ONE ARMENIA

WATER PROJECT, UREKAN, KAROTAN & VARDABATS VILLAGES, NKR

INTRODUCTION

In our eleven years of activity in the Nagorno Karabagh region (NKR), the Tufenkian Foundation has focused on the resettlement and development of Nagorno Karabagh's border regions. Chief among these regions is Kashatagh, which connects Nagorno Karabagh to Armenia and is therefore strategically vital. Our various efforts – housing, infrastructure, health care, agriculture and small business development – all are geared toward resettling and developing these areas, so they become better integrated into Karabagh's policy, economy, and society.
Within Kashatagh, our efforts have tended toward the southern regions, which are more densely populated and possess a favorable environment for agriculture. With a warm, moderately dry climate and temperatures that rarely dip below freezing, the region resembles northern Iran more closely than it does Armenia. Under Soviet Azerbaijan's rule, this territory was widely known for grape cultivation, as well as for fruit plantations featuring mulberries and pomegranates. Water resources are generally available alongside the Hakkari River, which extends southward from Berdzor toward the Arax River Valley. Most of Southern Kashatagh's settled areas are found within 1-2 km of the Hakkari River. (See Map enclosed.)

Unfortunately, much of the region's infrastructure was uprooted due to the ravages of war: Housing, electricity, drinking water, roads, and health care facilities were all severely lacking in 1995, when the region's resettlement began. Since that time, the NKR authorities – with help from private donors – have managed to improve many of these basic conditions. Nevertheless, water remains a serious issue: Numerous villages still do not have their own dedicated water supplies; as a result, such villages are not able to grow economically or by attracting new settlers. The Tufenkian Foundation has identified a number of village clusters which stand in need of such supplies.

Our previous water project was in Nerkin Sus village and the official opening took place on May 18, in the presence of local and regional NKR officials. Now we seek to realize a more complex project which includes a cluster of villages – Karotan, Vardabats, and Urekan – found in Southern Kashatagh. Karotan has 16 families and 68 inhabitants, Vardabats has 18 families and 59 inhabitants, while Urekan has 45 families and 168 inhabitants. So in total, upon the realization of this project 295 villagers (79 families) plus the Karotan school and Vardabats town hall will receive pure drinking water.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The abovementioned villages have been chosen because of 1) their acute needs; 2) their location in a prime agricultural belt that can become a hub of resettlement activity; and 3) their proximity to one another, enabling an economy of scale in performing construction/repair works. Our initial investigations show that Karotan and Vardabats have many old water wells that are still viable. We therefore propose to clean and reconstruct the wells, fix the water pumps near them, and then pipe the well-water to nearby residences. In certain cases where houses do not enjoy nearby wells, we foresee constructing new wells. In total, these two villages would witness the construction or reconstruction of 18 water wells.

In the case of Urekan, villagers will receive drinking water from springs which are situated in the hills not far from the village. Water from these springs will be gathered into water collectors and then flow to a central water basin with a capacity of 4 tons. A network of pipes will then bring water from the basin to the village's inner system.

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BUDGET SHEET

	Materials	Unit	QTY	Price	Cost
1	Cement	bag	50	3,500	175,000
2	Electrical wire	m	1,200	300	360,000
3	Electrical pumps	piece	35	46,000	1,610,000
4	Stones and other additional materials				150,000
5	Polyethylene pipes	m	3,000	240	720,000
6	Connection parts				70,000
7	Iron covers for water wells	piece	18	20,000	360,000
8	Fuel	l	100	480	48,000
9	Non-return valve	piece	35	1,500	52,500
10	D20 pipes	m	1000	160	160,000
11	Sand	m3	8	5319	42,552
12	Unforeseen expenses				80,000
	Total for materials				**3,828,052**
	Salaries	**Unit**	**QTY**	**Price**	**Cost**
1	Digging of new water well with tractor				80,000
2	Fixing of pumps	point	35	3,000	105,000
3	Construction of new concrete water wells				100,000
4	Reconstruction of old water wells and fixing the cover	piece	18	30,000	540,000
5	Cleaning of 8 water wells	piece	8	60,000	480,000
1	Construction of water basin for Urekan (4 tons)				120,000
2	Construction of two water reservoirs (collectors) near the water spring				50,000
3	Digging of trench with excavator	m	1200	400	480,000
4	Connection of pipes				100,000
5	Land fill of the trench	m	1200	100	120,000
6	Transportation expenses				350,000
7	Taxes				671,203
	Total for Salaries				**3,196,203**
	Admin fee				1,053,638
	Total for the project				8,077,893
	Total for the project USD				$20,195
	Balance from Nerkin Sous water project				$4,200
	Requested amount for the project				**$15,995**