

Avrasya Tüneli İşletme İnşaat ve Yatırım A.Ş. (ATAŞ - the Eurasia Tunnel Operation, Construction and Investment Inc. Co.)

Eurasia Tunnel Project

Stakeholder Engagement Plan Close-out Report for Detailed Design and Construction Phase

April 2017

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INTRODUCTION

The Eurasia Tunnel Project is developed by ATAŞ (Avrasya Tüneli İşletme İnşaat ve Yatırım A.Ş.), which has been selected by the Turkish Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications General Directorate of Infrastructure Investments (AYGM). The company designed, built and operates a new tunnel for a road beneath the Bosphorus that links the European and Asian sides of Istanbul.

An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) has also been prepared for this Project in accordance with international practices (see project website: www.avrasyatuneli.com). The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is prepared, updated and implemented for all phases of the Project.

This document is the SEP Close Out Report for Detailed Design and Construction Phase of the Eurasia Tunnel Project. This report summarises the stakeholder engagement activities, implementation of the grievance mechanism and actions taken accordingly during the detailed design and construction phase (January 2013 – December 2016).

This Close Out Report will be freely available (in both Turkish and English) on the project website (www.avrasyatuneli.com) and hard copies can also be requested from ATAŞ by emailing (info@avrasyatuneli.com), calling the Project Hotline (+90 0850 222 8020). Separately from this Close Out Report, SEP for the operation stage of the Project has been developed and is available on the website (www.avrasyatuneli.com).

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OVERVIEW OF SEP IMPLEMENTATION

SEP defined a consistent, comprehensive, coordinated and culturally appropriate approach to stakeholder engagement that can continue throughout all phases of the Project including the detailed design and construction.

Comments, queries, complaints and suggestions were received following communication channels:

- Project Website (www.avrasyatuneli.com)
- E-mail (info@avrasyatuneli.com and esia@avrasyatuneli.com)
- Project Hotline (+90850 222 8020)
- ESIA Reading Room (Burhan Felek Caddesi, 1.Çevreyolu Sokak, Eurasia Tunnel Main Site Office, Haydarpaşa - Istanbul)
- Direct communication (Phone, meeting, visit etc.)

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

During the detailed design and construction phase of the Project, following stakeholder activities had been made:

- A Grievance Procedure has been implemented in accordance with Stakeholder Engagement Plan for construction (Please see Chapter 4 for more details).
- Significant changes and updates to the Project plans have been shared with the local community. These included, among other, information regarding key progress milestones (e.g., start of overall construction, start and finalization of tunnel works, completion of major road sections widening etc.).
- An ESIA Reading Room has been established at the Main Office of the EPC Contractor at Haydarpaşa. It is open between 08:00 – 18:00 in week days, 09:00 – 17:00 on Saturdays and 10:00 – 14:00 on Sundays.
- The Project has established a transparent and proactive communication strategy. Invitations and requests from relevant institutions have consistently been welcome, as evidenced by the following:
 - Hundreds of representatives of national and international universities, government institutions and private companies have visited the construction site.
 - Invitations sent to tens of national and international conferences have been accepted.
 - Tens of meeting requests from local community organizations and NGOs, such as Professional Chambers and UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC), have been received. Relevant information were provided subsequently.
- In accordance with the results of Land Acquisition, Compensation and Resettlement Plan (LACRP), the Project design was reviewed in order to minimize the impact on Project Affected Persons (PAPs). Also, the need for land take decreased significantly. Legal expropriation process was completed by AYGEM at the end of 2014. AYGEM made all required compensation payments. Individual plans were prepared for each PAP in order to manage the communication and entitlements. Necessary mitigation and compensation were delivered in consultation with PAPs, such as petrol stations on the Asian Side of the Project, Kumkapı Fish Market, cafes and restaurants in Samatya and Yenikapı areas, and few (mainly related to the relocation of the Kumkapı Fish Market) are on-going.
- Initially the Kumkapı Fish Market was planned to be relocated by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (IMM) before the Project construction. Therefore, people working in the Market were not considered as affected and eligible for mitigation under the Project's LACRP. Due to delays in relocation, people working in the Kumkapı Fish Market became affected by the Project. Hence, these people were included as PAPs in the LACRP, their entitlements were determined and support to them at their temporary location was provided. New facility is now under construction by IMM and planned to be

completed in September 2017. Monitoring and support to the affected people by the Project will continue during this time period.

- At the request of UNESCO WHC, a Heritage Impact Assessment was prepared in 2014 in accordance with ICOMOS Guideline and the results delivered to UNESCO WHC. The Project design and construction reflected the results of this report.
- A design change is made around the Marble Tower, historical structure next to the land walls of Historic Peninsula, in order to increase accessibility of the structure in accordance with the comments of UNESCO WHC and Heritage Impact Assessment Study. An ESIA addendum was prepared and shared with relevant authorities and public (www.avrasyatuneli.com).
- As local communities on the European side remain concerned regarding the Project's air quality impact, independent experts prepared an additional air quality assessment and prepared a report. Report shows that the high impacts occur only few days of year due to the dominant northerly winds in Istanbul. This means on most days tunnel emissions will move towards the Marmara Sea. During operation if monitoring indicates that ambient concentrations are approaching the upper limit, a number of measures will be adopted to reduce emissions, such as higher ventilation rates and traffic management practices (e.g. capacity reduction and imposing lower speed limits). Also, continuous monitoring of the air quality in the tunnel and the surrounding environment is implemented. Further information can be reach from Republic of Turkey, Ministry of Transport, Maritime and Communications.
- Air quality studies undertaken by Independent Consultants for the both sides of the Project in order to respond public queries. Further information on air quality studies can be found here (www.avrasyatuneli.com).
- Following consultation with the cultural community, NGOs and authorities, two monuments Yasar Kemal and Turk-Turkmenistan Peace Monument on the Project route were relocated to the Yenikapı City Park.
- Since the Public Consultation period in March-May 2011, the Project design has been developed and improved in accordance with the findings from stakeholder engagement, results of ESIA and further studies undertaken. The Project's environmental and social experts assessed all design changes in terms of their environmental and social impacts and made necessary arrangements. The detailed design was finalized on September 2015, and final design was disclosed to public via project communication channels (www.avrasyatuneli.com).
- All excavations in European Side of the Project were undertaken under the supervision of relevant Cultural Heritage Preservation Council and Istanbul Archaeology Museum. Survey excavations were held and results of the excavations will be disclosed with Public within 2017.

IMPLEMENTATION OF GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

An independent grievance mechanism had been implemented in detailed design and construction phase. Queries, comments and complaints were taken into account. Main topics were listed as below:

- Allowed/prohibited vehicles (Minibuses, motorcycles etc.)
- Project route
- Temporary traffic diversions
- Site visit requests
- Construction progress
- Noise
- Ambient and tunnel air quality

All the queries were satisfactorily responded. Construction schedule were revised to minimize the impact to the community where necessary such as:

- Construction schedule of piling works in Eyup Aksoy Interchange were revised due to complaints received from public. Noisy works were shifted to morning.
- Construction of Kosuyolu Overpass were delayed for one year in order to minimise the social impact and construction were shifted to next summer.
- The excavation works of NATM tunnels in Asian side were stopped during the surgery hours of an eye hospital in the vicinity due to vibration risk.

A summary table of submissions were shown as below:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Written	5	11	2	10	28
Verbal	5	15	37	903	960
Total	10	26	39	913	988
All these submissions have been closed satisfactorily in accordance with the grievance mechanism determined in the SEP.					

A separate communication and grievance mechanism was implemented for the Project's land acquisition and resettlement process. Related communication and documentary evidence were recorded. During this phase, over 100 various requests were registered. All these requests (e.g. compensation payment, changes in construction method and schedule etc.) were addressed in accordance with LACRP and to satisfaction of the affected people.

ATAŞ CONTACT INFORMATION

In case of any questions regarding this SEP document or the Project, please contact ATAŞ at the address below, or via the below telephone number, email address or website.

Eurasia Tunnel Project Public Information 0 850 222 80 20 (Turkish Hotline)

info@avrsyatuneli.com (Email)

Zarakol Consultancy

<http://www.avrsyatuneli.com>
(Website)

Akıncı Bayırı Sokak

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