overall merits of the individual projects, given that many of the projects meet other objectives besides the defined objectives of the INOGATE programme.

The criteria for proposal evaluation will be assembled with great care to ensure that the primary objective is achieved: namely to identify a limited number of project proposals which best meet the objectives of the INOGATE programme. The criteria, though detailed, are not meant to be unduly restrictive so that sufficient flexibility exists to enable the evaluation of all proposals, regardless of their differences.

### **Phase 3: Project Preparation**

This section presents the overall work plan and approach for project preparation.

Hence, the decision has been made by the Contracting Authorities and the Beneficiary Countries, and the list of priority projects has been approved and shall be the basis for the Phase III activities.

The project will be divided into two main stages, which have to be carried out within a period of approx. eight months.

The stages are defined as follows:

- Re-engineering
- Procurement

### **Phase 4: Project Implementation**

The objective of this stage is to identify the scope and responsibility of each participating party for the implementation and construction period of the projects.

At the beginning of Phase IV, all the necessary suppliers,



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contractors or engineers shall be under contract and the services for engineering or supply of equipment are in progress.

With respect to budget-limited projects, we assume that the definitions for the implementation of projects are applicable for the second and third-case projects.

With regard to the first case budget and the nature of such projects, extensive monitoring is not required.

As a further prerequisite, the Appraisal Reports (completed during Phase III) are approved and will be the design input for the Project Implementation Plan.

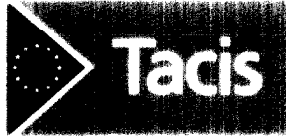
The main tasks for this project stage are defined as follows:

Preparation of the Project Implementation Plan  
Delivery of equipment  
Construction  
Installation with commissioning and start-up  
Supervision  
Training  
Project completion report

<b>Project starting date :</b>	<b>3 January 2000</b>
<b>Project duration :</b>	<b>34 months</b>

The contractual end of project INOGATE 97-03.02 was initially November 1<sup>st</sup> 2001.  
The duration of the project was extended:

- for a first time, to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001 (an extension of two months),
- for a second time, to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2002 (an extension of eight months).



## 2 PROJECT PROGRESS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

The project's activities are presented according to the phases defined in the paragraph 1.3:

- Project Identification,
- Project Selection,
- Project Preparation,
- Project Implementation.

### 2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS

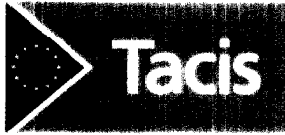
*Project Identification :* A first mission was carried out in the Beneficiary Countries in the period: February 22<sup>nd</sup>-February 29<sup>th</sup>. The local TACIS Co-ordinating Units were informed of the missions and related preliminary results.

A series of meetings were held in the partner countries, namely Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia, with representatives of the Gas and Oil Companies, of the Ministries of Energy and of the local TACIS Co-ordinating Units (TCU).

These meetings aimed at:

- Presenting the project to the above countries as a continuation of project INOGATE 9602 for Oil and INOGATE 9604 for Gas, with the goal of identifying, selecting and implementing concrete measures to improve Oil and Gas infrastructures in the three countries between the Caspian Sea and the Black Sea.
- Defining, with the assistance of local partners/future subcontractors, and on the basis of previous investigations conducted during the INOGATE projects 96.02 and 96.04, priority projects for immediate and mid-term to long-term improvements of the oil and gas infrastructures, predominantly the pipeline transportation systems for hydrocarbons in the Beneficiary Countries.
- Explaining the project's financial framework and use





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of TACIS INOGATE funds during all phases of the project, in particular, to finance identified and approved procurement packages and related implementation/operations procedures.

The Gas and Oil Companies of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia agreed to send to the Consortium the list of priority investments within the next 2 weeks following the meetings (e.g. mid-March).

The list of priority investments for gas were forwarded by the Beneficiaries:

- on March 22nd from GGIC
- on April 4th from The Ministry of Energy of Armenia,
- on April 10th from Azerigaz.

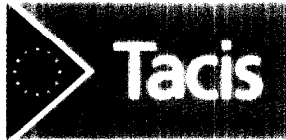
*Project Selection:*

- According to the conclusions of a meeting held on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2000 (Annex 1) at the premises of the European Commission, and according to the list of emergency project forwarded by the beneficiary countries, the scope of work was modified limiting the projects to the gas sector.
- During a meeting held on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2000 (Annex 2) with the European Commission and representatives of the Beneficiary Countries (Georgia and Armenia), the European Commission confirmed the final scope of work of INOGATE 97-03.02, e.g. the priority investment projects will concern the gas sector and two countries, namely Georgia and Armenia. The European Commission also confirmed the ranking of priority projects.

Concerning the inter-state metering stations (first and second priority), the governments of the concerned countries (Georgia and Armenia, Georgia and Russia) will have to sign a Memorandum of Understanding on the mutual recognition of the metering standards.

The Contractor has organised a technical meeting with the participation of representatives from Armenia and Georgia in Tbilisi, on May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

The aim of this meeting held in GGIC premises was to come to a common agreement between the Beneficiary Countries (Georgia



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and Armenia) and the Consortium on the final list of the priority projects. The participants agreed on:

- construction of a new metering station of Gweletti, in Georgia, near the border with Russia,
- construction of the new metering station of Kohb, in Armenia, near the border with Georgia,
- installation of a leak detection system in Armenia.

The minutes of this meeting are presented in Annex 3. They are signed by representatives of the Consortium, of GGIC and of ArmRusGasprom.

*Project Preparation:* The Contractor prepared a first draft of detailed technical specifications regarding the metering stations of Gweletti (Georgia) and Kohrb (Armenia) on June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2000.  
*Technical meeting with the Beneficiaries*

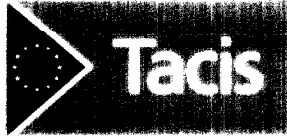
These specifications were presented and commented during a series of technical meetings held:

- in Tbilissi, in GGIC premises on June 27<sup>th</sup> 2000,
- in Erevan, in ArmRusGasprom premises on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2000.

During these meetings, the breakdown of the facilities:

- within the scope of work of the project (i.e. funded from the project),
- not included in the scope of work of the project (i.e. funded by the local gas Companies),

were also defined and agreed upon.



*Project Preparation :  
Preparation of tendering  
documents for the metering  
stations of Gweletti (Georgia)  
and Kohrb (Armenia)*

These project's activities are retraced hereafter:

- September 2000: the Consortium was required by the European Commission (Annex 4) to prepare tendering documents for an EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) contract, in accordance with the conditions of the Service Contract between the European Commission and the Consortium, as per its Terms Of Reference. The tendering documents were prepared, one for the metering station of Gweletti (Georgia) and one for the metering station of Kohrb (Armenia) and sent to the European Commission on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2000,
- After a meeting held in the premises of the European Commission on December 6<sup>th</sup> 2000, the Consortium was required to prepare tendering documents for Works, for both metering stations,
- The first version of tendering documents for works was prepared and sent to European Commission on December 15<sup>th</sup> 2000. It was rejected on January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2001 because the form of the document did not comply with the existing standards, taking into account a recent (at that date) update of the version available on the web-site of the European Commission.
- The second version of the tendering documents for Works was prepared and sent to the European Commission on April 12<sup>th</sup> 2001. A meeting was held at the European Commission premises on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2001.

At this stage of the project, the situation was the following:

- . the duration of the project could not be extended after December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001, this due to budgetary reasons,
- . no derogation could be approved by the European Commission for a negotiated procedure applicable to the Works contract.

In order to optimise the allocation of the activities taking into account the remaining time for the completion of the project, the following was agreed:

- . to cancel the foreseen Works due to time restrictions,
- . to launch an international open tender for Supply of the equipment for the construction of both metering stations in Georgia and in Armenia.



metering stations in Georgia and in Armenia.

- The final version of the Supply contract was prepared and sent to the European Commission on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2001. After approval of these documents, the procurement notice for Supply Contract was issued on July 24<sup>th</sup> 2001 and the deadline for submission of tenders set on September 24<sup>th</sup> 2001,
- The opening and evaluation of the tenders were carried out from September 26<sup>th</sup> 2001 to October 1<sup>st</sup> 2001. The evaluation report was prepared and sent to the European Commission for approval on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2001.

*Project Preparation :  
Preparatory Works for the  
metering stations of Gweletti  
(Georgia) and Kohrb (Armenia)*

As a conclusion of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2001 at the European Commission, it was also agreed to enter into a formal agreement with the Beneficiaries in order to implement preparatory works for both metering stations of Gweletti and Kohrb. This agreement will be reached after conducting an *informal consultation for each Beneficiary Country (Georgia and Armenia)* with three local Civil Works companies.

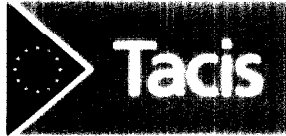
The implementation of the preparatory works was discussed in a series of meetings held:

- in Tbilissi, in GGIC premises on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2001,
- in Erevan, in ArmRusGasprom premises on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

During these meetings, the Consortium committed itself to send to the local Civil Works Companies via the Georgian and Armenian Gas Companies a detailed bill of quantities and MTO (material take-over).

Note: During that period, the issue of concluding inter-state agreements for the establishment and operation of both fiscal gas metering stations of Gweletti and Kohrb was still pending. The Consortium was then asked by the European Commission to prepare protocols to the Umbrella Agreement for that purpose. Both protocols had to be signed by all the parties, namely representatives of:

- . the Russian Federation and Georgia for the fiscal gas metering station of Gweletti,
  - . Georgia and Armenia for the fiscal gas metering station of Kohrb.
- Three Georgian Civil Works Companies presented their



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offers on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2001: "Nika", "Gazmsheni" and "Ertoba",

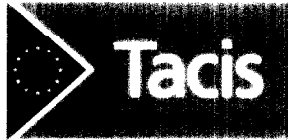
- Three Armenian Civil Works Companies presented their offers on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2001: "BentonitSroy", "Grime" and "TransGazSroy".

After the evaluation process, the Consortium entered into a contracting agreement with:

- the Georgian Company "Gazmsheni" on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2001, for a completion of the works scheduled before the end of October (note: the works had to be completed as soon as possible due to the site location, the hard climatic conditions and the poor state of the access road),
- the Armenian Company "BentonitSroy" on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001, for a completion of the works scheduled before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001 (as a difference with Gweletti case, the works could be carried out later in the year because of better weather conditions and access roads).

The Regional INOGATE Working Group Meeting for the Caucasus Region, held in Brussels on October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2001 (minutes of this meeting in Annex 9) summarises the progress of the project, taking into account that the project had to be completed on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001:

- as regards the preparatory works for the metering stations of Gweletti and Kohrb,
- as regards the supply of equipment and installation works for both metering stations:
  - . Contractor of INOGATE 97 had to ensure that the equipment for the metering station of Kohrb should be stored and available at the supplier's shops before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001 and had to provide training for Georgian and Armenian experts on the operation of such metering stations,
  - . Contractor of INOGATE 98 had to provide equipment for the metering station of Gweletti and monitor the installation works of both metering stations Gweletti and Kohrb.



- Project Implementation:*
- On 14<sup>th</sup> November 2001, the Consortium was informed that the procurement unit gave its approval (in verbal form) to the selection of the supplier, namely the Italian company PIETRO FIORENTINI SpA.

The supply contract for the equipment of the metering station of Kohrb (Armenia) was endorsed by the European Commission on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2001.

The transfer of ownership of the equipment took place at the shops of the supplier PIETRO FIORENTINI SpA in Vincenza, Italy, on December 28<sup>th</sup> 2001. This transfer of ownership was attended by a representative of the Armenian Company ArmRusGazprom, Mr Hovsepyan (Deputy General Director), by representatives of the Consortium and was witnessed by the Contractor of the new Action Programme 98, namely the Company RENCO SpA (Italy). Due to the current market situation, most of the equipment for the gas metering station has a delivery period longer than two months. Therefore, the transfer of ownership included a guarantee clause for the delivery of the long-lead items stating that in any case, the totality of the equipment shall be delivered to the Supplier's shops before the end of April 2002.

Once the equipment and materials for the metering station of Kohrb are delivered on site, the pre-commissioning, commissioning and start-up as well as the construction of the metering station of Kohrb shall be supervised by the Contractor of the new action programme RENCO SpA (Italy).

- The preparatory works for the metering stations of Gweletti and Kohrb have been completed on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2001.
- The training on the operation of metering stations was provided to Georgian and Armenian experts at the shops of the Supplier (Vincenza, Italy):
  - . December 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> 2001 for the Georgian experts,
  - . December 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> 2001 for the Armenian experts.



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- The addendum (N°1) to the Supply Contract with the supplier PIETRO FIORENTINI (Italy) was endorsed by the European Commission on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2002. Its subject was the pre-commissioning, the commissioning and the start-up of the fiscal gas metering station of Kohrb (Armenia). These operations shall be carried out under the supervision of the Contactor of the new Action Programme, namely RENCO SpA (Italy).



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The summary of the activities is the following, from the beginning of the project

Activities' period	Project phasing	Activities
February 22 <sup>nd</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> 2000	Project Identification	First series of meetings Azerbaijan, Georgia, Armenia
March 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2000	Project Selection	Meetings with EC identifying final scope of work and Countries
April 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2000		
May 15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> 2000	Project Selection	Technical meeting Tbilissi
June 27 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> 2000	Project Preparation	Technical meetings Tbilissi and Erevan Technical specification metering stations of Gweletti and Kohrb + breakdown of tasks
September 7 <sup>th</sup> -December 6 <sup>th</sup> 2000	Project Preparation	Preparation of tendering documents EPC
December 15 <sup>th</sup> 2000 – April 12 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Preparation of tendering documents Works
May 16 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Decision EC to launch tender for Supplies + preparatory works for Gweletti and Kohrb
July 4 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Completion of tender documents for Supplies
July 23 <sup>rd</sup> -July 25 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Technical meetings Tbilissi and Erevan Implementation of preparatory works for metering stations
July 24 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Procurement Notice for Supply Contract
September 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Preparatory works: offers from Georgian and Armenian Civil Works Companies
September 5 <sup>th</sup> 2001		
September 24 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Deadline for submission tender for Supplies
October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Preparatory works: contracting agreements signed with Georgian and Armenian Civil Works Companies
November 1 <sup>st</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Opening and evaluation tender for Supplies
September 26 <sup>th</sup> 2001 – October 1 <sup>st</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Completion evaluation report for Supplies
October 10 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Preparation	Informal approval of Evaluation for Supplies by the EC
November 14 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Implementation	Completion of the preparatory works Gweletti and Kohrb
December 10 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Implementation	Training of Georgian and Armenian experts
December 14 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> 2001	Project Implementation	Transfer of Ownership equipment for the metering station of Kohrb
December 28 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Project Implementation	Endorsement by the EC of the Addendum N°1 to the Supply Contract for the pre-commissioning, the commissioning and start-up of the fiscal gas metering station of Kohrb (Armenia)
March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2002	Project Implementation	





## 2.2 ACHIEVEMENTS IN COMPARISON WITH PLANNED RESULTS

The tables 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.2.4 and 2.2.5 hereafter present the project achievements in comparison with planned results in terms of resources and outputs. The deviations are detailed in the following paragraph "Deviations from original planning and reasons".

Note: regarding these tables, the planning period applies only to the end of 2001 (i.e. December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001). After that date, the activities carried out in the framework of this project were only related to:

- the following-up of the on-going contracts, namely: the supply contract with its addendum for the pre-commissioning, the commissioning and the start-up of the metering station of Kohrb,
- financial and invoicing issues.