



**DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF LERIK
DISTRICT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN
FOR 2024-2026**



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ABBREVIATIONS

SAAAR	State Agency of Azerbaijan Automobile Roads
ASWRA	Azerbaijan State Water Resources Agency
EU	European Union
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIC	Azerbaijan Investment Company
ACDA	Agrarian Credit and Development Agency
SCFWCA	State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs
ASA	Agro Services Agency
ASP OJSC	Agrarian Supply and Procurement Open Joint-Stock Company,
ARC	Agrarian Research Center
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Azərişiq	"Azərişiq" Open Joint Stock Company
AZPROMO	Azerbaijan Export and Investment Promotion Agency
UN	The United Nations Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
AREA	Azerbaijan Renewable Energy Agency
DAIM	State Agrarian Development Center
WB	World Bank
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
DSK	State Statistics Committee
STA	State Tourism Agency
STS	State Tax Service
MLSPP	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population
SSPI	State Service on Property Issues
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoEn	Ministry of Energy
MoSE	Ministry of Science and Education
MoENR	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
MoYS	Ministry of Youth and Sports
SWOT	Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
ESRI	Economic Scientific Research Institute
MoEc	Ministry of Economy
MoEc LRD	Lankaran Regional Department of the Ministry of Economy
ED	Economic District
KOBIA	Small and Medium Business Development Agency
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoC	Ministry of Culture
MF	Ministry of Finance
NGO	Non-governmental organization
DEA	District Executive Authority
MDDT	Ministry of Digital Development and Transport
DDP	District Development Plan
EDF	Entrepreneurship Development Fund
MoH	Ministry of Health
SAPSSI	State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

1. BRIEF SUMMARY

The currently implemented regional development policy in Azerbaijan aims to create a favorable environment to ensure sustainable, balanced, and inclusive development of regions within the country as well as districts, cities, settlements, and villages by taking into consideration global trends in the relevant direction, and national and local characteristics. Therefore as a result of state programs adopted with the aim of the socio-economic development of regions and their successful implementation in the areas, the face of cities, settlements, and villages in the regions has changed radically, and the development potential of the regions has strengthened, infrastructure provision and business environment have improved, social service sectors have enhanced and the welfare of people has increased.

At the same time, it was found out during the conducted analyses that along with the recent achievements in the country in the mentioned directions, there still remain differences in the socio-economical development levels between the capital and regions, urban areas and rural areas, regions themselves, as well as the regions with unfavorable geographical conditions.

The experience of the progressive world indicates that in addition to the preparation and implementation of general regional development programs and other policy documents for the country, the development, and implementation of coordinated development plans at all levels for regions, cities, towns, and villages gives neat results in increasing the efficiency of regional development policy. This is because such plans allow to take into account the local characteristics of each region, city, district, settlement and village, and to apply more compatible approaches and solutions for their development.

The main goal of "The Lerik District Development Plan" prepared for this purpose is to strengthen the economic potential of Lerik District in 2024-2026 taking into account national and local characteristics, and to accelerate socio-economic development of the region by ensuring fuller and more efficient use of this potential and to achieve an increase in stability.

While preparing the "Development Plan of Lerik region" (hereinafter referred to as "The Plan"), the requirements of the "Regulation on the Compilation, Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation of State Programs" approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated March 6, 2021 No. 1294 were anticipated, in Azerbaijan and other advanced countries successful progressive **methodological approaches** were used. Thus, to diagnose the development of the Lerik region, statistical, administrative, and already processed (secondary) data were examined by desktop research, and preliminary results were formed, as well as to collect and analyze data, "Diagnostic Workshop" meetings based on **focus group** (discussion groups) and **participatory approach methodology** were organized in the region, and during the meetings, "SWOT", "Problem tree" and "comparative analysis" methods were used. Based on the results, the District Development Plan and The Action Plan to be implemented were prepared.

The Plan consists of 4 main parts:

- **Analysis of the current situation** - general information about the region, indicators of socio-economic development, achievements in the main areas (agriculture, tourism, entrepreneurship, energy, infrastructure, education, employment) in the region during the past period, as well as current problems and challenges are reflected.
- **Goals, objectives, and priority areas of the plan** - based on the diagnostic analysis of the current situation in the socio-economic and environmental fields in the region and the socio-economic development priorities of the country until 2030, the general overview of the development of the region in the period covered by the plan, the mission and target indicators of the plan, as well as the acceleration of the socio-economic development of the region and the increase of its stability information on 10 priority directions for
- **Funding sources, monitoring, and evaluation of the plan** - the plan contains information on the financing of the planned measures from various sources (state budget, main funds, investments, loans, grants, etc.), as well as the monitoring and evaluation of the initial, intermediate and final results of the measures
- **The Action Plan** contains information about the actions determined by priority directions, executive agencies responsible for their implementation, implementation deadlines, and result indicators.

During preparation of the plan, the principles of sustainable development, including the Sustainable Development Goals defined by the UN's "Transformation of our world: Agenda for sustainable development until 2030", "Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for socio-economic development", "2022-2026- Socio-Economic Development Strategy in 2011", adopted programs related to socio-economic development of regions, other related state programs and policy documents, cooperation signed between the Republic of Azerbaijan and international partners (UN, WB, EU, EBRD, ADB, etc.) agreements and the experiences of implemented projects have been taken into account.

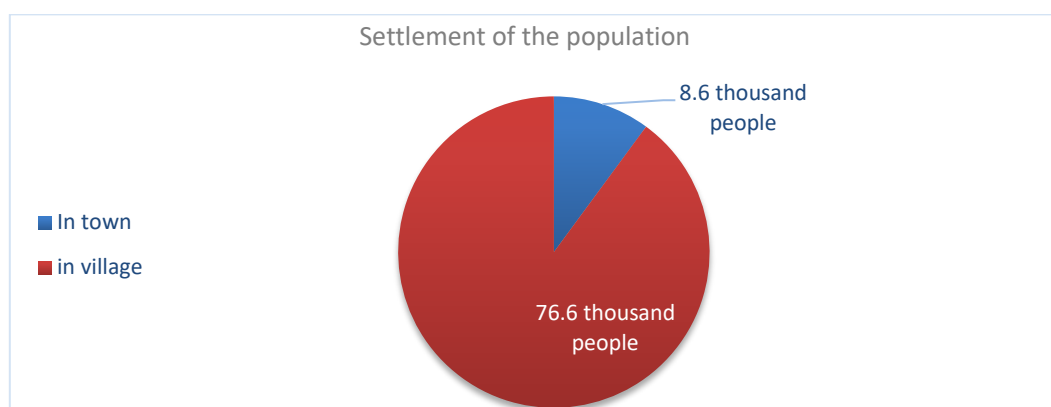
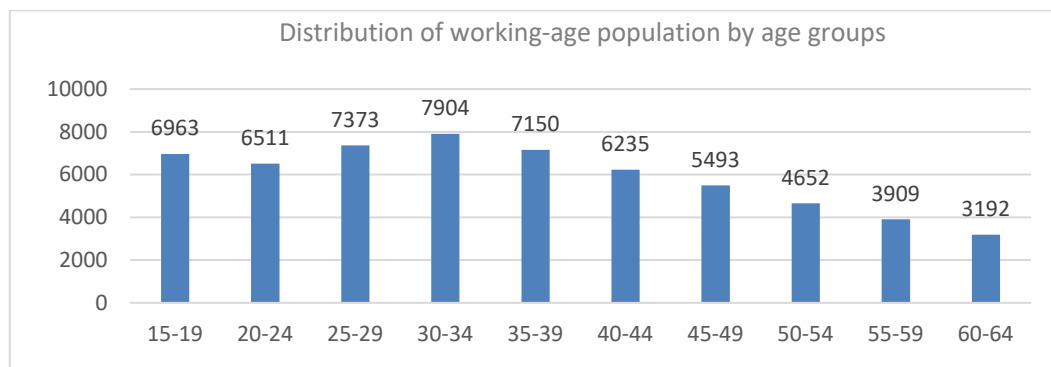
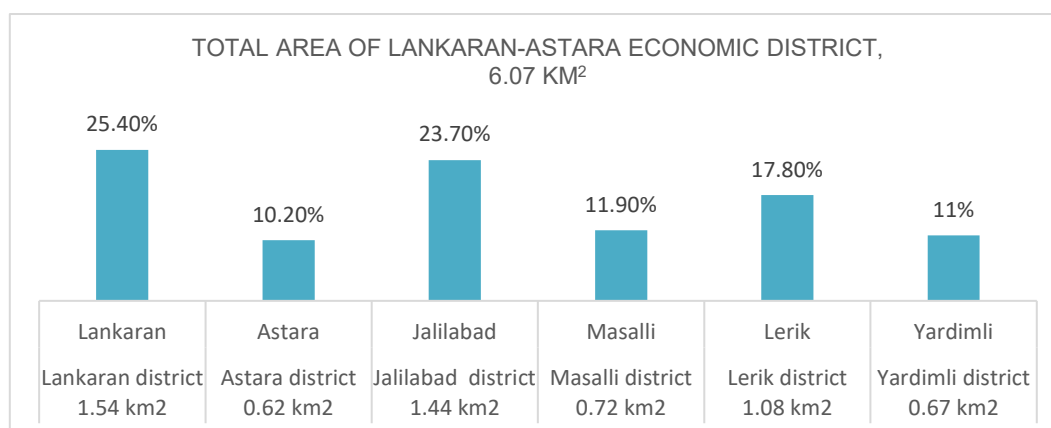
The Plan developed at the local level includes a more detailed analysis of the current socio-economic and ecological situation in the region, identification of deficiencies, flexible and adequate responses to the current challenges, and achievement of the goals set in the priority directions within a short period.

2. ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

2.1. General information about the district

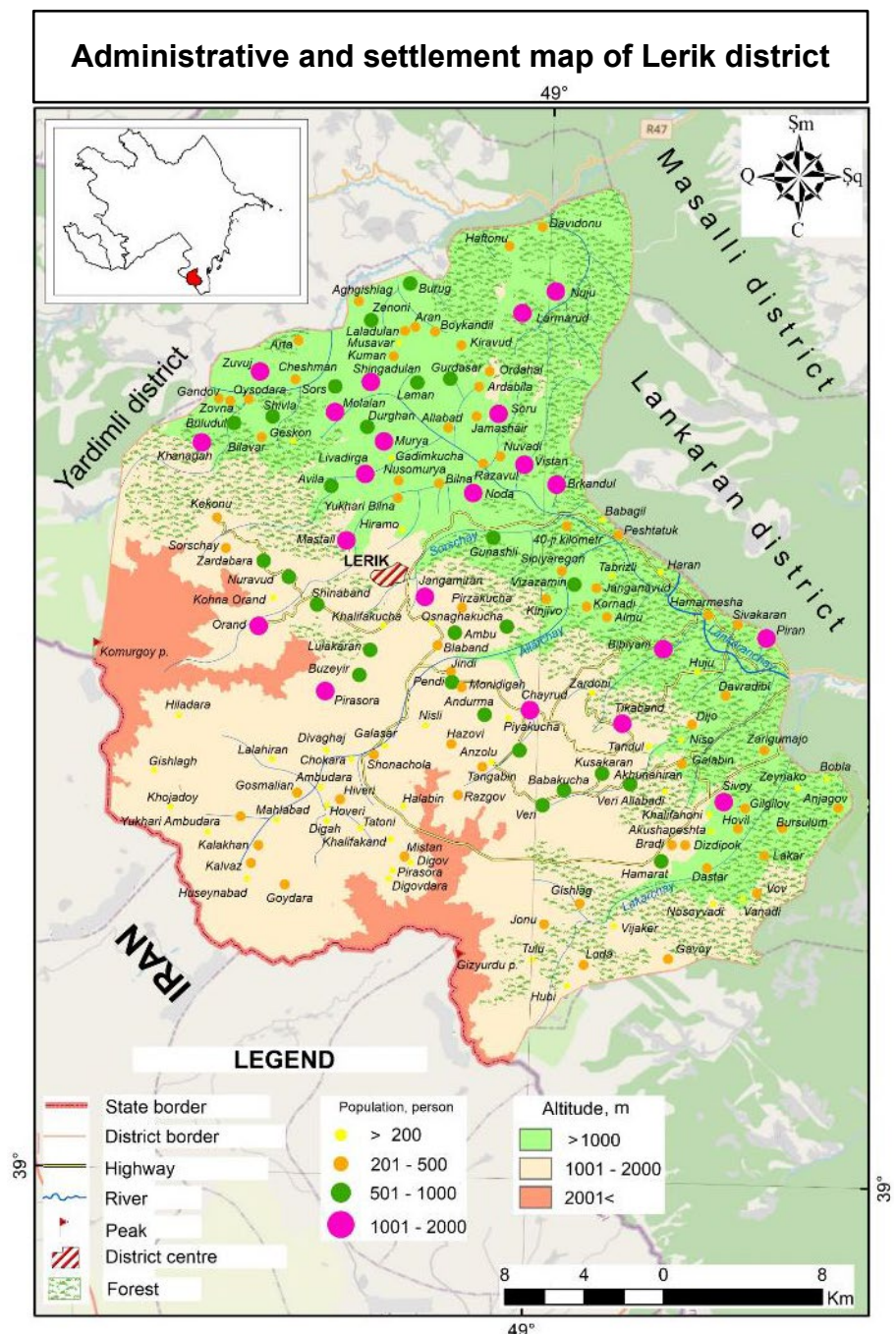
Lerik district was organized on August 8, 1930, and until January 1938 it was called Zuvand District with the village of Gosmalyan as its center. The district is located in the southeast of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the border with the Islamic Republic of Iran (the length of the border strip is 49.5 km), in a mountainous area. The territory of the Lerik District is surrounded by Talish moa number of borders Yardimli in the south and southwest. Masalli in the northeast, Lankaran in the east, and Astara in the northeast. The highest mountain peaks are Gomurgoy (2493 meters) and Gyzyurdu (2433 meters). "Zuvand State Nature Reserve" and "Rvarud State Nature Reserve" operate in the territory of the district. The district center is 323 km away from the capital city of Baku.

Territorial division of Lankaran-Astara economic district



According to the data as of the beginning of 2022, the territory of the Lerik region is 1084 km², and the population is 85.2 thousand people, 69.3% of whom are of working age. The average population density is 79 people per 1 km². The area has 40.3 thousand hectares of forest cover (37% of the total area). There is 1 city, 161 villages in the region, 29 village territorial executive offices, and 29 municipal institutions operate. About 10.1% of the population lives in the city, and the rest in the villages. At the same time, 49.8 percent of the population are men, and 50.2 percent are women. In the region, there are the Flag Museum, the "History and Local Studies" Museum and its "Longevity" branch, the Heydar Aliyev Center, as well as a centralized library system (60 libraries, one central library in the city, one Children's library), 11 culture houses, 58 clubs, 1 there is an art gallery, 2 primary music schools. 173 historical monuments have been registered in the region. 42 of them are national monuments, and 131 are local monuments.

Due to the fact that most of its territory is mountainous, the main occupation of population of the region is animal husbandry and agriculture. In addition, some industries such as the processing of agricultural products and the production of construction materials are also being developed in the region. Also, the analysis shows that the development of tourism in the Lerik region, which has a wonderful nature, is increasing compared to previous years.



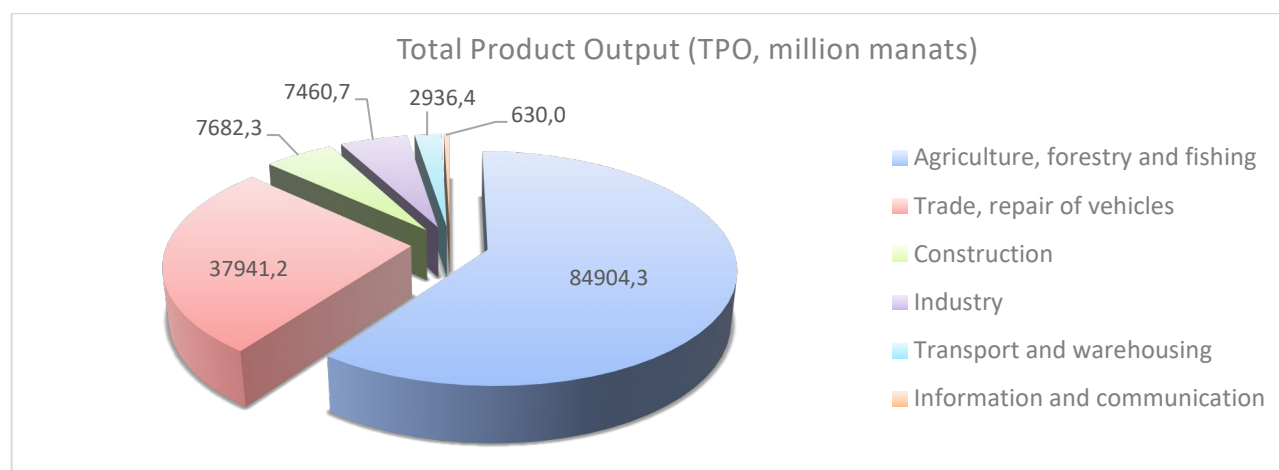
Note: 55.6% of Lerik region's population resides at altitudes ranging from 1000 to 2000 meters, while another 44.4% resides at altitudes between 500 and 1000 meters. There are 42 villages in the region with populations of less than 200 people.

2.2. Achievements

In recent years, construction of modern roads, construction of water lines, expansion of gas provision coverage, improvement of electricity supply, modernization, and creation of new ones, including existing production and service, educational and health institutions, tourism-recreation and infrastructure facilities, opening of new workplaces, improvement - significant work has been done in the direction of construction works.

During this period, asphalt roads, gas and water lines were built for the first time in a number of remote villages in the region. The continuous nature of socio-economic development in the region has led to a significant improvement in the living conditions of the population.

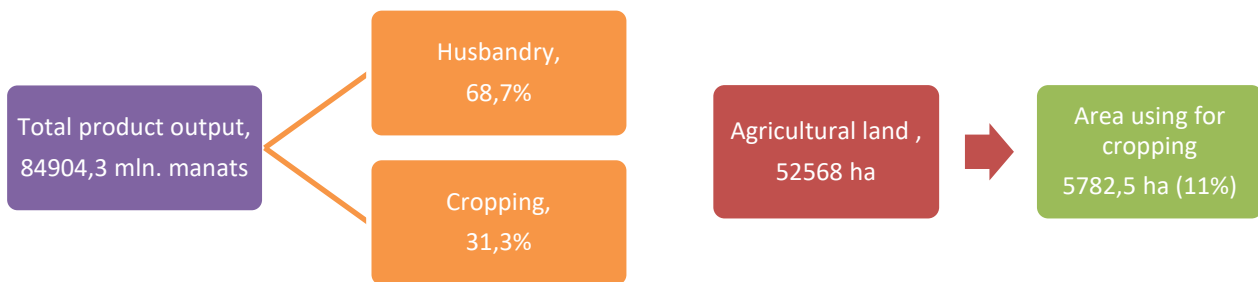
When examining the socio-economic indicators of the region, it's observed that in 2022, agriculture, forestry, and fishing accounted for 60.0% of the region's total product output (141,554.9 thousand manats). Additionally, trade and vehicle repair constituted 26.8%, while construction accounted for 5.4%, industry for 5.2%, transport and storage for 2.1%, and information and communication for 0.4%.



The conducted analyses show that there are prerequisites for accelerating socio-economic development in the region. These include existing underground and surface resources, human resources, production, and technical potential, and a certain level of development of necessary infrastructural areas.

Agriculture

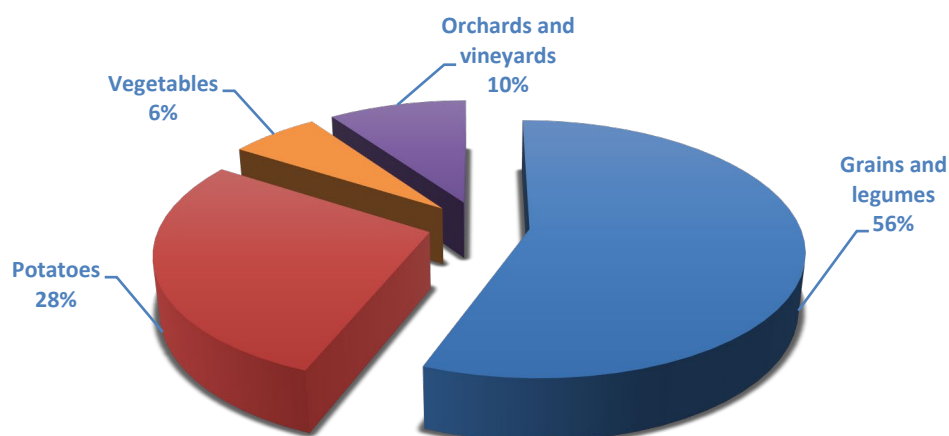
In 2022, agriculture, serving as the cornerstone of the region's economy, yielded products valued at 84,904.3 thousand manats. Of this total, cropping accounted for 26,597.8 thousand manats, while animal husbandry contributed 58,306.5 thousand manats. The district possesses an agricultural land area of 52,568 hectares, constituting 48.5% of the total land area of 108,400 hectares. However, only about 11% of this agricultural land is actively utilized for cropping.



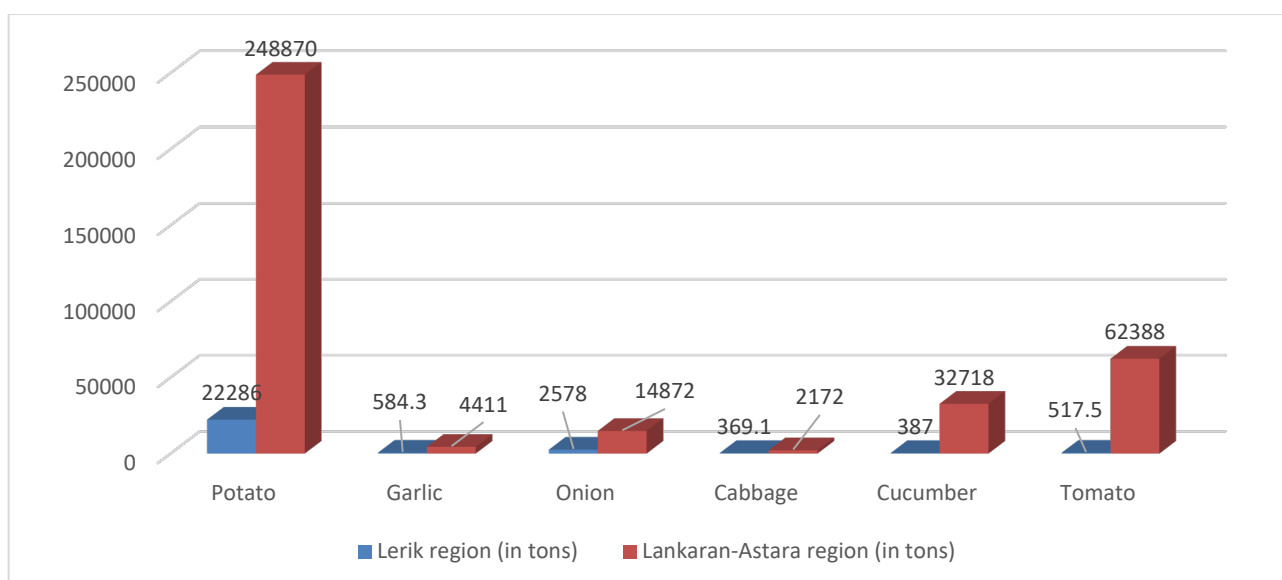
In 2022, agricultural products were cultivated across 5246 hectares of land in the region, with cereals and legumes covering 3058 hectares (58.3%), potatoes occupying 1537 hectares (29.3%), vegetables planted on 343 hectares (6.5%), and orchards spanning 531.4 hectares (10.1%). During the same year, harvesting took place on 2864 hectares of land, resulting in a yield of 6760 tons of grain, with an average yield of 23.6 quintals per hectare. Additionally, 22286.5 tons of potatoes were harvested from 1537 hectares, 584.3 tons of garlic from 45 hectares, 2578 tons of onions from 200 hectares, 369.1 tons of cabbage from 28.5 hectares, 387 tons of cucumbers from 30 hectares, and 517.5 tons of tomatoes from 39.5 hectares. Livestock numbers in the region in 2022 included 38,969 cattle and 92,337 sheep and goats. Farms produced 4233 tons of meat, 23743 tons of milk, 7930 thousand eggs, and 218 tons of wool.



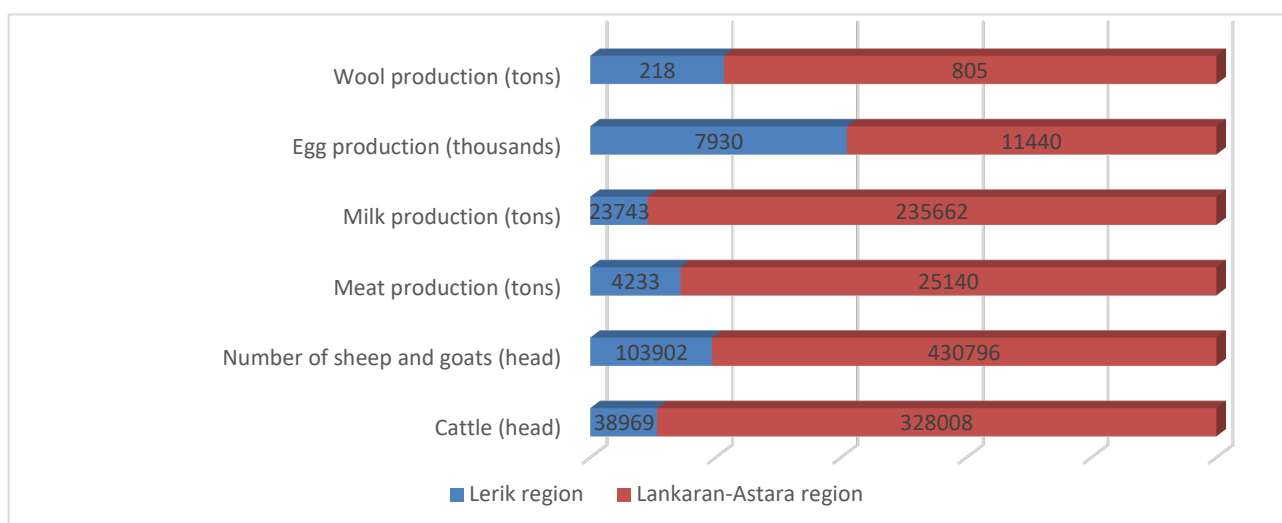
Agricultural products cultivated in the region in 2022



Cropping products yielded in the region in 2022



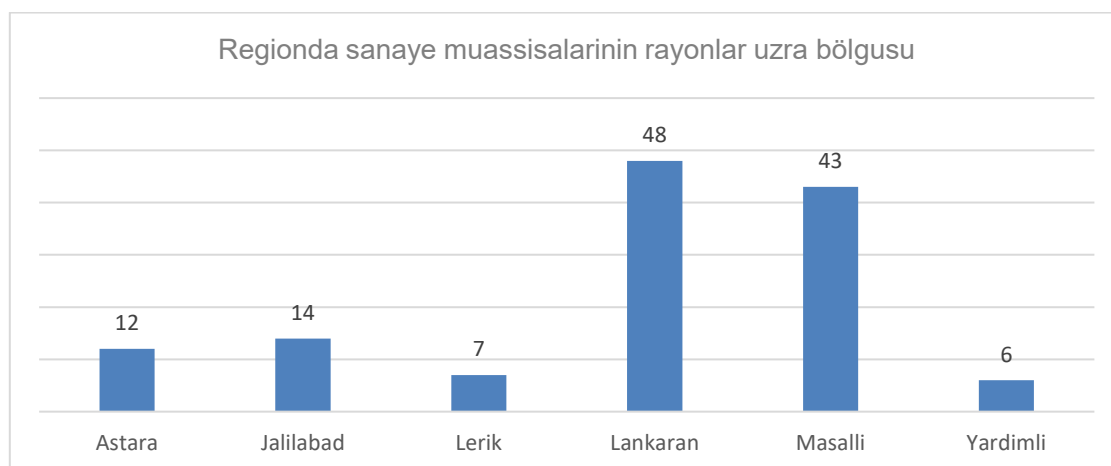
Livestock products yielded in the region in 2022



Apple and potato production are traditional and promising areas for increasing the income of the region's population and developing the agriculture of the region as a whole. The conducted analyzes show that 53.2% of the apple orchards and 15% of the potato cultivation area in the administrative regions included in the Lankaran-Astara economic region belong to the Lerik region, but only 25% of the apples are grown here (the 2nd largest in the region), 8.9% of potatoes (2nd place in the region) are produced.

Industry

The region holds the 5th position in the area concerning the volume of industrial goods manufactured, totaling 7460.7 million. Within the Lankaran-Astara economic region, there are 7 industrial enterprises out of 130 establishments operating specifically in the Lerik region. Key enterprises include "Kaspi-star" LLC, situated in Piran village, engaged in brick, sand-gravel, and facing stone production, alongside the Lerik-broiler facility producing 6,000 chickens hourly and 132,000 per week. Additionally, a bakery situated on the Lankaran-Lerik road contributes to the industrial landscape. Other operational industrial entities encompass the electrical distribution network, gas exploitation, water-channel area, and modular power station across the region.



At present, there is ongoing construction of a bottled water and juice enterprise in Peshtatuk village, alongside the reconstruction of a bakery in Lerik city. Furthermore, geological work has commenced for the Copper processing plant in Hamarat village.

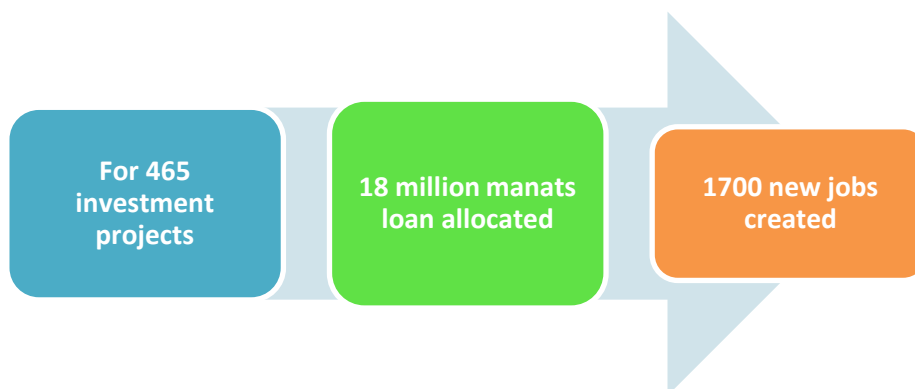
Support for entrepreneurship

551 legal entities and 7,606 individuals operate in Lerik district. In the region, measures have been taken to support the activities of micro, small, and medium entrepreneurs, ensuring the continuity of development in production and service sectors, increasing employment and income, improving the business environment, facilitating market access, and promoting investments and exports. So, in accordance with economic policies, including agrarian measures implemented in the country, subsidies, preferential loans, and other forms of state support are provided to entrepreneurs, including agricultural producers, in Lerik region.

Between 2002 and 2022, the Entrepreneurship Development Fund of the Ministry of Economy allocated 18.0 million manat concessional loans to finance 465 investment projects in Lerik region. These projects resulted in the creation of 1,700 new jobs in the

region during the same period. 62% of the projects were for the production of agricultural products, 33% for the production and processing of industrial products, and 5% for the tourism sector.

At the same time, in 2019-2022, the Agrarian Credit and Development Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Azerbaijan granted concessional loans in the amount of 1,169.5 thousand manats for the development of animal husbandry in Lerik region, and 142.6 thousand manats for the development of beekeeping. During the years 2020-2022, 1,776.8 thousand manats of planting subsidies were given in Lerik region.

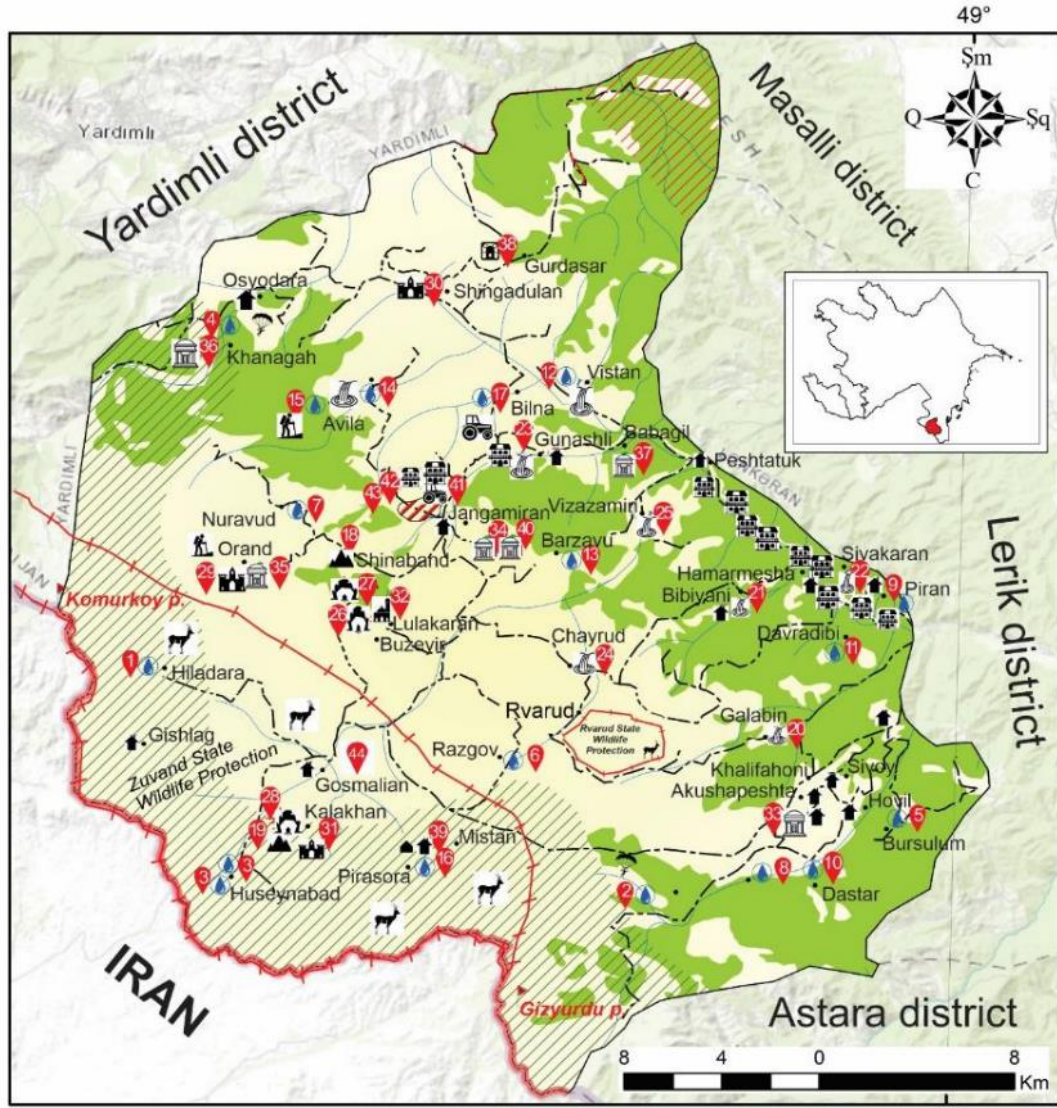


In 2022, a loan in the amount of 177.0 thousand manats and concession funds in the amount of 238.9 thousand manats were allocated for the purchase of 36 technical and technological equipments in the region. At present, there are 212 agricultural machinery in the use of business entities in Lerik region (175 of them are operational).

Development of tourism

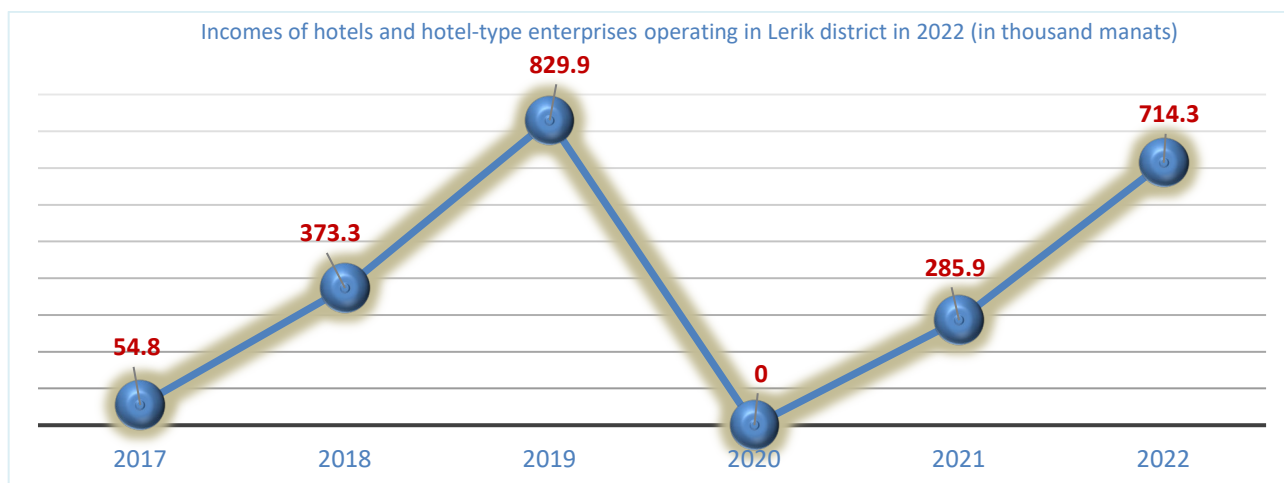
Despite tourism being a relatively new field in Lerik region, the region's favorable geographical position has quickly attracted tourists' interest, leading to increased economic activity in the area. As of 2022, the one-time capacity of hotels and hotel-type establishments operating in the region has reached 715 people, with the number of rooms increasing to 187. The total number of overnight stays in these establishments was 3861 people, all of whom were local tourists.

Lerik rayonunun turizm xaritasi



LEGEND

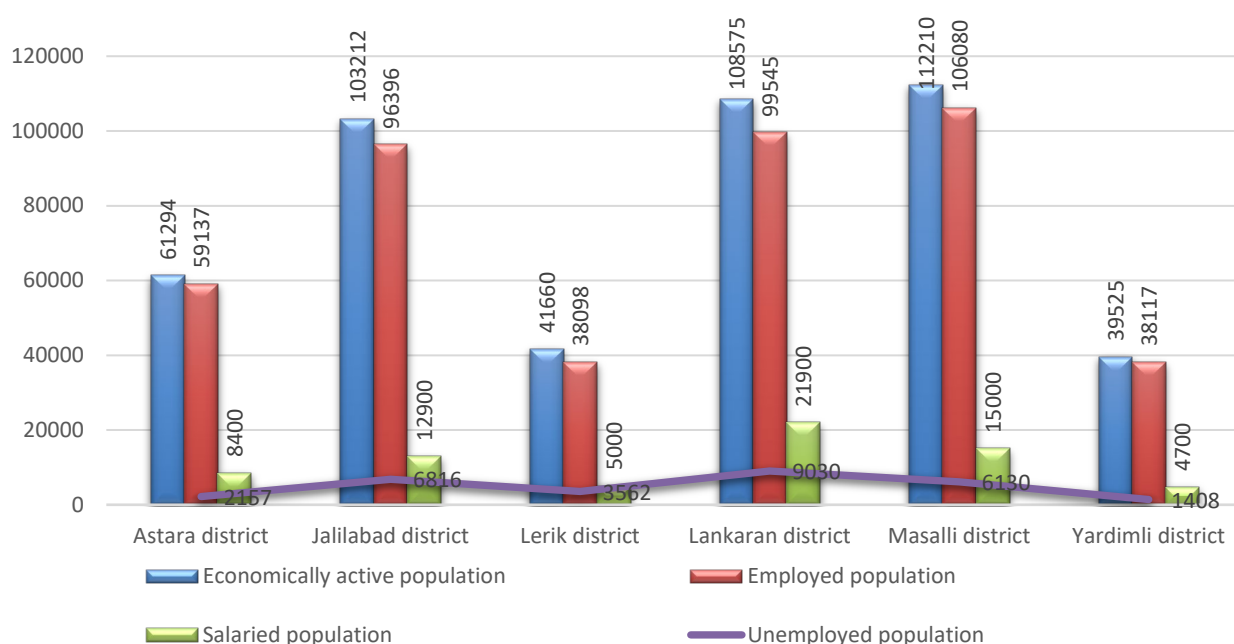
	State border		Spring		Hiladara		Gunduz		Lulakaran
	District border		Recreation centre		Gishlag		Gala		Tomb, heart, ancient living place
	Protected area		Village house		Huseynabad		Waterfall		Akusha
	Highway		Mosque		Buludul		Galabin		Jangamiran
	River		Religious heart		Boyuk bulag		Bibiyan		Kala
	Forest		Castle		Biskesh		Sivakaran		Khoja Seyid
	District centre		Tomb		Gij-gij		Gunashli		Babagil
	Settlement		Waterfall		Hamarat		Chayrud		Gurdasar ancient place
	Peak		Cave		Piran		Tokiyakhil		Pirzora heart
	Areas with ecotourism potential		Mountain		Dastar		Cave		Culture centre
	Areas with balneological potential		Potential areas for parachuting		Davradibi		Buzeyir		Khalifa Zakariyya
	Ancient settlement		Potential areas for trekking		Vistan		Zuvandchay		Museum
			Areas with Agrotourism		Barzavu		Kalakhan		Longevity museum
					Livadirga		Oghlan Cave		Local studies museum
					Avila		Giz Cave		Zuvand base station
					Pirasora		Kalakhan		
					Bilna				



Those who rest in the tourism-recreation-entertainment centers "Relax," "Tabassum," "Meshabayi," "Chanlibel," "Khayal," "Hayat," "Gala," "Janub," "Mucuze," and "Safa," operating in the region, have conducive conditions to spend their time effectively. Also, in connection with the development of rural tourism, there is an increase in the daily rental of village houses for visitors to the region (about 40 houses are rented in Hamarmesha village alone).

Employment

Increasing employment and income opportunities for the population in the region has always been the focus of attention. 16965 new jobs were opened in the region during 2003-2022. More than 40% of these are permanent jobs. In 2022, there were 38,098 employed people in Lerik, of which 3,562 were unemployed (unemployment rate 8.6%). The number of unemployed population was 487 in urban areas and 3075 in rural areas. The number of wage-earners in the region was 5 thousand people (67.9 thousand in the region), and the average monthly salary was 556.7 manats (543.8 manat in the region). Compared to other regions of Lankaran-Astara region, Lerik region ranks second on this indicator.



Additionally, initiatives have been undertaken to engage unemployed individuals and jobseekers in active employment programs. In 2022 alone, 178 unemployed individuals and jobseekers from Lerik region participated in the self-employment program, with 170 of them opting for agriculture and 8 individuals choosing production and services fields.

Physical infrastructure (electricity supply, gasification, water supply, communication and transport)

In recent years, significant efforts have been made to enhance **electricity supply** in the region, resulting in all 162 settlements in the district being provided with electricity. Following the directive of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, various infrastructure projects have been undertaken, including the overhaul of the Lankaran-Hamarat-Lerik 35 kV high-voltage electric overhead line, the construction of a 16.5 MWAT modular power station in Lerik, and the rebuilding of Lerik, Zarigumejo, Siyov, and Rvarud 35/10 kV substations. Additionally, 10/04 kV overhead lines have been replaced with SIP cables in 12 residential areas, and smart card meters have been installed for subscribers. The 96-kilometer-long 10-square-meter electric overhead lines supplying the villages of Noda, Nuvedi, Vizezemin, and Aliabad administrative territories have been rebuilt, with more than 10,000 wooden poles replaced with iron poles. Final completion works are currently underway for the construction of the Siyov substation.

Furthermore, as a result of **gasification works** initiated in 2006 in the Lerik region, 60 settlements, including the city of Lerik, have been fully gasified.

The number of gasified settlements		
	Number of stations	Number of subscribers
Total	60	5260
City	1	1532
Village	59	3728

In recent years, the villages of Peshtatuk, Vizezemin, Janganaevud, Bibiani, Sipyaregon, Kincivo, Kiravud, Boykendil, Gurdesar, Laman, Shingedulan, Larmarud, Shonachala, Galasar, Hoveri, Divagac have been connected to the gas supply network, and efforts are ongoing to extend gas supply to the remaining villages.

Efforts are also underway to provide **drinking water and sewage services** to the residents of Lerik city and surrounding settlements. As part of the "Reconstruction of Lerik city water supply and sewerage system" project funded by the World Bank in 2011, a 19.6 km main water line from Shonachala to Lerik was installed, along with a 30.5 km intra-city and intra-neighborhood water network. Additionally, 40.2 km of sewage network, water treatment, and wastewater treatment facilities were constructed. Various reservoirs and pumping stations were also built to ensure reliable water supply. Water treatment and wastewater treatment facilities in the region are managed through the "SKADA" program.

During the previous period, the Mastayil-Lerik alternative water line was completed, providing water supply to the village of Siyov. Artesian wells were drilled in the villages of Zovna, Zarikumejo, and Kalakhan, and a water line extending 3.5 kilometers to the village of Piran was constructed. Water lines were also laid in the villages of Shingedulan, Molalan, Sors, and Geskon by presidential order, along with the installation of springs in village streets. Presently, construction is underway to supply water to the villages of Jangamiran

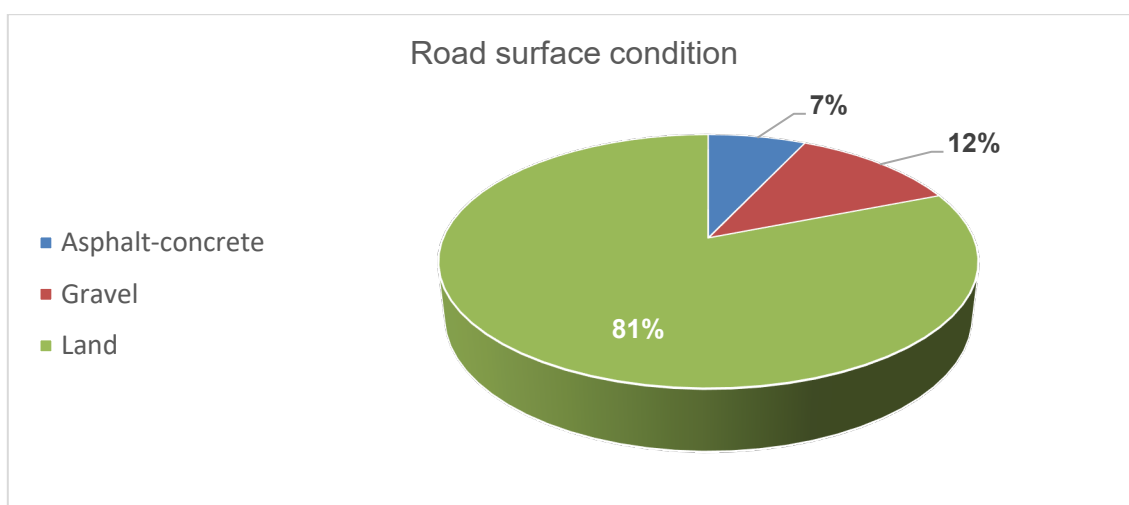
and Zuvuj. Additionally, artesian wells were drilled in the villages of Zovna and Zarikumejo in 2019, and in the village of Kalakhan in 2020, to support reclamation-irrigation efforts aimed at improving land water supply.

To enhance **communication services** and expand broadband internet coverage, the Lerik branch of the Southern regional branch has increased its telephone network capacity to accommodate 64 numbers and expanded the internet network capacity to 562 ports. Additionally, a 0.35 km long fiber optic cable was installed along user-reserved lines, and the assembly capacity of Brkandul and Hamarmeshe village EATS was increased to 16 units. The goal is to complete the provision of high-speed internet to all settlements in the region by 2024.

All mobile network stations are operational in the region. Telephone networks function normally in all settlements except for a few villages in Jonu and Burulum.

To enhance television broadcasting organization and quality, a 3500 W TEX-3500 RVR “Elektronika” branded FM transmitter, a 1x4 configuration dipole antenna, and a 7/8 size feeder cable were installed at the Lerik Radio-Television Broadcasting Station.

To enhance the quality of transportation infrastructure in the region, the SAAAR (AAYDA) ordered the construction of the 56-km Lankaran-Lerik and 22-km Lerik-Shineband-Orand-Nuravud-Zardabare highways. Additionally, asphalt was laid on the 2.5 km Blaband-Monidigah and 5 km Lulekaran highways. Furthermore, the Lerik-Gosmalian-Kalvaz highway spanning 26.5 km, the Noda-Shingedulan-Khanegah highway covering 36 km, and the Piran-Hamarat-Vijaker highway stretching across 27 km were constructed and put into use in the region during the past period.



In total, 36 villages in the region now have paved roads, constituting 22.4% of all villages.

The region boasts a total of 1791 roads spanning 2223.65 km. Among these, 36 km are national roads, 29 km are intra-city roads, 469 km are local roads, 799 km are municipal roads, and 890 km are regional highways. Asphalt-concrete roads make up 6.7% of the total, gravel roads 11.7%, and earthen roads 81.6%. The inner-city roads cover a length of 29.15 km, with 95% of them being paved. Efforts to fully asphalt other streets and alleys are ongoing.

Social infrastructure (science, education and health)

106 general education institutions are operational in Lerik district, comprising 38 full secondary schools, 46 general secondary schools, and 22 primary schools. Additionally, there are 13 pre-schools and 1 vocational educational institution. The overall literacy rate stands at 97.2%. Currently, 1,297 teachers and pedagogical staff serve in these institutions, educating 6,744 students. Over the period from 2003 to 2021, the region witnessed the construction of 49 schools with a capacity for 6,384 students. This includes four new schools funded by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, along with three pre-school buildings and a kindergarten in Lerik, each accommodating 35 and 100 children, respectively, all thanks to the Foundation's initiative. Presently, construction efforts are focused on erecting 13 new school structures across various villages in the region, alongside ongoing enhancements in city streets and squares.

As part of **healthcare** reforms, several hospitals and doctor's stations in the region were closed, while new ones were established in their place. Currently, the district boasts an 80-bed central hospital, 6 family health centers, 34 medical centers, and 19 doctor's offices, offering comprehensive medical services to the populace. These facilities, staffed by 40 doctors and 151 medical professionals, cater to both outpatient and inpatient needs. Renovation works have been carried out at the district central hospital and children's department, as well as at hospitals in Gosmalian, Peshtatuk, Aliabad villages, and Vizezemin's doctor's station. Moreover, new facilities have been constructed for doctor's stations in Shingedulan, Jangamiran, Brkandul, Barzavu, Blaband, and Piran villages. Additionally, medical centers have been established in Pirasora and Jonu villages with financial backing from the Government of Japan, and in Jangamiran village with support from the USAID through the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

Environment, ecological situation and climate change

To preserve the unique flora and fauna of the region, "Zuvand State Nature Reserve" (15,000 ha) was established in Zuvand in 1969, and "Rvarud State Nature Reserve" (550 ha) in Rvarud village in 2009. Recent investigations indicate an increase in the number of bear families in Lerik region due to implemented conservation measures. Bears have been mainly observed in Gosmalian, Kalakhan, Mistan, and Orand village administrative areas. Moreover, there has been an observed rise in the population of grouse, partridge, wild boar, and other animal species in the forested areas.

The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources plans to establish an average of 80 hectares of new orchards and other region-specific trees (such as oak, golden ash, and hornbeam) annually from 2017 to 2024. Additionally, the Lankaran Forest Protection and Restoration Institution has implemented forest strips in gardens and open clearings, covering approximately 500 hectares.

The region continues its efforts in collecting and disposing of household waste. Currently, there's a waste collection point situated on a 1-hectare plot of land near Lerik city, just 1 kilometer away from the Lerik-Hiramo highway. Additionally, construction is underway for a new landfill dedicated to household waste, spanning 2 hectares of land situated along the 3rd kilometer of the Lerik-Lankaran highway.

The Lerik region is experiencing the (positive) impacts of **global climate change**. Notably, there has been a significant reduction in the frequency of days with strong winds,

with the number halving in recent decades. This decline has beneficial effects on agricultural development and opens up opportunities for harnessing wind energy. Furthermore, there has been a notable rise in the number of sunny days, increasing by 11% over the past 20 years. This trend enhances the potential for utilizing solar energy resources in the region.

2.3. Existing challenges

Looking at the results of the Diagnostic Analysis of Lerik region, despite the achievements made in recent years, the problems in the social and economic, infrastructure and environmental fields in the region appear as the main challenges. Thus, the acceleration of the development dynamics of the region, the main challenges identified in the priority areas, require their timely and flexible solution.

It should be noted that the location of the region in remote and unfavorable geographical conditions limits the possibilities of using the natural and economic potential available here, including the realization of the region's advantages, the creation of modern production and service areas, and the attraction of investments for this.

The agricultural sector is the basis of the region's economy (60% of the GNP), and the main employment of the population is closely related to the development of this sector. Some factors negatively affecting the development of agriculture in the region include the extensive development of agriculture, poor agrotechnical and agrochemical services (as well as their supply), insufficient supply of productive seed varieties in crop production, the lack of irrigation water and use of modern techniques and technologies in the areas (especially suitable for mountainous terrain), poor feed supply in livestock, poor usage of the potential of available forest food products and medicinal plants, limited access to financial resources in rural areas, absence of sales markets for agricultural products, and lack of qualified staff in the relevant field.

Accessibility to agrotechnical and agrochemical services in Lerik region is poor (Agroservis OJSC's representative office in the region is located only in Jalilabad district), as well as the lack of supply points, and the need to raise farmers' awareness in the area are among the main problems. The minimum demand for mineral fertilizers in the region is 600 tons, and for pesticides 500 kg. While the actual supply of mineral fertilizers during the year is 250-300 tons, this figure for pesticides is 300-350 kilograms. Due to the climatic conditions of the region, the demand for herbicides is low.

In addition, there is a need for the supply of 300 tons of mineral fertilizers and 150 kg of pesticides, as well as the creation of additional mobile supply points for agrochemicals in Lerik, Piran, Shingadulan, Chayrud, and Gosmalian villages.

Currently, there are about 5300 farmers in the region. It is necessary for them to participate in educational activities in the fields of fertilization, irrigation, cultivation, correct and efficient use of equipment, organization of disease and pest control, cultivation in accordance with agrotechnical rules, organization of harvesting etc.

For this purpose, it is necessary to involve about 3 thousand farmers in educational activities regularly.

There is high demand for quality seed varieties and fruit saplings in the region. Research has shown that although Lerik district ranks first in terms of the area of planted apple orchards (252.6 ha) in the region, it ranks last in terms of productivity (17.9 tons/ha).

The area of planted apple orchards in the region is 474.7 ha, and the average yield is 38.8 cents/hectare. Although the district ranks second in the region in terms of potato cultivation area (1537 ha), it is in the third place in terms of productivity (145 cents/ha). Accordingly, the cultivated area for potatoes in the region is 10,209 ha, and the average yield is 221 cents/hectare.

Currently, there is a need for 5,000 tons of potato seeds and 13,000 apple saplings (and others), which are the main agricultural products of the region.

Insufficient number of agricultural machinery available in Lerik district (212 units, of which 175 are operational, and the rest are in poor condition) is one of the factors that have a direct negative impact on this area. The district's specific mountainous terrain poses obstacles to the efficient operation of existing (standard) machinery (for example, while in neighboring districts, a combine harvester can work on 40-50 hectares of land per day, in Lerik district, this figure is around 8-10 hectares).

In order to involve an additional 4 thousand hectares of arable land in the region for crop rotation, in addition, there is a need for an additional 5 mountain combine harvesters, 15 plow tractors, 10 mowers, 10 cultivators, and 10 seed drills.

One of the main problems is the insufficient amount of livestock feed supply, especially the lack of satisfactory feed supply (sale) points. At the same time, this is one of the factors that directly affects the production of livestock products and the farmers' income. The annual demand for fodder in the region (all types of fodder) is estimated at approximately 240,000 tons, of which only 60% is met.

An additional 90,000 tons of fodder supply is needed to fully meet the current demand mentioned.

The potential for forest food products in Lerik region is quite high. However, the lack of supply points for the mentioned products in the villages, the lack of systematic harvesting and sale do not allow to use this potential to the maximum. Research has shown that the supply of fruits and berries such as hawthorn, blackberry, raspberry, blueberry, cranberry, wild apple, wild pear, and Caucasian persimmon ranges from an average of 3-20 tons, while the supply of plants such as rosehip, acacia seeds, sedum, nettle and thyme ranges from an average of 1-3 tons.

There is a need to establish sale points of forest food products in villages.

Poor development of the market infrastructure in the region (markets are organized spontaneously on weekdays and holidays) and the absence of an internal market for agricultural products in the region create serious problems for locals to sell their cultivated products.

For this purpose, it is important to organize weekly markets (fairs) in the region for the systematic sale of agricultural products.

If we look at the statistical indicators of the last years in the region, we can observe that there is a development in the field of industry (the region ranks fourth in the GNP). However, the number of enterprises operating in this field is quite small (7), and most of the total production capacity of the field is formed due to the production capacity of a few enterprises.

The lack of agricultural products processing enterprises in Lerik region, the insufficient use of the potential of the construction materials industry, the lack of determination of the

comparative advantages of the region in the industrial field are factors that slow down the development of this field.

The lack of agricultural products processing enterprises (canning factory, leather processing, mineral and drinking water packaging, meat, wool, milk and honey processing, sewing workshops) in Lerik region, the insufficient use of the potential of the construction materials industry, the lack of determination of the comparative advantages of the region in the industrial field are factors that slow down the development of this field.

Although there are reserves of construction materials (marble, lime, clay, basalt, cement) in the region, this potential is not used enough, because there are difficulties in obtaining appropriate permits for operation, insufficient road infrastructure, as well as long distance (logistics) between the region and large cities.

Among the more specialized agricultural products in the region, potatoes and apples (as well as rare and endemic medicinal plants) are mainly sold for direct consumption without added value. Based on conducted research (statistics, value chain analysis, discussion meetings), it can be said that attracting interested subjects to the process can lead to the establishment of initial processing facilities (small-scale) for these products.

In recent years, significant changes have not occurred in **entrepreneurship development** in the region. The main reasons for this include insufficient support for the development of businesses and the creation of new entrepreneurial entities in the region, the need to enhance the business environment and strengthen awareness-raising efforts in this direction, weak development of market infrastructure, limited access to favorable loans, insurance, guarantee, and other support mechanisms for entrepreneurial entities, as well as difficulties in obtaining loans for entrepreneurs, lack of banks (only 1 bank operates in the region) and bail in rural areas, inadequate awareness-raising efforts on obtaining loans for entrepreneurial activities, and lack of entrepreneurial skills (financial, business, digital).

Currently, there is only one bank (Kapital Bank) and its 4 ATMs (2 in Lerik, 1 in Shingadulan village, 1 in Piran village) in the region. This factor has a negative impact on the formation of the entrepreneurial environment in the region and limits local residents' access to banking services (more than 90% of residents receiving wages, pensions and allowances).

Taking into account the current state of the banking system in the region, it is necessary to carry out awareness measures to expand the scope of the use of mobile and online applications (e.g. internet banking) in order to facilitate SMEs access to preferential financial and credit products and to install additional ATMs according to the need.

There is no permanent market in the district center. The main reason is the limited place for market construction, as well as, insufficient level of promotion measures related to the creation of a single market among locals, farmers and entrepreneurs and directing interested parties there.

When we look at the development dynamics of the **tourism** sector in the region, we can see certain improvement over the past years. However, the absence of changes in the number of hotels and hotel-type enterprises, existing rooms, as well as their one-time capacity (stability) seriously hinders the increase of potential in this field. Also, issues such as weak tourism marketing, low quality in the service sector (hotels, cafes, markets, etc.), unsatisfactory service culture and hygiene conditions, poor use of tourism potential, lack of

tourist information offices and tourist maps, lack of qualified staff, and weak infrastructure (lack of sewage systems in facilities) are factors that hinder the development of this area.

Lerik is rich in mineral water and natural recreation resources. However, the uneven distribution of tourism-recreational facilities (mainly concentrated on Lankaran-Lerik highway) within the region causes tourists who come here to make fewer visits to the center, as well as to other villages (Zuvand, Gosmalian, Kalakhan, Avila, Kalvaz) with tourism potential in the region.

For this purpose, there is a need to create tourism-recreation zones in areas with relevant potential for the development of tourism in the region (for example, there is a source of sulfur water containing narzan in the village of Buludul).

Private houses (homestays) rented daily or seasonally in Lerik region make up the majority of bed capacity in the region. Many of these houses do not meet the conditions required for tourism. Physical and hygienic conditions of most houses are not satisfactory. At the same time, except for one of the mentioned houses, others are not available for online rent (tourism platforms). This reduces the access of houses to a wider audience of tourists and partially negatively affects the financial situation of the population.

Looking at the **employment** level of the population, we can observe that there are problems specific to other regions. Thus, there are a total of 3562 unemployed people in the region. The number of unemployed population was 487 in urban areas and 3075 in rural areas, which makes Lerik region the second place in Lankaran-Astara region.

The region is rich in labor resources. However, the level of utilization of labor resources is low due to certain problems. These problems mainly include the fact that some of the employers do not work in their specialty, the lack of decent jobs in the region, high level of unemployment, and the fact that young people are not directed to vocational education. At the same time, the lack of jobs in Lerik and confidence in the possibility of sustainable incomes lead to the flow of potential young people to major cities within the country and foreign countries.

Lerik region has favorable conditions for the development of traditional types of folk crafts (carpets, weaving, embroidery). However, neglect of the mentioned areas in recent years, decrease in young people and women's interest in this area, as well as the lack of promotion and profitability reduce the possibilities of maximum use of this potential.

It is important to increase support for the preparation of traditional types of folk crafts and local handicraft products for sale (small-scale work is done individually in the villages of Pirasora, Divagac, Mondigah).

All 162 settlements of the district are provided with **electricity**. However, the overhead power lines built in the 1960s and operated without significant repairs for many years are causing serious difficulties in providing energy to the population during the autumn and winter months.

The main reasons for the low level of **gasification** in the region are the unfavorable geographical position of the region and, accordingly, the uneven distribution of population across all residential areas. Out of a total of 162 settlements (12,003 households) in the region, 102 (6,743 houses) have not yet been gasified, which indicates that the gasification rate of the region is around 37%. Since the gasification of 33 of the non-gasified settlements (63%) is considered economically inefficient, their gasification is not planned in the near future.

The region still has problems with **drinking water**. Thus, in 33 of the 162 settlements in the region, there is a serious water scarcity in the summer months. This is 35.8% of the population of the district, and 20.3% of the settlements. In the mentioned 33 villages, the demand for water increases due to the decrease of water in the springs during summer months. Residents transport water from farther distances using pack animals and other means of transportation. A total of 8,019 families (72,098 people or 84.7% of the population) living in villages use spring water, wells (artesian wells) and nearby rivers.

A number of problems remain in the field of **irrigation**. Thus, the cultivated areas of the region are mainly cultivated under dry conditions. Irrigation method is used in Gosmalian, Kalakhan, Pirasora, Orand, Chayrud, Mistan, Monidigah rural administrative territories. In Çayrud, Rvarud, Pirasora, Gosmalian, Kalvaz, Goydara and other residential areas, the population uses cisterns and lakes built without following construction norms and rules.

There is a serious need to rebuild the **transport** infrastructure, especially inter-village roads. The road of Lerik region are mainly covered with soil (6.7% of existing roads in the region are covered with asphalt-concrete, 11.7% - gravel, and 81.6% - soil), which has a direct and indirect negative impact on the development of the social and economic areas of the region.

In total, the road leading to 36 villages of the region are paved with asphalt. This is 22.4% of the total number of villages. The roads leading to the remaining 125 settlements or 77.6% of the total villages need to be reconstructed (asphalted).

The public transport system has not been established in the district center, as well as between the district center and the villages and inter-villages, and the routes in the relevant directions have not been determined.

Also, lack of reliable transport routes from Baku and Lankaran to the center of Lerik region is one of the factors that have a direct negative impact on the number of tourists.

The construction of a bus station is important for the creation of a systematic route junction in the region.

Although there has been an increase in **communication and information** services in recent years, there are still problems in the field. Thus, none of the 33 settlements in the district, 16 settlements in Burusulm and Tulu-Jonu village administrative territories have telephone communication.

Many of the wooden poles supporting the communication lines are rotten, and some cables are attached to electricity poles. There are also significant issues with the speed of the internet in the district. Currently, 43 settlements with 2,146 households do not have access to high-speed internet. Since EATS lacks generators, power supplies-battery, communication with the areas is interrupted when electricity is cut.

Although the situation in the field of **science and education** in the region is satisfactory (the general level of education in the region is 97.2%), challenges such as the renewal of infrastructure and the lack of qualified staff still remain. There are no school buildings in 66 sparsely populated settlements (13,700 people) of the district. Students living in the mentioned areas travel an average distance of 3 km, and some 20 km, to the nearest school.

There is a need to organize appropriate buses for the transportation of students in villages without education institutions.

Also, there are a total of 13 preschool education institutions in the district (2 in the city center, 11 in the villages), which reduces the population's access to primary education.

There is a need for the construction of a new administrative building for the Lerik district education department of Jengamiran, Lulekaran, Soru and Vistan village secondary schools, and the establishment of new kindergartens in Livadirga, Zuvuj, Shingadulan, Vizazamin, Vistan, Nuju.

The situation in the vocational school, which is responsible for providing the district with qualified staff, is deplorable. The building consists of two branches, one building of the institution (built in the 30s of the last century) is in state of complete disrepair, so it stopped operating. The other building does not meet modern requirements. Taking into account the growing interest in new service areas (tourism, catering, management of agricultural machinery, repair of machinery and equipment) in the region, there is a need to build a new building for the vocational school (or move it to another adapted building).

Currently, there is a need for 399 subject teachers in the region (5 in the city, 394 in the villages).

As in most regions, there are certain deficiencies in the field of health care in Lerik region. The main problems are lack of qualified doctors, unsatisfactory medical services, low number of beds, and low wages. The number of doctors per ten thousand people was 4.4, the number of secondary medical staff was 18, and the number of hospital beds was 9.2. For comparison, in Lankaran-Astara economic region, these indicators were 8.8 people, 28.7 people and 14.8 units, respectively, which means that all indicators of region are lower than the average indicators of the region. The number of hospital beds in the region has decreased twice in the last 10 years. The number of hospital beds in the region has decreased twice in the last 10 years.

Construction of a new building for the Hygiene-Epidemiology Center, medical centers in Daster, Boykendil, Larmarud, Tikaband, Livadirga, Nuju, Nuravud, Soru and Haftoni villages, new buildings for the village hospitals of Aliabad, Peshtatuk, Zuvuch and Veri, as well as strengthening the material and technical bases of the existing medical institutions are the main priorities.

Currently, there is a serious need for 67 qualified doctors and 120 medical workers in the region.

Mountainous regions like Lerik are sensitive to the environment, especially climate changes. Increasing anthropogenic interventions in the environment has a direct effect on the deterioration of the ecological situation of the region. Factors such as the destruction of forests (due to the lack of gas), non-compliance with fire safety, not collecting and neutralizing waste (garbage) on time, throwing all the waste into the rivers in the villages, lack of waste processing and household waste sorting and disposal points, poor sewage system, lack of educational measures related to ecology and signs on roadsides about keeping the environment clean, lack of waste bins and environmental management make the situation worse.

Although there is a sewage system in Lerik city, none of the villages have a sewage system. In villages near rivers, waste water is discharged into the river. Garbage wells are used in other villages. We can see the same situation at the tourist facilities on the Lerik-Lenkaran highway. While some of them use septic tanks, many, especially the daily ones, discharge their waste water into the Lankaran River.

Naturally occurring ***climate changes*** also have a direct impact on the destruction of the region's ecological environment. As a result of landslides in Sors, Molalan, Zuvuj, Larmarud, Vizazamin, Veri Aliabad, Ordahal and other residential areas of the region, houses were seriously damaged. In addition, the landslides that occurred in the citizens' share lands created difficulties in carrying out cultivation works on arable lands. In the current year, as a result of the massive spread of rodents, grain fields were damaged, which ultimately had a negative impact on the income of the population. It is necessary to take timely and flexible steps towards the solution of the mentioned issues.

2.4. SWOT analysis

SWOT (Strengths and Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis was also used in the analysis of the current situation, in determining the goals and priority directions. The results inkishaf SWOT analysis of the current socio-economic and ecological situation in Lerik region are as follows:

STRENGTHS

- rich natural-geographic environment and relief;
- availability of tourism (including ecotourism and agrotourism) potential;
- the presence of forests, including relict, endemic (hardwood) plants;
- the presence of pure and untouched nature;
- availability of favorable natural conditions for the development of animal husbandry, including beekeeping;
- the presence of rich natural resources (including granite, coal resources).;
- abundance of labor resources;
- the presence of medicinal plants;
- presence of mineral water sources;
- rich national cuisine;
- existence of ancient historical and cultural monuments;
- land of longevity ;
- patriotic and hardworking population;
- azonality.

WEAKNESSES

- limited agricultural land resources;
- unfavorable geographical conditions (remote mountainous area);
- lack of irrigation water;
- complexity of logistics, difficulty of access to markets;
- low competitiveness of products;
- lack of agricultural products processing enterprises;
- the weakness of using the natural-economic potential, including tourism;
- difficulties in providing fodder and seeds;
- insufficient investment;
- insufficient development of production, social and market infrastructure areas;
- poor development of social services (education, healthcare, culture, etc.);
- increase in environmental pollution;
- deforestation (due to lack of gas supply ;
- poor sewage system;
- lack of environmental management;
- poor promotion/encouragement.

OPPORTUNITIES

- the presence of extensive state support (subsidy, tax, etc.) for the development of regions and rural areas;
- existence of a state program for the development of regions;
- opportunities to attract state, non-governmental and international donor and development organizations to the region;
- access to the public-private partnership opportunities;
- possibilities of attracting local investments from foreign and other regions;
- opportunities to have export opportunities;
- study and application of advanced foreign practices available in the country and the world;
- joint venture development;
- availability of mechanisms for stimulating technological development;
- availability of mechanisms to support innovations in agriculture;
- having an airport and railway nearby.
- location near an international transport corridor

THREATS

- reduction of water resources, increase of drought and desertification as a result of climate changes;
- decrease in soil fertility;
- intensification of natural disasters;
- economic crisis;
- decrease in government support;
- limited access to financial resources;
- low interest of investors because it is a remote mountainous region;
- increase in threats from neighboring countries;
- spread of infectious diseases and pests (from domestic regions and other countries);
- increase in war and international conflicts;
- increase in inflation;
- limiting access to foreign markets;
- spread of harmful habits from outside;

The plan envisages measures to strengthen and increase achievements, reduce "weaknesses", meet existing challenges and minimize the possible negative effects of "threats" by benefiting from opportunities created by "strengths" and "opportunities".

3. TARGET INDICATORS OF THE PLAN

Based on the diagnostic analysis of the current situation in the socio-economic and ecological fields in the region and the national priorities of the "2022-2026 Social and Economic Development Strategy of Azerbaijan", the overall vision, mission and target indicators for the development of the region during the period covered by the plan are defined as follows:

Overall vision: On the basis of increasing the economic dynamics and ensuring the stability of the economy in the region, by accelerating the social and economic development, it will be possible to improve the welfare of the population and the level of employment, as well as to ensure decent living conditions.

Mission: In order to achieve acceleration of social and economic development, renewal of infrastructure areas and improvement of the ecological situation in the region, conditions will be created to strengthen the potential of existing natural-economic and human resources and to use them as fully and efficiently as possible.

Target indicators:

- use of natural, economic and human resources as fully and efficiently as possible;
- acceleration of social and economic development
- improvement of living conditions in rural areas;
- improvement of physical and social infrastructure;
- improvement of the ecological situation.

4. OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY AREAS OF THE PLAN

4.1. Objective of the plan

The objective of the plan is to strengthen the economic potential of Lerik region in 2024-2026, to accelerate the social and economic development of the region and to increase its stability by ensuring the fuller and more efficient use of this potential.

In order to achieve this objective, the Plan defines 8 priority areas and measures that must be implemented in these priority areas in order to accelerate the social and economic development of Lerik region and increase its stability.

Priority areas

Priority 1: Strengthening the development of agriculture

Accessibility to agrotechnical and agrochemical services will be increased in the region, as well as additional mobile supply points will be created in identified large settlements.

Farmers operating in the region will be involved in educational activities regularly, as well as measures will be taken to increase their supply of quality seeds (potatoes) and saplings (apples and others).

Sales points of forest food products and wild medicinal plants will be established in the region, and systematic collection of products will be ensured.

Necessary work will be done for the branding of local agricultural products (potatoes, apples, honey, etc.) typical for the region, and promotion of branding and sale of agricultural products for selected products will be carried out.

Fodder supply and sales points will be established in the region, and at the same time, farmers will be provided with the necessary equipment and tools for the preliminary processing of selected products (meat, milk, wool, eggs, honey) at farms.

In order to accelerate the development of agriculture, work will be strengthened in the direction of intensification of agriculture, including the application of modern approaches, advanced techniques and technologies (especially suitable for mountainous terrain).

The development of the market infrastructure in the region will be strengthened, in particular, for the purpose of selling agricultural products, weekend markets (fairs) will be organized within the region (in the city center and large villages), and opportunities will be created for locals and farmers to sell their products.

Priority 2: Strengthening the use of the potential of the industry

In order to strengthen the use of the potential of the industry in the region, agricultural products processing enterprises (small-scale enterprises) will be established and the potential of the construction materials industry will be increased.

Also, measures will be taken in the direction of organizing studies to identify new industrial areas in accordance with the comparative advantages of the region, establishing such enterprises, involving foreign and local investors to this work, and supporting public-private partnership initiatives.

Priority 3: Enhancing the development of entrepreneurship

In order to strengthen the development of entrepreneurship, measures will be increased to support the development of existing business entities in the region, the creation of new entrepreneurship entities and joint entrepreneurship models.

Also, work will be continued in the direction of improving the business environment in the region, measures will be taken to simplify the procedures for starting and conducting business, and to strengthen awareness in this area.

At the same time, it is envisaged to expand the scope of state support mechanisms for entrepreneurship entities, increase their access to financial resources, including strengthening the diversification of the financial-banking services network and the development of the market infrastructure in the region.

Furthermore, efforts will be made to expand the market network in the region and promote the use of modern sales channels, including e-commerce and m-commerce (electronic and mobile).

Priority 4: Acceleration the development of tourism

In order to accelerate the development of tourism in the region, necessary measures will be taken to create tourism-recreation zones through public-private partnership in areas with appropriate resources and potential.

Taking into account the region's natural climate conditions and tourism potential, measures will be taken to develop agro, eco, green, and home tourism (homestay) in the region.

Additionally, measures will be taken to improve the quality of service in tourism facilities, to strengthen tourism marketing, advertising and promotion.

Work will be carried out in the direction of effective use of the tourism industry, including natural recreation resources, and tourist routes will be organized in selected directions.

Priority 5: Increasing the level of use of labor resources

Actions will be taken to enhance the utilization of labor resources by fostering human potential and creating more quality employment opportunities in the region. For this purpose, initially, efforts will be intensified to enhance people's specialization in modern professions and improve their digital skills.

At the same time, the development of local raw material-based industry and other areas of the economy, including traditional types of folk crafts, will be encouraged in order to increase the degree of urbanization in the region, expand the diversification of the economy and reduce dependence on agriculture.

Priority 6: Accelerating the development of physical infrastructure areas

Actions will be taken to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply to residential areas in the region and to renew the electrical supply network.

Additionally, in order to increase the level of gasification in the region, the connection of residential areas that do not have gas to the gas supply network will be accelerated.

To meet the demand for drinking and irrigation water in the villages of the region, the capacity of the water supply system will be increased and the scope will be expanded.

Additionally, relevant measures will be taken to organize public transportation and repair inter-village roads to develop transportation infrastructure.

At the same time, reliable public transportation routes will be established from Lankaran and Baku to Lerik district center, and the operation of a central bus station in the region will be ensured.

Communication, including internet network potential, will be strengthened, expanding coverage areas, and improving the quality of services provided in this field.

Priority 7: Development of social infrastructure areas

In order to expand the scope and quality of education services in the region, the opportunities of the education infrastructure will be increased, buses will be organized for the transportation of students in villages without education institutions, as well as actions will be taken to improve the supply of qualified staff in this area.

Additionally, the network of pre-school education institutions in the region will be expanded and access to primary education will be increased.

At the same time, to meet the demands of the labor market, the material and technical base of vocational education system will be strengthened, and new specialties will be introduced in relevant fields to increase the number of qualified staff.

In order to increase the access of the population to health services in the region, the health service network will be expanded, the provision of qualified staff and the quality of the services will be improved.

At the same time, work will be continued and expanded in the direction of eliminating situations related to gender inequality in the family, workplaces, education institutions and public places, as well as creating conditions for women and girls to have equal access to education, health services, and decent work.

Priority 8: Strengthening environmental security





In order to protect environmental safety and reduce the impact of climate change in the region, first of all, work will be continued and strengthened in the direction of reducing environmental pollution, waste collection and disposal, improving environmental control and increasing the level of renewable energy use.








Additionally, actions will be taken to protect forests, clean up dry trees and restore, while also strengthening control in these areas. At the same time, environmental education and environmental management efficiency will be enhanced, and preventive measures will be taken against natural disasters in the region.

5. COMPLIANCE OF THE PLAN WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Plan is closely related to the above-mentioned sub-goals of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. With reference to SDG 11 in general (Making cities and settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable), the plan specifically targets 11.a. It supports positive economic, social and environmental linkages between urban, suburban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.

Relevance of the plan to the Sustainable Development Goals

Priority areas of the plan	Sustainable Development Goals	Note
1. Strengthening the development of agriculture		Priority 1 supports SDG 2: End hunger, ensure food security, improve nutrition, support sustainable development of agriculture. In particular, it targets 2.3: Increasing agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers by providing access to efficient resources and supplies, information, financial services, markets, off-farm employment and value-added opportunities.
2. Strengthening the use of the potential of the industry		Priority 2 supports SDG 9: Build solid infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and support innovation. In particular, it targets 9.2: "significantly increasing the share of industry in employment and gross domestic product in accordance with national circumstances".
3. Enhancing the development of entrepreneurship	 	Priority 3 supports SDGs 8 and 9: Promote resistant, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. In particular, it targets 8.3: supporting production activities, creating decent jobs and entrepreneurship, encouraging the formation and growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. 9.3: Increase access to financial services, including affordable credit, for small-scale industries and other enterprises and strengthen their integration into value chains and markets.

4. Acceleration the development of tourism		<p>Priority 4 supports SDG 8: Promote resistant, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. In particular, it targets 8.9: Developing and implementing strategies to promote sustainable tourism that promotes the development of local culture and the production of local products.</p>
5. Increasing the level of use of labor resources		<p>Priority 5 supports SDG 8: Promote resistant, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. In particular, it targets 8.5: Creating full, effective and decent employment opportunities for all women and men</p>
6. Accelerating the development of physical infrastructure areas	  	<p>Priority 6 supports SDGs 6, 7, and 9: SDG 6: Ensuring access to water and sanitation for all, SDG 7: Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy, SDG 9: Developing solid infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and stimulating innovation.</p> <p>In particular, it targets 6.4: Significantly increasing the efficient use of water in all areas to solve the problem of water scarcity and reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity, as well as ensuring the sustainable use of water resources and clean water supply, as well as 9c: Increasing accessibility to ICT to ensure global and affordable access to the internet, 11.2: Ensuring road safety, especially expanding public transport, thereby providing access to a safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport system for all.</p>
7. Development of social infrastructure areas	 	<p>Priority 7 supports SDGs 3 and 4: SDG 3: Ensuring healthy living and well-being for all at all ages, SDG 4: Ensuring inclusive and equal quality education and creating lifelong learning opportunities for everyone. In particular, it targets 4.2: Ensuring that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and preschool to prepare them for primary education, as well as 4.3: Ensuring equal access to affordable and quality technical, vocational and higher education for all women and men, 4.4: Increasing the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.</p>

<p>8. Strengthening environmental security</p>	 	<p>Priority 8 supports SDGs 12 and 15: SDG 12: Ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, as well as SDG 15: Protecting and restoring terrestrial ecosystems and supporting their efficient use, using forests efficiently, fighting against desertification, stopping land degradation, taking countermeasures against it and preventing the loss of biological diversity. In particular, it targets 12.5: significantly reducing waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse, as well as 15.1: Ensuring the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, particularly forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands.</p>
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6. FUNDING SOURCES AND MECHANISMS OF THE PLAN

It is envisaged to finance the activities under the Development Plan of Lerik District from the following sources:

- State budget of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- Off-budget funds;
- Funds of the Azerbaijan Investment Company;
- Funds of the Entrepreneurship Development Fund;
- Funds of Agrarian Credit and Development Agency;
- Funds formed as a result of public-private partnership;
- Investments of local and foreign entrepreneurs;
- Securities, including stocks and bonds, derivatives;
- Local loans and grants;
- Funds (loans, technical and financial assistance) of international organizations, donors, foundations and foreign states;
- Other sources not prohibited by the legislation.

Private investments will be encouraged to finance the implementation of the planned activities in the development plan.

7. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT MECHANISMS OF THE PLAN

An Action Plan, which includes activities according to the relevant priority areas has been prepared to implement the plan. The Action Plan covers a period of 3 (three) years. It includes specified implementation deadlines for the activities, and starting from the second year, detailed annual operational plans will be prepared considering the implementation status of the previous years.

The implementation of the plan will be monitored taking into account the initial, interim and final outcomes of the activities. These indicators will allow to evaluate the implementation status of the relevant activities.

Monitoring and evaluation of the plan will be carried out according to the relevant rules established by the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

8. ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

(Initial version)

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.1. Priority 1. Strengthening the development of agriculture							
8.1.1.	Improving the supply of agrochemicals	MoA	MoEc, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Creation of mobile supply points in Lerik city, Piran, Shingedulan, Chayrud, Gosmalian villages	Creation of additional mobile supply points in large settlements	Development of agriculture in the region and increase in productivity
8.1.2.	Expanding farmer awareness activities	MoA	MoEc, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Taking measures to involve farmers operating in the region in educational activities	Involving about 3 thousand farmers in educational trainings during the relevant period	Increasing farmers' knowledge and skills, increase in productivity in agriculture
8.1.3.	Improving the supply of quality seeds and saplings	MoA	Lerik EA	2024-2026	Taking appropriate measures to increase the level of provision of quality seeds (potatoes) and saplings (apples and others)	Improving access and provision of appropriate seeds	Increase in the production of crop products and income of farmers in the region
8.1.4.	Increasing the collection of forest food products and medicinal plants and establishing a sales point	Lerik EA	MoEc, MoA,	2024-2026	Expanding the activities to support the collection and sale of forest food products and wild medicinal plants (establishing sales points)	Creation of at least one sales point in the district	Expanding the use of natural, economic and human resources of the region, increase in efficiency
8.1.5.	Branding and promotion of local agricultural products specific to the region	SAPSSI	MoA, MoEc, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Carrying out necessary works for branding local agricultural products (potatoes, apples, honey, etc.) specific to the region	Promoting branding and sales of at least one farm product for selected products	Development of agriculture in the region and increase in income of farmers

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.1.6.	Expanding the use of modern techniques suitable for mountainous terrain in agriculture	MoA	MoEc, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Increasing the level of provision of modern equipment (combine harvester, plow, lawnmower, and seed drill) suitable for the mountainous terrain	Increasing the number of new modern techniques suitable for mountainous terrain	Accelerating the intensive development of agriculture in the region and increasing its competitiveness
8.1.7.	Improving the supply of fodder	MoA	Lerik EA	2024-2026	Taking necessary measures for the creation of fodder supply and sales points	Establishing at least one fodder supply and sales point in the region	Increase in production of livestock products and farmers' income in the region
8.1.8.	Increasing support for the production of livestock products	Lerik EA	MoEc, MoA, MLSP	2024-2026	Preparing proposals for expanding the production and preliminary processing capabilities of selected livestock products (meat, milk, wool, eggs, honey) in households	Acquiring the necessary equipment and tools (incubator, milking machine, wool cleaning, combing, spinning and weaving equipment, beekeeping products processing equipment) for the preliminary processing of the relevant products in households	Increase in production, employment level and farmers' income in the region
8.1.9.	Organization of weekly markets (fairs) for the sale of agricultural products	Lerik EA	MoA, MoEc	2024-2026	Determining the places for the organization of the relevant markets and carrying out the necessary work	Organization of appropriate markets in at least two settlements (city center and village) in the region	Expanding farmers' market access and increasing income opportunities

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.2. Priority 2. Strengthening the use of the potential of the industry							
8.2.1.	Creation of agricultural products processing enterprises	Lerik EA	MoEc, MoA, SAPSSI,	2024-2026	Identifying relevant processing enterprises, preparing investment projects and measures to attract investments	Supporting the establishment of identified processing enterprises through appropriate mechanisms	Development of the region's industry, increase in income and employment opportunities of the population
8.2.1.1.	Establishment of a small-scale enterprise for the supply and preliminary processing of medicinal plants	Lerik EA	MoEc, MoA, SAPSSI, Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation of projects related to the establishment of the preliminary processing enterprise of medicinal plants	Creation and organization of activity of at least one small enterprise in the district	Development of agriculture in the region and increase in farmers' income
8.2.1.2.	Establishment of a small fruit drying enterprise	Lerik EA	MoEc, MoA, SAPSSI, Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Development of projects related to the establishment of a small-scale fruit drying enterprise and attracting investors	Creation and organization of activity of at least one small enterprise in the district	Development of agriculture in the region and increase in farmers' income
8.2.1.3.	Establishment of a small-scale potato chips production enterprise	Lerik EA	MoEc, MoA, SAPSSI, Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Development of projects related to the establishment of a small-scale potato chips production enterprise and attracting investors	Creation and organization of activity of at least one small enterprise in the district	Development of agriculture in the region and increase in farmers' income
8.2.2.	Increasing the potential of the existing construction materials industry	Lerik EA	MoEc, MoENR, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Preparation of investment projects and attraction of investors for the exploitation of existing construction materials (marble, lime, clay, basalt, cement) reserves	Carrying out the necessary work for the preparation and realization of at least one investment project in the relevant directions	Development of the region's industry, increase in income and employment opportunities of the population

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.3. Priority 3. Enhancing the development of entrepreneurship							
8.3.1.	Increasing entrepreneurs' business, financial and digital literacy	MoEc	MoA, MoDDT, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Organization of trainings, information and promotional events for entrepreneurial subjects in relevant areas	Involving entrepreneurs in regular (at least once a quarter) trainings	Development of entrepreneurship in the region and increase of its contribution to the development of the region
8.3.1.1	Strengthening the promotion of the use of modern sales channels, including e-commerce and m-commerce (electronic and mobile)	MoEc	MoDDT, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Organization of information and promotion campaigns related to the promotion of the use of modern sales channels	Involving entrepreneurs, youth and other stakeholders in these campaigns	Development of market infrastructure, expansion of trade, increase of income opportunities and improvement of living conditions in the region
8.3.2.	Creation of a permanent market in the district center	Lerik EA	MoEc, MoENR, MoA	2024-2026	Preparation and implementation of the project related to the creation of a relevant market in the district center	Commencement of relevant permanent market	Development of market infrastructure, expansion of trade, increase of income opportunities and improvement of living conditions in the region
8.4. Priority 4. Acceleration the development of tourism							
8.4.1.	Carrying out necessary work for the creation of tourism-recreational zones in the regions with relevant potential	Lerik EA	STA, MoEc, MoA, MoENR,	2024-2026	Preparation and implementation of project documents for the creation of tourism-recreation zones in selected areas (Gosmalian, Kalakhani, Kalvaz, Avila, Buludul)	Creation of at least one tourism-recreation zone in the region	Development of tourism in the region, increase of income and employment opportunities of the population

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.4.2.	Development of the areas of agro, eco and green tourism, taking into account the natural and climatic conditions and tourism potential of the region	STA	MoEc, MoA, MoENR, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Taking measures for the preparation, submission and implementation of relevant proposals	Determination of at least two tourism routes in the relevant direction in the region and starting their operation	Development of tourism in the region, increase of competitiveness, income and employment opportunities of the population
8.4.2.1.	Development of home tourism (homestay) in the region	STA	MoEc, MoC, MoA, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Determining standards for home tourism (homestay) and taking measures to improve conditions in rural homes	Development of relevant tourism sector	Development of tourism in the region, increase of competitiveness, income and employment opportunities of the population
8.4.3.	Organization of tourist routes in selected destinations	STA	MoC, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Preparation of projects for the organization of relevant routes (Galabin waterfall, Bibiyani waterfall, Oglan and Giz castles) and taking measures for their realization	Development of tourist routes	Development of tourism in the region, increase of competitiveness, income and employment opportunities of the population
8.4.4.	Improving the quality of service in tourism facilities	STA	MoEc, MoA, MoENR, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Conducting educational activities and trainings to improve the quality of service in tourism facilities	Improving the quality of services provided in tourism facilities	Rayonda turizmin inkishafi

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.4.5.	Taking measures to strengthen marketing, advertising and promotion of tourism	Lerik EA	STA, MoEc, MoC, MoA	2024-2026	Strengthening marketing, advertising and promotion of tourism in the region (including the creation of a tourism information center and holding a tourism festival)	Launching tourism information center and holding a tourism festival once a year in the region	Development of tourism in the region
8.5. Priority 5. Increasing the level of use of labor resources							
8.5.1.	Specializing people in modern professions and increasing their digital skills in the region	MLSPP	MoSE, MoEc, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Increasing the number and quality of education events and trainings in relevant areas in the region, including the involvement of related NGOs in these works	Increasing knowledge and skills of the population (youth, women and other stakeholders)	Strengthening of human potential in the region
8.5.2.	Development of traditional types of folk crafts (carpets, weaving, embroidery) and increasing support for the production of local handicraft products (souvenirs) for sale	Lerik EA	MoC, STA, MoEc	2024-2026	Identifying interested people in the development of traditional types of folk crafts (carpets, weaving, embroidery, etc.) and taking measures (providing concessional loans, equipment, consulting services, etc.) to encourage them	Increasing the volume of locally produced folk art products in the region	Increasing the efficiency of the use of natural, economic and human resources of the region
8.6. Priority 6. Accelerating the development of physical infrastructure areas							
8.6.1.	Acceleration of renewal of electricity supply network in villages	"Azarishiq" OJSC	Lerik EA	2024-2026	Preparation of an action plan for relevant works (updating technical equipment, poles, etc.)	Conducting work based on the prepared plan	Renewal of the electricity supply network in the region and improvement of living conditions

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.6.2.	Increasing the gasification level of villages	SOCAR "Azəriqaz"	Lerik EA	2024-2026	Continuation of gasification works (for 69 villages) (See Annex 3)	Increase in the number of gasified settlements (households) in the region	Increasing the level of gas supply in the region and improving the living conditions of the population
8.6.3.	Improvement of drinking water supply in villages	ASWRA	Lerik EA	2024-2026	Preparation of relevant projects related to laying drinking water lines to villages (33 villages) (See: Annex 3)	Carrying out restoration and construction works on the basis of projects	Improvement of drinking and irrigation water supply and living conditions in the region
8.6.4.	Expanding the application of modern irrigation systems	ASWRA	Lerik EA	2024-2026	Preparation of relevant projects for villages (Chayrud, Rvarud, Pirasora, Gosmalian, Kalvaz, Goydara) and taking measures for their implementation	Construction of modern (drip) irrigation systems in identified villages	Improvement of irrigation water supply and living conditions in the region
8.6.4.1.	Creation of cisterns and reservoirs for collecting and storing rainwater in villages	ASWRA	Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation of projects related to the creation of cisterns and reservoirs in the respective villages (Razgov, Lalahilan, Miston, Nimakesh, Goydara)	Establishment of cisterns and reservoirs in identified villages	Improvement of drinking and irrigation water supply and living conditions in the region
8.6.5.	Organization of public transport (city-rural and inter-rural)	Lerik EA	MoDDT, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation and submission of projects for the organization of public transport	Commencement of public transportation in the district.	Development of transport infrastructure and improvement of living conditions in the region

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.6.6.	Organization of reliable transport routes from Lankaran and Baku to Lerik district center	MoDDT	Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation and submission of appropriate proposals and carrying out activities for their implementation	Organization and commencement of appropriate routes	Development of transportation and tourism in the region, improvement of living conditions
8.6.6.1.	Construction of a bus station in the district center	MoDDT	Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation and submission of appropriate proposals and carrying out activities for their implementation	Commencement of the central bus station in the region	Development of transportation and tourism in the region, improvement of living conditions
8.6.7.	Repair of inter-rural roads	Lerik EA	AAYDA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation of projects for the respective villages (38.7 km Aliabad-Kiravud-Nucu-Vamazgon, 11.7 km Agchay-Tekdam (Yardimli), 15 km Blaband-Andurma-Chayrud, 10 km 40th km (village)- Nuvedi-Aliabad, 25 km Piran-Bursulum-Bobla, 18 km Piran-Veri Aliabadi-Veri, 14 km Lerik-Mastayil-Livadirga-Laman, 15 km Nisli-Razgov) and taking measures for their implementation	Carrying out road repair works in the respective villages	Development of transport infrastructure and improvement of living conditions in the region

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.6.8.	Improving the quality of communication and internet services	MoDDT	Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation of projects related to the installation of high-speed Internet in relevant villages (43 villages) and taking measures for their implementation (See: Annex 3)	Ensuring access to high-speed internet service for the respective villages	Improving the quality of communication, including internet services, and improving living conditions in the region
8.7. Priority 7. Development of social infrastructure areas							
8.7.1.	Organization of transportation for students in villages without education institutions	Lerik EA	MoE, MoDDT	2024-2026	Carrying out necessary work in order to organize appropriate buses for the transportation of students in villages (66 villages) without education institutions (See: Annex 3)	Running buses to transport students in the respective villages	Development of education in the region
8.7.2.	Expanding the network of preschool education institutions and increasing access to primary education	MoSE	Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation of relevant projects and proposals for the construction of pre-school education institutions in villages (Livadirga, Zuvuj, Shingedulan, Vizazamin, Vistan, Nuju) selected according to priorities	Supporting the implementation of prepared proposals through appropriate mechanisms, organizing the activities of institutions	Development of education in the region
8.7.3.	Strengthening the material and technical base of the vocational education institution and opening new specialties in relevant fields	MoSE	Lerik EA, other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Preparation of proposals in relevant directions and consideration of the transfer of the education building to another adapted building	Improving the material and technical base of the vocational education institution and opening new specialties according to the demand	Development of education in the region

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.7.4.	Improving the supply of qualified staff in the field of education	MoSE	Lerik EA	2024-2026	Preparation of proposals and implementation of incentive measures in the direction of attracting qualified staff (399 subject teachers) lacking in the region	Increasing the level of provision of qualified staff in the field of education	Development of education in the region
8.7.5.	Improving the provision of qualified staff in the health sector and improving the quality of the services provided	MoH	MoE, Lerik EA	2024-2026	Preparing proposals and taking measures in order to attract qualified staff (67 doctors, 120 medical workers) lacking in the region	Increasing the level of provision of qualified staff in the health sector and the quality of services provided there	Development of education in the region
8.8. Priority 8. Strengthening environmental security							
8.8.1	Reducing environmental pollution	Lerik EA	MoENR	2024-2026	Taking measures to strengthen environmental control	Reduction of wastes thrown into the environment	Improvement of the ecological situation and living conditions in the region
8.8.2.	Improvement of waste collection and disposal system	Lerik EA	MoENR	2024-2026	Preparing relevant proposals for the placement of garbage cans in the district center, in large villages and on tourist routes in order to improve the collection and disposal of waste	Taking measures for the implementation of prepared projects	Improvement of the ecological situation and living conditions in the region
8.8.3.	Strengthening of forest protection, clearing and restoration of dry trees	MoENR	Lerik EA	2024-2026	Assessment of the current situation in the relevant field in the region and preparation of proposals for strengthening work	Carrying out relevant work based on prepared proposals	Improvement of the ecological situation and living conditions in the region

№	Name of the activity	Main executive body (institution)	Other executors	Duration of execution	Outcome indicators		
					Initial outcomes	Interim outcomes	Final outcomes
8.8.4.	Raising awareness about environmental protection	Lerik EA	MoENR, MoE	2024-2026	Organization of awareness campaigns and trainings for environmental protection awareness in the region	Engaging entrepreneurs, youth and other stakeholders in awareness campaigns and trainings	Improvement of the ecological situation and living conditions in the region
8.8.5.	Implementation of protection measures for residential areas with risks of natural disasters (floods).	MoENR	MoA, Lerik EA and other relevant government bodies	2024-2026	Evaluating existing risks in the relevant field in the region and preparing proposals for determining preventive measures to be taken	Carrying out relevant work on the basis of prepared proposals	Reduction of environmental conditions and effects of natural disasters in the region

ANNEX I

List of settlements without high-speed internet service in Lerik region (2146 households in 43 villages)

S/S	Name of settlements	Tasarrufatın sayı
1	Lulakaran	139
2	Noda	199
3	Orand	282
4	Kohna Orand	21
5	Bilna	48
6	Buzeyir	73
7	Dijo	33
8	Vamazgon	45
9	Davidonu	22
10	Zarikumajo	82
11	Bursulum	58
12	Anjaqav	40
13	Bobla	22
14	Vov	75
15	Vijaker	32
16	Vanadi	26
17	Gishlag	37
18	Jonu	64
19	Zeynako	36
20	Kagoy	58
21	Vilig	59
22	Loda	48
23	Lakar	46
24	Nisoadi	17
25	Tulu	21
26	Hubi	13
27	Davradibi	81
28	Huju	33
29	Sivakaran	47
30	Sorschay	55
31	Yukh. Anburdara	8
32	Halabin	7
33	Hoveri	19
34	Nisli	24
35	Tatonu	20
36	Gishlag	9
37	Digah	6
38	Khojadoy	16
39	Chokara	5
40	Hileydara yaylag	12
41	Hazovi	37
42	Kekonu	31
43	Barzavu	140

ANNEX II

List of settlements without schools in Lerik district (13,700 people in 66 villages)

No	Number and names of settlements	Number of population
1.	Digov	29
2.	Bradi	503
3.	Bursulum	345
4.	Digovdara	95
5.	Hiveri	282
6.	Huseynabad	60
7.	Mahlaabad	89
8.	Nisomurya	215
9.	Osnaghakucha	161
10.	Perzora	97
11.	Pirzakucha	464
12.	Piyakucha	112
13.	Pendi	394
14.	Gadimakucha	147
15.	Tatoni	144
16.	Tangabin	234
17.	Khalifakucha	231
18.	Khalifakand	43
19.	Yukhari Bilna	206
20.	Zardabara	769
21.	Janganavud	401
22.	Sipyaregon	281
23.	Akushapeshta	161
24.	Anjagav	241
25.	Jamashair	341
26.	Chokara	49
27.	Digah	56
28.	Divaghaj	164
29.	Dizdipok	371
30.	Ardabila	252
31.	Gandov	394
32.	Halabin	46
33.	Haran	95
34.	Hubi	66
35.	Hazovi	205
36.	Hiladara	81
37.	Hoveri	128
38.	Hovil	367
39.	Kekonu	214
40.	Kohna Orand	137
41.	Kornadi	298
42.	Kuman	246
43.	Laladulan	263
44.	Lalahiran	151

No	Number and names of settlements	Number of population
45.	Musavar	66
46.	Nisli	157
47.	Niso	109
48.	Nosovadi	75
49.	Galasar	183
50.	Gishlag (Kalakhan IAD)	51
51.	Gishlag (Tulujonu IAD)	189
52.	Gishlag (Piran AIN)	234
53.	Razavul	239
54.	Shivla	594
55.	Tandul	123
56.	Tabrizli	215
57.	Tulu	115
58.	Vanadi	151
59.	Khalifahoni	120
60.	Khojadoy	111
61.	Yukhari Amburdara	45
62.	Jindi	301
63.	Zardoni	143
64.	Zeynako	173
65.	40th kilometre	45
66.	Babakuja	632

ANNEX III

List of non-gasified settlements in Lerik district (6743 households in 102 settlements)

Number and names of settlements	Number of subscribers
Aghishlag	52
Akhunahiran	43
Akushapeshta	37
Almu	109
Anjagav	43
Aran	45
Arta	40
Bilavar	92
Bilna	53
Bradi	108
Buludul	175
Bobla	27
Babagil	58
Boykandil	46
Brkandul	191
Bursulum	63
Burug	78
Buzeyir	63
Jamashair	54
Cheshman	55
Chokara	5
Jonu	69
Daster	106
Davidoni	27
Dijo	38
Digah	6
Divaghaj	38
Dizdipok	89
Aliabad	79
Ardabila	39
Gandov	72
Gaskon	32
Gunashli	120
Gurdasar	155
Haftonu	58
Halabin	7
Hamarat	108
Haran	27
Hubi	13
Huju	25
Hazovi	42
Hiladara	12
Hoveri	24
Hovil	74
Kekonu	36
Kiravud	57
Kohna Orand	26
Kornadi	55
Kusakaran	63
Kuman	30
Laman	82
51	3046

Number and names of settlements	Number of subscribers
Lakar	51
Laladulan	38
Lalahiran	32
Larmarud	134
Loda	58
Molalan	132
Musavar	8
Nucu	165
Nisli	29
Niso	24
Nosovadi	22
Noda	149
Nuvadi	52
Orand	242
Osyodara	49
Pirasora	305
Gavoy	63
Galabin	81
Galasar	43
Gilgilov	70
Gishlag (Kalaxan IAD)	9
Qishlag (Tulujonu IAD)	31
Razavul	52
Shingadulan	145
Sivakaran	52
Shivla	79
Siyov	111
Shonachola	43
Sors	89
Sorschay	60
Soru	158
Tandul	19
Tabrizli	39
Tikaband	128
Tulu	26
Vamazghon	50
Vanadi	31
Veri Aliabadı	98
Vijaker	37
Vilik	69
Vistan	114
Vov	80
Khanagah	164
Khalifahoni	18
Khocadoy	21
Yukhari Amburdara	8
Zardoni	27
Zenoni	84
Zeynako	39
Zovna	64
40th kilometre	5
51	3697

ANNEX IV

List of villages with drinking water problems in Lerik district (33 settlements)

No	Number and mane of settlements
1	Ambu
2	Barzavu
3	Jangamiran
4	Durghan
5	Mastail
6	Murya
7	Nuravud
8	Piran
9	Pirzakuja
10	Veri
11	Zarigumaco
12	Aghgishlag
13	Bradi
14	Burug
15	Gurdasar
16	Kiravud
17	Kuman
18	Laman
19	Larmarud
20	Molalan
21	Noda
22	Nuvadi
23	Pirasora
24	Razavul
25	Sors
26	Siyov
27	Soru
28	Shingadulan
29	Tikaband
30	Vistan
31	Zenoni
32	Zovna
33	Zuvuch

