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ABOUT US:
REGIO Cultural Heritage Management Consultancy Inc was established in Ankara in 2009. The company has committed itself to the preservation of cultural assets and common heritage of all mankind, primarily in Turkey and its vicinity for their safe transfer to future generations. For this purpose, REGIO employs high calibre experts in “Cultural Heritage Management and Documentation and Preservation of Archaeological Heritage”. REGIO is the first private company in Turkey which has the necessary capacity of equipment and organization to perform all parts of the country, working in the documentation and evaluation of cultural assets and assisting in their formal registration for the purposes of transforming them into public property. REGIO is Corporate Friend of Europa Nostra and founders of REGIO Cultural Heritage Management Consultancy are members of European Association of Archaeologists (EAA).

REGIO Cultural Heritage Management Consultancy Company conducts its activities in compliance with the international standards and local laws and regulations acquiring “Scientific Academic Consultancy” from prominent universities in Turkey and Europe.

1 EBRD Performance Requirement 8, IFC Performance Standard 8
OUR SERVICES:
REGIO Cultural Heritage Management Consultancy Company provides services to construction, mining, investment and infrastructure projects financed by international donors or lenders in order to assist those making realistic plans and minimise risks of delay born by unplanned pause of work due to unexpected encounter with a cultural / archaeological site. In accordance with this purpose, REGIO’s services are:

- Identification of cultural or archaeological assets at the work sites of national and international mine explorations, construction of natural gas and crude oil pipelines, airports, seaports, petrochemical plantations, power plants and similar infrastructure works. Documentation of the identified archaeological assets as well as planning and implementing necessary actions for their conservation.
- Conducting desktop and field research to support Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies.
- Developing strategies for the preservation of cultural and archaeological assets that might be affected during construction of oil or gas pipelines, motorways, airports, marine ports, petrochemical plants, power stations, mining and infrastructure projects at national and international scale. Preparing management plans and developing protection procedures.
- Conducting field work together with local authorities to identify archaeological sites and immovable cultural assets within the site boundaries of mining, infrastructure and construction projects. Collecting and digitising geographical data, preparation of relevant inventory records and their submission to the relevant bodies.
- Organizing training activities for employees and implementing archaeological supervision, monitoring and evaluation activities for construction and infrastructure projects.
- Preparation of Chance Find Procedures to be followed during the construction activities. Implementation or monitoring of these procedures.
- Establishing liaison between project teams and local authorities and support of creating good governance between project stakeholders. Providing consultancy and technical support for establishing formal communication channels with the authorities.
- For construction and infrastructure projects, in areas having high potential of archaeological or cultural assets, conducting test pit and salvage excavations in line with the local regulations. Evaluation and reporting of the findings.
• For construction and infrastructure projects, preparation of reports on Cultural and Archaeological Heritage aspects of a project in order to meet expectations of international organisations and lender institutions.

• Organising information meetings targeting local and national authorities as well as non-governmental organisations concerned about the protection of Cultural Heritage.

• Before and during construction, training of construction staff about the importance of cultural heritage, local and international regulations and practices, preparation of training materials.

• Documentation and reporting of intangible cultural heritage.

• Organisation of training programmes, awareness raising campaigns and other events for the purposes of preservation of cultural heritage and their safe transfer to future generations.
• Monitoring of reinstatement activities to be conducted after the construction phase.
• Preparing emergency plans for the operation phase. Providing consultancy and monitoring services for its implementation.
• Documentation of cultural and archaeological sites with aerial photographs and provision of professional photography and video recording services for identification and documentation of cultural and archaeological assets.
• GIS and mapping services for documentation of cultural heritage assets.
The “East Section” of the Nabucco Natural Gas Pipeline Project is 1100 km long and 500 m. wide, located between Posof at the Georgian Border and Ankara, Bala. Field survey was conducted on this section for the purposes of identifying potential risks of damage to archaeological and cultural assets and thereby minimising risks of delay that might be caused by unexpected encounter with archaeological sites during construction. The identified risks were reported and mitigation measures were recommended. The studies started on 18th October 2010 with literature research. The field survey was conducted between 27th October 2010 and 29th July 2011. This was the pioneering achievement in Turkey conducted in conformity with standards and best practices set by European Convention Criteria and European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Malta Accord).

As the result of the studies, 266 new archaeological and cultural heritage sites were identified and formally reported together with the GIS data to the Cultural Assets Preservation Boards of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.
REGIO provided cultural heritage management consultancy services during the construction of the Zafer Regional Airport that will serve Kütahya, Afyonkarahisar and Uşak provinces. The assignment included preparation and implementation of “Chance Find Procedures”, archaeological monitoring of construction activities and preparation of Watching Briefs, establishing and maintaining liaison with the local museum and the local board of protection of natural and cultural assets. REGIO also provided training to engineers and construction staff on the protection of cultural and archaeological assets during construction activities, as well as on local regulations and international best practices.

Archaeological monitoring of the construction activities was completed and observations were reported to the project management daily, monthly and as a final report.
For the project regarding licensed mining site within the Yozgat Province, REGIO conducted a study within the framework of Environmental Impact Assessment for the purposes of identification of archaeological and cultural assets and their documentation. Services provided included, identification of locations for production units, waste storage facilities and dump sites depending on the location of potential archaeological remains. The studies conducted in compliance with local regulations and international norms. A “Chance Find Procedure” was also prepared. 17 Archaeological assets were identified and their documentation was officially submitted to Sivas Cultural Assets Preservation Board of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.
• **GEBAZE-ORHANGAZI-İZMİR MOTORWAY PROJECT (INCLUDING İZMİT BAY CROSSING) CULTURAL HERITAGE SURVEYING AND DOCUMENTATION STUDIES**

REGIO conducted archaeological survey and documentation works along the motorway project connecting Istanbul and İzmir through a suspension bridge over the İzmİt Bay. The area under study is 421 km long including the connection roads and 500m wide including the impact corridor of the motorway. Tangible and intangible assets over the construction area are identified and recorded following local regulations and international norms and best practices. The first 266 km section between Gebze and Balıkesir is completed and 64 new sites carrying archaeological and cultural value were identified. These sites were reported to the relevant boards for protection of cultural assets. Consultancy services were delivered to the contractor in order to avoid interruption in construction activities.
On behalf of the contractor Otoyol AS, REGIO conducted archaeological survey works and identified sites with potential archaeological and cultural value and estimated their expansion zones during the survey of the Gebze-Bursa section of the motorway project between 18th April and 17th September 2011. Studies were conducted in 10 different locations under the supervision of Bursa Archaeological Museum.

Second phase of the test pit excavations were conducted in 4 different locations under the supervision of the Balikesir Kuvayi Milliye Museum between 3rd-29th August 2016. Scientific documentation of the unearthed remains and reports were delivered to relevant museums. International best practices were followed in all excavation works as well as compliance with international standards and local regulations. Technical reports prepared by REGIO are approved in the first preservation board meeting and construction of the motorway was approved in locations where no cultural assets are observed. For the others, it was decided to conduct salvage excavations.
The excavations were conducted on Havuzdere Necropolis between 10th June and 27th September 2013. The area is located in Havuzdere village of Altınova District in Yalova province and coincides with the motorway construction corridor. The area was declared as third degree protection area.

Excavations were conducted under the supervision of Bursa Museum Directorate and the location was discovered to be a cemetery belonging to Late Roman – Byzantine period. The artefacts revealed were delivered to Bursa museum while the skeletal remains were transferred to the laboratories of Anthropology Department of Ankara University for further studies. A total of 72 pits having size of 10x10 m were excavated during the studies and the architectural discoveries were documented following scientific methods.

Another salvage excavation for the project was on Yazırtepe Tumulus which is located on Umurbey neighbourhood of Gemlik District of Bursa Province. Excavations were conducted between 11th November and 4th December 2013 on the area which was registered as first degree protection site. Graves and funeral gifts discovered indicate that the cemetery belongs to the Roman Period 1st Century AD.
Final salvation excavation in the project was conducted between 13th August 2016-29th July 2017 on the first and second degree protection sites located in Ovacık quarter of the Karesi District of Balıkesir Province. 90 trenches with a size of 10m x 10m were excavated under the supervision of Balıkesir Kuvayi Milliye Museum and the scientific documentation of findings were completed and these findings are registered in the inventory.

International best practices were followed in all excavation activities which are implemented in compliance with local regulations and international standards. All reports prepared by REGIO were approved in Regional Preservation Boards of Cultural Assets and official decisions were taken for the continuation of the motorway construction.
Within the scope of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) study, the 1795 km long route and its impact area between Doğu Beyazıt, Ağrı and İpsala, Edirne have been surveyed between 3rd June and 18th July 2012. 166 sites having archaeological and cultural potential were identified within pipeline route and the project impact area. Impact assessment of these areas were conducted following best practices and international standards and all data collected during the study were officially submitted to relevant Protection Boards of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.
- TRANS-ANATOLIAN NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT (TANAP) SURVEY FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSETS

For the TANAP Natural Gas Pipeline Project, a preliminary survey was conducted between 26th April 2012 and 7th June 2012 in order to assess the cultural heritage potential of the whole pipeline route and its 5 km corridor. The preliminary studies started at Ardahan, Posof and ended at Edirne, Ipsala. Alternative routes were also surveyed.

The detailed archaeological survey of TANAP under the ESIA studies was carried out between May 1st and 31st December 2013 in order to define exact locations of potential archaeological and immovable cultural heritage sites within the 500 m corridor of the preferred pipeline route. 131 unregistered archaeological and historical sites were identified during the field survey. Impact assessment studies were completed in those areas following best practices and international standards and all collected data have been submitted to the relevant Protection Boards of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.
• **BAKU-TBLISI-CEYHAN PIPELINE RE-ROUTE SURVEY**

A parallel pipeline was required to be constructed between 382+616 and 383+282 kilometer points (Müftüoğlu Village, Tercan District, Erzincan Province) of the Baku-Tblisi-Ceyhan Crude Oil Pipeline Project. Archaeological survey of this area was carried out by REGIO in August 2012. In addition to the surface study geological drills were also investigated from archaeological point of view and archaeological monitoring services were provided during the excavations.
The Filyos Harbour project of the Ministry of Transport has been implemented with technical assistance from the European Union. For the purposes of identifying the cultural assets, and developing strategies which define the steps to be taken for the conservation of movable and immovable cultural assets before and during the construction activities, REGIO conducted field survey on the construction zone in October 2012.

The assignment included the identification of areas carrying high risk of presence of archaeological assets and their reporting together with the proposed procedures to be carried out for their preservation. As the result of the surveys and assessment of the findings, the report describing procedures to be followed in the three phases of the project, that is, “before, during and after the construction activities” was submitted to the Ministry of Transport and the EU Delegation in Turkey on November 16th 2012.
- **YUMURTALIK FREE TRADE ZONE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

The free trade zone to be constructed as private investment is located on the Mediterranean coast in Turunclu village of Erzin district of Hatay province. The survey was conducted and completed in April 2013. The study also covered reporting of the location and legal status of all cultural and archaeological assets registered in the inventory of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism which are known to be in the vicinity of the construction zone. All the findings were reported to the contractor, Ronesans Holding.
• NORTH MARMARA MOTORWAY (INCLUDING THE 3RD CROSSING OVER BOSPORUS)

The study for the identifying of tangible cultural and archaeological assets located on the route and on the impact zone of the North Marmara Motorway and developing impact minimizing strategies was conducted in May 2013. The second phase of the works covers desktop studies, and preparation of risk maps. The report covering the location of tangible cultural or archaeological assets that are identified on the route and within the impact zone, their condition, legal status, geographical position and their expansion was submitted. Based on the findings, the contractor implements mitigation majors including a possible route change. The report was submitted to the supervising company AECOM on 30th of May 2013.
Archaeological sites identified during the ESIA study of the TANAP (Trans Anatolian Pipeline) project which remained within the construction corridor were attempted to be avoided by route change. Archaeological excavations started on 14th October 2014 for those where route change is not possible.

Studies have been conducted in Erzurum, Eskişehir, Ankara and Balıkesir as test pit and salvage excavations, preparation of measured drawings and restoration. Excavations were conducted in 26 different locations by the Archaeology Team provided by REGIO under the supervision of Museum Directorates.

International best practices were followed in all test pit and salvage sites and the studies were conducted in line with local regulations and international standards. Technical reports prepared by REGIO were approved by relevant Protection Boards were approved and formal decisions were taken for the construction of the pipeline as it was planned in these locations.
Between the 16th and 19th June 2014, archaeological monitoring and reporting activities were held for the test pits excavated at the implementation site of “Ahmetli Heavy Metal Mining Field Project” in Salihli district of Manisa.
• AĞAN THERMAL POWER PLANT PROJECT

In the project location in Karabiga Quarter of Biga District of Çanakkale Province, site survey for cultural and archaeological assets were completed in September 2014 prior to construction activities. Detailed reports for the studies were handed over to ÇINAR Engineering and Consultancy.
• **KARABURUN-2 THERMAL POWER PLANT PROJECT**

In the project location in Karabiga Quarter of Biga District of Çanakkale Province, site survey for cultural and archaeological assets were completed in September 2014 prior to construction activities. Detailed reports for the studies were handed over to ÇINAR Engineering and Consultancy.
In the project location in Fırıncık at Karabiga Quarter of Biga District of Çanakkale Province, archaeological excavations for the identification and protection of archaeological and immovable cultural assets were conducted between 13th April 2015 and 18th May 2015. Excavations were conducted by REGIO under the supervision of Çanakkale Museum. International best practices were followed in all test pit and salvage sites and the studies were conducted in line with local regulations and international standards. Technical reports prepared by REGIO were submitted to Protection Boards.
KOCAELİ AND İZMİR INTEGRATED HEALTH CAMPUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SURVEYS

Between 1st March 2015 and 15th April 2015, desktop research, field investigation, impact assessment and reporting works were conducted by REGİO for the purpose of developing strategies for the activities needed to be held before and after construction works for identifying and conservation of the potential archaeological and immovable cultural properties at the construction sites of health campuses at Kocaeli and İzmir.
PREPARATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ALPARSLAN II WATER DAM, MUŞ

An outline “Cultural Heritage Management Plan and Chance Find Procedure” considering the conservation and salvage of archaeological and immovable cultural properties in the construction sites and the water catchment basin of the Alparslan II Water Dam and Alparslan II Hydroelectric Power Plant located in Murat Creek, a tributary of the Euphrates river in Muş Province, was prepared and submitted to Enerjis A.Ş.
**MERSİN-KARAMAN NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT**

Desk study and archaeological survey for the identification of potential archaeological and immovable cultural assets over the preliminary route of the Mersin Karaman Natural Gas Pipeline was conducted between 15th May 2015 and 18th June 2015. The “Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment Report” covering the findings of the studies were delivered to Sebat Proje Ltd.
• **AŞAĞI KALEKÖY DAM**

Site studies were conducted in Muratlı, Oymapınar, Düzağaç, Bozkanat, Gözeler, Harabe, Gökçeli, Kuşburnu villages of Solhan and Genç Districts of Bingöl Province which remains under the impact area of the dam project between October 2016. The “Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment Report” prepared in line with international standards and best practices which also covers the findings of the desk study was delivered to Kalehan Enerji and Golder Associates on 1st November 2016.
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT IN BURSA MOUNTAINS

The preliminary route passing through İnegöl, Keles, Orhanlı, Büyükorhan, Harmancık ve Mustafakemalpaşa Districts of Bursa Province were surveyed for the purposes of identifying archaeologic and cultural assets between 8th -10th June 2016. The “Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment Report” covering the findings of the studies were delivered to Sebat Proje Ltd.
• **KASTAMONU GÖKIRMAK COPPER MINE**

Within the International ESIA studies, Gökirmak Copper Mine located in Hanönü District of Kastamonu Province and operated by ACACIA Mining was surveyed for the purposes of identifying archaeological and cultural assets between 5th January 2017 and 22nd September 2017. Desk studies were also conducted for the area. All reports and documents were delivered to consultant company AECOM.
**TURK STREAM NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT**

Facilities planned to be built within the Kıyıköy located in Vize District of Kırklareli Province under the Turk Stream Natural Gas Pipeline project as well as the location of pipeline connections and impact areas were surveyed for identification of potential archaeological and immovable cultural assets. Desk and field studies were conducted in line with international standards to assess the impact of the project on the area and the findings and recommendations were presented in a report. The studies were conducted between 25th April 2017 and 28th September 2017.
The wind turbines were planned to be erected in Sofuköy Quarter of Şarköy District of Tekirdağ Province and the area was surveyed in April 2017 for the identification of potential archaeological and cultural assets. Findings of the study were presented in a report in line with international standards presented to Golder Associates Ltd. on 15th May 2017.
• **AFYON SEÇKÖY NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT**

The natural gas pipeline route of approximately 276 km that will connect Cay District of Afyon Province to Osmangazi District of Bursa Province was surveyed between 19\textsuperscript{th} June 2017 and 15\textsuperscript{th} July 2017 for identification of archaeological and cultural assets. The report presenting the findings was submitted to Sebat Proje on 21\textsuperscript{st} July 2017.
**DHI QAR VE SAMAWA 750 MW COMBINED POWER CONVERSION PLANT (IRAQ)**

Location of the facilities to be constructed within the “Dhi Qar” and “Samawa” power plants were surveyed for identification of archaeological and cultural assets within their impact area. The studies were conducted between 24th May 2017 and 8th June 2017 as desk studies, field surveys and impact assessment studies. Findings of the study were reported to 2U1K Engineering and Consultancy on 8th June 2017.
• **1915 ÇANAKKALE BRIDGE AND KINALI-TEKİRDAĞ-ÇANAKKALE-SAVAŞTEPE MOTORWAY PROJECT**

Archaeological survey to identify archaeological and immovable cultural assets was conducted on the route of Malkara-Çanakkale Motorway and connecting roads to 1915 Çanakkale Bridge. The field studies were conducted between 10th June 2017 and 16th July 2017. During the studies 33 sites carrying archaeological potential and are not registered in the inventory of Ministry of Culture and Tourism were identified. Impact of the construction on these identifies sites were assessed following international best practices and international standards and all data collected during the study was delivered to Çanakkale Motorway and Bridge Construction Investment Operation AS.
• NORTH MARMARA MOTORWAY PROJECT

Field surveys to identify potential archaeological areas and immovable cultural assets and developing strategies were minimising impact was conducted along the North Marmara Motorway route between 23rd and 24th of January 2017 and 13th February and 2nd April 2017. As the result of the studies which were conducted in compliance with international standards, 181 new archaeological and historical locations which are not registered by the Ministry of Culture were discovered. Impact assessment and reporting studies were conducted following international best practices and standards and all data collected were delivered to North Marmara Motorway Project Management as an Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment Report.
• **MEASURED DRAWINGS OF ÜNYE CASTLE**

Within the cleaning and restoration of two passages in the Ünye Castle planned to be implemented by Ünye Municipality, REGIO produced the measured drawings of these passages and prepared an application project. The project is approved by Samsun Protection Board for Cultural Assets and preliminary studies for the implementation are under progress.
ARCHAEOLOGY POOL PROJECT

The “Archaeology Pool Project” which was intended for education and awareness raising among children about the importance of preservation of archaeological and cultural heritage is REGIO’s most important educational and capacity development project. Believing that education has a vital role in the development of a society, REGIO developed the archaeology pool concept for orienting 5-13 year olds to the discipline of archaeology and to inform them about the importance of preservation of cultural heritage. Archaeology pool simulates archaeological excavations and children discover and dig out the replicas of archaeological objects under the supervision of professional archaeologists. While they enjoy making discoveries, they learn about the archaeological objects and the history of Anatolia. Workshops and displays located around the pool provide information about the discipline of archaeology and protection of archaeological heritage. The information provided targets children as well as their parents.

The project was implemented in Antares Shopping Mall in Ankara between 26th and 30th January 2013 and in Bandırma Archaeology Museum between 28th April 2017 and 26th May 2017 where a total of 425 children at the age of 5-13 participated in the excavation simulations. 1185 persons including the parents were reached and an important achievement has been made towards introducing importance of archaeological and cultural heritage to participants and increasing awareness.
INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS/FAIRS AND PROCEEDINGS

REGIO, the pioneering private company in Cultural Heritage Management Consultancy area participated in 17th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists, organized in Oslo between 14th and 18th September 2011 and 18th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists which was held in Helsinki between 28th August and 2nd September 2012 and shared information and experience on the conservation of the cultural heritage in infrastructure construction projects in Turkey and REGIO’s activities with international institutions and academic circles.

REGIO participated in the Europa Nostra 2017 Congress which was held between 11th and 15th May 2017 in Turku, Finland. During the congress REGIO had a chance to inform all relevant stakeholders about its studies and had an opportunity to discuss future cooperation possibilities.
CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY and TRAINING

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