



Advance Contracting Notice

Date: 24 May 2012

Country/Borrower: **Government of Georgia**

Title of Proposed Project: **Sustainable Urban Transport Investment Program - Tranche 2**

Name and Address of Executing Agency

Municipal Development Fund of Georgia

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Brief Description of Project:

The Government of Georgia (GOG) sent a second periodic financing request for the tranche 2 of the Georgia Sustainable Urban Transport Investment Program to ADB on 16 March 2012. GOG proposed the following subprojects for tranche 2 financing: (i) Tbilisi - Rustavi urban link (Section 1 and section 3); (ii) Tbilisi Mtkvari Bridge; and (iii) Mtskheta Bridge. Here are the main characteristics of the three subprojects:

Tbilisi Rustavi Urban Link (\$57 million, estimates). Located in the South-East of Tbilisi, Rustavi is part of Tbilisi metropolitan area and has 125,000 inhabitants. Former biggest metallurgical and industrial plant in the region, the city is today in a restructuring process. As the plant was the main employer in the city, thousands of people are now working in Tbilisi, commuting everyday and turning the Tbilisi - Rustavi road section into one of the busiest and over-trafficked artery. It reaches about 15,000 vehicles per day exceeding by more than 100% the nominal road capacity. The project consists in upgrading 10.6km out of the 18km long Tbilisi-Rustavi road section to reach a Category 1 road with 4 traffic lanes and a speed design of 120 km/h. The preferred alignment will follow the existing right of way on two third of its length and will have a 3km long new section to minimize land acquisition and resettlement. Detailed design has been prepared and bidding documents have been reviewed and cleared.

Tbilisi Mtkvari Bridge (\$30 million, estimates). The bridge will be located at a point crossing the river Mtkvari in North Tbilisi so as to connect the busy right bank of Saburtalo district to the Didube's densely inhabited left bank. Detailed Design is ongoing and final alignment will be available in June 2012. Bidding documents for the civil work will be prepared in July-August and civil works contract is expected to be awarded by the end of 2012.

Mtskheta Bridge (\$17 million, estimates). Located 10 km in the North of Tbilisi, the Mtskheta Bridge connects the Tbilisi - Gori highway and the touristic city of Mtskheta, renowned for its 11th century Svetitskhoveli orthodox Cathedral. The new bridge will replace an aged and poorly maintained old bridge on the Aragvi River located 2.5 km away from the city. This bridge will support the development of the

southeast of the settlement, will cope with the increasing flows of traffic; improve accessibility for people working and tourists visiting Mtskheta; reduce emission of pollution by shortening by 45% the distance to reach the highway to Tbilisi; and improve road safety with international design infrastructure. The 180 m long arched bridge will directly connect the historical site and the East-West highway.

Brief Description of Works to be Procured:

At the request of the Government, advance contracting was approved for procurement of partnership. The Government of Georgia has applied for a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) under Sustainable Urban Transport Investment Program - Tranche 2. It now intends to spend a portion of the loan as advance action for procurement of works. Tranche 2 comprises three subprojects as follows:

1) Modernization of Tbilisi-Rustavi Section of the Tbilisi-Red Bridge (Azerbaijani Border) Road (referred as Section 1 and Section 3) with: Asphalt concrete pavement highway of 4.0km of 2x3 lane dual carriageway, 35~36m wide for section 1; and 6.7km of 2x2 lane dual cement concrete pavement carriageway, 28.5m wide for section 3 with 3.0 meter hard shoulders and a 6.0 meter wide median.

2) Mtkvari Bridge. Construction of 300m long cable stayed bridge with 4 lanes

3) Mtskheta Bridge. Construction of 180m long arched bridge with 4 lanes

Date of Advance Action Approval: 16 April 2012