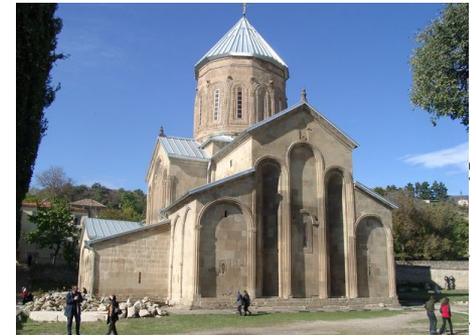




Presentation of project idea for Mtskheta Municipality

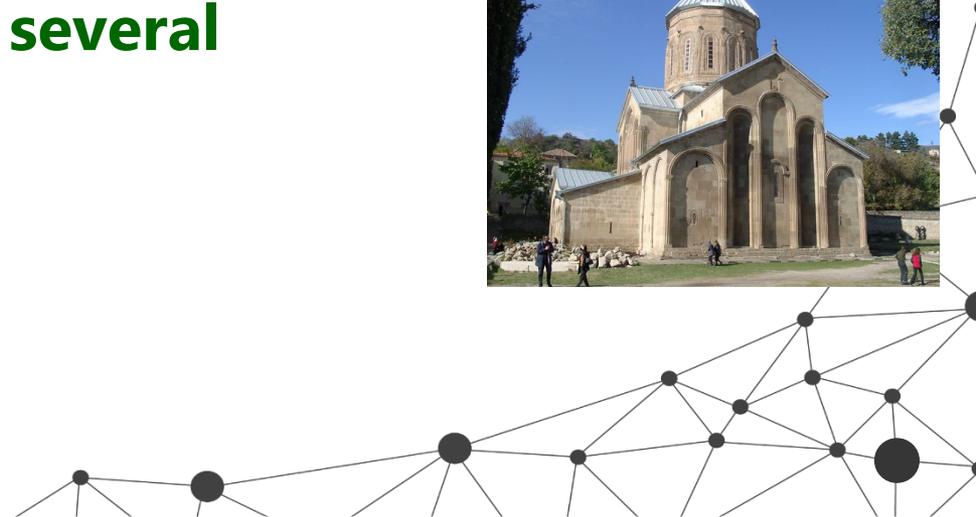
Proposal “Green corridor”

The Role of “Greater Mtskheta” in Forming the “Green Corridor” between several protected areas of Georgia



First virtual dialogue event

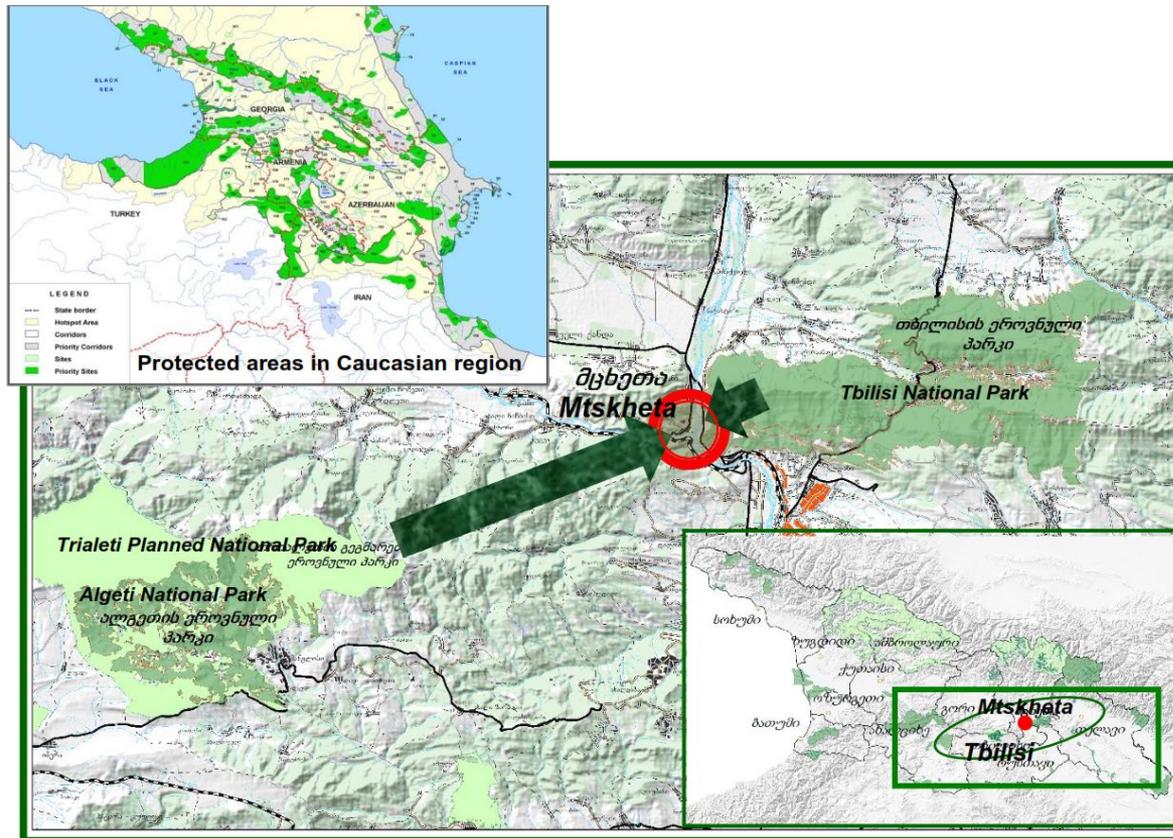
South Eastern Europe June 8-18 2020



Objectives

Project idea

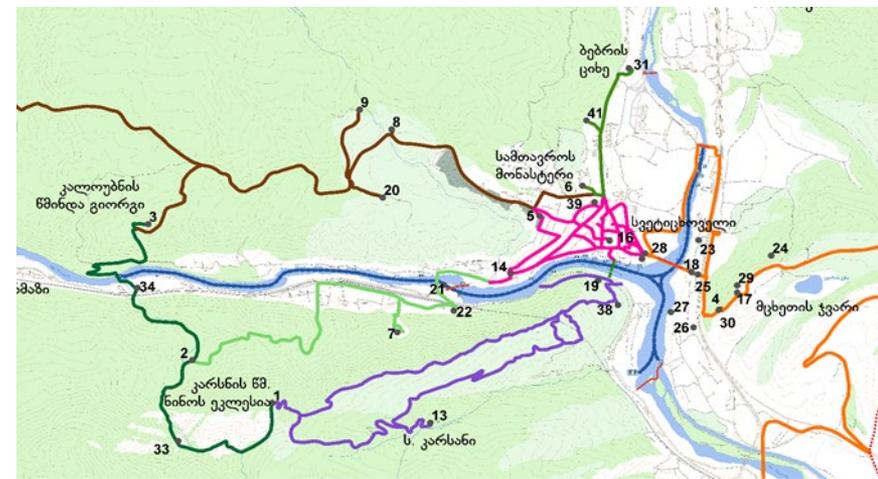
1. Idea to create Functional-planning connection between National parks System through the city of Mtskheta came up, because it is the only place where large natural ecosystems come close to each other, but the natural landscape was divided by the autobahn, a road constructed in soviet times.
2. "Greater Mtskheta" is the only place between great landscapes, hub, knot, in the eastern part of South Caucasus, where semi-humid forest masses of Large and Small Caucasus come together.
3. **Main Objective is to create new trans-municipal and trans-regional Eco- and Adventure touristic attraction and restore therefore the landscape with urban planning intervention.**



- ✓ Mtskheta is the historical old capital of Iberia (Eastern Georgia); an important basement of Georgian identity, the spiritual, Sacral Capital of Georgia;
- ✓ It is rich on cultural heritage monuments from ancient times and has several archeological sites of high cultural and historical importance;
- ✓ In the city of Mtskheta there are cultural heritage monuments of Outstanding Universal Value, "Historical Monuments of Mtskheta", inscribed in the World heritage list of UNESCO;
- ✓ Mtskheta as a "New Jerusalem" has - Living Religious and Sacred World Heritage in a Historic Urban Context.

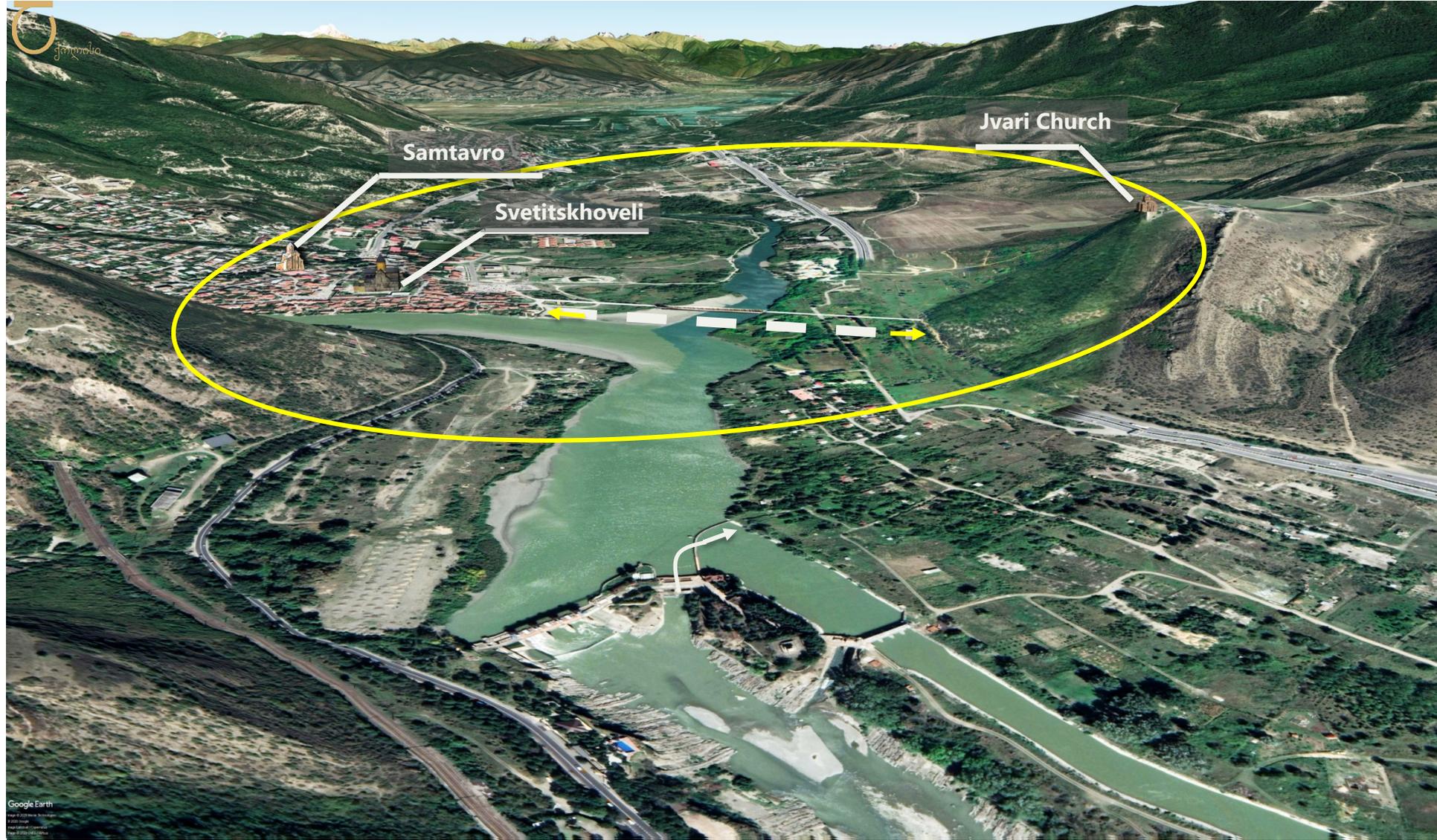
Objectives

Envisioned impact



1. Ecological situation for human and for species will improve;
2. Initiating and Strengthening this idea through the General Plan of Mtskheta will promote the formation of trans-regional thinking;
3. The step forward to the formation of System of Protected Areas of South Caucasus: the presented "Green corridor" and crossing it the Agglomeration scale green system along the Mtkvari and Aragvi rivers - two green axes of Georgian settlement system - will intersect;
4. Diversification of common for Mtskheta cultural and religious tourism will serve to decrease overcrowding of the city with touristic flows, giving a new directions to unknown sites and trails;
5. Recreation areas of agglomeration scale will offer new opportunities for local population and guests and create jobs for youth and experienced guides, health and recreation instructors etc.

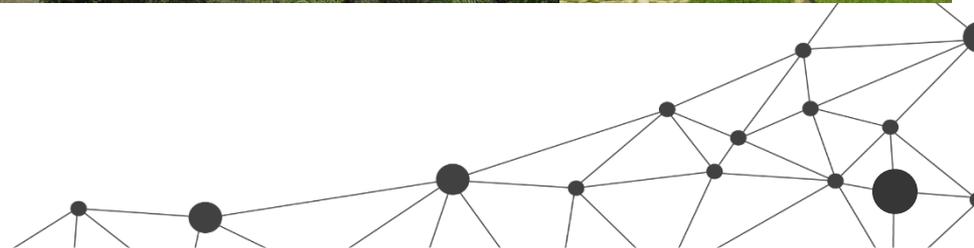
Geo-reconstruction of historical landscape between Jvari and Svetitskhoveli (Proposal)



Action steps



1. **Activity 1.** Finalizing the General Plan of Mtskheta
2. **Activity 2.** Institutionalization of the proposed concept
3. **Activity 3.** Initiating and Establishment of Management Plan for the key topic of the proposal
4. **Activity 4.** Ensuring paths for habitats, animals, crossing rivers and roads, along bridges, using planning interventions/tools
5. **Activity 5.** Define new tourist trails and plan necessary marking system
6. **Activity 6.** Initiate Heritage Impact Assessment of proposal.



Results of the project



Concrete output of the project (e.g. establishment of a new sustainable plan, a concept, a local community of practice)

1. **Output 1** Component of General Plan – proposal “Green Corridor” - will be elaborated to the Eco- and Adventure tourism development Concept for “Greater Mtskheta”
2. **Output 2** Detailed Project for Landscape restoring, in order to provide genetic resilience to habitats, animals, and plants in the area
3. **Output 3** Local Community practice - awareness building plan for youth, to achieve ecologic resilience of “Greater Mskheta”.



Project implementation

1. Necessary resources: local and international experts, Consultations with international organizations and project and realization donors
2. Possible partners: GIZ, WWF, UNEP, UNESCO, NGO-s – CENN, Green Movement of Georgia, Eco-tourism Association, etc.
3. Stakeholders: Local Self-Government of Mtskheta Municipality; Local population of Mtskheta; UNESCO; Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture; Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure; National Tourism Administration.





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