

REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT



REGENERATION OF THE AREA SURROUNDING THE ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM AND MIHAL KOMNENO ROAD

(Administrative Unit- Berat; Municipality - Berat)

Category (Pursuant to Annex II of Albanian Law No. 10440, dated 07.07.2011 and Directive 2011/92/EU on EIA):

10. Infrastructure Projects.

b) Urban development projects, including the construction of shopping centres and car parks.

Developer: Albanian Development Fund (ADF)

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADF	ALBANIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND
CHP	CULTURE HERITAGE PLAN
CHS	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY
CM	COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
DCM	DECISION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
EBRD	EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
EPA	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ESIA	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
ESMP	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN
GHG	GREENHOUSE GASES
GIIP	GOOD INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY PRACTICE
GIS	GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
GLP	GENERAL LOCAL PLAN
GoA	GOVERNMENT OF ALBANIA
GRM	GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM
ILO	INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION
MIE	MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY
MTE	MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENT OF ALBANIA
OHS	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
OP	OPERATIONAL POLICY OF THE WORLD BANK
PIUTD	PROJECT FOR INTEGRATED URBAN AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT
PM	PARTICULATE MATTER
PPE	PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT
REA	REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY
SEP	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN
UN	UNITED NATIONS
UNEP	UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM
VOC	VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS
WB	WORLD BANK

I. INTRODUCTION

The Project for Integrated Urban and Tourism Development (PIUTD), funded by the World Bank Group and implemented by the Albanian Development Fund (ADF), supports the Government of Albania (GoA) to develop the economy and improve living conditions in its southern region by financing infrastructure projects in the urban centres of Saranda, Gjirokastra, Berat and Përmet.

The objectives of the Project are: (a) improve urban infrastructure; (b) enhance tourism assets; and (c) strengthen institutional capacity to support tourism related local economic development in Selected Areas in the south of Albania.

The Project consists of the following parts:

- a) Urban upgrading and infrastructure improvement;
- b) Touristic sites upgrading;
- c) Institutional capacity budding;
- d) Implementation Support.

The activity of this project consists in: (a) preparing of feasibility studies and designs (including urban design studies), (b) carrying out construction works to restore selected heritage buildings, (c) upgrading public spaces, the street network and associated infrastructure; and (d) conducting construction supervision.

The project aims the following:

- Improving selected touristic sites along the south of the Albania Touristic Corridor by inter alia: (a) restoring of selected heritage and cultural assets and creating rest stops or viewpoints; (b) repairing and improving site infrastructure such as pedestrian's pathways; (c) preparing the required feasibility studies, site management plans and engineering designs; and, (d) conducting construction supervision.
- Strengthening the capacity of municipalities to deliver municipal services through inter alia: (i) provision of asset management systems, geographic information systems and solid waste collection equipment; and (ii) establishment of site management capacity to enhance the operation of rehabilitated assets.
- Carrying out capacity building activities to strengthen the capacity of: Selected Municipalities to promote sustainable tourism growth including: (A) developing and implementing market research and product development strategies, (B) establishment of pilot Destination Management Entities; and (C) establishment of a system for tracking sustainable tourism indicators, and central government agencies to promote sustainable tourism growth.

Because of the adverse effects that these new developments (the project) might have into the Environment, based on EU and national legislation, the project should undergo the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) which is a tool used to identify the social and economic impacts of a project prior to decision-making.

1.1. PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of this assignment is to contribute to the implementation of component 1 of the PIUTD in the two cities of Berat and Përmet, by preparing Integrated Urban Design Concepts (IUDC), focussed on target areas of the cities, aimed at improving the living conditions of the local community and foster locally based tourism economic development in urban areas. The joint venture of Atelier 4 (Albania) and Keios (Italy) was selected by ADF to carry out the consulting services.

After the validation of the Integrated Urban Design Concept for Berat and of the Investment Program for the Project Area, the following investment sub-projects have been selected for implementation in Berat:

- P01 Restoration of the historic urban landscape of the Gorica quarter;
- P03 Rehabilitation of the Gorica Castle trail & establishment of additional tourism opportunities around the monument;
- P06 Restoration of the historic urban landscape of the Selamllek square
- P09 Regeneration of the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum and Mihal Komneno road;
- P11 Street-scape beautification along Antipatrea road in the Town centre;
- P12 Urban upgrading of Iliaz Vrioni square; and
- P15 Tourism signage and interpretation.

The project design and the foreseen activities are in accordance with the recently prepared Berati General Local Plan for territory development.

1.2. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASESSMENT PURPOSE

This Environmental and Social Impact Assessment is prepared for the project “Project Idea, Implementation and Supervision for Integrated Urban Regeneration – Berati Municipality”, sub-project: P09 “Regeneration of the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum and Mihal Komneno road”. The Albanian Development Fund (ADF) commissioned the report. The Environmental

and Social Impact Assessment is based on the project prepared by the design studios "Atelier 4" and "Keisos".

The purpose of the ESIA is to ensure that the proposed investments implemented through the Project comply with the existing environmental protection laws, regulations and standards in Albania. The report aims to give consideration to the environmental and social impacts of the proposed project in order to orient the institutions or decision-making bodies in approving the performance of the activity.

The report aims to identify negative and positive effects and to propose mitigation measures taking into account the economic interests of the investor as well as rational use of natural resources and coordination of the economic and social development of the area with the requirements of sustainable development. The main purposes of this assessment are to:

1. Identify potential environmental impacts in the study area during the work for the improvement of the walkability and public spaces along the Mihal Komneno road and surroundings, in particular in the area of the Ethnographic Museum and in the linkage between Mihal Komneno road and the Selamlik of the Vrioni Family, through Mangalem.
2. Identify possible socio-economic impacts during and after the implementation of the project in this area which has a highly significant strategic location for the image of the city
3. Propose the necessary measures to be undertaken for minimizing and preventing the effects created on the environment by the implementation of this project
4. Ensure that environmental and social considerations are explicitly addressed and considered in the decision-making process.
5. Protect the cultural heritage and promote sustainable development, helping on the local infrastructure development being one of the key elements to the development itself.

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND SAFEGUARD PROCEDURES

2.1. ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION IN ALBANIA

Law No. 10431 dated 9 June 2011 “On Environmental Protection” is the main law in the field of environment is the Law No. 10431, dated 9 June 2011 "On Environmental Protection". This law establishes national and local policies on environmental protection, requirements for the preparation of estimates of environmental impact and strategic environmental assessment, requirements for permitting activities that affect the environment, the prevention and reduction of environmental pollution, environmental norms and standards, environmental monitoring and control tasks of state bodies in relation to environmental issues, the role of the public and sanctions imposed for violation of the Law.

Law No. 10440, dated 7 July 2011 "On Environmental Impact Assessment", sets out the rules, procedures and deadlines for identifying and assessing the impacts of direct and indirect environmental projects or activities. The law defines the steps necessary to implement ESIA procedures: submission of application, preliminary review, selection and classification criteria, hearings and public consultations, access to information, tasks and rights of other bodies. The law also provides the list of activities that should be subject to the Profound and Preliminary ESIA. Some articles of the law were amended by Law No. 12/2015 on Amendments to the Law No. 10 440, dated 07.07.2011, "On environmental impact assessment".

Law No. 10448, dated 14.7.2011 "On Environmental Permits" aimed at preventing, reducing and maintaining control of pollution caused by certain categories of activities, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection in general, human health and quality of life. This law defines the rules for allowing the development of some activities that cause environmental pollution in Albania. Pursuant to Law No. 60/2014, Appendix 1 of the Law No. 10 448, dated 14.7.2011, "On environmental permits" has changed.

The aim of the **Law No. 162/2014, dated 04.12.2014 “On Protection of ambient air quality”** is improving public health and ensuring a high level of environmental protection through integrating ambient air quality issues in other policies as well as establishing requirements on its monitoring, assessment and planning and promoting international cooperation to this end. The Law consists of 6 Chapters: General provisions (I); Environmental air quality (II); Air emissions (III); Trans boundary air pollution (IV); Offences (V); Transitional provisions (VI). This Law fully complies with Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe.

Law No. 10463, dated 22.09.2011 “On integrated waste management”, as amended by the law 156/2013, aims to ensure the protection of environment and human health against pollution and damage resulting from solid waste. To

this end, it sets out rules governing the environmental treatment of solid wastes at every stage: creation, collection, separation, transportation, recycling, processing and disposal. The Law further aims at waste reduction and the reduction of the hazardous and dangerous impact of waste. The Law is implemented by:

- DCM No. 389, dated 27.6.2018 "On some amendments and additions to Decision No. 452, dated 11.7.2012, of the Council of Ministers "On waste landfills"
- DCM No 319, dated 31.5.2018 "On the adoption of measures for the costs of integrated waste management"
- DCM No. 94, dated 14.2.2018 "On some amendments and additions to Decision no. 641, dated 1.10.2014, of the Council of Ministers "On the approval of rules for the export of waste and the transit of non-hazardous waste and inert waste"
- DCM No. 575, dated 24.6.2015 "On approving the requirements for inert waste management"
- DCM No. 641, dated 1.10.2014 "On the adoption of rules for the export of waste and the transit of non-hazardous waste and inert waste"
- DCM No. 99, dated 18.2.2005 "On the approval of the Albanian List of Waste Classification".
- Regulation No. 117 of 13 February 2013 on the criteria used for determining when certain types of metal scrap cease to be waste.
- Regulation No. 177 dated 6 March 2012 on packaging and their residues.
- Order No. 1957 dated 6 November 2014 approving the model of authorization for the export of solid waste and the model of authorization for the transit of non-dangerous solid waste.
- Order No. 893, dated 04 October 2013 approving the model register for operators that generate, collect, and recycle used oils.

In addition to the above-mentioned legislation, the preparation of the ESIA is based on the following legislation:

- Law No. 57/2020, dated 30.04.2020 "On Forests".
- Law No. 81/2017, dated 18.05.2017 "On Protected Areas"
- Law No. 73/2015, dated 09.7.2015 "On some amendments to Law No. 107/2014 "Planning and Territorial Development"

- Law No. 107/2014 dated 31.07.2014 "On the Planning and Development of Territories"
- Law No. 10463, dated 22.9.2011 "On integrated waste management".
- Law No. 9774, dated 12.07.2007 "On the Assessment and Management of Environmental Noise".
- Law No. 9587, dated 20.07.2007 "On Protection of Biodiversity".
- Law No. 9115, dated 24.07.2003 "On Environmental Treatment of Polluted Waters.
- Law No. 8897, dated 2002, "On protection of air from pollution".
- DCM No. 686, dated 29.07.2015 "On approval of the rules, responsibilities and deadlines for development procedures of environment impact assessment (EIA) and procedures for the transfer environmental decision statement "
- DCM No. 419, dated 25.06.2014 "On approval of the special requirements for the review of environmental permit applications for types A, B and C, for the transfer of licenses from one subject to another, the conditions for the respective environmental permits and regulations their detailed examination by the competent authorities to issue these permits by NLC".
- DCM No. 417, dated 25.06.2014 "On approval of the Environmental Permit fees"
- DCM No. 227, dated 30.04.2014 "On establishing the rules, requirements and procedures for informing and involving the public in environmental decision-making".
- DCM No. 47, dated 29.01.2014 "On defining the regulation for the organization and functioning of the National Environment Agency and Regional Environment Agencies”
- DCM No. 48, dated 29.01.2014 "On the creation and manner of organization of the state Inspectorate on Environment, Forestry and Water administration”
- DCM No. 175, dated 19.01.2011 "On approval of the national strategy and waste management plan of the national waste management"
- DCM No. 587, dated 7.07.2010 "On the monitoring and control of noise levels in urban and tourist centres".
- DCM No. 853, dated 28.12.2005 "On approving the list of hazardous wastes, residues and other wastes to be imported for purposes prohibited storage, disposal and destruction".

- DCM No. 248, dated 24.04.2003 "On Approval of the Interim Standards on Air Emission and their implementation".
- DCM No. 435, dated 12.09.2002 "On Approval of the air emission norms in the Republic of Albania".
- DCM No. 103, dated 31.03.2002 "On environmental monitoring in the Republic of Albania".
- Instruction of the Minister of Environment and Minister of Finance No. 7938, dated 17.07.2014 "On the determination of fees and corresponding values for the services performed by the Ministry of Environment for the EIA process'
- Instruction of the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Management, No. 8 dated 27.11.2007 "Limiting the noise level in certain environments"

Albania is also a party to international agreements on biodiversity, climate change, desertification process, endangered species, hazardous waste, Protection of Ozone Layer and lagoons. Albania has also ratified the Kyoto Protocol in December 2004 and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in July 2004.

2.2. SOCIAL LEGISLATION

2.2.1. Legislation on territory planning, cultural heritage and chance finds

Projects for all types of building above ground and underground and engineering infrastructure projects across the entire country are based on standards and technical requirements of legal acts in force.

[Law No. 107/2014 “On territory planning and development”](#) aims at ensuring the sustainable development of the territory through the rational use of land and natural resources; assessing the actual and future potential of the territory development on a local and national level by balancing natural resources with economic demand and public and private interests. It also aim to coordinate the effort for: i) conservation of natural resources such as land, air, water, forests, flora and fauna; ii) creation of territories eligible for functional construction; iii) promoting the economic, social, and cultural life in local and national level; iv) safeguarding the resources of adequate supplies; v) providing for life safety, national security, public order and public health; and vi) promoting the balanced regional development to ensure sustainable distribution of population. The Law is implemented by:

- Regulation No. 408 date 13.5.2015 approving the territory planning and development regulation.
- Regulation 686 date 22.11.2017 on the territory planning.
- Regulation No. 739 date 13.12.2017 amending and supplementing Regulation No. 725 date 2.9.2015 on the organization and functioning of the Territory Development Agency.
- Regulation No. 427 date 8.6.2016 on the organization and functioning of the National Agency of Territory Planning.

Amended by

- Law No. 28/2017 amending and supplementing Law no. 107/2014 on the territory planning as amended.

[Law No. 27/2018, dated 17.05.2018 “On Cultural Heritage and Museums”](#) is the primary legal framework governing the management of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in Albania. The Law aims to promulgate and protect the cultural heritage in the territory of the Republic of Albania.

This Law, in relation to the field of territorial planning and development, defines inter alia:

- the cases of construction in public or private properties, which must obtain written approval from the National Council of Restorations and the National Council of Archeology;
- cases of excavations, restorations, uses and any other action in the cultural monuments, as well as any alteration on the ground under their protection, to be done with the authorization of the National Council of Restoration, Archaeological Institute, Archaeological Service Agency;
- the rules and types of constructional interventions in the Museum Areas, museum ensembles, historical centers, archaeological parks.

According to the law, if anything unusual will be found during the digging and excavation process the contractor has to stop immediately works, urgently inform the local authorities, the Culture Monuments Institute and the Ministry of Culture. They will send archaeologists and field specialists in order to check and evaluate the supposed archaeological objects and the works will restart only if the Culture Monuments Institute will issue the official permit.

2.2.2. Labour related legislation

The [Labour Code of the Republic of Albania](#): Law No. 7961, dated 12.07.1995, amended by Law No. 8085, dated 13.03.1996, Law No. 9125, dated 29.07.2003 and Law No. 10053, dated 29.12.2008 “Labour Code of the Republic of Albania” regulates relations between employers and employees. The law reflects Constitutional principles, as well as the basic principles of international conventions on labour, trade unions, prevention of discrimination, etc. The code is widely considered to be a fair and effective law.

The Labour Code provides for basic rights regarding the prohibition of compulsory labour, prohibition of discrimination, the freedom to join a trade union and collective bargaining.

The Labour Code provides general rules for the employee’s obligations and responsibilities, as well as the prohibition of competition after the termination of labour relationship. Also, the employer’s general obligations are specified in accordance with article 32-38 of this law. Safety and health protection are the responsibility of employers.

Labour Code also stipulates the duration of work and breaks, including daily and night work and extra payment; the weekly working time and holidays, the maximum duration of extra hours and compensation.

The Labour Code provides for special protection for juveniles and women, special provisions on payment and minimum wage. A separate chapter (XIV) provides

rules for the termination of the work relationship. Also, general consideration is provided on the protection of the right to work and the right to strike.

[Law “On health and safety in the workplace”](#). On 22.12.2016, the Albanian Parliament approved the law no. 135/2016 “On health and safety in the workplace, emergencies and the salvation in the mining activity and in underground works of hydropower activities”. Law 135/2016 was published in the official gazette no. 265, dated 12.01.2017 and entered into force 15 days after its publication.

Law 135/2016 defines the general principles governing health and safety at work in the mining activities and underground works of hydropower activities, and guarantees the safety and protection of the health of employees and other persons working in these sectors.

Pursuant to this law entities engaged in activities, studies or projects in the mining sector and underground works of hydropower activities are obliged to fulfill the requirements of safety in the workplace provided in the law and the secondary legislation.

2.2.3. Other Legislation Related to Labour and Health and Safety

Following is a list of the key additional Albanian legislation related to labour and HSE:

- ❑ [Law No. 9136, dated 11.09.2003 “On collection of compulsory social insurance and health insurance contributions in the Republic of Albania,”](#) amended by Law No. 9457, dated 21.12.2005. This law regulates the collection of compulsory social and health insurance contributions;
- ❑ [Law No. 9198, dated 26.02.2004 “On equal gender society,”](#) as amended by Law No. 9534, dated 15.05.2006 and Law No 9970, dated 24.07.2008. The purpose of this law is:
 - To ensure equal rights to women and men as provided for in article 18 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania;
 - To set out measures to promote equal opportunities for men and women aimed at eliminating direct and indirect discrimination on the grounds of gender in public life; and
 - To set out the responsibilities of central and local administration for drafting policies aimed at promoting an equal gender society.
- ❑ [Law No. 9959, dated 17.07.2008 “On foreigners.”](#) This law regulates the entrance, residence, employment, treatment and exit of foreigners to / from the Republic of Albania. The law defines the functions and powers of state

authorities and other entities, public and private, Albanian or foreign, which have to do with foreigners;

- ❑ [Law No. 10 383, dated 24.02.2011 “On Compulsory insurance for health care in the Republic of Albania.”](#) Compulsory health insurance is based on the contributions of employees and employers of the state and from other sources for other persons, as provided for in this law, based on the principle of solidarity; Professional health care includes preventive measures and security, advising employers, employees and their representatives to demand the creation and preservation of a safe and healthy environment, in-service work and work adjustment skills of employees, taking into account their physical and mental state of health. It also includes the identification and evaluation of workplace hazards, monitoring of work environment factors and work practices that may affect employee health;
- ❑ [Law No. 10237, dated 18.02.2010 “On safety and health at work.”](#) This law ensures the security and protection of health through prevention of professional risks, eliminating the factors that constitute risk and accident, inform, advice, balanced participation in accordance with the law. The present law applies the following:

2.2.4. Legislation on Private Property and Expropriation

[Expropriation process.](#) The legislation governing the expropriation process for the private properties is described below:

- ❑ Law no. 11/2020, dated 05.03.2020 “On some changes and amendments on Law no. 8651, dated 22.12.1999 ‘On expropriation and temporary use of private property for public interest.
- ❑ Law no. 8651, dated 22.12.1999 ‘On expropriation and temporary use of private property for public interest’, as amended and;
- ❑ Decision of Council of Ministers (DCM) no. 126, dated 23.3.2000 ‘On the composition and procedures of special committees for expropriation’,
- ❑ DCM no. 127, dated 23.3.2000 ‘On the content and procedures for submission of request for expropriation and temporary use of private property for public interest’,
- ❑ DCM no. 138, dated 23.3.2000 ‘On the technical criteria for the evaluation and calculation for compensation of expropriated properties, devaluated properties and third party rights(as amended)’;

Under Law no. 8561, dated 22.12.1999 on expropriation and temporary use of private property for public interest provides for the State’s right to expropriate or take private property for temporary use for purposes of a “public interest” that cannot be achieved or protected in another manner. The State must compensate

the value of land expropriated and any reduction in the value of property caused to properties bordering with the expropriated property.

Under the Expropriation Law, the expropriation value (compensation) is calculated by a special committee based on the assessment of the properties subject to expropriation (by considering their initial value, depreciation, destination, location, indexes of the market price changes and of the currency). A Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 138 dated 23.03.2000 explains the evaluation methodology of the land subject to expropriation procedures is defined (in ALL/m²) by decisions of the Council of Ministers approving the price reference according to Law no. 9235, dated 29.07.2004, on restitution and compensation of properties.

The Republic of Albania Law on Expropriation and Temporary Takings of the Private Property for Public Interest (passed in 1999, amended in 2016) guides land acquisition and serves as a general framework for expropriation in the Republic of Albania.

The Law does not use the term „involuntary resettlement“, which is used in the relevant World Bank policy documents, but instead uses the term expropriation.

This law enables government institutions, and to a certain extent private legal person to acquire private property for projects that are deemed to be of national and/or local interest, while protecting the interests of all project affected persons with legal title, whose assets are to be expropriated. The law also enshrines the principle of fair compensation.

The most important features of the Law on Expropriation are:

- The Law provides an exhaustive list of what is deemed as public interest (Art. 8/ç of Law “On Expropriation...”);
- The beneficiary subject in the expropriation process will be the relevant Municipality of each city (Art. 9 of the Law “On Expropriation...”)
- The procedure will be considered complete, when the owners through a statement approve the transaction of the property in favor of the Government;
- The decision of expropriation (for owners not agreeing to the expropriation) will be approved by the Council of Ministers and will enter into force immediately, and published in the Official Journal;
- The affected owners have access to judicial procedures if amicable settlement on the compensation is not reached. However, if there is no contest, the decision of the Council of Ministers will be final and binding.
- The devaluation of property. Compensation is due in cases when, although there is no land take but the assets or access to assets, and livelihood is affected (land is devaluated and the livelihood has deteriorated as a result of the project).

The estimation of the value is based on the type of land to be expropriated (agricultural land, woodland, meadow etc.); the characteristics for the estimation are different (i.e. in case of the agricultural land: the land category; the range from the urban zone; situation under or above the water level etc.).

The Civil Code establishes the obligation to compensate for property damage which consists of the value of the damage caused and the expected profit (Art. 640).

Law on Cadastre: The new Law on Cadastre, or Law no.111/2018 on "Cadaster" ("the Law") adopted by the Albanian Parliament on 2 February 2019, entered into force on 21 March 2019. It supersedes Law no.33/2012 dated 21 March 2012 on "Registration of Immovable Properties".

The Law governs the registrations of immovable property transactions that occur after its entry into force. In addition, it introduces certain new principles on registration process, rights over immovable properties and related documents.

Mandatory notification and registration of public authorities' deeds. The Law requires that all deeds related to immovable properties must be registered and undergo a preliminary registration. Such preliminary registration is initiated with the online declaration of deeds by courts, notaries, bailiffs and other state authorities with the digital national cadaster. The online declaration must be done upon formalization of the deed. Any subsequent deed or transaction for disposal of the immovable property which lacks a chronological sequence and creates an overlap will be refused by the Agency. Further to the online declaration, the abovementioned authorities must submit hard copies of such deeds to the Regional Cadaster Directorate within 10 days from the formalization.

Extension of the mortgage over the land into the new building. The mortgage over the land may be extended only to a future building or parts of it that are free of any preliminary transfer agreement. In addition, the land owners are not allowed to transfer their rights over their future parts of a building in case a mortgage is registered over the land. The above provisions aim to improve the practice and solve all disputes arising so far with regard to the extension of mortgage.

Law "On the completion of the ownership transitional processes in the Republic of Albania". The Law 20/2020 is published on the Official Gazette no. 70, dated 22.04.2020. The purpose of the Law 20/2020 is to establish a simplified and harmonized legal framework for the finalization of the transitional registration procedures of the state and private land consisting of:

- The registration of ownership titles of agricultural land;
- The finalization of the transfer to their users of the ownership of agricultural land previously owned by cooperatives and agricultural enterprises;

- ❑ The legalization and registration of illegal constructions, constructions without an ownership title and yards granted for use;
- ❑ The specification of ownership rights of individuals and entities, which have benefited from the Law no. 7665, dated 21.01.1993 “On development of economic zones with touristic priority”, repealed;
- ❑ The finalization of the inventory update process of public real estate; Handling of the problems related to the overlapping of ownership immovable property titles.

2.2.5. Legislation on the Right to Information

Law No 119/2014 “On The Right to Information” regulates the right of access to information being produced or held by public sector bodies. The rules contained in this law are designated to ensure the public access to information, in the framework of assuming the rights and freedoms of the individual in practice, as well as establishing views on the state and society situation. This law aims also at encouraging integrity, transparency and accountability of the public sector bodies

Law No. 8672, dated 26.10.2000, “On the Aarhus Convention Ratification on public right to information, to participate in decision-making and to have access to justice in environmental matters”. The international agreements ratified by the Republic of Albania, pursuant to the Constitution, occupy a privileged rank at the domestic legal order. An international agreement ratified by law of the parliament prevails over the laws of the country that are incompatible with it, and it is directly applicable, except the case when it is not self-executing and its application requires the adoption of a law. In the field of environment the major part of the international treaties are not self-executing and require positive measures in order to be properly implemented at the domestic level.

2.3. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARD POLICIES

Like in any project financed by, or with financial participation of, the World Bank, the environmental and social safeguards as defined in the Bank's Operational Procedures (OPs) will be respected for the purposes of this project implementation.

World Bank classifies its projects into four Environmental Assessment categories according to the likely impacts on the environment they will have. This classification is as follows (only main conditions mentioned):

1. Category A: A proposed project is classified as Category A if it is likely to have significant adverse environmental impacts.

2. Category B: A proposed project is classified as Category B if its potential adverse environmental impacts on human populations or environmentally important areas—including wetlands, forests, grasslands, and other natural habitats—are less adverse than those of Category A projects. These impacts are site-specific; few if any of them are irreversible; and in most cases mitigation measures can be designed more readily than for Category A projects. This particular subproject has been categorized as B.
3. Category C: A proposed project is classified as Category C if it is likely to have minimal or no adverse environmental impacts. Beyond screening, no further Environmental Assessment action is required for a Category C project.
4. Category FI: A proposed project is classified as Category FI if it involves investment of Bank funds through a financial intermediary, in subprojects that may result in adverse environmental impacts; this case, in any way, is not applicable to the PIUTD project.

The World Bank's OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment is considered to be the umbrella policy for the Bank's environmental safeguard policies. These policies are critical for ensuring that potentially adverse environmental and social consequences are identified, minimized, and properly mitigated. The WB carries out screening of each proposed project to determine the appropriate extent and type of EA to be undertaken and whether or not the project may trigger other safeguard policies. The safeguard policies, the triggers for each policy, as well as status of their relevancy for the proposed project are presented in the table 1, below:

Table 1. World Bank Environmental and Social Safeguard operational policies

Operational Policy	Triggers	Status
Environmental Assessment (OP 4.01)	If a project is likely to have potential (adverse) environmental risks and impacts in its area of influence.	Yes
Forests (OP 4.36)	Forest sector activities and other Bank sponsored interventions which have potential to impact significantly upon forested areas.	No
Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12)	Physical relocation and land loss resulting in: (i) relocation or loss of shelter; (ii) loss of assets or access to assets; (iii) loss of income sources or means of livelihood, whether or not the affected people must move to another location.	Yes
Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10)	If there are indigenous peoples in the project area, and potential adverse impacts on indigenous peoples are anticipated, and indigenous peoples are among the intended beneficiaries.	No
Pest Management (OP 4.09)	If procurement of pesticides is envisaged; If the project may affect pest management in the way that harm could be done, even though the project is not envisaged to procure pesticides. This includes projects that may (i) lead to	No

	substantially increased pesticide use and subsequent increase in health and environmental risk, (ii) maintain or expand present pest management practices that are unsustainable, not based on an IPM approach, and/or pose significant health or environmental risks.	
Physical Cultural Resources (OP 4.11)	The policy is triggered by projects which, prima facie, entail the risk of damaging cultural property (e.g. any project that includes large scale excavations, movement of earth, surface environmental changes or demolition).	Yes
Natural Habitats (OP 4.04)	The policy is triggered by any project with the potential to cause significant conversion (loss) or degradation of natural habitats whether directly (through construction) or indirectly (through human activities induced by the project).	No
Projects on International Waterways (OP 7.50)	If the project is on international waterway such as: any river, canal, lake, or similar body of water that forms a boundary between, or any river or body of surface water that flows through, two or more states (or any tributary or other body of surface water that is a component of this waterway); any bay, gulf, strait, or channel bounded by two or more states or, if within one state, recognized as a necessary channel of communication between the open sea and other states-and any river flowing into such waters.	No

Environmental Assessment (OP 4.01). The project triggers the World Bank safeguard policy on Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01) and is classified as Category B primarily due to the rehabilitation nature of the proposed infrastructure works, which will take place within the footprint of existing infrastructure systems on established lands/zones in known urban areas or might involve limited construction of new facilities such as small visitors' centers near touristic sites in the south of Albania. The physical rehabilitation of the selected existing infrastructure will not involve significant structural modifications or change their operation/scope. Therefore, the envisaged investments are not expected to have irreversible, adverse, and unprecedented environmental and social impacts.

However, there will be temporary, site-specific environmental impacts primarily during the civil works period (due to air pollution, noise, and vibration from the operation of equipment, waste generation at the construction sites, and traffic interferences). During the operational period, the environmental concerns would primarily include maintenance activities; awareness campaigns will be raised for the local people to ensure that the aesthetic and proper functions of rehabilitated infrastructure are in line with agreed monitoring/O&M plans.

The World Bank Operational Policy on Involuntary Resettlement requires that environmental and social impacts of all its supporting projects should be mitigated according to operational policies that spell out the principles and planning methods for mitigation work. This applies whenever land or property

must be acquired, or its use modified, for a project, or loss of income because of land take, residence or access to resources, either permanent or temporary whether the occupation is legal or illegal.

In any instance where there is a gap or conflict between the Albanian Law on Expropriation and OP 4.12, World Bank Operational Policy 4.12 will prevail or implementing agencies will provide a solution in compliance with OP 4.12. The World Bank OP 4.12 aims to achieve the following objectives:

- a) Involuntary resettlement should be avoided where feasible, or minimized, exploring all viable alternative project designs.
- b) Where it is not feasible to avoid resettlement, resettlement activities should be conceived and executed as sustainable development programs, providing sufficient investment resources to enable the persons displaced by the project to share in project benefits. Displaced persons should be meaningfully consulted and should have opportunities to participate in planning and implementing resettlement programs.
- c) Displaced persons should be assisted in their efforts to improve their livelihoods and standards of living or at least to restore them, in real terms, to pre-displacement levels or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL BASELINE CONDITIONS

3.1. SOCIAL BASELINE

3.1.1. Project Location

The project will be located on the center of city of Berat which is part of Berati Municipality. The municipality, in its present organization was established in 2015 according to the local government reform (Law 115/2014 “On Territorial and Administrative Division of Local Government Units in the Republic of Albania”). The Municipality was formed by merging the previous Municipality of Berat and the communes of Roshnik, Otlak, Sinje and Velabisht. The seat of the municipality is the city of Berat. Today’s municipality covers an area of 380 km² with a resident population of 60432 inhabitants. Berati Municipality is part of the Berati District (Albanian: Qarku i Beratit), one of the 12 Districts of the Republic of Albania, spanning a surface area of 1,798 square kilometres (694 sq mi). Other municipalities are Kuçovë, Poliçan, Skrapar and Ura Vajgurore

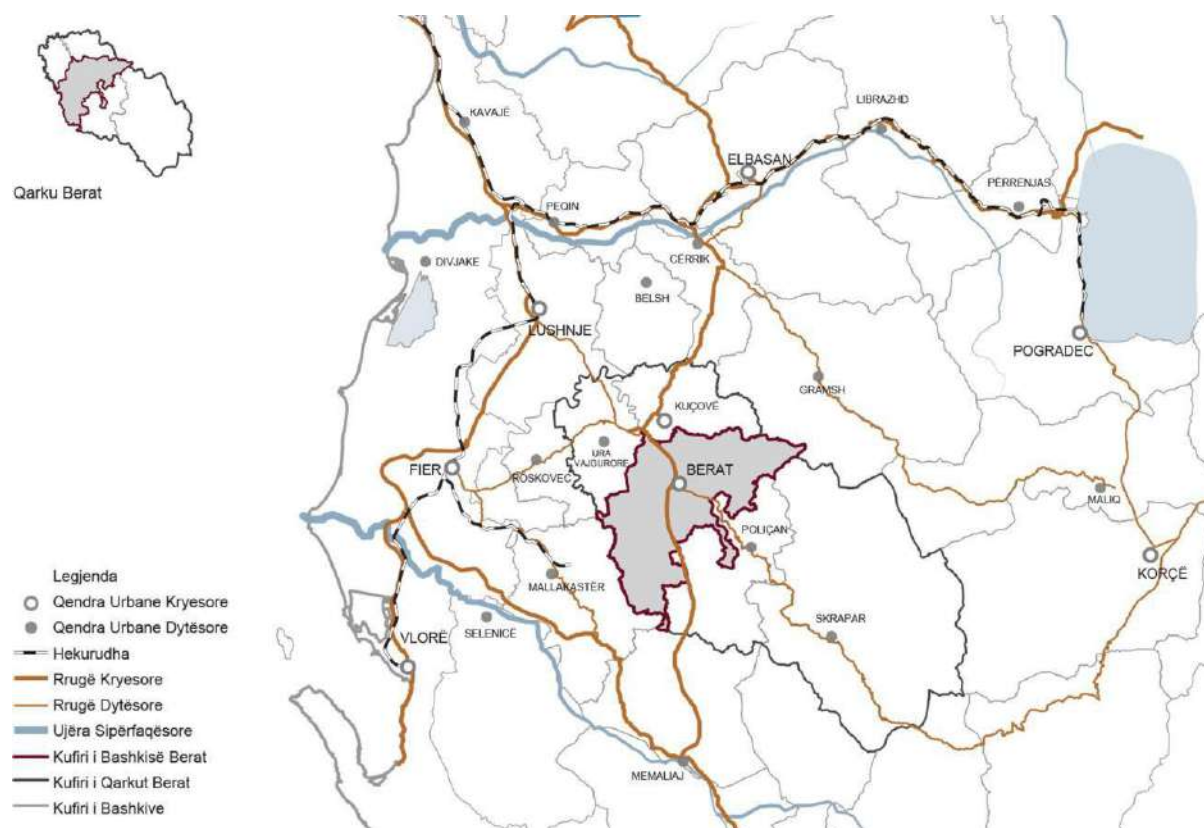


Figure 1. Location of Berat Municipality and connection with other urban areas

The city of Berat is located within the Municipality of Berat, which confines with the municipalities of Kuçovë, Gramsh, Poliçan, Skrapar, Mallakastër and Ura Vajgurore. The city of Berat (referred from now on as “the city”) is an urban area covering 6.3 km² and is the administrative centre, concentrating 60% of the population of the municipality¹

Berat is a municipality located in south-central Albania. Municipality is developed on the two sides of Osumi River and is generally composed of mountainous and hilly terrain. The city is surrounded by two mountains, on the western side Shpiragu Mountain with a height of 1,218 m and on the eastern side Tomorri Mountain 2,417 m high.

The 2400 years old ancient town of Berat, with its medieval castle from 13th century, is renowned as 'the town of a thousand and one windows' and white houses. In July 2008, the Historical Centre of Berat was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as a historic complex that conveys well preserved traditions of Ottoman medieval architecture style, arts, crafts and faith, inherited through centuries.

The Historical Centre is composed of three distinct areas:

1. The castle quarter;
2. Mangalem quarter at the foothill of the castle; and
3. Gorica quarter, on the south bank of the River Osumi.

Osumi Canyons and Tomorri Mountain National Park are two additional distinctiveness of Berat Municipality offering possibilities for adventure and nature-based tourism activities.

3.1.2. Demography

The Municipality of Berat has a surface of 380 km², where there are 60,342 inhabitants according to the 2011 Census and 99,231 registered in the civil state. This difference is mainly due to the fact that the population emigrated abroad is still registered in the registers of civil state. Focusing on the study area, it is estimated that the resident population approximates a value of 7,500 inhabitants.

Berat's population has a downward trend, a phenomenon similar to all the local units in the country and according to the 2011 Census, since 1989 some 5,000 people have left the city. The causes of demographic negative trends are related to various factors such as: internal and external migration and the reduction of natural growth. Even if in the past years it has been noticed a return of the migrated population, both the municipality and the city of Berat continue to experience a negative demographic trend.

On the other hand, the analysis of the age structure shows that the average age is 38 years, indicating that the population of the municipality still continues to be young. Likewise, also the population of the city can be considered young. About 69% of the population is on working age, an element that shows a relatively high volume of economically active population.

Table 2. Demographic Structure 2015 (GLP 2016)

Demographic Structure	Population	0-14 years	15-64 years	65 years
Berat Municipality	60 342	11 516	41 637	7 188
		19%	69%	12%
City of Berat	36 685	6 577	25 462	4 646
		18%	69%	13%

Based on current trends and projections of the population (Census 2011), the total dependency ratio is expected to increase. Actually, the total dependency ratio is 45% (young-age dependency ratio 28% and old age dependency ratio 17%); it constitutes one another important indicator that emphasizes the demographic and social potential of the Municipality administrative unit, for renovating the working age population. The age group 15-64 years old represents 69% of the Municipality population, while the age group 0-14 years' old represents 19%. There are only 42% of people older than 15 years that completed primary education, which is lower compared to the national average (52.1%).

Even if the total **dependency coefficient** is only 45%, the migratory trends, prolonged life expectancy and birth ratios show that generally demographic trends remain negative. In this context, the population of the Municipality is expected to pass from 60,342 inhabitants in 2015 to 47,946 inhabitants in 2031. The same phenomenon is expected to affect the city, where the population of 36,685 in 2015 is expected to fall on 29,149 in 2031 (Census 2011). This population decline is expected to be accompanied by a significant increase in the old-age population, which needs specific services and higher support from the working age group.

3.1.3. Social Structure

Households of the city are composed by an average of 3.4 members and only 8.3% of families can be considered as large families (with more than 6 members). If compared with the national average, the family structure of Berat could be considered as a healthy family situation.

Moreover, the housing units per family ratio is near the national average, with about 2.6 rooms per family and about 13.2 m² per inhabitant (Census 2011). **Over 69% of the population of the city is on working age.** However, the labour force volume is not enough to ensure economic sustainability; it is necessary for this labour force to have the qualification and orientation towards the labour market.

The unemployment ratio of 32.9% of the population becomes even more

significant if considering that 60% of the young age generations (15-25 years) are registered as unemployed. In this regard, the development and creation of economic activities, combined with vocational training, are priorities to improve the labour market and reduce youth migration.

The average age of population for the year 2015 was 38 years. Moreover, 12.5% completed secondary, university and postgraduate education, which is higher compared to the national average (11.8%).



Figure 2. Level of Education in the Municipality of Berat

The employed people structure in the Municipality of Berat is as follows: 41.6% employed people in the service sector, 39.4% in agriculture and 18.9% in industry. The city of Berat has the highest number of the employees in services with 66.9% (national average 53.5%) and industry with 29% (national average is 20.4%). The highest number of people employed in agriculture is in the Roshnik administrative unit with 89.5%. Berat Municipality has a high unemployment rate of 32.9% for the age group 15-64 years old (national average is 29.3%) and the highest unemployment rate of 60.2% for the age group 15-24 years old (national average is 53%). Berat County is facing a high rate of migration. For the year 2014 there were 30% of newcomers compared to 70% of people moving out.

Table 3. Employment Sectors (Census 2011)

Employment Sectors	
Agriculture	4%
Industry	29%
Services	67%

According to the economic data (National statistics), the GDP in current prices for 2015 in the Berat Region was 389 million EUR. GDP per capita was estimated at 2,841 EUR, and was lower compared to the national GDP per capita that was 3,547 EUR. In 2017, according to INSTAT there were 3,633 registered businesses in the Municipality of Berat, out of which 56.9% were businesses relying on services (trade, transport and storage, accommodation and food service, information and communication, other services). 33.9% of registered businesses were engaged into agriculture, forestry and fishing businesses and 9.2% in industry and construction.

In 2018, key economic sectors in Berat Region were agriculture, forestry and fishing, contributing with 51.1% to the regions' GDP, followed by public administration and defence, compulsory social security, education, human health and social work activities (11.3%), wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities (11.2%) and mining and quarrying, manufactured products, electricity, gas, water and waste management (11.2%).

Arboriculture has an important place in the overall agriculture production for Municipality of Berat, where peaches, apricots and cherries are one of the most common products. Olive groves and wine making are becoming the main landmark, having both positive impacts on the economy and tourist image.

3.1.4. Infrastructure

Berat is accessible only by road, which is in good condition. The main access road to Berat town, linking also local settlements, is from the highway Tirana-Fier. Distance from Tirana Airport to Berat is 118 km and from Vlora to Berat is 96 km. The road access to Tomorri Mountain National Park is in bad condition. A 64 km long access road from Berat to Corovode, the centre of Skrapar Municipality, provides access to Osuni Canyons. From Berat there is also road access to the towns of Kelcyra and Përmet, but the road is in bad condition.

Berat Municipality has an intense intercity transport with the following urban centres: Tirana (15 times per day), Kucova (10 times per day), Vlora (6 times per day) and Fier (5 times per day). The bus terminal of Berat has a capacity of 50 buses and is located at the entrance of the city.

According to the Albanian National Transport Plan (ANTP), the daily traffic flows on these roads, existing and foretasted, is rather low. Nevertheless, the construction of new connections and the up-grade of several of the existing ones, is envisaged (up to 2030) to improve connectivity and safety (the national transport plan envisages to half the yearly death rate by road accidents, aligning Albanian values to European average).

The road network within the project area is very uneven in terms of state of paving and maintenance. A significant part of the urban streets is unpaved and the informal development of large areas of the city favoured an unstructured road network, both in terms of layout and profile. In addition, the road hierarchy is unclear, as the function of each road is not defined, neither the traffic components and spaces allowed to it.

The municipality offers the majority of communal services. Waste water network covers almost 85% of the city of Berat and a part of Otlak Administrative Unit (35%).

3.1.5. Culture and Religion

The main religions in Berat are Islam 20% and Christianity 40%. The landscape of a mixture of minarets of mosques and grand orthodox churches and chapels are a testament to the religious coexistence of Berat inhabitants. In the Middle Ages, Berat was the seat of a Greek Orthodox Bishpric, and today Aromanian and even Greek speakers can be found in the city and some surrounding villages. In 2008, Berat was added to UNESCO's World Heritage list as an example of the coexistence of religions and cultures.

The Albanian iso-polyphony was recognised by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Berat is often referred as the city of a thousand windows and considered as one of the architectural treasures of Albania. Traces from Illyrians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines and Ottomans are still evident and well preserved in the city with castles and mansions, old churches and mosques and impressive wall paintings, icons and murals. Throughout the centuries, Berat was the place where various religions and communities coexisted in peace.

A very valuable global treasure that is affiliated with Berat is worth mentioning here. That is the Codex Purpureus Beratinus, a manuscript of a Gospel Book written in Ancient Greek. The Codex was inscribed on the UNESCO's Memory of the World Register in 2005 in recognition of its historical and liturgical significance. Comprised of two codices, part of the "seven purple codices" written in 13 European countries between the 6th and 8th centuries, its text was published in 1887. The Codex Beratinus was once kept in St. George Church in Berat and is now preserved at the Albanian National Archives in Tirana.

The Saint Mary of Blachernae Church dates back to the 13th century and contains 16th century mural paintings by Nikola, son of the Albania's most famous medieval painter Onufri. The first inscription recording Onufri's name was found in 1951 in the Shelqan church. The Kastoria church dates to 23 July 1547 and has a reference to Onufri's origin: "I am Onufri, and come from the town of Berat." Onufri's style in painting was inherited by his son, Nikola

(Nicholas), though not so successful as his father. Onufri's museum contains works of Onufri, Nikola and other painters. There is also a number of icons and some fine examples of religious silversmith's work (sacred vessels, icon casings, covers of Gospel books, etc.). Berat Gospels, which date from the 4th century, are copies (the originals are preserved in the National Archives in Tirana). The church itself has a magnificent iconostasis of carved wood, with two very fine icons of Christ and the Virgin Mary. The bishop's throne and pulpit are also of considerable quality.

Near the street which descends from the fortress is the Bachelors' Mosque (Albanian: Xhami e Beqareve), built in 1827. It has an attractive portico and an interesting external decoration of flowers, plants, and houses. The King Mosque (Albanian: Xhamia e Mbretit), the oldest in the town built in the reign of Bayazid II (1481–1512), is notable for its fine ceiling. The Lead Mosque (Albanian: Xhamia e Plumbit), built in 1555 and so called from the covering of its cupola. This mosque is the centre of the town. The Halveti Teqe (Albanian: Teqeja e Helvetive) of 1790 is a khanqah (or zawiya) of the Khalwati Sufi order. It has a porch and a carved and gilded ceiling. Near of tekke is purported to be the grave of Shabbatai Zevi, a Turkish Jew who had been banished to Dulcigno (present day Ulcinj) who created controversy among his followers upon his conversion to Islam. Folk music culture exists in Berat County and the performers often wear traditional dress.

3.1.3. Tourism in Berat

Considering the existing accommodation capacities in registered establishments and the additional ones identified through online platforms, it results with an approximate number of 1,143 beds present on the market in Berat Municipality. Most of them are small hotels, accounting for 75.4% of total supply, and guesthouses adopted in the renovated old Ottoman style houses in the Castle, Mangalem and Gorica quarters. The accommodation businesses are mostly small and medium enterprises run as family businesses.

Table 4. Registered and identified capacity of accommodation establishments in Berat

<i>Type of establishment</i>	<i>Number of establishments</i>	<i>Approximated number of beds</i>	<i>Accommodation structure in %</i>
<i>Hotels</i>	35	862	75.4%
<i>Hostels</i>	4	60	5.2%

<i>Motels</i>	2	30	2.6%
<i>Guesthouses</i>	30	151	13.3%
<i>B&B</i>	4	20	1.7%
<i>Apartments</i>	4	16	1.5%
<i>Homestay</i>	1	4	0.3%
Total	80	1,143	100%

Source: Berat Municipality, authors search - Booking.com, Trip Advisor and Google Maps (15.06.2018)

In Berat, there are only 4 hotels with 281 beds (in 145 rooms) that record higher bed capacities per hotel from 53 beds up to 90 beds. The rest of 19 hotels have 341 beds in 161 rooms, with an average of 18 beds per hotel which is insufficient to accommodate one touring bus.

According to Berat Tourism Strategy 2011-2021, in 2010 Berat had 13 hotels with 154 rooms and 318 beds, along with 4 guest houses. Compared to 2010, in 2018 the total number of accommodation establishments is almost 5 times higher, while the number of hotels increased by 171%.

According to the data for Berat in the publication of CHERPLAN project on “Planning, Managing and Monitoring Cultural Heritage Sites in South East Europe” the ADR in the hotels was 25 EUR in 2012. Referring to the interviews carried out with the accommodation establishments during the field mission the ADR increased by 60% and accounted for 40 EUR. Berat attractions can be summarized as in following table:

Table 5. Berat key attractions

Cultural attractions	
UNESCO World Heritage List	<p><i>Berat's Historical Centre:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mangalem, Medieval Quarter (old religious monuments of Bektashi sect)</i> - <i>Gorica (ruins of Gorica castle, Gorica bridge) and</i> - <i>Castle (as well Acropolis and Water cistern within its walls)</i> <p><i>The Codices of Berat</i></p>
Museums and galleries	<p><i>“Onufri” – Iconographic Museum, Ethnographic Museum, Art; Gallery “Edward Lear”</i></p>
Sacral heritage attractions	
Churches and monasteries	<p><i>Cathedral of Sleeping St. Mary (18th century) in the castle, Church of Saint Mary Vlaherna (13th century), Church of Saint Nicola (16th century), Church of Saints Constantine and Helen (17th century), Church of the Holy Trinity (13th- 14th century), Church of Saint Demetrius (16th - 17th century), Church of Saint Theodore (16th century), Church of St. Michael (13th century), Church of Saint Elijah, Monastery of St. Spiridon (18th century), St. Thomas’s Church (18th century)</i></p>
Mosques	<p><i>Red Mosque (15th century), King’s Mosque (15th century), Bachelor’s Mosque (1827), Leaden Mosque (16th century), Tekke of Helveti (15th century), Tekke of Kulmak at the top of Tomorri Mountain.</i></p>
Natural attractions	
Mountains	<p><i>Tomorri Mountain National Park, Shpiragu Mountain</i></p>
Rivers and canyons	<p><i>Osumi river and canyon, Gradek canyon, waterfall of Sotira</i></p>
Gastronomy	

Infrastructure	<i>42 restaurants (23 registered, 19 additional from TripAdvisor), wine tasting rooms</i>
Cuisine	<i>Traditional and Mediterranean</i>
Local ingredients	<i>Vegetables, fruits, dairy products, meat, olives and olive oil, wine</i>
Events	
Cultural	<i>The Carnivals in Berat, Art Colony in Berat, Weekends in Berat, The Friendship Days, The Multicultural Festival, The Song Marathon, Summer and Oranges, Folk Air Festival, BID DAY, The White Night</i>
Gastronomy	<i>Feast of the Grape</i>
Other	<i>Berat - Enduro Summer Fest</i>

Tourism demand

Statistics regarding demand does not exist, thereby all the data needs to be estimated. Arrivals and overnights were estimated based on data regarding occupancy rate and average length of stay gathered through interviews. Thereby, a total number of 101,184 arrivals in Berat were estimated for the year 2017 with a total of 164,192 overnights. On annual basis, people stay in Berat 1.6 nights on average. The average occupancy of the accommodation establishments in Berat is reflecting the seasonality pattern. Occupancy rates are around 70-80% at the peak months, around 50-60% at the shoulder months and very low, 5-10% at the winter months as a number of businesses operates seasonally and close in the winter.

The only trusted statistics regarding the number of visitors are those recorded from the electronic ticketing in the Castle and two national museums. The table below shows number of visitors to the Castle and two other national museums from 2013-2017.

Table 6. Visitors to the national cultural attractions in Berat

Key attractions	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Ethnographic Museum	2,359	4,133	4,391	4,556	6,450
Onufri Iconographic Museum	5,515	10,961	20,241	24,262	34,606
Castle	22,697	34,159	45,747	59,327	74,019
Total visits	30,571	49,253	70,379	88,145	115,075

Source: Institute of Culture Monuments

Number of visits to the national cultural attractions is increasing 39% on average annually, with the highest increase in 2014 compared to 2013. Moreover, visits to Onufri Iconographic Museum are increasing more rapidly compared to others.

According to the Ministry of Culture, in the period from January to April 2018, the total number of visitors to the Castle was 27,468 with an increase of 77% compared to the same period of 2017.

Table 7. Domestic and foreign visitors in Berat

Key attractions	Domestic	Foreigners	Visitors with no tickets	Total Visitors
<i>Ethnographic Museum</i>	1,213	4,256	981	6,450
<i>Onufri Iconographic Museum</i>	7,786	25,247	1,573	34,606
<i>Castle</i>	26,590	42,350	5,079	74,019
Total visits	35,589	71,853	7,633	115,075

Source: Institute of Culture Monuments

In 2017, there were 38% domestic visitors to the Castle and 57% foreigners while the rest (5%) were visitors without tickets. Moreover, foreigners account for a larger share of visitation in Ethnographic and Iconographic museum with a share of 66% and 73% respectively.

In the period observed, total number of visitors to the Berat Castle grew annually by 32% on average.

National Agency for Protected Areas has counted some 1,600 visitors frequented Osumi canyons for rafting. While, according to the information provided by Albanian Rafting Federation¹ some 17,000 tourists participated in rafting and river canyoning in 2017.

The seasonality in Berat is not as sharp as in coastal destination. Still, there is a notable seasonality pattern, beginning from April to end of October with peak during summer period July – August and shoulder season in spring and autumn with more organized groups (70-80%) and individuals all year round.

According to the interviews with tourism businesses during the field mission in Berat, two groups of guests were identified:

- Overnight tourists:
 - Individuals with overnight in Berat town visiting historic area of Berat town. They mostly stay 1 night;
 - Package tours of foreign tourists with one overnight in Berat coming with the purpose of visiting historic area of Berat town;
 - Business tourists with overnight in Berat town;
 - Individuals and package tours spending from 1 to 3 nights in Berat town with the purpose of active and adventure activities in nature (visiting Osumi Canyons, Tomorri National Park);
 - Pilgrim tourists who participate in pilgrimages at Kulmaku Tekke (Tomorri Mountain).
- Same day visitors:
 - Individuals and Package same day tours visiting historic area of Berat town.

According to PIUTD baseline survey conducted by the World Bank, daily expenditure of guests in Berat was 47 EUR. According to the recent Tourism Analysis for Berat, tourists visiting Berat mainly belong to the group of 25- 64 years old.

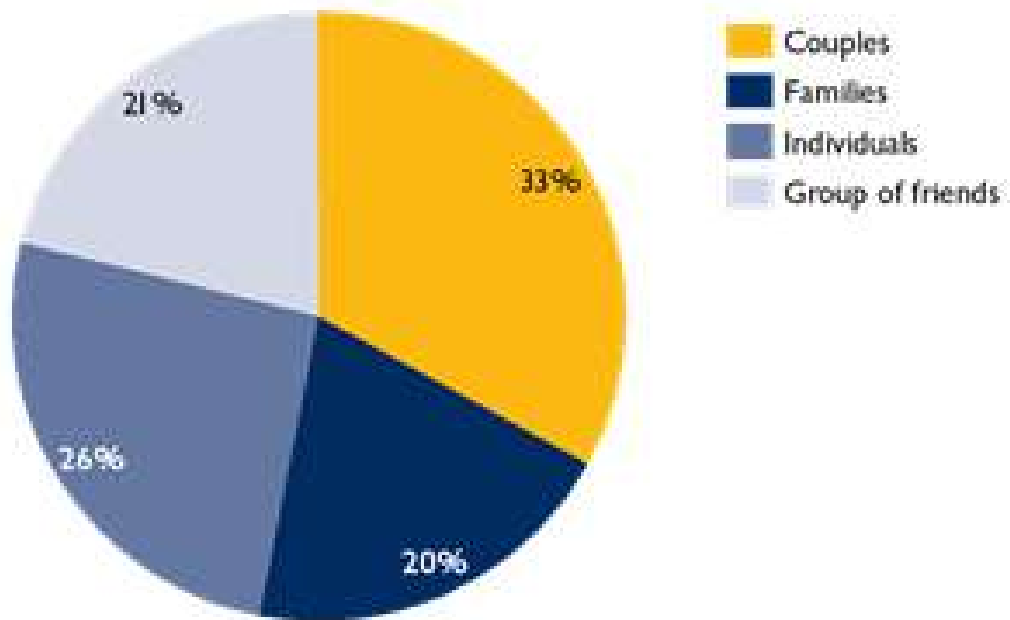


Figure 3. Guests segments traveling to Berat (in %)

There are differences in guest behaviour and motives for travel:

- Western Europeans mostly visit historic area and are older than 40 years of age. They come mostly in organized groups from April to the end of October (70%).
- Rafting in Osumi canyons is limited from February to November. Albanians come for rafting from February to April, mostly on weekends, while foreigners come from May to August. Foreigners participating in nature-based activities are mostly coming from Italy, Poland, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Israel. Tourists visiting the canyons are on average 18-50 years old and travel as couples.
- Another segment, practicing rafting in Osumi canyons are Albanian companies and international donor agencies coming to Berat for Team building activities.
- Hiking is another nature-based activity performed in Tomorri National Park and this activity is organized from April to end of October.
- Pilgrimage of Albanians in Kulmaku Tekke of Bektashi sect at the top of Tomorri Mountain is organized each year, 20-25 August.
- In the summer season, families with kids from Norway, Sweden and Italy come during the week days for rafting or horseback riding with average length of stay of 4 nights.

According to the interviews done with restaurants during the field mission in Berat, the average check paid by tourists in the restaurant was 5-9 EUR for individuals with starter and main dish and 8-10 EUR for groups with 3 course

menus with bottle of water. Referring to CHERPLAN project on “Planning, Managing and Monitoring Cultural Heritage Sites in South East Europe”, the expenditure in 2012 was 20 EUR/day.

3.1.7. The UNESCO protected area

Berat was declared Museum City (*Qytet Muze*) in 1961, as a result of the first attempt of the Albanian Government to preserve the architectural and historic heritage in cities and villages and has been thereafter subject to the national cultural heritage regulation, recently assembled in the Law No. 27/2018 “On Cultural Heritage and Museums”. The protected area, consisting of three neighborhoods: Gorica, Mangalem and Kala (Castle), has also been included by UNESCO in the World Heritage List (2008) as “rare example of an architectural character typical of the Ottoman period” clearly defining the limits of the historic core and the buffer zone. According to UNESCO requirements, a Management Plan has been prepared since 2008 and a more recent document has been drafted in the framework of the SUSTCULT project in 2014.

Furthermore, in 2014, the DCM No. 767 has defined a more detailed regulation “For the protection, integrated conservation and administration of Berat’s historic centre and the surrounding buffer zone”. By this regulation, the possible interventions in the core zone are limited to the restoration of the existing buildings, while in the buffer zone new constructions are allowed with limitation in height, density and architectural style.

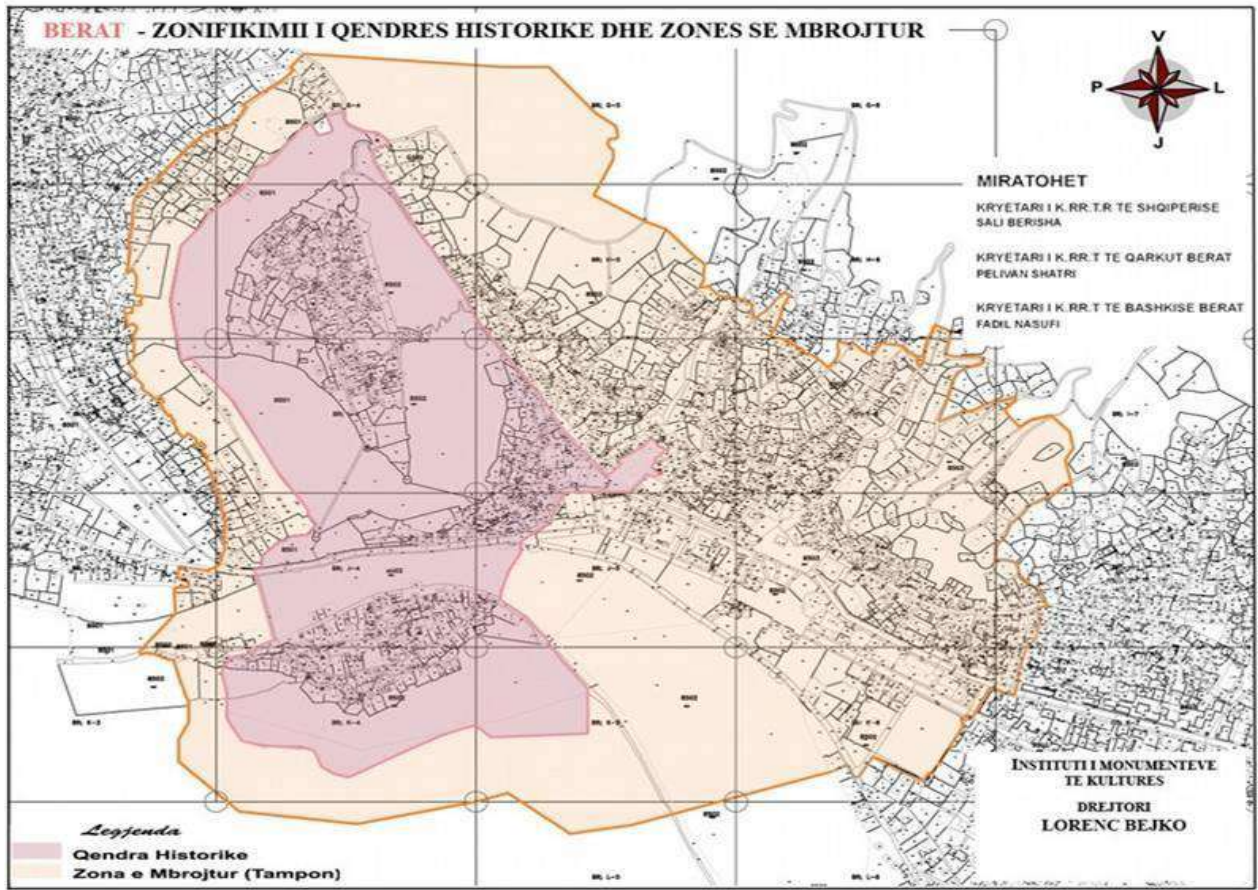


Figure 4. The UNESCO historical centre (in red) and buffer zone (yellow)

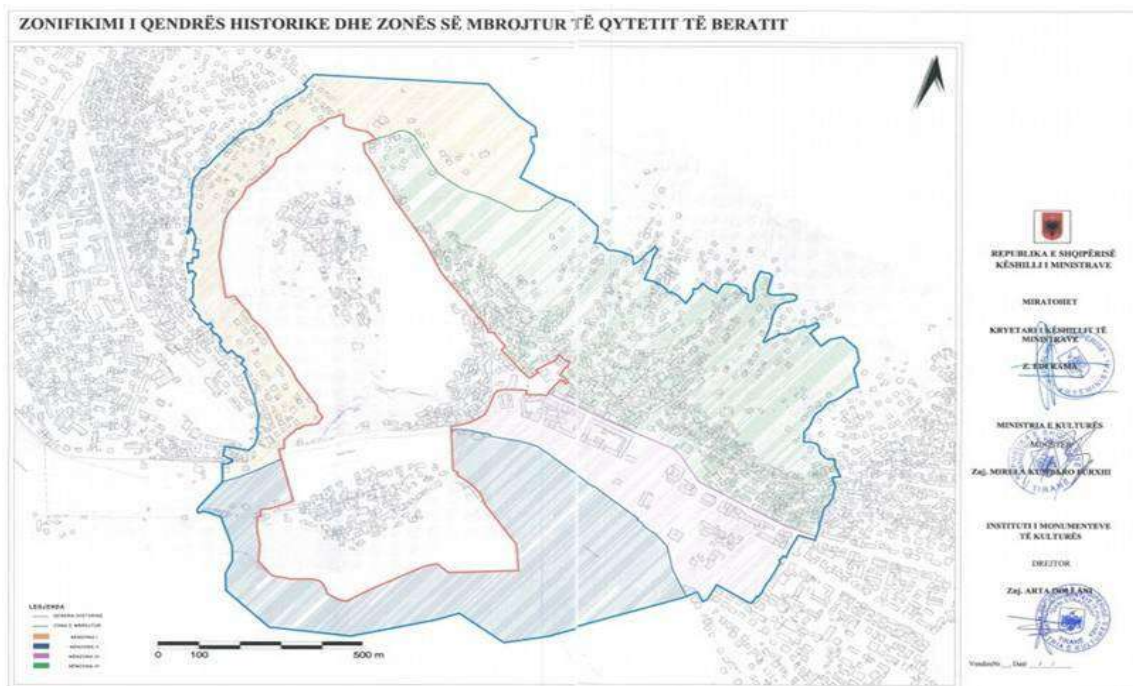


Figure 5. The boundaries of the regulation for the protection, integrated conservation and administration of Berat's historical centre and the buffer zone around it.

3.2. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

3.2.1. Climate

The geographical position of Albania determines its Mediterranean climate (Figure 6), characterized by mild and humid winters followed by hot and dry summers. Rainfall occurs mainly during the second half of the year. Climatic conditions differ considerably according to regions. The coastal plains have a strong maritime influence, causing a gradient of lower temperatures and reduced precipitation eastwards from the coast (MTE, 2016).

Analysis of mean temperature for the period 1930 to 2006 against the 1961 to 90 average shows that the period 1931 to 1970 had a positive anomaly followed by a negative anomaly between 1971 and 2000 (MoE, 2016). After 2000 there has been a period with a positive anomaly from 2001 to present. This is a consequence of an increase in both maximum and minimum daily temperatures, especially in summer time. Several years after 1990 are characterized by an increasing rate of minimum temperature, higher than that of the maximum temperature in the summer. Further analysis shows that since the turn of the century there has been a positive trend of increasing temperature for all seasons (winter: from +1.60 to +2.50°C; spring: from +2.00 to +3.00°C; summer: +3.00°C; and autumn: +2.00°C). The northern part of the coastal zone does have lower temperatures in the winter season compared to the middle and southern zones, but summer temperatures are similar across all coastal regions (MoE, 2016).

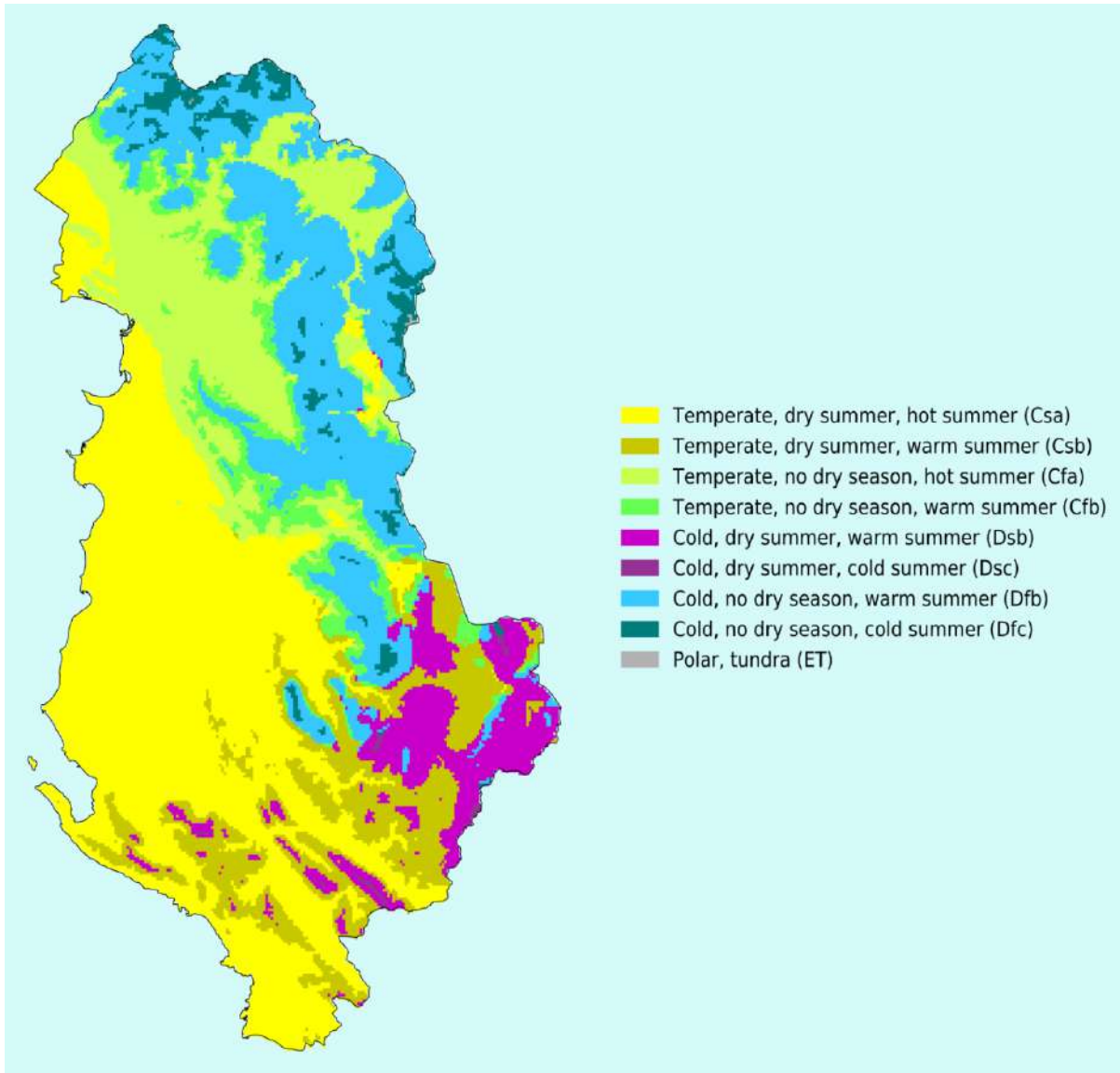


Figure 6. Köppen-Geiger climate classification map for Albania (1980-2016) (Source: Beck et al. 2018).

The climate of Berat is typical Mediterranean characterized with a mild and wet winter and a hot and dry summer. The average annual temperature is 15.9 °C with January being the coldest month with the lowest average temperature of 7.2 °C. The temperatures are highest on average in August, at around 24.4 °C. The average annual rainfall quantity is 928 mm, with October and November being the wettest months. The favourable climate with around 300 sunny days and 2,500 sunny hours a year allows tourism to be enjoyed almost throughout the whole year.

The climate here is classified as Csa (Hot-summer Mediterranean climate); by the Köppen-Geiger system. The variation in the precipitation between the driest and wettest months is 128 mm | 5 inch. During the year, the average temperatures vary by 17.0 °C.



Figure 7. Berat Climate Graph- weather by month. (Source: <https://en.climate-data.org/europe/albania/berat/berat-3431/>).

Table 8. Climate data for Berat (1982 -2012)

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Avg. Temperature (°C)	7.4	8.6	10.7	13.9	18.1	22	24.3	24.4	21.2	16.8	12.4	9
Min. Temperature (°C)	3.8	4.8	6.4	9.3	13.1	16.6	18.6	18.6	15.8	12.2	8.6	5.4
Max. Temperature (°C)	11	12.4	15	18.6	23.1	27.5	30.1	30.2	26.6	21.4	16.2	12.6
Avg. Temperature (°F)	45.3	47.5	51.3	57.0	64.6	71.6	75.7	75.9	70.2	62.2	54.3	48.2
Min. Temperature (°F)	38.8	40.6	43.5	48.7	55.6	61.9	65.5	65.5	60.4	54.0	47.5	41.7
Max. Temperature (°F)	51.8	54.3	59.0	65.5	73.6	81.5	86.2	86.4	79.9	70.5	61.2	54.7
Precipitation / Rainfall (mm)	128	111	86	77	73	41	26	32	63	105	154	136

. (Source: <https://en.climate-data.org/europe/albania/berat/berat-3431/>)

3.2.2. Hydrology and Hydrogeology

Berat Municipality has a rich hydric network (Figure 8). The Osumi River is the main axis of this network followed by the Molisht stream. Osumi traverses the territory of the Municipality of Berat for almost 21 km; from the south-eastern part in Malinar to Morava in the north where the river flows from the municipality towards the Vajgurore Bridge. The Osum is one of the Source Rivers of the Seman. It is 161 km long and its drainage basin is 2,073 km². Its average discharge is 32.5 m³/s. Its source is in the southwestern part of the Korçë County, near the village Vithkuq at an altitude of 1,050 metres. It flows initially south to the Kolonjë municipality, then west to Çepan, and northwest through Çorovodë where it flows through the famous Osum Canyon, Poliçan, Berat and Urë Vajgurore. It joins the Devoll near Kuçovë, to form the Seman. The discharge of the river is reported to vary between 5.11 m³/s and 74.11 m³/s). The Osumi tributaries include the Zagoria River, which joins the Uznova, the Gushtavë stream and the Lapardha stream (on the right side of the river). In addition to Osum, the Municipality has a large number of reservoirs scattered throughout the villages.

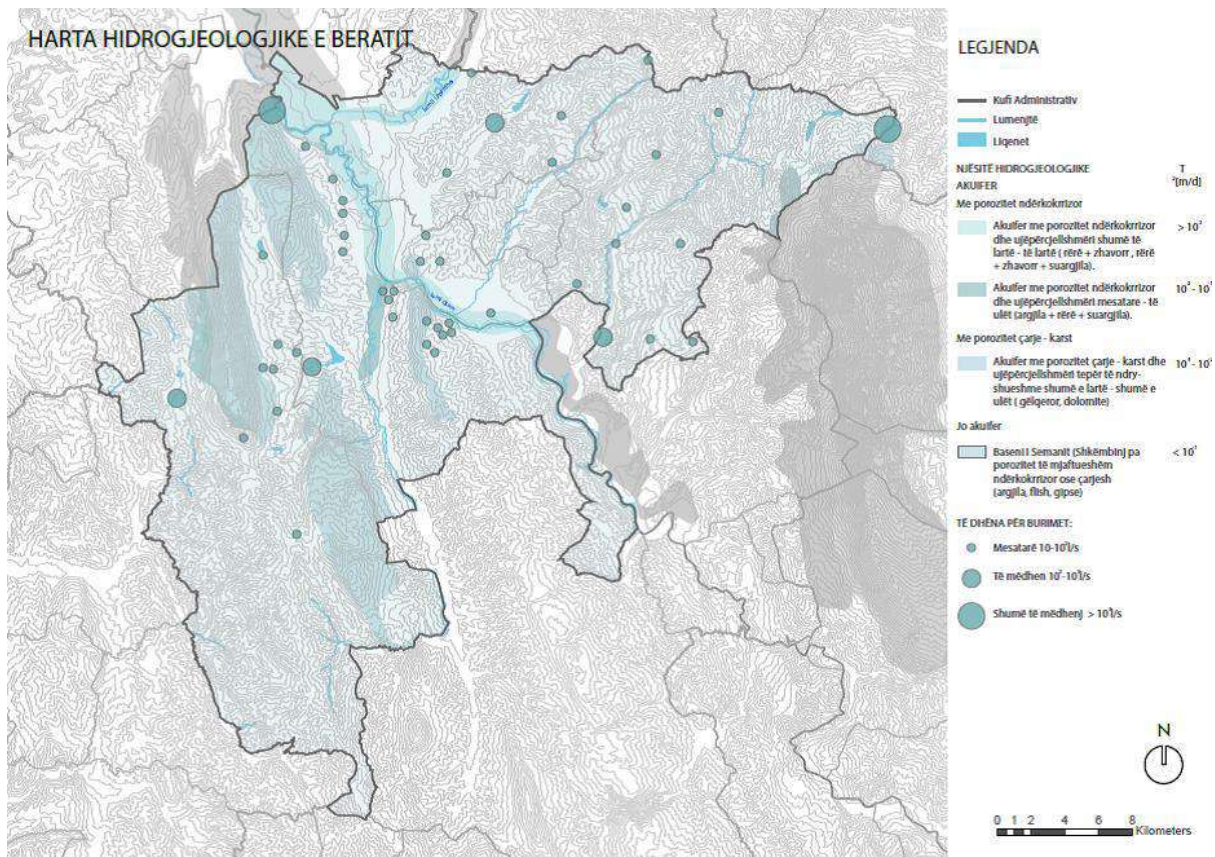


Figure 8. Hydrogeological map of the Berat Municipality (Source: PPV Berat, 2017)

3.2.3. Flooding

The city of Berat stretches over the so-called Osumi Valley, traversed by the Osum River. Over the last 100 years the Osum River, which flows through Berat, has flooded several times. The most problematic have been those of winter 1962-1963, 1970-1972 and January 2002 where large areas, mainly agriculture land were flooded (GLP, 2017). One of the reason is the river configuration over the time (Figure 9) associated with heavy rainfall. While flooding is a large issue in most of Albania, it is not an issue that notably affects the monuments in Berat. Only a small number of monuments, 21 in total, could be affected due to their close proximity to the river, which can overflow during periods of heavy rain. A significant rainstorm hit during the first weekend in December 2017 and there was some flooding in Berat. However, there was no damage done to the cultural heritage monuments that were designated as flood risks.

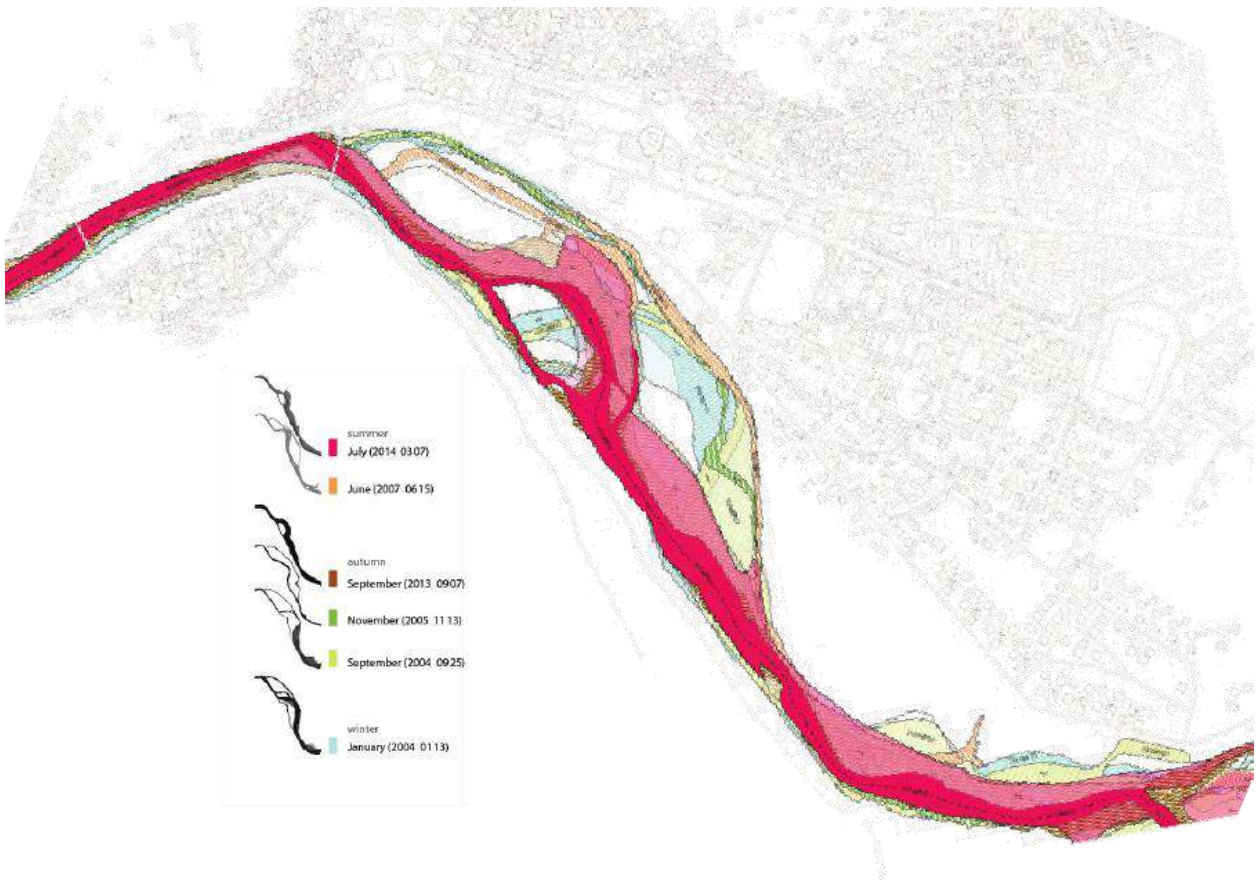


Figure 9. Osumi river configuration over the time (Source: AZPML + Studio ARCH4, 2015)

3.2.4. Air Quality

Air pollution should be understood as the presence or introduction of chemical substances, substances and biological materials into the atmosphere, generated by human activities or natural processes that cause adverse effects on human health and the environment. Air pollutants may be classified as primary and secondary.

Primary pollutants are those substances emitted directly to the atmosphere such as carbon monoxide (CO, emitted by old vehicles) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂, released from factory chimneys). The primary substances are: - Oxygen sulphur (SO_x), especially sulphur dioxide SO₂, which is produced by various industrial processes.

Secondary pollutants are gases that are usually not emitted directly but are formed in the air when primary pollutants act or interact with each other. The most problematic areas are the spaces of former industrial enterprises.

Albania currently has no comprehensive database about national air quality. However, motor vehicles are major emission sources for several air pollutants, including nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM), and hydrocarbons (HCs). They represent the main indicators for the assessment of air quality, based on guidelines EU and reflected in Decision of Council of Ministers of Albania No. 803, dated 04.12.2003 "On approval of the air quality standards".

National Environmental Agency has monitored air quality in the city of Berat. The monitoring station was near the city hall, close to the national road Berat –Skrapar. Coordinates of the stations are 40°42' 11.22" N and 19° 57' 22.86" E

Table 9. Average values recorded for PM10 in the city of Berat (µg/m³)

No.	City	PM10 ug/m3	EU Standard
1	Berat	119.16	40

Source: National Environmental Agency (AKM 2017)

Air quality monitoring is carried out every 30 minutes for gaseous compounds NO₂, O₃ and every 5 minutes for SO₂.

Table 10. Mean annual values for 2017 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in Berat

Indicator ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	SO ₂	O ₃	CO	NO ₂	Benzene
Berat	3.4	25.96	0.63	41.63	1.14
EU Standard	125	120	10	200	5

Source: National Environmental Agency (AKM 2017)

3.2.5. Noise (Acoustic pollution)

The acoustic pressure is a basic measure of the vibrations of air that make up the noise. Since the acoustic pressure interval that the human auditor can detect is very wide, these measurements are measured at a logarithmic scale with a decibels unit (dB).

Urban Noise Level (L_{Aeq}): is the equivalent continuous weighted acoustic pressure (A0) level, produced by all sources of noise that exist in a given location and during a given time.

The urban noise monitoring in the city of Berat is conducted by the Institute of Public Health aims to measure the level of acoustic pollution. Monitoring is done at two stations; city hall and hospital road intersection during the day and the night (L_{Aeq} day and L_{Aeq} night). When the noise level is about 65 dBA, sleep becomes serious concern and most of the annoying population.

As it can be depicted from the Figure 10, the values recorded exceed the standards (EU norms) for both stations during the day and the night. At the City Hall station, the noise level during the day exceeds the norm by 10% while during the night the norm is exceeded by 9%. At hospital road intersection station, the noise level during the day exceeds the norm by 12% while at night this value is exceeded by 14%.

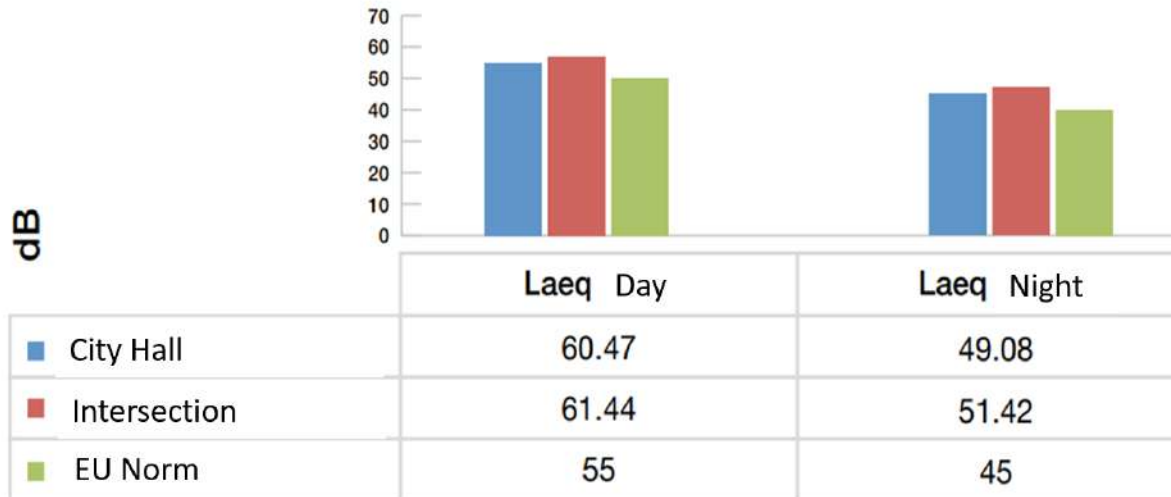


Figure 10. Noise monitoring in the city of Berat

3.2.6. Seismic Hazardous in Berat

Albania is characterized by shallow crustal seismicity. The different present-day tectonic regime in eastern and western Albania requires the use of separate strong motion relations. The extensional region, into which the normal faulting earthquakes are generated, is located in eastern Albania. The compressional region, into which mainly thrust faulting and much rare strike-slip faulting earthquakes are generated, is located in western part of it.

The main parameters of seismic hazard for Albania: Peak ground Accelerations (PGA) and Spectral Accelerations (SA) damping 5 % are calculated for rock site condition, and in accordance with Eurocode 8 for two levels of probability: 10 % in 50 years (475 years return period) and 10 % in 10 years (95 years return period). The ground motion values are calculated for „firm rock“ sites that correspond to a shear-wave velocity of 760 m/s in the top 30 m. These are given in the Table 11 below.

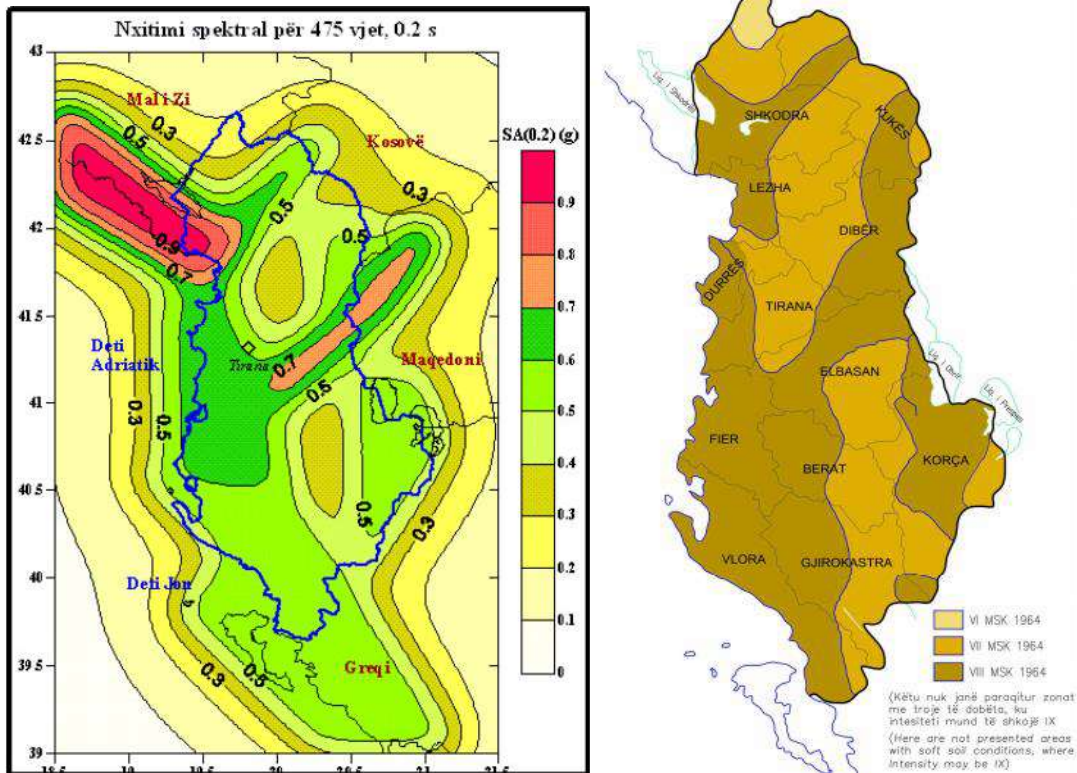


Figure 11. Map of Sa (0.2) 5 % damping for Albania on rock site and for probability 10 % / 50 years or 475 years return period (Left) and the Map of Seismic Hazard in Albania (Right) (Source: Aliaj et al. 2010).

Albania belongs to Alpine–Mediterranean seismic belt which passes from Azores Islands through the Mediterranean region and Balkan eastward through Asia and joins the Circum-Pacific Belt in the Malay Archipelago. The energy released in earthquakes from this belt is about 15 % of the world total. The seismicity of the Balkans is the highest in the Europe and is caused from multiple plate interactions in the Aegean Sea and Adriatic Sea and complicated deep tectonics in Carpathians.

The seismicity of Albania is strongly connected with the contact between Adria and Albanides orogene, which is part of a broader collision between Eurasian and African plates. This contact that probably takes effect through a continental type of collision unceasingly accumulates deformations and propels the longitudinal tectonic faults bordering it as well as transversal tectonic faults cutting it and penetrating to the interior of the peninsula.

According to seismic regionalization map, the municipality of Berat is included in the zone where within the next 100 years, for the average land conditions, earthquakes with intensity $I_0 = 6$ degree (MSK-64) can be expected.

Table 11. Seismic hazard values (PGA and SA (g)) for the Berat municipality with probability 10%/10 years (95 years return period) and 10%/50 years (475 years return period) on rock site conditions.

Place	Coordinates		Probabilit	PGA	SA			
	N	E			0.2 s	0.5 s	1.0 s	2.0 s
Berat	41.38	19.91	10%/10	0.104	0.262	0.144	0.074	0.033
			10%/50	0.186	0.471	0.279	0.144	0.067
Cukalat	41.31	19.88	10%/10	0.12	0.301	0.162	0.081	0.036
			10%/50	0.217	0.55	0.32	0.162	0.075
Kutalli	41.38	19.76	10%/10	0.116	0.264	0.154	0.078	0.034
			10%/50	0.23	0.547	0.316	0.161	0.072
Lumas	41.35	19.70	10%/10	0.134	0.324	0.171	0.086	0.037
			10%/50	0.267	0.629	0.361	0.184	0.08
Otlak	41.20	19.95	10%/10	0.139	0.34	0.184	0.091	0.04
			10%/50	0.256	0.642	0.371	0.189	0.084
Poshnjë	41.25	19.65	10%/10	0.14	0.335	0.177	0.089	0.037
			10%/50	0.274	0.644	0.375	0.192	0.082
Roshnik	41.35	19.80	10%/10	0.126	0.311	0.165	0.083	0.036
			10%/50	0.248	0.595	0.341	0.173	0.077
Sinjë	41.32	19.81	10%/10	0.126	0.311	0.165	0.083	0.036
			10%/50	0.248	0.595	0.341	0.173	0.077
Terpan	40.55	20.01	10%/10	0.114	0.269	0.14	0.071	0.03
			10%/50	0.243	0.565	0.316	0.159	0.069
Ura Vajguror e	40.76	19.84	10%/10	0.137	0.323	0.168	0.084	0.035
			10%/50	0.272	0.637	0.367	0.187	0.08
Velabish t	40.70	19.91	10%/10	0.13	0.309	0.16	0.08	0.034
			10%/50	0.266	0.62	0.353	0.178	0.076
Vërtop	40.63	20.05	10%/10	0.117	0.276	0.144	0.073	0.031
			10%/50	0.247	0.575	0.322	0.162	0.07

Given the classification of earthquakes according to their magnitudes, the seismicity of Albania is characterized by an intensive seismic microactivity ($1.0 \leq M \leq 3.0$), by many small earthquakes ($3.0 \leq M \leq 5.0$) by rare medium-sized earthquakes ($5.0 \leq M \leq 7.0$) and very seldom by strong earthquakes ($M > 7.0$) (Muco 1988). Since III–II centuries B.C till our days, Albania has been stricken by 55 strong earthquakes.

3.3. BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Biodiversity is a very important component of the natural resources of a country, area or region. The origins of this diversity lie in the geographic position, geological, pedologic, hydrological, relieve and climate factors.

The geographic position, geological construction, climatic conditions, water resources and the soil in the territories of Berat have created habitats suitable for the living plant and animal world.

3.3.1. Protected Areas

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) categorisation, there are several nature monuments and one protected area within the territory of Berat; namely the Tomorr Mountain National Park (Albanian: Parku Kombëtar i Malit të Tomorrit (Figure 12). Tomorr is a national park that lies in southern Albania, nestled in the central and higher portions of the Tomorr massif, spanning an area of 261.06 km². The park covers a territory of 26,106 ha. The area falls within the Berat County and only 1,278 ha inside the Elbasan County. The park was established in 1956 and is considered one of the most important protected areas for the maintenance of mountainous biodiversity and ecosystem integrity at the national level. The park has been recognised as an Important Plant Area of international importance by Plantlife. The closest point of the city to Tomorr Mountain National Park is 12 km (aerial line).

Tomorr is an anticline composed of limestones and karst. The mountain is one of the highest natural points of southern Albania, rising between the valleys of the rivers Osum and Tomorrica in the east close to Berat.

The park falls within the Pindus Mountains mixed forests terrestrial ecoregion of the Palearctic Mediterranean forests, woodlands, and scrub. It's varied geology and topography have resulted in a unique diversity of flora and fauna. Forests of the Tomorri National Park are composed of diverse species of deciduous and coniferous trees and a great variety of flowers. The park's forests are abundant in species such as European beech, Bosnian pine, Turkish hazel, linaria, great yellow gentian, autumn crocus, Greek whitebeam, European mistletoe, centaury and many others. Numerous species of large mammals such as wolves, foxes, wild boars, roe deer, wild goats, rabbits, golden eagles, owls, and sparrow hawks can be found inside the national park. Small mammals include forest dormouse, and wood mouse.

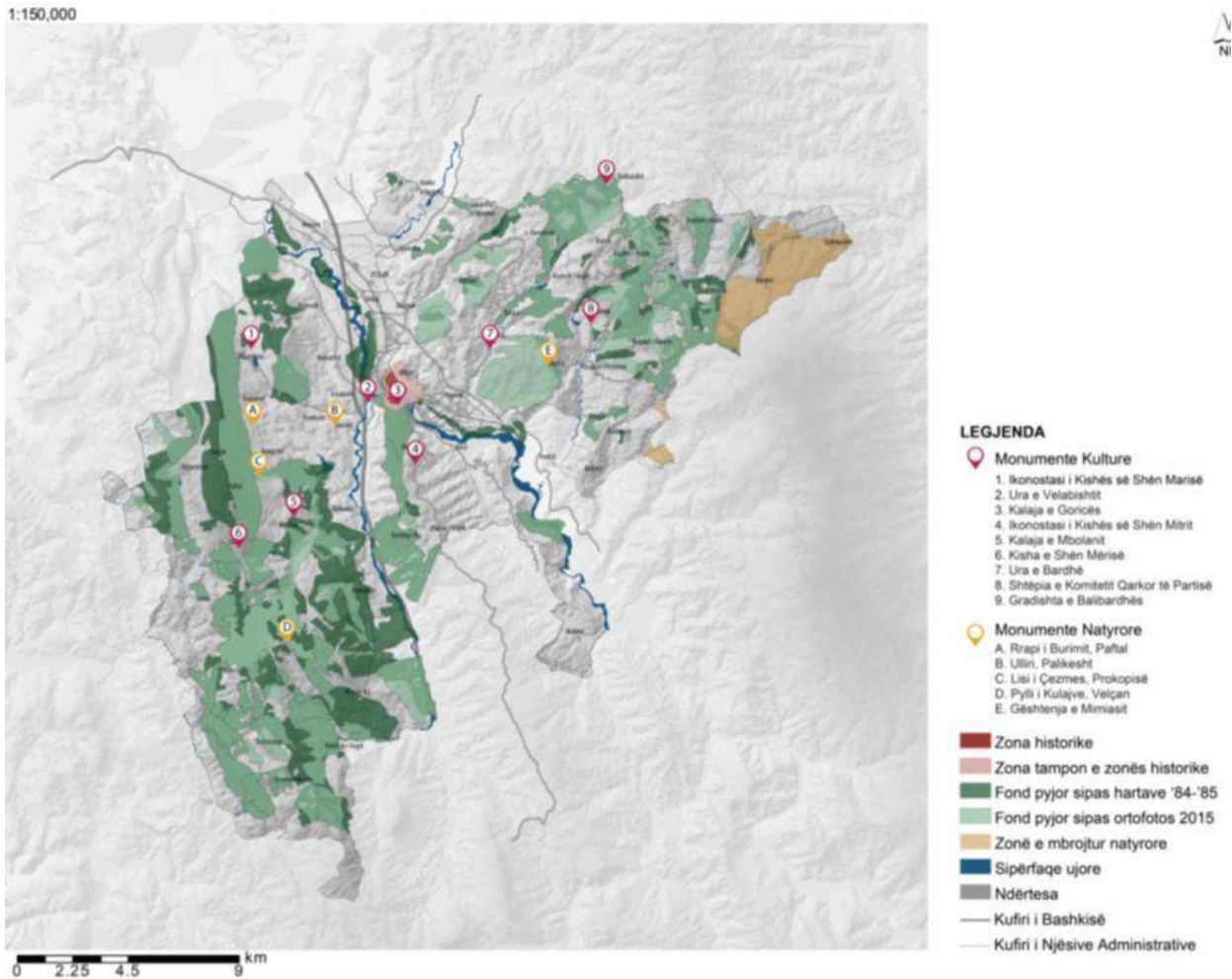


Figure 12. Map of Protected area-Municipality of Berat (Source: GLP Berat)

In terms of vertical zoning, the Municipality of Berat, contains all four phytoclimatic zones encountered in the country: 1) Mediterranean forest belt and shrubs; 2) oaks 3) Beech and 4) Alpine pasture belt. This zonation is due to Berati's physical-geographical position and the presence of Tomorri National Park. The presence of these belts is a great reflection of the values of flora, vegetation and habitats in this area. Schematically for Tomorri National Park, they are presented in Figure 13 along a transect on the North-West side, which starts from the village of Vodica and ends at the northern top of the mountain.

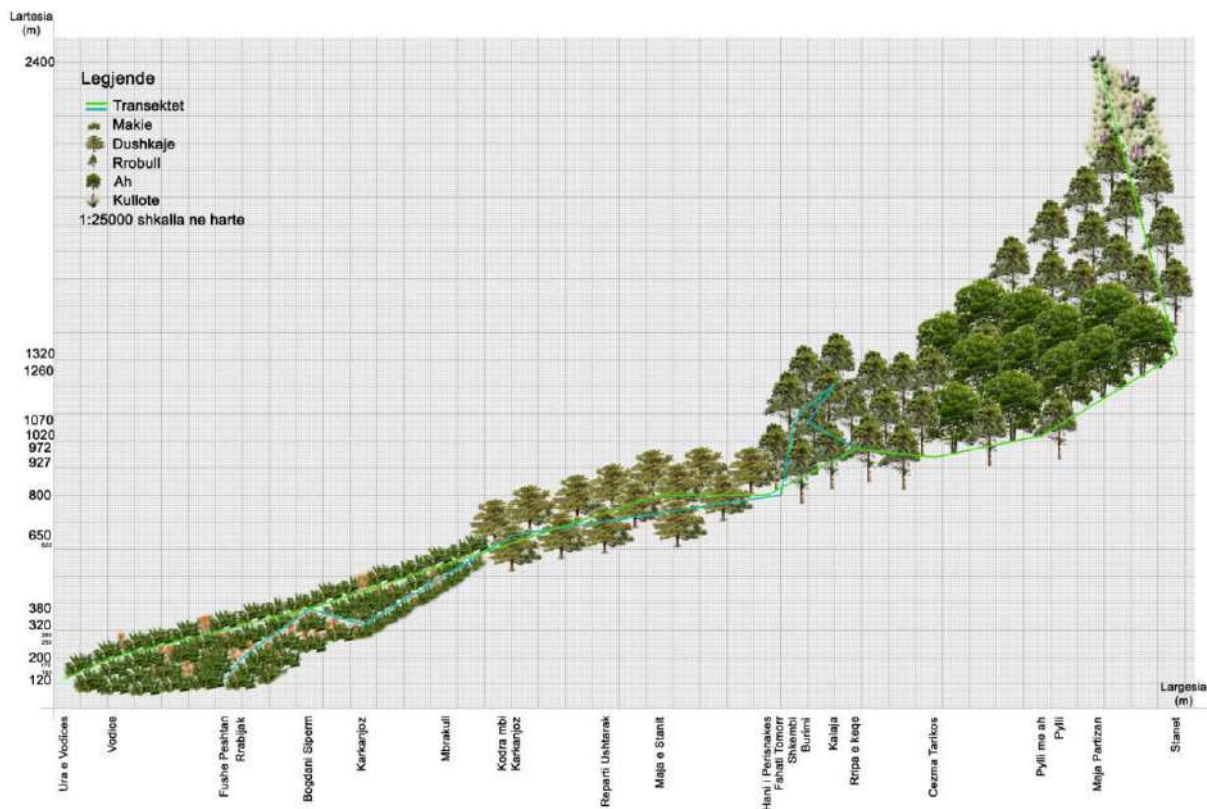


Figure 13. Scheme of phyto-climatic belts in the Tomorr Mountain National Park (Source: Mahmutaj, 2015)

3.3.2. Endemic and endangered species

Six Albanian endemic taxa are reported in Tomorr Mountain National Park: *Arabis tomorensis*, *Arenaria cikaeae*, *Astragalus autranii*, *Carduus cronius ssp. baldacci*, *Euphorbia cikaea* and *Onosma mattirolii*. One of these species is included in the Albanian species red list; two of them are mentioned only in the literature and are object of future investigations.

Two endemics, *Arenaria cikaeae* and *Euphorbia cikaea*, recognized till now only in Acroceraune Mountains, are reported as new for Tomorri Mountain ridge especially in the Eastern slopes

Subendemic species: Eight species from Tomorri National Park which are included in the national species red list share the distribution area with Greece. These species are: *Campanula hawkinsiana*, *Centaurea epirota*, *Edraianthus australis*, *Lilium chalcedonicum*, *Nepeta spruneri*, *Pedicularis graeca*, *Valeriana crinii* and *Viola albanica*

Balkan species: Flora of Tomorri National Park includes ca. 56 Balkanic species which makes 6% of the entire flora of this Mountain, out of which 16 species are recorded in the Albanian species red list. About 37% plant species reported till now are registered as rare and endangered species.

The total list of plant species in Tomorri National Park registered till now includes 93 medicinal plants. Out of them 27 species are recorded in the Albanian rare and/or vulnerable flora, threaten by human activities. Nine of these species are also part of Albanian species red list.

Attention should be paid to some endangered species which might not be included in the red list of the country. Among them we can list *Ilex aquifolium*, *Euphorbia cikaiae*, *Lilium calchedonicum*, *Arenaria_ cikaiae*, *Juniperus foetidissima*, *Quercus trojana*, *Tulipa sylvestris*, etc. Another group of plants with very limited distribution and 11 representatives such as *Ranunculus brevifolius*, *Linaria alpina*, etc. is not threatened by human activities, but by the climate changes.

3.3.3. Vegetation at the project site

The project area, which lies in Berat urban zone, is not characterized by pristine or natural habitats, landscapes with important scenic values or biodiversity (flora and fauna) of conservation interest.

The flora of the project area is dominated by tree species used mainly for decorative purposes (Figures 14-18) such as: cypress trees (*Cupressum sempervirens*), glossy privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*), maple trees (*Acer negundo*), plum trees (*Prunus cerasifera 'Pissardii'*); holm oak (*Quercus ilex*); small-leaved linden (*Tilia cordata*), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia* L); climbing plants such a European ivy (*Hedera helix*); wild climbing rose (*Rosa Madame Alfred Carriere*) and (*Pyrostegia venusta*), oleander (*Nerium oleander*), Judas tree (*Cercis siliquastrum* L.). In addition several fruit trees such as common fig (*Ficus carica*), grape vine (*Vitis vinifera*) etc. can be found in the yards of many families.



Figure 14. Glossy privet (*Ligustrum lucidum* L) and European privet (*Ligustrum vulgare* L) along the Toli Bojaxhiu street



Figure 15. Common grape vine (*Vitis vinifera*) in the yards of a house at Andrea Tavanxhi street



Figure 16. Wild climbing rose (*Rosa Madame Alfred Carriere*) and (*Pyrostegia venusta*) in the houses at Namik Mehmeqeja street



Figure 17. Different tree and shrub species surrounding Ethnographic museum



Figure 18. Different tree and shrub species at the end of Toli Bojaxhi street

3.3.4. Fauna

Fauna of Berat is also rich. The amphibians are a taxonomic group usually connected with different habitats during their lifecycle, both water and terrestrial. The most popular amphibians encountered are the Yellow-Bellied Toad (*Bombina variegata*) and the Common Toad (*Bufo bufo*). Present as well *Rana graeca*, *Rana balcanica*, *Triturus cristatus*, etc.

Reptiles are represented by Balkan Whip Snake (*Coluber gemonensis*), Leopard Snake (*Elaphe situla*), four-lined snake (*Elaphe quatuorlineata*), Hermann's tortoise (*Testudo hermanni*), European pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*) and the European green lizard (*Lacerta viridis*), etc.

There is a wide variety of bird species present in the area such as Eagle Owl (*Bubo bubo*), Long-legged Buzzard (*Buteo rufinus*), Levant Sparrow hawk (*Accipiter brevipes*), Lanner Falcon (*Falco biarmicus*), Sparrow hawk (*Accipiter nisus*), European Honey Buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*), Gosshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), Grey-headed Woodpecker (*Picus canus*), Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) and Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) are present and good indicators of the areas ecosystems condition.

The mammals are also presented by bats (*Rhinolophus euryale*), *Rhinolophus blasii* and *Myotis cappaccinii*, *Myotis bechsteinii*, red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*), fat dormouse (*Glis glis*), hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus vellanarius*), beech marten (*Martes foina*), badger (*Meles meles*), and red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)

The fauna at the site included butterflies, birds of different species and which are not endangered species. Amongst the birds found in the area, there are species of genus *Alauda*, species of sparrows (order *Passeriformes*); ducks and geese from the order *Anseriformes*); some birds from the order of wild pigeons (*Columbiformes*); whistles (*Lucinia megarhyncha*), species of genus *Sylvia*, etc. None of the birds found nest on site, rather use the area for feeding and resting.

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IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

After the validation of the Integrated Urban Design Concept for Berat and of the Investment Program for the Project Area, the following investment sub-projects have been selected for implementation in Berat:

- P01 Restoration of the historic urban landscape of the Gorica quarter;
- P03 Rehabilitation of the Gorica Castle trail & establishment of additional tourism opportunities around the monument;
- P06 Restoration of the historic urban landscape of the Selamllek square
- P09 Regeneration of the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum and Mihal Komneno road;
- P11 Street-scape beautification along Antipatrea road in the Town centre;
- P12 Urban upgrading of Iliaz Vrioni square; and
- P15 Tourism signage and interpretation.

This report, presents the preliminary design for the investment sub-project *P09. Regeneration of the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum and Mihal Komneno road.*

4.1 SUB-PROJECT SITE LAYOUT

The project area is located in the centre of the old town, north and south of Mihal Komneno road on the hills that have been historically covered by courtyard buildings constructed during the Ottoman period. The area still conserves the pleasant view composed by gardens, green areas and houses of medium dimensions. However, some of the buildings are abandoned and neglected and require an architectonic arrangement, especially when considering the importance of this street that constitutes the access to the Castle and to the important Ethnographic Museum.

The project area includes:

- the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum (Toli Bojaxhiu street);
- Kostaq Stefa street;
- Namik Mehmeqeja street;
- Andrea Tavanxhiu street
- Mihal Komneno street.



Figure 19. Urban context (Googleearth)

4.1.1. The General Local Plan

The GLP of Berat was prepared in 2016. The vision for Berat is to harmonize the economic, infrastructural and spatial development with the protection of natural resources, alleviate social inequalities and promote the intellectual development of society.

The P09 sub-project according to GLP land usage falls partially in “Cultural monument” status and partially in “Residential area” unit. With reference to the mobility network, the sub-project includes the road “Mihal Komneno” a connecting road and the historical alleys of the urban structure. The intervention will only be implemented in the public area, due to a lack of further instructions.

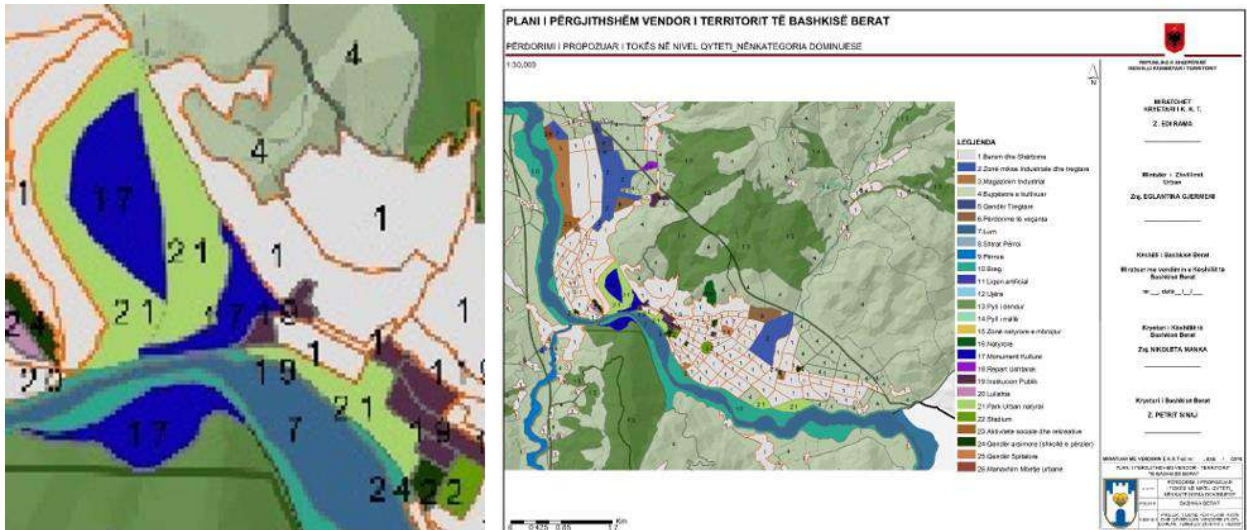


Fig. 19: GLP land use plan (light grey - residential; blue - cultural monument)

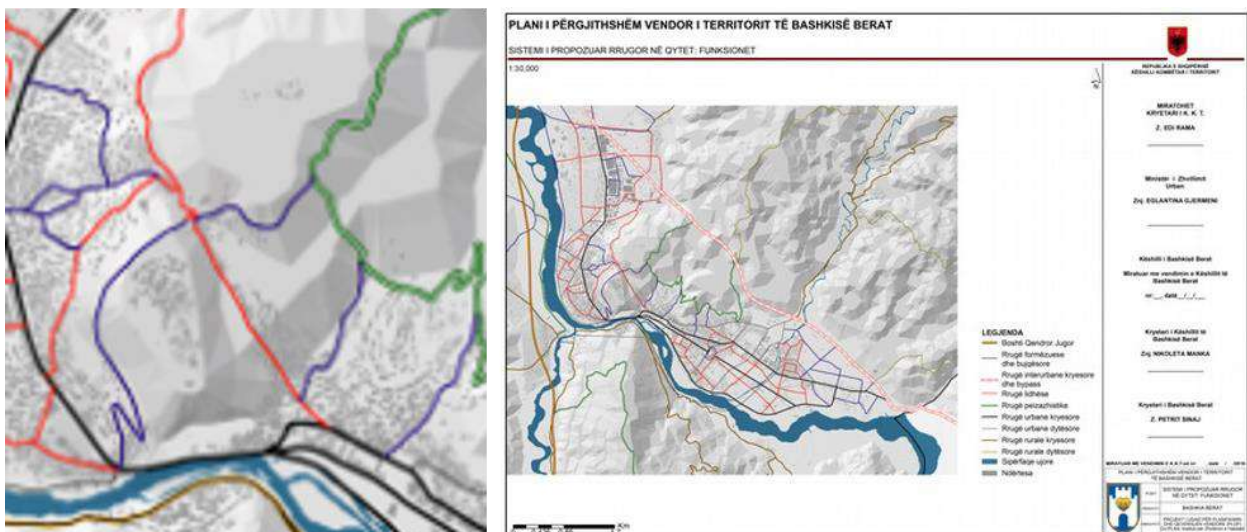


Fig. 20: GLP transport network (Mihal Komenno road – red: connecting road)

4.1.2. Land Ownership and Intervention

– The **Current land use: Public space.**

Ownership: the public space is owned by the Municipality of Berat while fence walls and façades belong to building owners.

No expropriation will be carried out and no change will be made to land plot configuration.

4.1.3. The UNESCO buffer zone

Berat was declared Museum City (Qytet Muze) in 1961, as a result of the first attempt of the Albanian Government to preserve the architectural and historic heritage in cities and villages and has been thereafter subject to the national cultural heritage regulation, recently assembled in the Law No. 27/2018 “On Cultural Heritage and Museums”. The protected area, consisting of three neighbourhoods: Gorica, Mangalem and Kala (Castle), has also been included by UNESCO in the World Heritage List (2008) as “rare example of an architectural character typical of the Ottoman period” clearly defining the limits of the historic core and the buffer zone. According to UNESCO requirements, a Management Plan has been prepared since 2008 and a more recent document has been drafted in the framework of the SUSTCULT project in 2014.

Furthermore, in 2014, the DCM No. 767 has defined a more detailed regulation “For the protection, integrated conservation and administration of Berat’s historic centre and the surrounding buffer zone”. By this regulation, the possible interventions in the core zone are limited to the restoration of the existing buildings, while in the buffer zone new constructions are allowed with limitation in height, density and architectural style.

The sub-project area falls partially in the historical centre and partially in the buffer zone.

4.2. ASSESSMENT OF THE EXISTING SITUATION

To comprehend the project and the needed intervention a thorough assessment of the existing situation is done. The following section presents the main findings on site conditions.

4.2.1. Urban and architectural elements assessment

The Ethnographic museum is a former traditional house, today reassessed as a city museum. The building is situated in “Toli Bojaxhiu” street. In the proximity of the building, the surrounding urban context presents some analogies with the organic structure of the historic quarters: cobblestone streets following the topographic constraints and residential buildings showing of different shape and colour.

Urban street silhouettes

The neighborhood’s main axes follow the contours of the slopes and give an organic shape. These main axes are not interrupted in straight angles, but they merge with each other in different angles and shapes allowing a free flow for the

pedestrians. The intersections are not in straight lines but in harmonious curves adapting to the hilly relief. The doors of the residential buildings are situated on the sides, and the ground floors are clad in visible carved stones. The windows of the ground floors are always positioned in altitude. The surrounding walls are also built in stone and are high enough to protect the privacy of the inhabitants. Where houses are built on both sides, especially in the smaller alleys, the upper cantilever floors and roof edges almost cover the entire road. The main axes are paved with stones and take a slope towards the center of the road, in order to avoid the penetration of water along the base of the walls of houses and gardens. The road axis is marked by larger stones that play the role of linear ditches to collect and channel rain. Important buildings, such as mosques are located at the bottom of the hill, and in some cases, can be identified by the presence of domes.

Buildings

The typical plan of a traditional Berat house varies on the ground floor, from one building to another, due to changes conditioned by the sloping terrain in which they are located. The resulting ground floor is used for storage or service, while the upper floors follow a similar organization and design, consisting of a linear open veranda, known as a "porch", almost always adapted to an enclosed hall or sofa which extends and open towards the valley. It is lit and airy by a series of regular windows - hence the epithet "a thousand windows". The outer hallway, or "porch," comes in a variety of shapes, with "porches" that can also be placed on the sides or in the middle of the building. However, the "porch" always functions as a corridor connecting different rooms of the house. The stairs are either external, as in the case of the Ethnographic Museum of Berat, or built as a vertical connecting element positioned inside the "porch". The rooms are generally square and in most cases, the suspended ceilings are square but formed with wooden panels lined with decorative motifs.

The use of rooms varies, but, as often happens in traditional homes, each combines multiple functions and acts as an independent unit serving to sleep, rest and work. Peripheral benches are used for sitting and sleeping, and at least one side contains storage cupboards. Often, the front door is integrated into the locker system. On one side of the room is the hearth or in the most elaborate cases, the hearth is decorated with a chimney.

Materials and building techniques

Most houses are two story high, with perimeter walls of the ground floors built of limestone bound with mud or lime mortar on stone foundations. These have a depth of 70 to 120 cm located on the rocky base of the hill. The stone walls are left exposed and have a width ranging from 60 and 90 cm. In some cases,

the presence of horizontal wood elements in the form of belts in the construction of stone walls serves as an antiseismic belt. As a result of the devastating earthquakes that occurred over the past 150 years, the upper floors were built almost unchanged during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries with lightweight materials, generally boards used to create these walls. The upper walls are rarely thicker than 20 cm.

The floors are constructed of beams connected by wooden architraves that act as a level bed and help distribute the load along the length of the walls. The beams are covered with layers, wooden floor, and carpets are laid on top. The beams below the floor surface are treated differently depending on the importance of the house and the rooms themselves, with wooden ceilings that in some cases display elaborate decorative patterns. Wooden bins support the floor of the upper rooms and, as a rule, work as the supporting structures of the ground floor of the houses. The bay windows are almost always covered by a sloping roof surface and are plastered. These elements, known as "boots" in Turkish, are constructed by extending the wooden floor beams of the first floor beyond the boundaries of the ground floor walls.

The roofs are always four-sided, supported by a structural beam and rails covered with country tiles of equal dimensions, placed in alternating rows with elements of moss and spoons. The sloping ridges are also covered with tiles placed in the spoon position, which is covered by two rows of musky tiles. In some cases, a panel at the end of the roof shelves prevents the tiles from slipping. The roof beams are wide without any bottom layer, leaving beams, rails and tiles visible from the bottom.

The windows are with shutters hanging vertically along each side and are divided into a number of small square panels. In some cases a decorated architrave is placed on top of these.

Doors are different, with exterior doors usually made of vertical planks. These are nailed to the horizontal rails on the opposite side with blacksmith nails that also function as a decorative element. Double-leaf doors often feature a decorated central beam. Important doors that have retained their original appearance hold rosette-shaped handles as well as decorated latches.

Challenges

Continuous degradation and loss of historical heritage:

- material loss in the lower strip of the walls due to water penetration and erosion of the mortar binder, which reduces the structural strength and cohesion of the lower parts of the retaining walls;

- rare vertical cracks, generally evidenced near the corners, possibly due to the presence of different living environments below ground level or due to past seismic phenomena;
- the presence of constructions of an earlier stage in the upper level walls built with wooden construction (roofs), which manifest diagonal cracks near the cantilever elements, as well as the lack of plaster protection at the level of the foundations and the ground floor which brings rainwater infiltration and further destruction to the upper floors;
- water penetration and damage to the roof due to broken or broken tiles, vegetation growth, frost damage, decay or rot affecting key wood elements and weak layers or repairs that may have occurred on roofs and chimney spaces;
- organic growth and decrease of lime;
- the presence of capillary moisture that affects the inner walls, especially at ground level;
- Lack of domestic services and heating, considered as one of the main factors limiting the use of housing in these neighborhoods, especially during the winter season;
- lack of effective measures against fire;
- damage caused by landslides and the risk of future occurrences, especially on dwellings in the Mangalem neighborhood due to unstable conditions on steep terrain.

For these isolated issues, which affect to varying degrees most of the existing private property, the need to maintain, improve and repair public spaces and infrastructure must be increased. specifically:

- reducing the impact and damage caused by uncontrolled plant growth;
- dismantling of poles and surface lines and installation of underground electrical connections;
- repair of water supply and improvement of branch connections with private properties;
- installation of effective systems for rainfall drainage and sewerage;
- repair or reconstruction of traditional cobblestones in areas where this is missing or can not be repaired;
- introduction of road and heritage signs, as well as better controls on shop signs / advertisements to ensure that they are in line with the traditional character of the neighbourhoods;

4.2.2. Detailed assessment of the project's segments

“Mihal Komneno” road

The street-scape of Mihal Komneno road presents more similarities with Mangalem. The recent rehabilitation of the street has laid the foundation for a more inclusive rehabilitation of the wider area, including façades and fence walls. Some of the buildings have been already restored, especially on the lower part, whereas many are still in need of interventions, particularly on fences, gates, dampers and greeneries.

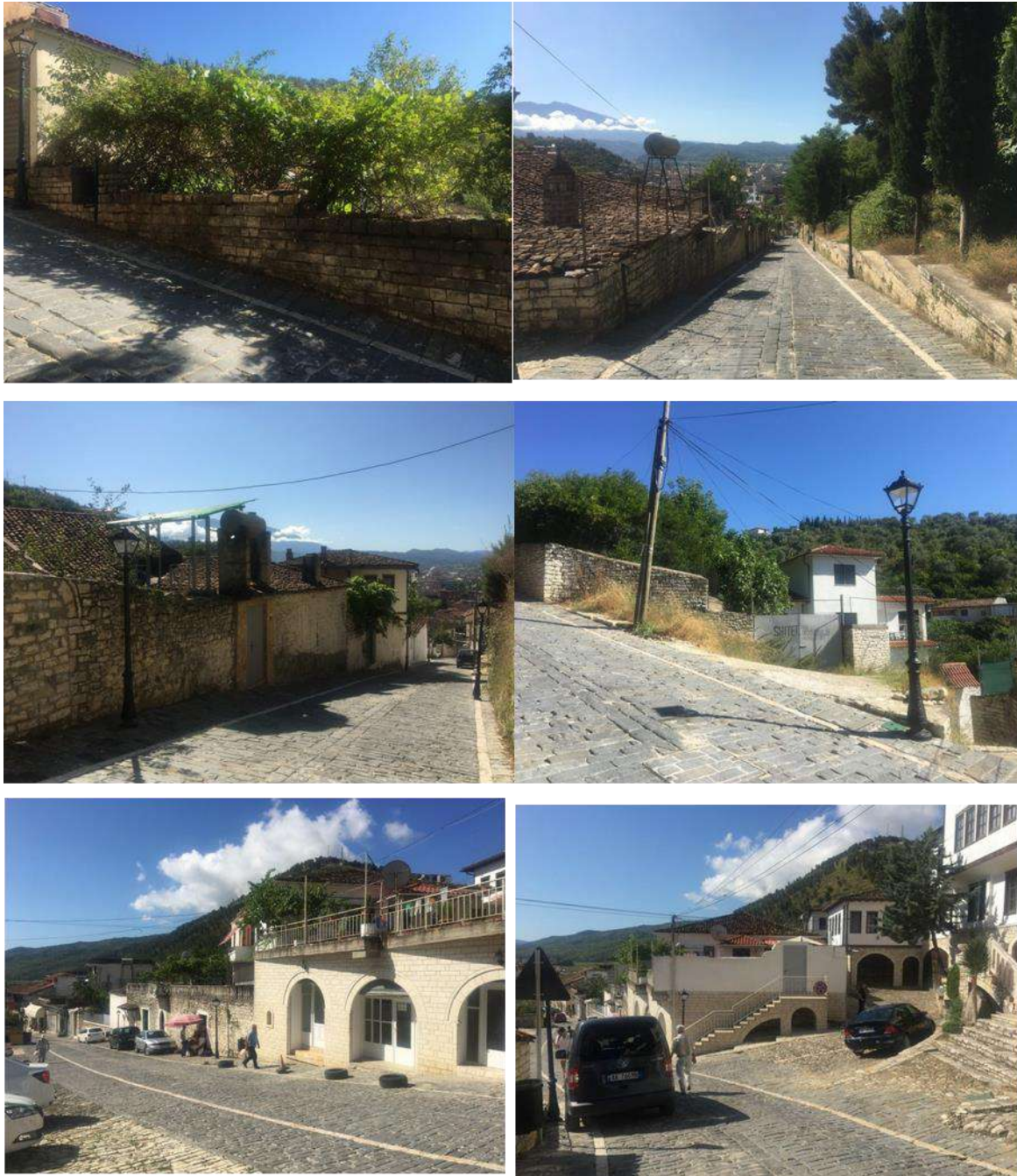


Figure 20. View of Mihal Komneno road

“Namik Mehmeqeja” street

"Namik Mehqemeja" street has been added according to the special requests of the client. It is a wide passage alley which continues in quite considerable linear lengths but the part that will be treated in the project is just the beginning of the street that starts with the stairs and according to the requirements, a ramp will be added to the stairs for tourists and PWDs.

The alley presents depreciated elements both horizontally (paving) and vertically (fences, walls and facades of buildings) but has traditional paving motifs with gray pebbles and motifs in white stones.



Figure 21. View of "Namik Mehqemeja" street

“Toli Bojaxhiu” street

Toli Bojaxhiu is one of the longest segments of the project where the condition of the paving varies, partly good and partly degraded and the street ends with total degradation of the pavement. It lies almost parallel to the road Mihal Komneno and in addition to the duality with the road Mihal Komneno is connected to this road through two staircases, the restoration of which will be part of our project. The doors are mainly traditional but along the way we often encounter doors which are inappropriate to the historical spirit of the project.



Figure 22. Toli Bojaxhiu street in the proximity of the Ethnographic Museum.

The historic streetscape is hindered by the electrical overhead cables, concrete installation, inappropriate garage gates.



Figure 23. Toli Bojaxhiu street, decay of the horizontal surfaces

“Andre Tavanxhiu street

The urban silhouette of Andrea Tavanxhiu Street represents a traditional Berat street with two-story buildings of the Ottoman period. The rehabilitation of the street has recently laid the foundations for a comprehensive rehabilitation of a wider area, including the facades and surrounding walls by unifying it with the paving of the Mihal Komneno road. Generally all buildings need facade

restoration as they are in poor condition and need intervention, especially in the perimeter walls, railing gates, and inadequate stair and paving restoration intervention done during the years.



Figure 24. Andrea Tavanxhiu street

“Kostaq Stefa” street

Upon specific request of the Client, Kostaq Stefa street has also been included. The street, a narrow alleyway, provides a pedestrian connection between the Selamlik of Vrioni Family and Mihal Komneno road, passing through Mangalem.

The alleyway presents elements of decay both at the horizontal level (paving) and at the vertical level (fence walls and building façades), particularly on the western side. The house of the Vrioni’s Family, which is on the eastern side, and was previously utilized as a war museum, will be soon retrofitted (the project has been already approved by the DRKK).



Figure 25. Views of Kostaq Stefa street

4.3. DESCRIPTION OF CONSTRUCTION PROCESSES

This action envisages the improvement of the walkability and public spaces along the Mihal Komneno road and surroundings, in particular in the area of the Ethnographic Museum and in the linkage between Mihal Komneno street and the Selamlık of the Vrioni Family, through Mangalem.

This area has a highly significant strategic location for the image of the city and its upgrading will ensure consistency of authentic patterns and rehabilitates pieces throughout the historic center and within its linkage with the modern town.

This project responds to both PIUTD project development objectives: (1) improving the living conditions of the local community; and (2) foster locally based tourism economic development in the urban area.

4.3.1. General intervention on the project area

The project of urban revitalization has initially identified the general decay of the buildings and public space and then the necessary interventions to reinstate the authentic urban historic image of the city. The analysis of the decay and the correspondent project specific actions have been articulated in the following categories:

- street paving;
- fence walls and other structures overlooking the streets/alleyways;
- individual items.

At a preliminary level, horizontal and vertical surfaces decay has been ranked with three levels: low, medium and high

Expected outcomes

Preserved urban and architectural values of the overall urban setting.

Approx. 6,455 sqm of rehabilitated urban public spaces.

59041m of streets with improved street lighting.

59041 m of rehabilitated pedestrian walkways.

Approx. 118082 sqm of rehabilitated boundary walls/façades.

Management and maintenance

The project will be managed and maintained by the Municipality of Berat, as it ***covers areas of public ownership***. This project aims at preserving the urban and architectural values of the overall urban setting of the area surrounding the Mihal Komneno road and will include actions on five streets: Mihal Komneno, Kostaq Stefa, Toli Bojaxhiu, Namik Mehmeqeja and Andrea Tavanxhiu.

It will focus on the public space and will include two components:

- the restoration of the horizontal surfaces of the streets Kostaq Stefa and Toli Bojaxhiu and public lighting; and
- the restoration of some façades overlooking the streets Mihal Komнено, Kostaq Stefa, Toli Bojaxhiu, Namik Memeqeja and Andrea Tavnxhiu.

Mihal Komнено has been recently been renovated and will not be the subject of horizontal surfaces restoration.

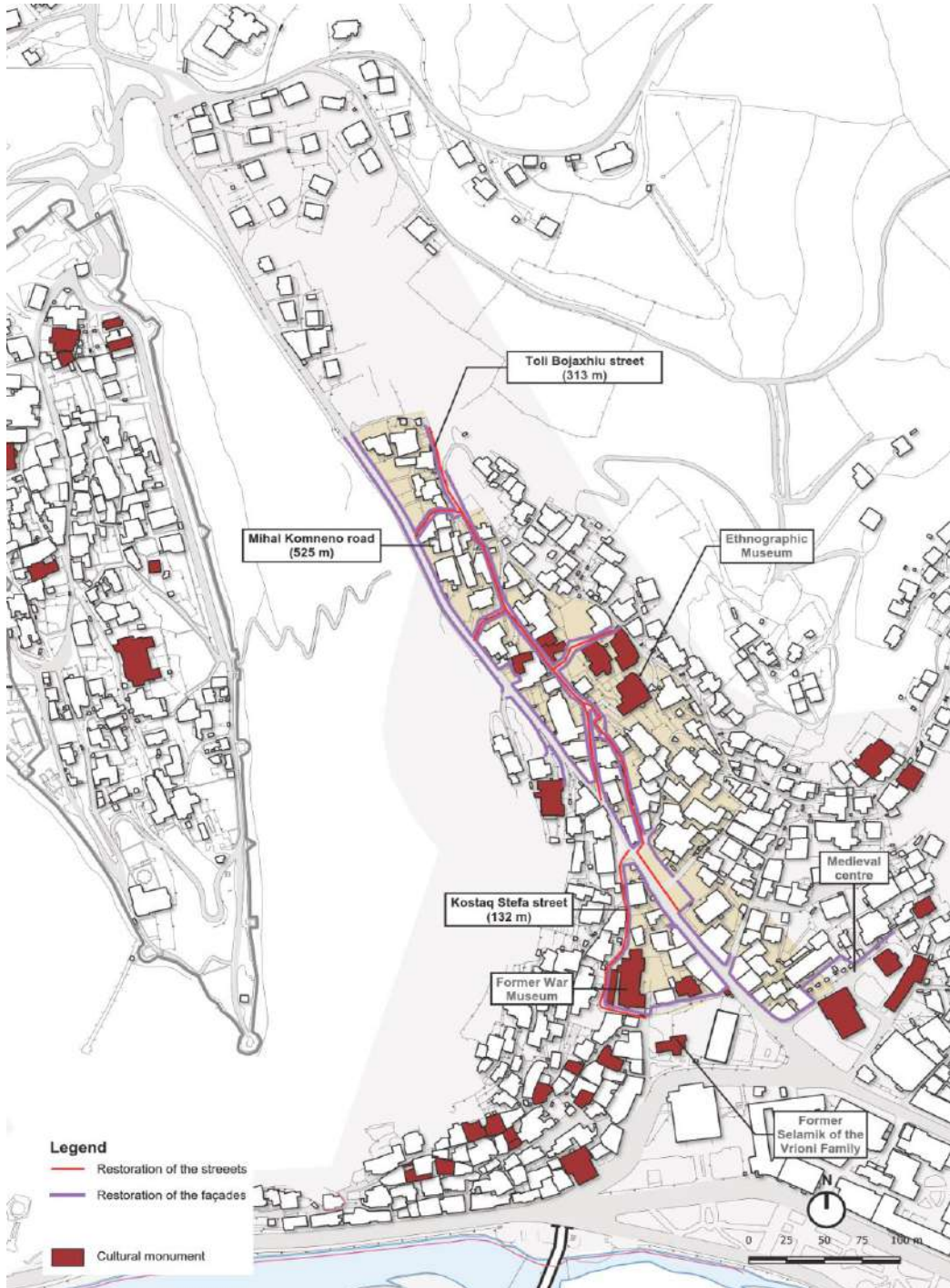


Figure 26. Project plan

The restoration of streets paving will be based on the level of decay (see table 4). Where it is foreseen, the laying of underground pipes for hosting utilities (still to be determined with Municipality of Berat) it will require the dismantling of paving and its reconstruction.

In both cases paving will be repaired to its original appearance, with the same materials, patterns and construction techniques. Where manholes are required, the best option is to create recess manhole covers made of metal which are also known as inset covers. Typically, they comprise a frame and a tray. Care should be taken to ensure that the paving laid inside the trays matches closely the surrounding pavers so as to appear in continuity with the existing materials and patterns of the alley.

Table 12. Decay of street paving and correspondent actions

LEVEL	ID	DECAY	ACTIONS
LEVEL LOW	P1	Uncontrolled growth of plants and moss	Removal and treatment of surfaces with appropriate biocides
	P2	Loss of paving stones	Replacement of missing or deteriorated stones
LEVEL MEDIUM	P3	Dilapidated paving	Patch up or reconstruct traditional cobblestone paving in areas where this is partially missing or beyond repair.
	P4	Faulty or inappropriate manholes	Manhole trays to be finished with applied stone paving to match paved surfaces
LEVEL HIGH	P5	Unstable terrain and /or displacement of substrate	Stabilise and reinforce sub-base
	P6	Structural failure of bridge/stair	Structural consolidation

The restoration of the facades will include both the restoration of the masonry walls and the removal of encroachments or inappropriate elements (Table 13).

Only facades in relative good conditions have been proposed for improvement, leaving out the ones that present structural problems or considerable dilapidation to avoid issues related to their private ownership and intervention on buildings' interiors.

Improvements will also be proposed for fencing walls and for eliminating inappropriate features and encroachments. As opposed to building façades, fencing walls presenting structural problems have been considered for consolidations.

Table 13. Decay of fence walls and façades and correspondent actions

ELEMENT	ID	DECAY	ACTIONS
LEVEL LOW Present under 20% of wall surfaces	V1	Presence of encroachments or loose electric cables	Removal or relocation underground
	V2	Graffiti and other forms of vandalism	Removal of offensive item, cleaning of graffiti
	V3	Presence of inappropriate materials or finishes applied during previous restoration works	Removal of faulty remedial treatment
	V4	Uncontrolled plant and moss growth	Removal and treatment with appropriate biocide
LEVEL MEDIUM Present above 20% of wall surfaces, incl. intrusive materials and/or elements	Masonry		
	V5	Presence of moisture and/or raising damp	Eliminate cause of moisture penetration and apply appropriate treatment
	V6	Missing stones	Replace missing masonry unit
	V7	Loss of mortar binder	Clean joint and re-point to match with appropriate mortar, width of joints and texture
	V8	Severely frost-damaged or splintered stones	Replace damaged stone units
	Plastered façades		
	V10	Loss of limewash	Apply new limewash
	V11	Missing or damaged plaster	Remove damaged plaster and replace in kind
	V12	Organic growth and spalling of limewash finishes	Eliminate cause of moisture penetration, clean affected surfaces, apply biocide, let dry and apply new coats of limewash
	Roofs		
	V13	Deterioration of the wooden structure and tiles	Replacement of tiles and treatment of the wooden structure

ELEMENT	ID	DECAY	ACTIONS
LEVEL HIGH Serious structural decay	V14	Vertical cracks on walls near corners, or other locations possibly due to differential settlements below ground or past seismic events	If movement is active, remove causes of differential settlement, consolidate foundation and repair wall above. If not active, stitch masonry by removing loose materials and damaged stone units, and tying together wall on either side of the crack.
	V15	Deflection or damaged wood members or roof trusses	Reinforce deflected beams in case they are undersized by pairing them with additional structural members. If decayed at ends, remove decayed parts and extend beam by splicing new ends.
	V16	Diagonal cracks in proximity of cantilevered projections (Cardak), as well as loss of plaster protection of the underlying lath panels, which results in the penetration of rainwater and further deterioration on the upper floors	Replace damaged elements and seal lath panels to keep away rainwater
	V17	Bunging or bowing walls due to decreased wall stability due to insufficient wall sections, added loads or lack of restraint between external walls and floor joists	Traditional remedial wall tying requires the installation of anchor plates connected by tie rods to the opposite wall of the building.

As per information gathered during stakeholders consultations, **underground utilities** present some level of intervention that will be more deeply analysed in coordination with the utility providers and the ongoing projects at the detailed design phase. In principle, intervention might require:

- overhauling the supply of water and improve branch connections to private properties;
- installing effective storm drain and sewer provisions;
- placing electric cables underground.

Public lighting (see on the road plans, separated according to the streets) will be provided throughout the area taking into account its residential character.

Lighting will be as much as possible respectful of the residents' privacy, while providing sufficient light to facilitate movement and avoid potential hazards along the alleys, especially in proximity of steps, curbs and building projections. Punctual lights to illuminate the streets will be directed downwards. Warm, softer lights will be preferred to cool white lights. Light fixtures will be simple in design and have a utilitarian character. Models considered are wall lights suspended from brackets or, if alleyways are of sufficient width, mounted on lamp posts as represented in the plans.

Accessibility for all

This project will improve the pedestrian accessibility for all of the overall urban setting, by upgrading the walkability on the historic alleys. All the streets retained for intervention are in fact highly utilised by pedestrians.

Mihal Komneno road is still accessible by vehicles although traffic might be restricted to residents and partially pedestrianized in the future. Alleys have mainly a pedestrian access with the exception of Toli Bojaxhiu street, which is partially accessible by cars.

This intervention will also improve the visibility and the accessibility for all by providing a system of lighting and street furniture.

Civil works, hard and soft landscaping

Works will include:

- dismantling of paving and excavation for pipe laying;
- provision of sewerage conduits;
- improvement of water supply branch connections to private properties;
- placing of underground electrical and ITC conduits;
- removal and treatment of surfaces with appropriate biocide in case of planting;
- demolition of encroachments, inappropriate railings, external stairs;
- structural consolidation (as necessary) of stairs and bridges and other elements;
- stabilisation and reinforcement of the street sub-base, according to the level of decay;
- installation effective storm drain provisions;

- patching up or reconstruction of traditional cobblestone paving by re-using the original materials and textures with replacement in kind of missing or deteriorated stones, according to the level of decay;
- provision of manhole trays to be finished with applied stone paving to match paved surfaces;
- provision of masonry benches composed by a masonry base, facing stones and wood seating in African teak (or equivalent and approved for external use), built along straight lines;
- planting of new trees (native plants species);
- placing of wall recessed lighting for paths lighting;
- placing of ground or wall mounted lamp-posts approximately 1/10 m;
- reconstruction of railings, external stairs.

Utilities

MEP installations will include the following:

Lighting and electricity In the area, excluding Mihal Komneno road, there will be an overall action on public lighting by replacing the existing lamp posts or brackets with a new LED lighting system. All equipment will be energy efficient. The lighting will not be invasive, aiming at limiting energy losses and lighting pollution. Overhead cables will be placed in underground conduits.

Water supply All interventions during the project implementation work will be carried in such a way to avoid damaging the newly rehabilitated water supply network.

Drainage The area will be equipped with a suitable system for the drainage of rainwater with sewer wells at well-defined intervals. The underground pipeline network of these wells will direct the waters into the sewerage network of the city.

Waste-water The area is partially covered by the city sewerage network. In coordination with the ongoing project carried by the Municipality, during construction works, new conduits can be laid along Toli Bojaxhiu street and Kostaq Stefa to improve and or expand the existing system. For all underground utilities, the manhole caps set on the walls of the historic centre buildings will be realized with recessed manhole covers made of metal.

Waste management Bins will be positioned in the alleyways to allow for small waste collection. Garbage disposers, where existing, will be kept where they are.

4.3.2. Intervention description in specific segments of the project

Mihal Komneno Road

The project on this street envisions only the intervention on the facades. The street pavement is a recently implemented project including paving layers, sewerage and lightening. Therefore, in the project of Mihal Komneno street, it is not necessary to intervene in the paving and lightning but only in the facades.

Namik Mehmeqeja street

The project on this street envisages interventions in the facades and paving.

In terms of paving, the system of underground sewers and electric cables will be systematized and then the street will be paved according to the architectural project. The motive of this street is referred to the traditional existing paving and the renovation of the northern part of the street will be done using existing stones while the southern part since it is unpaved in the most considerable part of it will be paved with new stones but with the same methodology. The existing paving is made of pebbles and strips of white stone and the rest of the street will be paved in the same way.

Toli Bojaxhiu street

The project on this street envisages interventions in the facade and paving.

The paving of the street will be partly restoration and partly new paving. Initially, the sewerage will be intervened, the underground electric cables will be passed according to the technical project and then the street layers will be worked on according to the architectural project. The pavement will be partially new and partly reused. The paving pattern will refer to the existing paving with dark gray stones and white cornices in the middle. At the entrance of Toli Bojaxhiu street, the existing paving stones will be reused as they are in good condition. In the northern part of the street the street is totally unpaved and will be paved with new paving in the same paving pattern as in the rest of the street as shown in the drawings. In addition to the entrance of the road which starts from the street "Mihal Komneno" are the two stairs which connect the street "Mihal Komneno" with the street "Toli Bojaxhiu". The stairs will be rebuilt, the first step using the existing paving while the second step with new paving referring to the road paving.

Another important element of the architectural project is the restoration of the facades.

Andrea Tavanxhiu street

The project for the "Andrea Tavanxhiu" street consists of work in facades and paving. Initially, the sewerage will be intervened, the underground electric cables will be laid according to the technical project and then the street layers will be worked on according to the architectural design. The paving of the street will be totally new. The paving model will refer to the paving of the street "Mihal Komneno" with dark grey stone slabs unifying the paving pattern and following the motive of paving with white stones as in the street "Toli Bojaxhiu" since the two streets are interconnected with each other behind the Ethnographic Museum.

Kostaq Stefa Street

The project for the "Kostaq Stefa" street consists of work in facades and paving. Initially, it will be intervened in the sewers, the passage of underground electric cables according to the technical project and then the street layers will be worked according to the architectural project.

The street will be partially new and existing stones will be partially used. The paving pattern will refer to the existing paving that is on the north side of the street with a central white stone dome

4.3.3. Design and Description of the of the area around the ethnographic museum and “Mihal Komneno” street

The regeneration of the pavement layers of the alleys depends on their damage scale. The consultant identified a low damage scale to certain segments of these paths, which helps to reuse the existing base material (cobblestones) to preserve as much as possible the originality of the paths. Because the axis from the beginning of the street Toli Bojaxhiu to the Ethnographic Museum is used for vehicles, a complete package of street layers is provided.

Below is given the intervention plan in which are shown the different types of interventions.

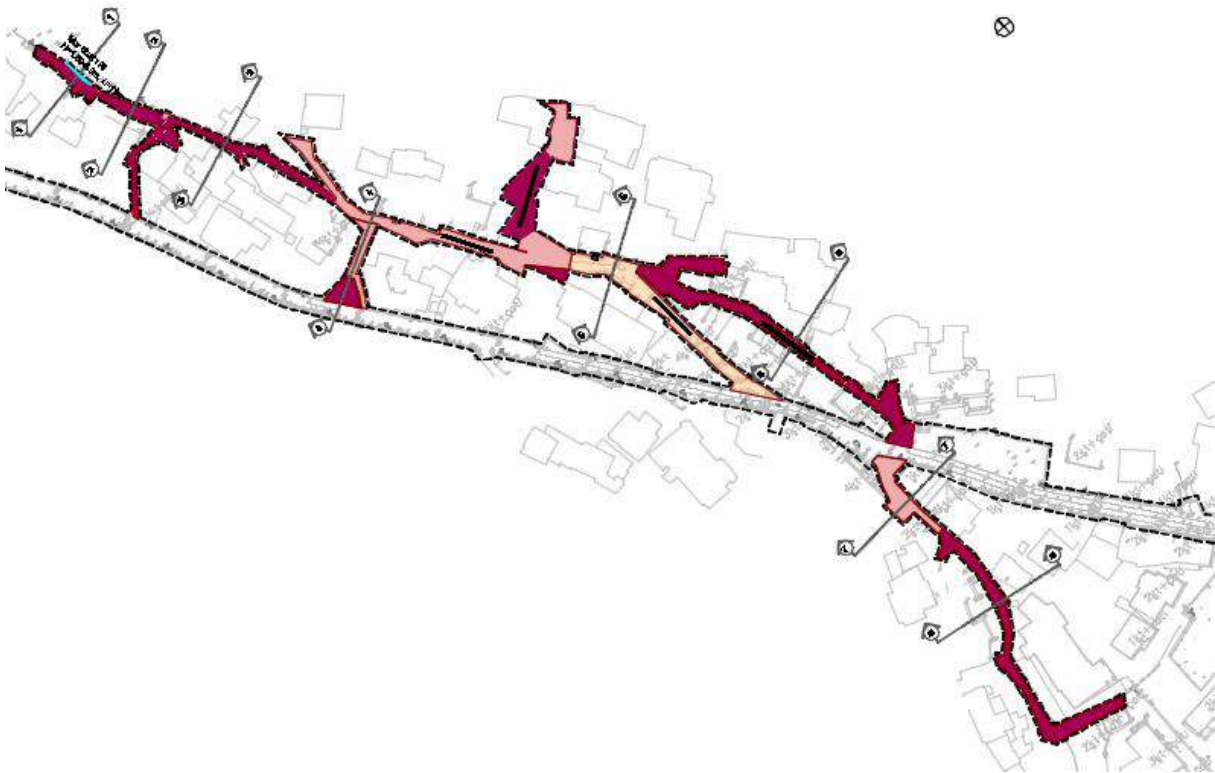


Figure 27. Intervention Plan

Pavement layers type are shown at the typical cross sections given below

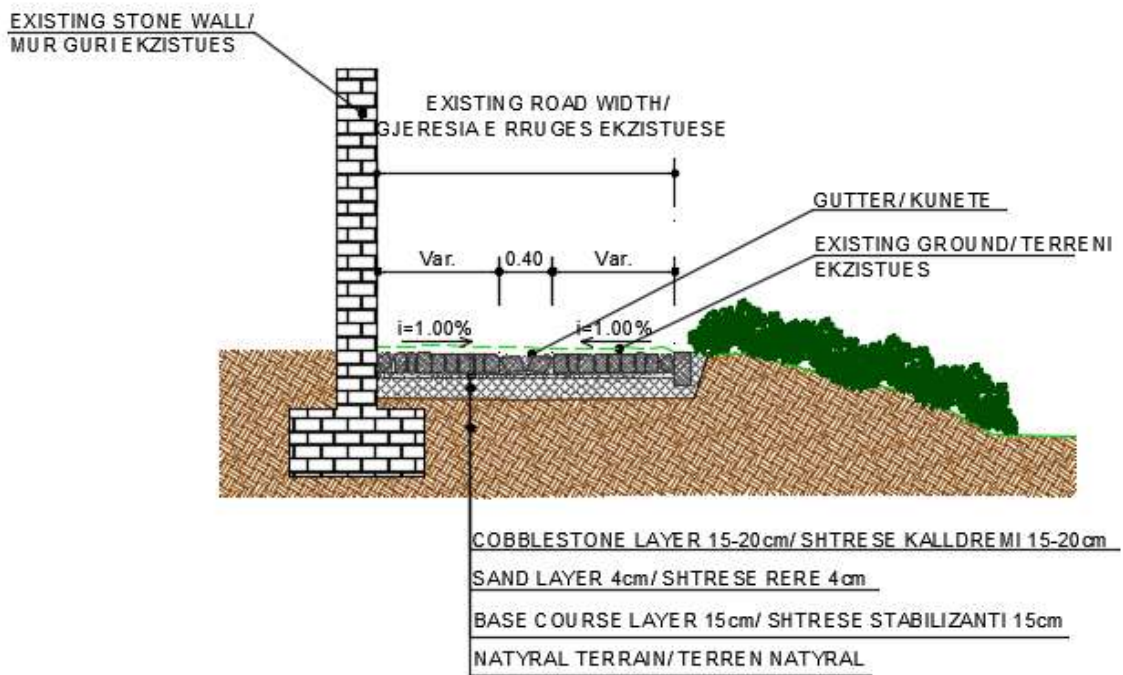


Figure 28. Typical Cross Section (Type 1 – New Cobblestone)

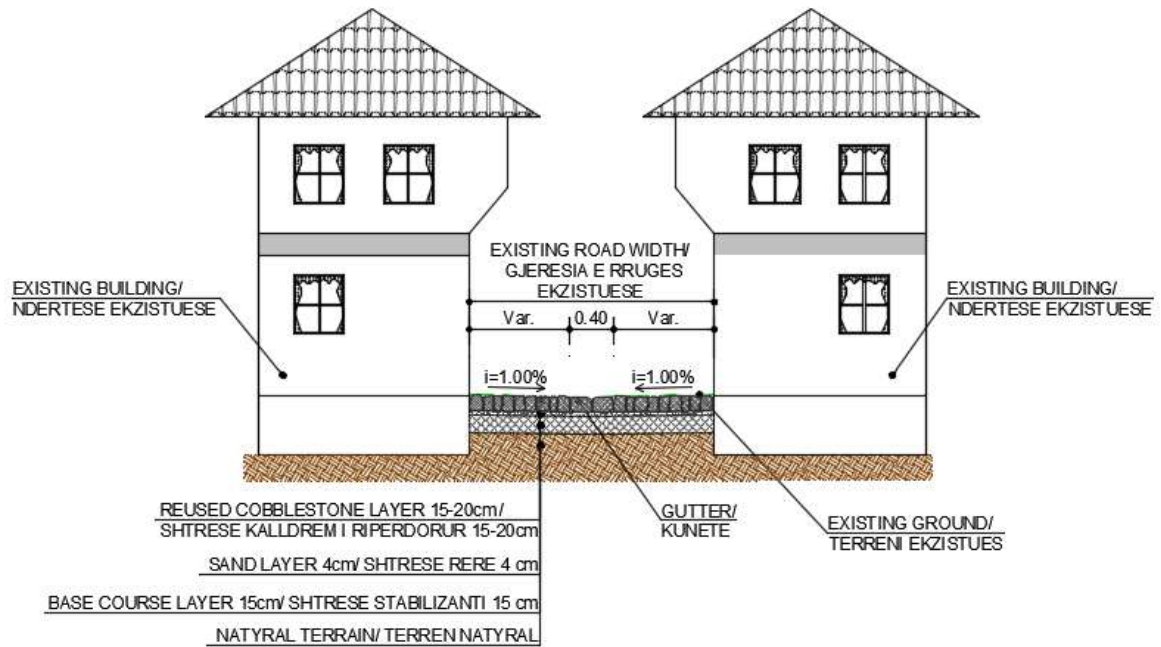


Figure 29. Typical Cross Section (Type 2 – Reused Cobblestone)

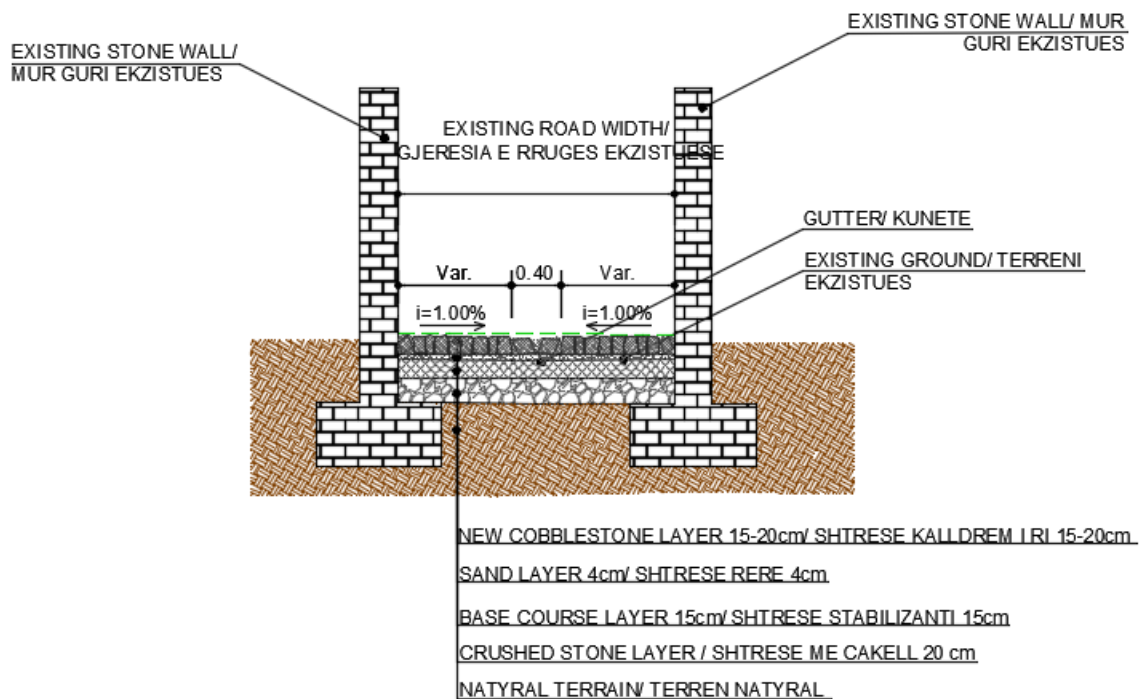


Figure 30. Typical Cross Section (Type 3 – Full Road Layers)

V. METHODOLOGY FOR IMPACT IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1. IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE

Impact significance is determined from an impact significance matrix (Table 14) which compares severity of the impact with probability of its occurrence. Impact significance criteria are as follows:

- Very High (VH) and High (H): These denote that the impact is unacceptable and further mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the significance. Shaded red in Table 14.
- Medium (M): Impacts in this region are considered tolerable but efforts must be made to reduce the impact to levels that are as low as reasonably practical. Shaded yellow in the impact significance matrix.
- Low (L): Impacts are considered acceptable. Shaded light violet.
- Negligible (N): Impacts are very low or no impact at all. Shaded green.

Table 14. Determination of impact severity

			Sensitivity of receptor			
			Very low	Low	Medium	High
			1	2	3	4
Intensity of impact	Very low	1	1 Negligible	2 Minor	3 Minor	4 Minor
	Low	2	2 Minor	4 Minor	6 Moderate	8 Moderate
	Medium	3	3 Minor	6 Moderate	9 Moderate	12 Major
	High & Very High	4	4 Minor	8 Moderate	12 Major	16 Major

5.2. IMPACT DESCRIPTION

Describing a potential impact involved an appraisal of its characteristics, together with the attributes of the receiving environment. Relevant impact characteristics included whether the impact is:

- Adverse or beneficial;
- Direct or indirect;
- Short, medium, or long-term in duration; and permanent or temporary;

- Affecting a local, regional or global scale; including trans-boundary; and
- Cumulative (such an impact results from the aggregated effect of more than one project occurring at the same time, or the aggregated effect of sequential projects. A cumulative impact is “the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions”).

Each of these characteristics is addressed for each impact. Consideration of the above gives a sense of the relative intensity of the impact. The sensitivity of the receiving environment was determined by specialists based on the baseline data collected during the study.

5.3. IMPACT EVALUATION

Each impact is evaluated using the criteria listed in Table 15. To provide a relative illustration of impact severity, it is useful to assign numerical or relative descriptors to the impact intensity and receptor sensitivity for each potential impact. Each is assigned a numerical descriptor of 1, 2, 3, or 4, equivalent to very low, low, medium or high. The severity of impact was then indicated by the product of the two numerical descriptors, with severity being described as negligible, minor, moderate or major, as illustrated in Table 15. This is a qualitative method designed to provide a broad ranking of the different impacts of a project. Illustrations of the types of impact that were assigned the different grades of severity are given below.

Table 15. Classification of impact evaluation

	Classification	Description
1	Extent:	Evaluation of the area of occurrence/influence by the impact on the subject environment; whether the impact will occur on site, in a limited area (within 2 km radius of the site); locally (within 5 km radius of the site); regionally (district wide, nationally or internationally).
2	Persistence/ Duration:	Evaluation of the duration of impact on the subject environment, whether the impact was temporary (<1 year); short term (1 – 5 years); medium term (5 – 10 years); long term (>10); or permanent.

3	Social Context/ Sensitivity or Potential for Stakeholder Conflict:	<p>Assessment of the impacts for sensitive receptors in terms of ecological, social sensitivity and such things as rare and endangered species, unusual and vulnerable environments, architecture, social or cultural setting, major potential for stakeholder conflicts. The sensitivity classification is shown below:</p> <p><i>High sensitivity:</i> Entire community displacement, destruction of world heritage and important cultural sites, large scale stakeholder conflict, etc.</p> <p><i>Medium sensitivity:</i> Displacement of some households, moderate level of stakeholder concern</p> <p><i>Low sensitivity:</i> No displacements, no potential for stakeholder conflict.</p>
4	Regulatory and Legal Compliance:	<p>Evaluation of the impact against Local and International legislative requirements.</p> <p><i>High:</i> Prohibition terms for specific activities/emissions. Major breach of regulatory requirements resulting in potential prosecution or significant project approval delays.</p> <p><i>Medium:</i> Potential breach of specific regulatory consent limits resulting in non-compliance.</p> <p><i>Low:</i> No breach of specific regulatory consent limits anticipated.</p>
5	Overall Impact rating (Severity):	<p>Using a combination of the above criteria, the overall severity of the impact was assigned a rating Severe, Substantial, Moderate, Minor and negligible. Refer to Table 15 for broad categories of impact for each rating</p>

Note: These are only guidelines that will lead the professional judgment required for every case.

Lastly, appropriate **significance category** has been attributed to each impact against aforementioned criteria: sensitivity (value) of the resources (receptors) and the magnitude of impacts (Table 16).

Table 16. Arriving at the Significance of Effect Categories

		MAGNITUDE OF IMPACT (DEGREE OF CHANGE)				
		No Change	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE (SENSITIVITY)	Very High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate or Large	Large or Very Large	Very Large
	High	Neutral	Slight	Slight or Moderate	Moderate or Large	Large or Very Large
	Medium	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Slight or Moderate	Moderate	Moderate or Large
	Low	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight	Moderate
	Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight

For each resource/receptor, impacts have been distinguished based on the period of occurrence: **Project Construction and Operational phases.**

In *Chapter 6*, observations of assumptions made and limitations encountered for each resource/receptor were summarized, along with the change management process accompanying next stages of the design. This analysis informed the development of the *Environmental & Social Management & Monitoring Plan*.

In *Chapter 7*, mitigation measures were defined. The effectiveness of proposed measures in attenuating the impact was then evaluated and residual impacts were identified. The statement made with regard to the certainty of the assessed significance is valid and all measures that are not based on sound knowledge of affected environmental and social resources will have to be updated.

In *Chapter 8*, as part of the *Environmental & Social Management Plan*, mitigation measures, associated targets and timelines, as well as institutions responsible to meet these targets, have been defined for each resource / receptor. In addition, monitoring location/parameters, frequency and period of monitoring, as well as responsible institution, have been set.

In *Chapter 9*, the monitoring of the proposed mitigation are discussed. The

monitoring will verify whether the predicted impacts have actually occurred and check whether the mitigation actions recommended in the ESIA and ESMP, accordingly, have been implemented in total and what their effectiveness is. Monitoring will also identify unforeseen impacts that may arise from project implementation.

VI. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT

6.1. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

6.1.1. Construction waste

☐ Construction Phase

The project includes several waste-generating processes such as:

- dismantling of paving and excavation for pipe laying;
- provision of sewerage conduits;
- improvement of water supply branch connections to private properties;
- placing of underground electrical and ITC conduits;
- demolition of encroachments, inappropriate railings, external stairs;
- provision of masonry benches composed by a masonry base;
- reconstruction of railings, external stairs, etc.

All these intervention, and other operation will be associated with the generation of solid (inert) waste

This waste can be made up, inter alia, of wood pieces or metal cuttings, stones, various plastic materials, paper /cement bags, etc. Some of the waste materials such as paint, cement, adhesives and cleaning solvents contain hazardous substances, while some of the waste materials, including metal or plastic pieces, are not biodegradable and may have long-term and cumulative effects on the environment. These affect the environment by blocking drainage systems and at the same time have negative impacts on human health. Other wastes that may arise from non-construction activities due to the presence of workers in the construction site and these include food waste, contaminated water from washing and cleaning of construction equipment or tools.

Improper disposal of construction waste or spillage may have medium or long-term impacts on the environment or on public health. The extent of this impact will be local in the areas where waste will be thrown, or in neighbourhoods nearby.

The possibility that this impact will occur is *high* considering the typology of the work that undoubtedly generates construction waste. If disposed of in inappropriate places, construction waste contaminates environmental sources (soil and water) or causes public health effects, so the significance of this impact will be *high*. The impact intensity will be low and given that it has minimal water resources in this area, the sensitivity of the receptors is assessed as *Low*. Therefore, the importance of impact is moderate.

□ Operational Phase

The implementation of the project “P09 “Regeneration of the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum and Mihal Komneno road” is expected to increase the number of peoples living or visiting the area and the number of businesses operating there. Therefore, different waste is expected to be generated. These residues will mainly be of the character of household waste, without risk. Unsuitable collection, treatment and disposal of these wastes can cause public health hazards due to environmental pollution: air pollution, water contamination, and infections when people or children require wastes. The potential risk from uncontrolled waste is also pollution of river Osumi as the project is implemented not far from the river.

The impact will *be long-term* that can last throughout the project's lifespan. The impact intensity is *low* if the Municipality and community take the necessary measures to address them. The sensitivity to the receptors will be *low*, giving little impact to the effect.

6.1.2. Soil and geology

□ Construction Phase

The proposed development, with respect to soils and geology, includes the following characteristics:

- Stripping of topsoil
- Excavation of basements and foundations
- Excavation of drainage sewers and utilities (main deep trunk sewer already constructed under parent planning permission)
- Minor regrading and landscaping
- Disposal of any surplus excavated soils including any contaminated material

The removal of topsoil during earthworks will expose subsoil to weathering and may result in the erosion of soils during adverse weather conditions. Surface water runoff from the surface of the excavated areas may result in silt discharges to the creek nearby.

Duration of the impact will be *short-term* occurring only during the construction phase. Extent of the impact will be local. The likelihood of the impact occurring is *low* considering the limited project area. The sensitivity of receptors is *low*. Therefore, significance of the impact is *minor*.

6.1.3. Impact on flora and fauna

□ Construction Phase

The construction area is located in the heart of Berati city. There are few trees and shrubs growing along the street, that may be affected during site preparation, and construction and operation activities. Impacts could result from the Excavation and earthworks for construction of the carriageway. Dust depositing on surrounding vegetation will also form a layer that reduces photosynthesis until it gets washed by the rains.

During the construction phases of the project, small areas covered by grasses may be disturbed.

Considering the positioning of the project site, there will be no overall loss of terrestrial habitat, for example, loss of feeding areas, cover and nesting of fauna and disturbance of the part of the surrounding ecosystem.

Duration of the impact will be *short-term* occurring only during the construction phase. Extent of the impact will be local. The likelihood of the impact occurring is *low* considering the limited vegetation in the area. The sensitivity of receptors is *low*. Therefore, significance of the impact is *minor*.

□ Operational Phase

During the operational phase, planted activities will lead to an increase in the number of tree and shrubs used for decorative purposes

6.1.4. Impact on Water Regimes

□ Construction Phase

Potential impacts on water-related construction activities include increase of suspensions in groundwater; and the risk of negative impact on water supply facilities.

During construction, depending on rainfall, a considerable amount of water can be accumulated and as a result, the collection of these waters and their orientation in the sewage system may be necessary, in part, they infiltrate underground. Consequently, the construction works should not be prolonged and exceed the deadlines set in the construction permit.

There is a potential for pollution from discharge of different solid waste, including hazardous waste in the project site. The waste generated in the project area, if left for a longer period on the soil/sand can infiltrate in the groundwater hence contaminating it.

No harmful substances should be discharged to the site as they can infiltrate together with the precipitation waters and consequently cause groundwater. No hazardous materials will be stored on the site and consequently there will be no contamination of groundwater or surface water. Pollution can only come from the spillage of hydrocarbons or lubricants when supplying heavy duty tools.

Duration of the impact will be *short-term* occurring only during the construction phase. Extent of the impact will be local considering the limited amount of possible discharges into the waters. The likelihood of the impact occurring is *medium*. The sensitivity of receptors is *medium* given that some of the spillage might contain compounds which would lead to serious damage of water biota. Therefore, significance of the impact is *moderate*.

6.1.5. Generation of Noise and Vibration

□ Construction Phase

The project would cause a temporary increase in *noise levels* during construction. The primary noise sources during typical construction activities will be from construction equipment such as jackhammer, chainsaw, concrete saw, leaf blower, portable generator. No pile driving or blasting would occur during construction of the proposed project. However, nearby receptors would be exposed to occasional high noise levels associated with the operation of heavy equipment during construction.

As indicated above in Section 5.2, use of any single piece of construction equipment that produces noise that exceeds 85 dBA Lmax at a distance of 30 m would result in a significant impact. Typical maximum noise levels of representative types of equipment to be used during construction of the proposed project are listed in Table 17 below.

In addition to on-site activities, construction activities could include the import or export of excavated soils and other materials using large diesel trucks. A dump truck would generate a noise level of 70 dBA at a distance of 30 m, which is below the construction noise limit of 85 dBA at 30 m. Therefore, impacts associated with construction-related trucks would be less than significant and no mitigation is required.

Table 17. Typical Noise Levels of Principal Construction Equipment

CLEARING		STRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION	
Bulldozer	80	Crane	75-77
Front end loader	72-84	Welding generator	71-82
Jack hammer	81-98	Concrete mixer	74-88

Crane with ball	75-87	Concrete pump	81-84
		Concrete vibrator	76
EXCAVATION & EARTH MOVING		Air compressor	74-87
Bulldozer	80	Pneumatic tools	81-98
Backhoe	72-93	Bulldozer	80
Front end loader	72-84	Cement and dump trucks	83-94
Dump truck	83-94	Front end loader	72-84
Jack hammer	81-98	Dump truck	83-94
Scraper	80-93	Paver	86-88
GRADING AND COMPACTING		LANDSCAPING AND CLEAN-UP	
Grader	80-93	Bulldozer	80
Roller	73-75	Backhoe	72-93
Paver	86-88	Truck	83-94
		Front end loader	72-84

(Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Noise from Construction Equipment and Operations. Building Equipment and Home Appliances)

Construction machinery will move about the Project site area, altering the directivity of the noise source with respect to individual receptors. During any given period the machinery items to be used in the Project area will operate at maximum sound power levels for only brief stages. At other times the machinery may produce lower sound levels while carrying out activities not requiring full power. It is unlikely that all construction equipment would be operating at their maximum sound power levels at any one time. Finally, certain construction machinery will be present for only brief periods during construction.

The proposed project would contribute operational (post-construction) noise to the existing environment through (1) the addition of traffic on local streets, (2) on-site stationary sources, and (3) on-site outdoor activities.

Impact receptors include local community and clients of the bars and restaurants in the project area. The impact intensity will be *medium* if an experienced contractor is contracted to carry out the construction activities. However, sensitivity on receptors will be *high* since the proposed site is highly populated, hence a *major* impact significance.

Vibration is the periodic movement of mass over time. Construction of the proposed project has the potential to generate vibration that would be experienced by nearby structures and their occupants. Vibration from operation

of this equipment can result in effects ranging from annoyance to damage to buildings. It is generally accepted that for most humans, vibration levels between 0.15 and 0.3 mm/s are only perceptible. The only vibration sources that will be considered will be heavy trucks during traffic on the project site.

Reoccurring primary and secondary vibration effects often lead people to believe that the vibration is damaging their home, even when vibration levels. Vibration-sensitive receptors are generally considered to be (1) persons who may be annoyed by the vibration; (2) persons who are engaged in activities that may be subject to significant interference from vibration, such as working with delicate instruments; and (3) structures that are susceptible to damage from vibration (e.g., older fragile buildings). may be well below minimum thresholds for damage potential.

The nature and levels of vibration emitted by the site will vary with the activities being carried out on site. Table 18 outlines typical vibration levels for different plant activities that may be generated on the Project site.

Impact receptors include local community and clients of the bars and restaurants in the project area. The impact intensity will be *medium* if an experienced contractor is contracted to carry out the construction activities. However, sensitivity on receptors will be *high* since the proposed site is highly populated, hence a major impact *significance*.

Table 18. Typical vibration levels for construction equipment

Plant item	Peak particle velocity at 10 m (mm/s)
Pile driving (impulsive)	12.0-30.0
Roller (15 tonne)	7.0-8.0
Dozer	2.5-4.0
Compactor (7 tonne)	5.0-7.0
Rock breaking	7.0
Backhoe	1.0

□ Operational Phase

The proposed project would contribute operational (post-construction) noise to the existing environment through (1) the addition of traffic on local streets, (2) on-site stationary sources, and (3) on-site outdoor activities.

The proposed project would contribute operational (post-construction) noise to the existing environment through (1) on-site stationary sources, and (2) on-site outdoor activities.

Outdoor Activities. Noise from landscape maintenance equipment would be similar to noise currently generated by the same activities on the project site and would not result in a substantial increase in noise above existing noise levels. Noise impacts from use of landscape maintenance equipment would be less than significant.

6.1.6. Air quality, dust and traffic-borne emissions

The project aims at preserving the urban and architectural values of the overall urban setting of the area surrounding the Mihal Komneno road and will include actions on five streets: Mihal Komneno, Kostaq Stefa, Toli Bojaxhiu, Namik Mehmeqeja and Andrea Tavanxhiu.

The project will focus on the public space and includes two components: (i) the restoration of the horizontal surfaces of the streets (Kostaq Stefa and Toli Bojaxhiu) and public lighting; and (ii) the restoration of some façades overlooking the streets (Mihal Komneno, Kostaq Stefa, Toli Bojaxhiu, Namik Memeqeja and Andrea Tavanxhiu) which are dust-generated thus influencing the air quality.

□ Construction Phase

The construction phase is likely to generate some short-term dust emissions and may have the potential to impact air quality. Dust emissions can lead to elevated PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations and may also cause dust soiling. The potential for dust to be emitted depends on the type of construction activity being carried out in conjunction with ambient conditions, including rainfall, wind speed and the distance to potentially sensitive locations.

Traffic-borne emissions include dust and exhaust fumes. Dust emissions will arise from construction activities, earthworks and construction traffic. The trucks used to transport various building materials from their sources to the project site generate emissions of SO₂, CO₂, CO, NO_x and particulates. The impacts of such emissions can be greater in at the construction site and through communities which construction vehicles will travel. Impact receptors include communities along the haulage routes, road-side markets and shops, construction workers and possibly guest. The majority of any dust produced during the construction phase will be deposited close to source and as such any impacts from dust deposition will typically be close to the source.

The significance of impacts due to vehicle emissions during the construction phase will be dependent on the quantity of HGVs and the number of additional vehicle movements where it may generate levels of exhaust emission compounds for example nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide and hydrocarbons such as benzene.

The project area is located along to the main road with low traffic thus the impact intensity will be moderate. This is in addition to the intermittent and short term nature of activities. Duration of this impact will be short-term only lasting through the construction phase. The likelihood of occurring is moderate considering the relatively large area of intervention. The impact intensity will be low therefore sensitivity on receptors will be low, hence minor impact significance.

□ Operational Phase

The pollutant emissions from traffic related air emissions may generate quantities of air pollutants during the operational phase and may cause impacts at both the local and national level. At the local scale the principal pollutants are NO₂ and PM₁₀.

6.2. SOCIAL IMPACT

6.2.1. Delay in the implementation of the project due to the company's non-compliance with the requirements of the ADF and World Bank

Certain delays in procurement may arise due to non-compliance with ADF and World Bank requirements with regard to dealing with contractors as a whole. The ADF standards apply to contracting parties (companies) and subcontractors. It is often not easy and simple to hire a contractor who has all the necessary resources necessary for successful realization of the construction work.

All standards and requirements in terms of environmental and social policies must be met, and this may cause another effect - increasing the cost of the investment.

Based on the set criteria, this impact can be categorized as: negative, indirect, of a regional character, short-term (it will be manifested only in the pre-construction phase), with the possibility of occurrence-probably, irreversible, with medium magnitude and moderate significance (impact can be mitigated and managed).

6.2.2. Organization of labor: Incomplete compliance with World Bank Standards with regard to workers and working conditions

Overlooking the application of World Bank standards and requirements can make the developer (contractor, subcontractor) a loss of a significant amount of resources, especially if an incident occurs at the workplace.

The investor (ADF), as well as the contractor, are obliged to follow the national regulations for safety and health at the workplace, but sometimes, inadvertently, they pay less attention to job-related requirements, such as workers' rights, negotiation rights, which may result in endangering the health and safety of workers.

Based on the set criteria, this impact can be defined as: negative, indirect, of a local character, short-term (it will be manifested only in the pre-construction phase), with the possibility of occurrence-probably, reversible, with low magnitude and low significance (impact can be mitigated and managed).

6.2.3. Employment Creation, Skills Enhancement and Local Business

□ Construction Phase

The Project is expected to generate positive impacts on the local economy and livelihoods in terms of employment and skills enhancement and local business opportunities through the procurement of goods and services.

Positive impacts will be primarily associated with the construction phase and therefore temporary in nature. The expiring of construction contracts will occur once construction activities are completed.

Those who have worked on the Project will have an advantage when seeking alternative jobs on similar projects due to the experience and any training received through this Project. The construction phase will last approximately 24 months and it is expected that approximately 50 direct employment opportunities will be available during the peak of construction.

Local procurement is going to benefit the hospitality and service industries primarily, such as accommodation, catering, cleaning, transport and security services. Local businesses will benefit during the construction phase as there will be increased spending within the area by the wage labor who will have improved buying power while employed by the Project

Development of the project will entail civil works requiring materials such as gravel, bricks, lumber, steel reinforcement and cement. This is a positive but short-term and reversible impact. Considering that construction labour would be local or national this impact has local and national spatial extent.

6.2.4. Improving aesthetics and increasing the value of real estate property.

During the construction, the work on refurbishment of the façades will create a scenic blight, giving a *negative* impact. Duration of visual impact will be *short-term* only lasting through the construction phase. The impact *intensity* will be *very low* considering the dilapidated state of all existing facilities; therefore *sensitivity* on receptors will be *low*, hence *minor* impact significance.

During the operational phase, the proposed activity will have a great visual impact on the aesthetics of the site by substantially improving it. In addition to increasing the interest of locals, the value of the area is expected to increase. The proposed activity will have a great visual impact on the aesthetics of the site by substantially improving it.

The foreseen interventions such as: replacing unsuitable doors with metal doors with railings; replacing the gate with a traditional wooden gate; repair of traditional wooden gates; coating plastered surfaces with stone tiles; removal of unsuitable elements such as fencing, etc., will give another view of this area

In addition to increasing the interest of local and foreign tourists, the value of the area will increase as it automatically turns into a very important tourist attraction.

6.2.5. Private Property (Loss/ Replacement/ Resettlement/ Access to) and Livelihood

The project includes two components: the restoration of the horizontal surfaces of the streets (Kostaq Stefa and Toli Bojaxhiu) and public lighting; and the restoration of some façades overlooking the streets (Mihal Komнено, Kostaq Stefa, Toli Bojaxhiu, Namik Memeqeja and Andrea Tavanxhiu). However, no expropriation will take in place and no change will be made to the land plot configuration.

Duration of this impact will be *long-term*. The likelihood of occurring is moderate considering the relatively large area of intervention. The impact intensity will be moderate therefore sensitivity on receptors will be moderate, hence moderate impact significance.

6.2.6. Disruption of Public Utilities

In principle, intervention in the framework of this project might require:

- overhauling the supply of water and improve branch connections to private properties;
- installing effective storm drain and sewer provisions;
- placing electric cables underground.
- patching up or reconstruction of traditional cobblestone paving by re-using the original materials and textures with replacement in kind of missing or deteriorated stones, according to the level of decay;
- provision of manhole trays to be finished with applied stone paving to match paved surfaces; etc.

Despite the care showed by the contractor there is the possibility of accidental damages to the public utilities such as water pipeline, waste-water sewage network; electrical network, etc.

As per information gathered during stakeholders consultations, underground utilities present some level of intervention that will be more deeply analysed in coordination with the utility providers and the ongoing projects at the detailed design phase.

Based on the set criteria, this impact can be defined as: *negative, direct, local, long-term*, with the possibility of occurrence - probably, reversible, with low magnitude and moderate significance (impact can be mitigated and managed).

6.2.7. Access Problems and Traffic Disruption

This project will improve the pedestrian accessibility for all of the overall urban setting, by upgrading the walkability on the historic alleys. All the streets retained for intervention are in fact highly utilized by pedestrians.

Mihal Komнено road is still accessible by vehicles although traffic might be restricted to residents and partially pedestrianized in the future. Alleys have mainly a pedestrian access with the exception of Toli Bojaxhiu street, which is partially accessible by cars.

This intervention will also improve the visibility and the accessibility for all by providing a system of lighting and street furniture. It is expected that there will be some traffic disruption during construction. Therefore, a formal traffic management plan adhering to International Standards will be prepared by the Contractor and ADF and will be approved by the Local Police before commencing the work on any link. There should be proper safety arrangements during construction works.

Based on the set criteria, this impact can be defined as: *negative, direct, local, long-term*, with the possibility of occurrence - *probably, reversible*, with *low* magnitude and minor significance (impact can be mitigated and managed).

6.2.8. Direct or indirect hazards to pedestrians and retail services

The restoration work of the horizontal surfaces of the streets Kostaq Stefa and Toli Bojaxhiu (Figure 31) and the work on restoration of façades facing the other streets represent direct and indirect hazard for both pedestrians and small shops.



Figure 31. Construction work during the restoration of Mihal Komneno road

On the ground floors small and medium retail activities of any kind (crafts, food and beverage) contribute creating a lively environment. Refurbishment of façades along the road (the project construction phase) will have a negative impact and pose a risk to pedestrians and retails activities.

Based on the set criteria, this impact can be defined as: *negative, direct, local, short-term*, with the possibility of occurrence - *probably, reversible*, with *moderate* magnitude and low significance (impact can be mitigated and managed).

6.2.9. Occupational health and safety (OHS)

□ Workers' health

Construction activities have potential to pose occupational risks some of which could be life-threatening, for example, working with high voltage and hot works (welding) pose a risk of electrocution. In addition, falling debris could injure workers if personal protective equipment (PPE) are not provided or properly used. Back injury could occur if workers lift heavy objects using inappropriate body posture.

Other potential hazards might be: inadequate lighting during the night working hours or limited level of visibility during rainstorms creating difficulty for staff driving heavy equipment, driving equipment with improper brake system, lack of concentration while working and exposure to hazardous wastes such as paints, cement, adhesives and cleaning solvents.

Based on the set criteria, this impact can be defined as: negative, direct, local, long-term, with little possibility of occurrence - likely, reversible, with low magnitude and moderate significance.

□ Accidents

The project area is located in highly inhabited and economically very important zone. With an increase in number of vehicles during transportation of construction materials and equipment, there will be an increase of workers risk of traffic-related accidents or injuries.

Duration of the impact will be *short-term* occurring only during the construction phase. Extent of the impact will be local or regional depending on origin of construction workers. The likelihood of the impact occurring is *medium* considering the usually low level of road safety caution by drivers and pedestrians in Albania. The sensitivity of receptors is *high* given that some accidents would lead to permanent damage and others loss of life while the intensity of the impact is low given the relatively high volume of traffic assessing the area. Therefore, significance of the impact is ***moderate***.

□ Spread of COVID -19

The virus COVID 19 possess a very high risk of being spread from the workforce to the surrounding communities. Some of the important issues to be considered include:

- Due to COVID-19 circumstances, it may not be possible to conduct stakeholder engagement as they would under normal circumstances.

- Due to COVID-19 circumstances, it might not be possible to have the whole crew in the project area.
- There is an increase on the probability of spreading the virus from the workers to the community

Potential sources of exposure include having close contact with a coworker or member of the public who is ill with COVID-19 and touching your nose, mouth, or eyes after touching surfaces contaminated with the virus or handling items that others infected with COVID-19 have touched. Actions to be taken include the following:

- Limit close contact with others by maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet, when possible.
- Limit the number of workers in small workspace areas such as job site elevators, trailers and vehicles, and spaces under construction if possible.
- CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas where there is significant community-based transmission of COVID-19.
- Cloth face coverings may prevent people who don't know they have the virus from transmitting it to others.
- Cloth face coverings are NOT surgical masks or respirators and are not appropriate substitutes for them in workplaces where masks or respirators are recommended or required.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as shared tools, machines, vehicles and other equipment, handrails, ladders, doorknobs, and portable toilets.

Based on the set criteria, this impact can be defined as: negative, direct, national, long-term with high significance (impacts are hard to be mitigated and managed).

6.2.10. Community Health and safety (CHS)

The presence of the Project could affect the health, safety and security of the communities in the area of influence as a result of worker-community interactions, immigration to the area, and the risk of injury associated with construction.

Construction Phase

- Working in an open environment.**

The intervention foreseen in this project, especially in façades, will take place in open locations highly exposed to environmental agents (wind, rain, etc.), with execution of several tasks and use of heavy or singular equipment might endanger people's lives and property.

Another issue that might come during the intervention work is the disruption of public utilities; i.e. disruption of water used in the area or reduction in regular flow.

Duration of this impact will be *short-term* only lasting through the construction phase. The likelihood of occurring is moderate considering the relatively large area of intervention. The impact *intensity* will be *very low* therefore *sensitivity* on receptors will be *low*, hence *minor* impact significance.

□ **Workforce, Jobseekers and Social Disagreement.**

Often, the Contractor is not part of the project's development process, and therefore there is no complete picture of the sensitivity of the project area, because its approach, more or less, is mechanical without paying too much attention to the local human environment. In such cases, workers from other regions may be employed by the Contractor. This could lead to minor tensions and slight potential conflict if these workers are not aware of local customs and practices.

Duration of the impact will be *short-term* occurring only during the construction phase. Extent of the impact will be *local or national* depending on origin of construction workers. The likelihood of the impact occurring will be *medium*. Intensity of the impact will be *low*. Sensitivity of the receptor is *medium* resulting in a *small* impact significance.

□ **Disturbance from noise and vibration due to construction activities**

Noise and vibration will undoubtedly be the main problems in the construction phase. Apart from works for refurbishment of the horizontal space of Toli Bojaxhiu and Kostaq Stefa streets road, the refurbishment of the façades of residential buildings in three other street the increased volume of traffic of people, will contribute significantly to the anxiety of the population in these settlements.

Based on the set criteria, this impact can be defined as: *negative, direct, on the spot, short-term* (it will be manifested only in the construction phase), with the possibility of occurrence - probably, reversible, with *medium* magnitude and *moderate* significance (impact can be mitigated and managed).

6.2.11. Traffic safety and Accidents

The project area is located in zone with high human activity on it and at the adjoining roads. With an increase in number of vehicles during transportation of construction materials and equipment, there will be an increase of community risk of traffic-related accidents or injuries.

This environment and social incidents response toolkit (ESIRT) will be used in case such incidents occur during the implementation of the project.

Duration of the impact will be *short-term* occurring only during the construction phase. Extent of the impact will be local or national depending on origin of construction workers. The likelihood of the impact occurring is *medium* considering the usually low level of road safety caution by drivers and pedestrians in Albania. The sensitivity of receptors is *high* given that some accidents would lead to permanent damage and others loss of life while the intensity of the impact is *moderate* given the relatively high volume of traffic assessing the area. Therefore, significance of the impact is *moderate*.

6.2.12. Cultural heritage

Three categories of potential impacts identified in this assessment are:

- Degradation or damage due to pollution and vibration;
- Disruption to visitor access; and
- Negative effects on setting and ambience.

Known characteristics of cultural heritage site and Project activities were used to determine which impacts will be relevant to the site. Due to the nature of construction activities, all cultural heritage sites, whether above or below ground, are at risk of direct physical impacts.

Pollution (mainly dust) and vibration will affect above ground standing features or buildings.

Impacts on user access, setting, and ambience are applicable to the project site because of users of the area and the visitors they receive. Using this approach, the magnitude and nature of impacts on different categories of cultural heritage have been assessed

□ Direct Physical Disturbance of or Damage to Cultural Heritage Sites

Direct physical disturbance of or damage to cultural heritage site will result in the loss of scientific, historic, or cultural value. Ground-disturbing activities, including vegetation and topsoil removal, grading, and excavations, are the key sources of impact, as these activities have the potential to damage

archaeological resources. This impact will be minor, since no archaeological findings are expected to be found there

The area of direct physical impacts is defined as the Project footprint. *Direct physical impacts* are only anticipated during the construction phase of the Project.

□ **Degradation or Damage to Cultural Heritage Sites Due to Pollution or Vibration**

Above-ground portions of cultural heritage sites are subject to impacts from air pollution (mainly dust) and vibration caused by the operation of machinery. Air pollutants can also collect on the outer surface of structures in the form of dust and soot, causing discoloration and corrosion of building material. Stone structures are particularly sensitive to the corrosive effects of air pollution.

Hammering, the operation of machinery and the movement of vehicles along unpaved areas, are likely to produce vibration and dust which will impact cultural heritage resources. These types of impacts will be *most significant* during the construction phase.

During the operation phase, vehicle traffic is not anticipated to reach thresholds that will cause negative effects.

□ **Disruption to Visitor Access of Cultural Heritage Site**

Project activities may obstruct visitor access to the area. This impact is relevant for important monuments, archaeological sites that receive visitors, and sites with International Cultural Heritage value. Especially work on the facades along the Mihal Komneno road might hinder the visitors to the Castle. In addition, paving the Toli Bojaxhiu street might bring problems to the visitors of Ethnographic museum. During the construction phase of Project, protective measures, such as the fencing off of certain roads, which will block or limit visitation and use might be required.

6.3. POTENTIAL POLLUTANTS RELEASED INTO THE ENVIRONMENT

6.3.1. Air Emissions

Air quality may be affected during site preparation, construction activities, and the potential occurrence of non-routine events.

Dust and Particulates

During construction, there may be a localized and temporary reduction in air quality as a result of dust and particulate generation. It is considered to be significant, with the potential to affect workers on-site as well as the local people. Creation of access roads, excavation and earthworks may lead to the temporary air borne transport of particulates (increased dust). The majority of the dust generated during construction is likely to be deposited within 100 Meters of the site. In absence of data from Albanian Institution, we used the data from UK environment agency. According to the UK Environment Agency Technical Guidance Document, circa 85% of particulate matter in the ambient air is deposited within 100 Meters of the source while approximately 10% is deposited between 100 and 500 Meters.

Air quality will also be reduced by emissions from machinery and vehicles used for transportation to and from the site and on the site. These emissions are not expected to be significant.

Gaseous and Exhaust Emissions

Emissions of pollutants during the testing and start-up phase of the Project. The gaseous emissions may include: NO_x, CO₂, CO, NH₃, SO_x, and particulate matter. The start-up phase is necessary to enable testing of the machinery and installations. The start-up/pre-commissioning stage generally lasts for few weeks. During construction, there may be a localized and temporary reduction in air quality as a result of emissions from site machinery and equipment. Furthermore, heavy equipment such as bulldozers and other construction equipment will produce exhaust emissions from diesel engines leading to temporary increase in SO_x, NO_x, and CO₂ concentrations. Emissions may occur in the event of an emergency. The main gases of concern include:

Sulphur dioxide - SO₂. The amount of SO₂ in exhaust gases is directly dependent on the sulphur content of the used fuel. Reducing SO₂ emissions from engines can be implemented by using low sulphur fuel for machinery and equipment. The Project Company will instruct the contractors to use low sulphur fuel, to the extent available locally.

Nitrogen oxides - NO_x. NO_x emissions from contractor equipment/activities will need to be minimized. Construction equipment and machinery may need to be modified, to the extent necessary.

Carbon Oxides. CO₂ is a greenhouse gas and emissions may occur during the construction phase. The emission of carbon dioxide, while not directly harmful to human health or the environment, contributes to global warming and climate change. Carbon dioxide may be generated and emitted both directly and indirectly during the construction phase of the project. It is important that all

energy consuming and CO₂-generating activities are conducted as efficiently as possible to minimize CO₂emissions.

The release of carbon monoxide (CO) may occur as a result of incomplete combustion of fuel in engines. Under normal conditions, air emissions will have minor impacts on the surrounding environment during the construction phase.

In cases where different types of pollution can be caused, the "Polluter's Pay Principle" will apply, as defined in Article 12 of Law no. 10431, dated June 9, 2011 "On the environment protection".

Environmental impacts during the operation phase will be normal and relate to emissions from commercial activities as well as services.

In order to calculate the Gaseous and Exhaust Emissions from transportation during the construction phase we are based on the norms of European Environmental Agency published in 2016 (EMEP/EEA Air Pollutant Emission Inventory Guidebook, 2016)(Table 19).

Table 19. Exhaust emission factors for heavy-duty vehicles (7.5-16 ton).

Technology	CO	NM VOC	NO _x	N ₂ O	NH ₃	Pb	CO ₂ lube
	g/km	g/km	g/km	g/km	g/km	g/km	g/km
		Give as THC- CH ₄	Given as NO ₂ equivalent				due to lube oil
Conventional	2.13	0.776	8.92	0.029	0.0029	9.48E-06	4.86E-01
Euro I - 91/542/EEC I	1.02	0.326	5.31	0.008	0.0029	8.36E-06	4.86E-01
Euro II - 91/542/EEC II	0.902	0.207	5.50	0.008	0.0029	8.05E-06	4.86E-01
Euro III - 2000	0.972	0.189	4.30	0.004	0.0029	8.39E-06	4.86E-01
Euro IV - 2005	0.071	0.008	2.65	0.012	0.0029	7.85E-06	4.86E-01
Euro V - 2008	0.071	0.008	1.51	0.034	0.011	7.85E-06	4.86E-01
Euro VI	0.071	0.008	0.291	0.033	0.011	7.85E-06	4.86E-01

Considering a heavy duty vehicles of technology Euro IV – 2005, a transportation distance 5 km per vehicle every day and considering that the company will have 10 vehicles of this type working every day, exhaust emission will be as following:

CO: $0.071 \times 5 \times 10 = 3.55 \text{ g/day}$

NM VOC: $0.008 \times 5 \times 10 = 0.4 \text{ g/day}$

NO_x: $2.65 \times 5 \times 10 = 132.5 \text{ g/day}$

N₂O: $0.012 \times 5 \times 10 = 0.6 \text{ g/day}$

NH₃: $0.029 \times 5 \times 10 = 1.45 \text{ g/day}$

Pb: $7.85E-06 \times 5 \times 10 = 3.92 E-04$ g/ day

CO₂: $4.86E-01 \times 5 \times 10 = 2.43$ g/day

As can be seen, the gaseous and exhaust emission from the transportation during construction of the project “Integrated Urban and Tourism Development” are negligible.

6.3.2. Solid Waste Generation

Solid waste will be generated at the site during site preparation and construction phases. The waste may consist of timber or metal cuttings, excavated materials, paper/cement bags, empty paint and solvent containers, broken glass among others. It impacts on the environment through blockage of drainage systems and negative impacts on human health. Other wastes which will be generated by excavated earth will be reused to the maximum extent possible. Construction activities will produce excess excavated soils, excess construction materials, and solid wastes (such as removed concrete, wood, trees and plants, packaging materials, empty containers, oils, lubricants, and other similar items). These impacts are negative but short-term and reversible by mitigation measures.

Waste can be generated also from non-construction activities because of the presence of the workers at the site include food debris, contaminated water from washing, cleaning equipment, construction tools and vehicles.

Waste should be managed in cooperation with the Local Government Unit and the territorial cleansing firm and in accordance with the Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 575, dated 24.6.2015 "On approval of requirements for inert waste management". Waste collection should be differentiated at the source. Solid waste, or even excavated soil, construction materials should be treated in a special way. The landfill where the waste will be deposited must be licenced and posses environmental permit.

In this report of Environmental Impact Assessment, only the waste streams classified under chapter 17 (construction and demolition wastes) of the European Waste Catalogue (EWC) were accounted for, because these streams contribute more to the overall percentage (by weight) of waste generated on-site. Although it is classified under chapter 17 and represents a significant portion of CDW, excavated soil was not accounted for in this study for lack of available information, as mentioned. Table 20 lists the waste streams accounted for by the six-digit code of the EWC. There are several codes for contaminated wastes in chapter 17 but in this study they were all included in code 17 09 03 as there was not enough information to differentiate the hazardous wastes generated on-site.

Table 20. Waste streams accounted for

No.	Waste stream	EWC code
1	Concrete	17 01 01
2	Bricks	17 01 02
3	Tiles and ceramics	17 01 03
4	Mixture of concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics	17 01 07
5	Wood	17 02 01
6	Glass	17 02 02
7	Plastic	17 02 03
8	Bituminous mixtures	17 03 02
9	Mixed metals	17 04 07
10	Insulation materials	17 06 04
11	Gypsum-based construction materials	17 08 02
12	Mixed construction and demolition wastes containing dangerous substances	17 09 03
13	Mixed construction and demolition wastes	17 09 04

In the absence of reliable studies in Albania, the calculation of the possible amount of waste that can be generated during the implementation of this project, was based on the indicators collected from several studies carried out in several other European countries. The amounts of waste generated during construction and demolition work is very variable, depending first on the usage category (residential, commercial/ industrial buildings. Studies also show that this amount of waste varies from study to study. The calculation shows that the maximum amount of waste that can be generated is less than 75 tonnes.

6.4. POSSIBLE IMPACT ON TRANSBOUNDARY ENVIRONMENT

The proposed project will not have negative impacts on the transboundary environment. The Municipality of Berat is located inside the country and has no shared borders with other countries. As noted above, the impact on the environment is very small and within the Albanian territorial waters without any impact on international waters.

6.5. CUMULATIVE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

□ Identification of Relevant Cumulative Impacts Sources

Prediction and evaluation of cumulative impacts is not straightforward as it is not always possible to directly combine different types of environmental impacts on an objective basis. Nevertheless, international ESIA best practice recognises that an impact that has cumulative effects is likely to be a more serious concern and should be highlighted.

Cumulative impacts may be broadly defined as impacts that result from the accumulation of a number of individual impacts (European Commission DG XI (1999)). They may result from various types of interaction, including:

- impacts which are the result of the combination of activities associated with this sub-projects of PIUTD together with other development projects;
- impacts that arise from the accumulation of different impacts at a specific location (e.g. construction noise and visual intrusion affecting the same receptor – individually these may not be significant, but the accumulation of different impacts may give rise to an overall significant impact) and
- the accumulation of impacts of the same type at different locations (e.g. non-significant individual ecological impacts at different sites collectively may give rise to an overall significant ecological impact in a route-wide context)

Cumulative impacts result from the successive, incremental and/or combined effects of a project or activity, when added to other past, existing, planned and/or reasonably anticipated future ones. They may occur because, for example, several projects of the same type are being developed in close spatial or temporal proximity.

World Bank ESIA procedures require for the ESIA process to consider cumulative impacts of the project in combination with impacts from other relevant past, present and reasonably foreseeable developments as well as unplanned but predictable activities enabled by the project that may occur later or at a different location.

Based on review of General Local Plan and consultation with Local government representatives, the following known and foreseeable developments in the Berati Municipality are considered:

- Urban Upgrading of Iljaz Vrioni Square (Project 1)
- Requalification of Urban areas in the “Murat Çelebiu” quarter (Project 2)
- Requalification and Reconstruction of urban areas in the “Barrikada” quarter (Project 3)

- ❑ “Street-scape beautification of Antipatrea road” (Project 4)
- ❑ Restauration and maintenance of architectonic view of “Mangalem” quarter (Project 5)
- ❑ Restoration of the historic urban landscape of the Selamllek square (Project 6)
- ❑ Construction of the road “Unaza e re- Godina e SHISH” (Project 7)
- ❑ Rehabilitation of the Gorica Castle trail & establishment of additional tourism opportunities around the monument; (Project 8)

Potential environmental and social impacts caused by a combination of planned projects and the “Regeneration of the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum and Mihal Komneno road” project have been assessed and results are set out in Table 21 below, where an “X” denotes a potential adverse cumulative impact; a “-“ denotes that no potential cumulative impact is expected, while “ * ” denotes a positive cumulative impact.

Table 21. Cumulative Impacts Assessment Matrix

Development Name	Air Quality	Biodiversity	Soils	Water Resources	Noise and Vibration	Visual	Waste	Traffic	Population Influx	Economics	Employment	Livelihoods	Community Health and Safety	Cultural Heritage
Project 1	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	*	*	*	X	-
Project 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-
Project 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-
Project 4	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	*	-	X	-
Project 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-
Project 6	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	*	-	X	-
Project 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Project 8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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VII. ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL MITIGATION MEASURES

7.1. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT MITIGATION MEASURES

This Chapter highlights the necessary mitigation measures that will be adopted to prevent or minimize significant negative environmental, health and safety impacts associated with the activities of the project during its construction, operation and decommissioning phases.

Allocation of responsibilities, time-frame and estimated costs for implementation of these measures are presented in the ESMP in Chapter 8.

7.2. ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL RESIDUAL IMPACTS

As previously established, the assessment of impacts will be resource/receptor led. In the previous sections were presented the following:

- The predicted impacts – the sensitivity of the affected resource/receptor and the magnitude of the potential impact/risk, prior to the implementation of any mitigation measure; and
- Mitigation measures to address the impact / risk – the key measures adopted, as well as a discussion on the various alternatives considered where appropriate

Following the mitigation measurements, below is given the Significance of residual impacts – the significance of any remaining impacts after the incorporation of mitigation, whether not significant, minor, moderate or major (major impacts are likely to be of high stakeholder concern).

Table 22. Negative Impacts and proposed mitigation measures

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS			
Solid Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Potential solid waste generated from the intervention in the sewerage, the underground electric cables, pavement of the streets and restoration of the facades. ◆ Solid waste generated from operation of the facilities by commuters, e.g. plastics, paper, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contractor to establish a solid waste management plan for solid disposal of debris/ garbage at the construction site to be approved by the Project Engineer ◆ All construction waste shall be removed from site when the contractor complete the works ◆ Contractors should do the waste separation and encourage the recycling of appropriate waste ◆ Contractors must make the separation of waste to separate hazardous and non-hazardous waste ◆ Waste should be taken from the square at least once every 24 hours and when temporarily kept in place should be covered to minimize unpleasant odors and parasites. ◆ The Contractor and the Municipality shall work together to facilitate proper disposal and disposal of waste from the project area. All waste should be disposed of in approved dumpsites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Provision of disposal bins at designated areas along the Mihal Komneno road, and Toli Bojaxhiu, Kostaq Stefa, Andrea Tavanxhi and Namik Mehqemeja streets ◆ Regular collection and disposal of garbage by the municipality ◆ Clean storm water drains to minimize clogging
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impact: The implementation of the mitigation measures will result in no residual effect of solid waste 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Soil erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ An increase in paved areas means that there will be more runoff than normal, which will affect the drainage systems, hydrological regimes and storm drains. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Construct efficient drainage structures (culverts, mitre drains, scour checks, etc.) ◆ Protect excavated sections of the route of storm water during heavy rains ◆ Provide erosion channels to natural drains to minimize erosion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular cleaning and proper maintenance /repair of drainage structures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impact: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, residual impacts are negligible 			
Loss of vegetation, flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Loss of vegetation through clearance to pave way for construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Minimize clearing of unnecessary areas at the construction site ◆ Replant vegetation through landscaping upon completion ◆ Where feasible, noise levels during dawn, dusk, and night hours should be minimised to reduce disturbance to mammals and birds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Replenish vegetation at the roads regularly. Proper maintenance of trees and other vegetation along the streets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impact: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, residual impacts are negligible 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Water Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contamination of water resources with oil and fuel spills by construction equipment at construction site ◆ Other construction materials such as paints, bituminous materials and other associated chemicals may also find their way into adjacent streams near the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Incorporate erosion control measures during construction at the site ◆ No oils and fuels should be stored on the construction site – small works ◆ Maintenance, re-fueling and cleaning of equipment should NOT be done at construction site by the contractor – but in a licensed garages outside the project area ◆ No solid waste, fuels or oils shall be discharged on land surface, into drains or streams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Monitor oil spills and other leakages at the station and parking lots ◆ Regular cleaning of oil sumps and storm water drains at the station
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impact: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, residual impacts are negligible 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Air quality, dust and traffic borne emission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Degradation of Air through dust emissions ◆ Air pollution from emissions by construction vehicles and other equipment during their operations ◆ Increased dust and air pollution levels could impact on public health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular watering of access roads and work sites to reduce dust emissions ◆ Vehicles and machinery engines should always be switched off when not in use ◆ Vehicles and equipment should be well maintained to minimize unnecessary emissions and leaks. ◆ Established vehicle tracks and roads should be used to minimize habitat destruction from off-road travel. ◆ Emergency response plans will be in place to mitigate any accidental event. ◆ Adequate materials and product storage and handling practices should be followed to reduce uncontrolled releases. 	

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Noise Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Noise generated during construction activities such as operation of construction equipment, excavations, etc ◆ Increased noise pollution levels could impact on public health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Construction activities should be carried out only during the day to minimize noise levels to the residents ◆ Explosive blasting shall not to be used ◆ Contractor will be careful when selecting equipment to avoid use of old or damaged machinery with high level of noise emissions. ◆ Contractor will ensure that equipment is properly serviced and efficient. ◆ When possible, contractors will cordon off construction site with noise absorbing materials, for example, plywood rather than iron sheets. ◆ Construction workers will be aware of the sensitive nature of workplaces they are operating in and advised to limit verbal noise or other forms of noise. ◆ The contractor shall ensure that noise levels emanating from machinery, vehicles and noisy construction activities are kept at a minimum for the safety, health and protection of people in the nearby buildings. ◆ Noise and vibration will be minimized at the project site and surrounding areas through sensitization of construction truck drivers to switch off vehicle engines while offloading materials. ◆ All generators and heavy duty equipment will be insulated or placed in enclosures to minimize disrupting ambient noise levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Sensitize operators on hooting unnecessarily
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impact: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, no residual impact are expected because of noise vibration 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Social impacts			
Management of the social environment management system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improper management of the implementation of the social environment management system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Appoint an employee in Municipality who will be responsible for managing and monitoring the implementation of mitigation measures, as well as monitoring the programs, and to regularly report to the highest authorities in the company and external stakeholders. ◆ The person must be familiar with the requirements, plans and programs to be achieved during the implementation of the Project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impacts: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, no residual impacts are expected 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Organization of labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Employee information to prevent certain specific types of behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The investor (ADF), as well as the contractor, are obliged to follow the national regulations for safety and health at the workplace ◆ A company code of conduct shall be prepared for employees of a company to inform the employees of the company's expectations. ◆ Codes of Conduct or Codes of Behaviour will be considered as guidelines to prevent certain specific types of behaviour (e.g. conflict of interest, self-dealing, bribery, and inappropriate action). ◆ The code of conduct shall be developed based on the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ • Loyalty (following codes of conducts, commitment to work, commitment to environmental and social, health and safety measures) ◆ • Prohibited behaviours like gambling, drunkenness, and irregular and immoral habits. ◆ This environment and social incidents response toolkit (ESIRT) will be used in case such incidents occur during the implementation of the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impacts: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, no residual impacts are expected 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Private properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Intervention that affect private properties at the boundary of the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be created. The plan shall include Grievance Mechanism, and this will be publicly available. ◆ Since private property is affected, ADF will create appropriate resettlement instrument: RAP or ARAP. ◆ In case of intervention on the façades that are private properties, an agreement will be reached. ◆ A template agreement developed by legal department of ADF which has been used in other similar project will be applied. ◆ In case of damage of private properties, parties should solve the dispute based on understanding and a mutual agreement can be reached. Compensation must be paid in any case. ◆ In case that no agreement is reached, parties should refer to Civil Code of Republic of Albania: Articles 608- 652: Obligation for compensation of damages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
Injury or damage to people and private property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Employees and other people in the area might lose their life as a result of the project construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contractor shall maintain records and making reports concerning health, safety and welfare of persons, and damage to property, ◆ Insuring against liability for any loss, damage, death or bodily injury which may occur to any physical property or to any person which may arise out of the contractor's performance of the contract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impacts: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, no residual impacts are expected 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Disruption of public utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Disruption of water used in the area or reduction in regular flow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contractor to generate utility management plan ◆ Contractor to minimize damage to public utilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contractor to minimize damage to public utilities during routine maintenance
<p>Access problems to pedestrians and vehicle along the Mihal Komneno road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Congestion and disruption of traffic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A pedestrian management plan should be prepared by the contractor in cooperation to ADF ◆ The contractor shall ensure that the roads remain open to traffic during construction activities; ◆ Prior to construction activities, the Contractor will install all signs, barriers and control devices needed to ensure the safe use of the road by traffic and pedestrians, as required by the traffic control plan; ◆ Signs, crossing guards and other appropriate safety features will be incorporated at road crossings; ◆ Local authorities and residents in a working area will be consulted before any detours for construction or diverted public traffic are established; ◆ Disposal sites and haul routes will be identified and coordinated with local officials; ◆ Construction vehicles will use temporary roads constructed for that purpose to minimize damage to local access roads. ◆ Where local roads are used, they will be maintained and reinstated to their original condition after the completion of work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
<p>◆ Residual impacts: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, no residual impacts are expected</p>			
<p>Direct or indirect hazards to pedestrians and retail services</p>	<p>◆ Difficulties walking by and supplying the shops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Implementation of a guardrail system or arrest system in situations that don't allow the use of guardrails. ◆ Implement netting to assure workers they can safely and efficiently do their job ◆ Use the debris netting system to protect those on the ground from falling tools, materials, or other debris, especially the pedestrians walking underneath the scaffolds. ◆ Leave open spaces between the scaffolds that enable entering in the shops 	<p>◆</p>

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Construction workers will be exposed to risks of accidents and injuries as a result of construction activities including use of machines, use of scaffolding for above ground works, metal grinding and cutting, concrete work, steel erection and welding among others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contractor shall provide an Occupational Health and Safety Policy and OHS Plan for the work to be performed at the sites ◆ Provide medical and insurance cover for all workers ◆ In collaboration with local health authorities, ensuring that medical staff, first aid facilities are available at all times at the site ◆ Appoint an Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) officer at the site, with necessary authority and resources to manage OHS issues ◆ Provision of adequate and right safety tools and personal protective equipments (PPEs) to protect and prevent possible injuries to the workers ◆ The site shall be fenced off and provided with security at the access gates to reduce potential accidents and injuries to the public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆

Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Construction workers will be exposed to risks of accidents and injuries as a result of construction activities including use of machines, use of scaffolding for above ground works, metal grinding and cutting, concrete work, steel erection and welding among others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The working areas must be surrounded by warning tapes and signal panels will be positioned at the entrances within the perimeter of the site ◆ The pedestrian circulation plan will be drawn up at the beginning of the works for each point of work by the supervisor on the line of safety and health at work, together with the representatives of the beneficiary and the contractor and will be improved over the work with the indications of the constructors. ◆ The circulation paths, must be calculated, placed and arranged so that they can be used easily, in accordance with their intended purpose. ◆ The circulation paths used by the workers in order to execute the works assigned to them must be maintained free, without irregularities, stable and solid so that the works to be carried out in a safe manner. ◆ During the night the circulation paths, ways of emergency and workstations must be artificially lit properly and sufficiently. ◆ When on the circulation paths risky manoeuvres are executed (turns, lever back etc.) the vehicles or machines will be routed. The persons who are doing this should be placed in areas where they may be seen by the driver of the vehicle and can view the manoeuvring zone in such a way as to prevent access in the area of persons or other equipment. In the case of observation of a danger they will immediately signal and stop the handling / machine. The driver of the vehicle will start/resume manoeuvres only after having received a signal from the person who controls the operation. ◆ It is expressly forbidden to handle motor vehicles or machinery by unqualified people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
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Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Construction workers will be exposed to risks of accidents and injuries as a result of construction activities including use of machines, use of scaffolding for above ground works, metal grinding and cutting, concrete work, steel erection and welding among others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The areas for the parking of the motor vehicles will be signalled in an appropriate manner. The motor vehicles and equipment will be parked only in areas specifically provided for them. While parked these will have the engine stopped and will be properly secured (parking brake or locking method). ◆ The emergency routes and exits must be clear at all times and lead by the most direct means possible to a safe area ◆ In the event of danger, all work stations should be able to be discharged quickly and as safely as possible for the workers. ◆ The number, distribution and size of the emergency routes and exits are determined according to the use, equipment and dimensions of the site and the maximum number of persons that may be present. ◆ Implementing administrative controls into work processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impacts: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, no residual impacts are expected 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Community Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Risk of COVID-19 outbreak among workers and transmission to the community at work requires first assessing the risks, and then implementing the hierarchy of controls. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The contractor should carry out only essential work for the time being; it may be possible to postpone some work to when the risk is lower. ◆ Ensure that only workers who are essential to the job are present at the workplace and minimise the presence of third parties. ◆ The contractor should reduce, as far as possible, physical contact between workers (e.g. during meetings or during breaks). ◆ Isolate workers who can carry out their tasks alone safely and who do not require specialised equipment or machinery that cannot be moved. ◆ The contractor should place an impervious barrier between workers, especially if they are not able to keep a two-metre distance from each other. Barriers can be purpose-made or improvised using items such as plastic sheeting, partitions, mobile drawers, or storage units. ◆ If close contact is unavoidable, keep it to less than 15 minutes. ◆ Soap and water or appropriate hand sanitiser should be supplied at convenient places. Clean your premises frequently, especially counters, door handles, tools and other surfaces that people touch often and provide good ventilation if possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Community Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Disclosed information and stakeholders engaged in the process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Design alternative approaches to engagement that: i) enables two-way communication; ii) prioritizes engagement activities; iii) communicates timely updates; ◆ Prioritize critical engagement activities ◆ Consider virtual and remote alternatives that best meet the objectives of the planned activities; ◆ Based on the analysis of factors such as access to and quality of connectivity, use the social media platforms, mobile phone coverage, internet access, mobile network providers and alternate nonelectronic engagement channels to provide a range of options to meet different stakeholders' needs ◆ Providing alternate secure channels for grievances to protect complainants against potential retaliation. These options should consider factors such as accessibility, confidentiality, privacy, anonymity, digital protections, and secure communication through electronic and nonelectronic methods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Residual impacts: With the implementation of the mitigation measures, no residual impacts are expected 			

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Traffic safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ During construction, there will be some increased danger to workers, motorists, pedestrians, as a result of increased traffic in the area ◆ There will also be risks of accidents from the contractor's vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Initiate a safety program and measures by creating awareness and educational campaigns for workers and local communities ◆ Install appropriate road signage for safety of workers and road users during construction ◆ Install speed signs at high risk areas near the construction site-especially on the access road to the station ◆ Copies of insurance policies for the contractor's drivers and vehicles should be provided to the Supervision Consultant. ◆ The contractor's vehicles and equipment must be in proper working condition and have registration plates, and numbering. ◆ The contractor ensures proper driving discipline by its employees, and sanctions those in breach. ◆ Excavated sites, embankments, and dangerous locations are protected with proper safety barriers, tape and warning signs. ◆ Maintain a log detailing every violation and accident on site or associated with the project work activities, including the nature and circumstances, location, date, time, precise vehicles and persons involved, and follow-up actions with the police, insurance, families, community leaders, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Maintain road and warning signs for road users to the station

Impacts on or due to	Anticipated Impacts / Remarks	Proposed Mitigation during the Design and Construction phases	Proposed Mitigation during the Operation phases
Accidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Construction workers will be exposed to risks of accidents and injuries as a result of construction activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A Traffic Management Plan, which will organize the traffic throughout the city during construction activities, will be prepared and adopted by the contractor. ◆ The traffic management plan will need the approval from Municipality and ADF and its implementation will be supervised by the Municipality ◆ Traffic routes, including stairs, fixed ladders and loading bays and ramps, must be calculated, placed and arranged and be accessible so that they can be used easily, in complete safety and in accordance with their intended purpose and the workers employed in the vicinity of these traffic routes are not exposed to any risk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Minimizing the possibility of damage to archaeological sites and objects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Workers should undergo basic training on the procedure for a randomly discovered archaeological site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Degradation or damage to Mangalem Cultural Heritage Site due to Pollution or Vibration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The contractor should avoid blasting and use of highly producing pollution, noise and vibration during construction activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆

Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Disruption to Visitor Access of Castle and the Ethnographic museum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The working areas must be surrounded by warning tapes and signal panels will be positioned at the entrances within the perimeter of the site ◆ No materials will be stacked outside the perimeter of the site ◆ During the night the circulation paths, ways of emergency and workstations must be artificially lit properly and sufficiently. ◆ The pedestrian circulation plan will be drawn up at the beginning of the works for each point of work by the supervisor, together with the representatives of the beneficiary and the contractor and will be improved over the work with the indications of the constructors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ None
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ During the construction phase, accidental destruction of cultural heritage objects may occur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A Cultural Heritage Management Plan shall be developed for the project before construction works start in line with the provisions of the Law on Protection of Cultural Heritage and international treaties; ◆ The construction works will start only after all relevant permits are provided by the Ministry of Culture; ◆ Training shall be provided to construction workers before the start of works to improve their awareness on the importance of protecting Berati's cultural heritage. ◆ Local UNESCO office shall be informed on the planned interventions into the protected area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
<p>Residual Impacts: With regards to the cultural heritage, following the implementation of the mitigations measures, there will be no residual impact on the Cultural heritage</p>			

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT

8.1. THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) will be implemented by the Contractor in cooperation with ADF and Municipality. The Contractor will also be responsible for developing and implementing a site- specific induction for all construction workers. The Contractor will ensure that all construction workers are trained and competent and hold the appropriate certification for the tasks that they will be undertaking.

In the operational phase, EMSP will be implemented by Municipality with all its structural units.

8.2. SIGNIFICANCE OF ESMP

The purpose of the Environmental and Social Management Plan is to initiate a mechanism for implementing mitigation measures for the potential negative environmental impacts and monitor the efficiency of these mitigation measures based on relevant environmental indicators. The ESMP assigns responsibilities of actions to various actors and provides a timeframe within which mitigation measures can be implemented, supervised and monitored. Further, it provides a checklist for project monitoring and evaluation. The objectives of the ESMP are:

- To provide evidence of practical and achievable plans for the management of the proposed project.
- To provide the Proponent and the relevant Agencies with a framework to confirm compliance with relevant laws and regulations.
- To provide community with evidence of the management of the project in an environmentally acceptable manner.

The ESMP outlined below will address the identified potential negative impacts and mitigation measures on the following project stages:

I. Pre-construction

II. Construction Phases

III. Operation Phase

Table 24 below presents the necessary measurements for mitigation of adverse impact on environment, while Table 25 presents the necessary measurements for mitigation of adverse social impacts.

Table 23. Environmental Management Plan

Areas/ aspects of the environment	Proposed mitigation measures	Objective	Competent institution	Timetable	Costs for implementation
WASTE					
<i>Pre-construction and construction</i>					
General Solid Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of the Waste Management Program in the construction phase. 	Fulfillment of the legal obligations for waste management and protection of the environment and the health of the population	Contractor	Pre- construction	Included in the construction costs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signing agreements with authorized companies for collection, transport and treatment of waste and handing over of waste 	Fulfillment of the legal obligations for waste management	Contractor/Subcontractor/Supervision	Pre- construction and construction	The price will depend on the offers of the authorized waste handlers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement of waste manager expert, which will ensure full implementation of the Program in accordance with the legal obligations 	Fulfillment of the legal obligations for waste management and protection of the media and areas of the environment.	Contractor/Subcontractor/Supervision	Pre- construction and construction	The price will depend on the offer of the waste manager
<i>Operation</i>					

Waste	Placing containers with different colors for disposing of different waste streams,	Protection of the media and areas of the environment and the health of the population	Municipality of Berati	Operation	Depends on the capacity of the containers
	Signing agreements with authorized companies for collection, transport and treatment of waste and handing over of waste	Fulfillment of the legal obligations for waste management and protection of the media and areas of the environment and the health of the population	Municipality of Berat	Operation	The price will depend on the offers of the authorized waste handlers
	Preparation of Waste Management Program in accordance Law on Waste Management.	Fulfillment of the legal obligations for waste management and protection of the media and areas of the environment and the health of the population	Municipality of Berat	Operation	The cost of the measures arising from the Program will be included in the operating costs
SOIL					
<i>Pre-construction and Construction</i>					
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspect the site for potential surface erosion. The surface runoff management will be applied in the entire Mihal Komneno road and four connection streets; Cleaning the channels, culverts/ box culverts and having a good maintenance of drainage system will ensure effective 	Soil and other environmental media and areas protection	ADF	Continuously during the entire construction phase	Included in the construction costs

	<p>protection of the road from erosion and sedimentation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where works are necessary, they will be undertaken in such a way to minimize the occurrence of soil erosion, even for short periods. They will be rehabilitated (greened) as soon as possible. • Stockpiles will not be placed on the site. 				
Operation					
Soil	<p>If there is a risk of serious soil contamination in the event of a major hazard or incident, it is recommended that a detailed analysis and assessment of the scope and intensity of contamination be carried out, and in accordance with the findings, to propose a Remediation Plan for contaminated soils or replace the contaminated soil with a new uncontaminated soil and store it in special landfills.</p>	Soil and other environmental media and areas protection	ADF	Operation	It depends on the pollution scope, the parameters to be analyzed.
Soil	<p>Continuous monitoring of possible erosion, maintenance of vegetation and, if required, increase of green areas, maintenance of facilities, etc.</p>	Soil and other environmental media and areas protection	ADF	Continuously during the entire operational phase	
BIODIVERSITY-PLANT SPECIES					
Pre-construction and construction					
Flora and Fauna	<p>♦ Minimize clearing of unnecessary areas at the construction site</p>	Protection of biodiversity, i.e. plant species with	Independent expert engaged by	Construction	The cost of the measures will be

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Replant vegetation through landscaping upon completion • Where feasible, noise levels during dawn, dusk, and night hours should be minimised to reduce disturbance to mammals and birds. 	conservation significance and increasing the green areas	the contractor of construction work		included in the construction costs
WATER REGIMES					
Construction					
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working site run-offs with possible charge with suspended matter should be filtered before discharging to natural flows. • Install leak control equipment. Have a leak control mechanism in place (bunds, leak proof containers, containment systems, etc.) and emergency interventions/procedures to control spills. • The site will establish appropriate water and sediment control measures to prevent water sediment from moving off site and causing excessive turbidity in the channel. • There will be no discharge of wastewaters to natural recipients without a prior treatment. • On site painting or applying protection coatings should be done in the way that annuls the risk of leaking or spilling to waters (e.g. using trays). • Sanitary facilities will be provided for workers and no wastewater will be discharged to the natural recipient. 	Protection of waters and other environmental media and areas	Contractor/ Supervision in cooperation with project beneficiaries	Construction and operational phase	The costs will be determined additionally, based on additional project documentation

	• There will be no unauthorized use of water resources. The exploitation will require obtaining a special permit from the competent authorities.				
Waters	Regular control and maintenance of the drainage and stormwater systems (channels, culverts, etc.), as well as the application of good operational practice.	Protection of waters and other media and areas of the environment	ADF	Continuously during the operational phase	Operating costs
NOISE					
<i>Pre-construction</i>					
Noise	A noise management plan in the construction phase, which will envisage appropriate measures for noise reduction and its implementation	Protection of sensitive receptors and fulfillment of legal obligations	Contractor	Pre- construction	The cost of the measures that will emerge from the Plan will be included in the construction costs
<i>Construction</i>					
Noise	Setting of permanent sound barriers or sound insulation of the affected objects	Protection of sensitive receptors and fulfillment of legal obligations	Contractor/ Subcontractor/ Supervision	During construction	
AIR QUALITY, TRAFFIC & ASSOCIATED EMMISIONS					
<i>Pre-construction</i>					
Air quality	Preparation of:	Protection of ambient air	Contractor	Pre- construction	The cost of the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for the organization of the construction site; Traffic Management Plan. 	and fulfillment of legal obligations			measures arising from the plans will be included in the construction costs
Construction					
Air quality	<p>Minimizing the dust generated during transport of cobblestones, aggregate or other materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wet or covered truck load. Unload trucks while preventing dusting, e.g. avoid free-falling and use dust protection sheets. Sites must be maintained in tidy condition, Keep drop height to the minimum. 	Protection of ambient air and fulfillment of legal obligations	Contractor	Construction	Costs are included in construction costs
Air quality	<p>Minimizing air pollution and noise from machinery on site, transport and combustion on site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not allow vehicles or machinery to idle on site. Use attested and proper equipment only. No open burning or combustion of any sort is allowed on site. 	Protection of ambient air and fulfillment of legal obligations	Contractor	Construction	Costs are included in construction costs
Air quality	Setting a protective fence around construction sites at sensitive locations (in settlements)	Protection of ambient air and sensitive receptors	Contractor/Supervision	Continuously during the construction phase, at sensitive locations	Costs are included in construction costs
VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS					
Construction					

Visual characteristic	Revitalization / rehabilitation of disturbed locations (areas) should be carried out immediately after the completion of the construction work at the specific locations and in accordance with the project documentation prepared for this purpose	Protection of the visual characteristics of the landscape	Contractor/Supervision controlled by competent inspection authorities	Continuously during the construction phase	Included in the construction costs
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Table 24. Social Management Plan

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
Improper management of the implementation of the social environment management system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint an employee in Municipality who will be responsible for managing and monitoring the implementation of mitigation measures, as well as monitoring the programs, and to regularly report to the highest authorities in the company and external stakeholders. 	Successful organization and management of the negative impacts of the project, as well as the undertaken obligations related to the project.	ADF Municipality	Pre-construction	Operating costs of the company

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
Delay in the implementation of the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement must be carefully planned and carried out, so that the realization of the investment is not delayed The developer must start early consultations with all potentially interested companies that can engage in construction work. The developer must either allocate staff or hire an experienced external associate that will prepare all necessary documents and procedures before the tender is announced. 	<p>Timely internal organization and selection of the most suitable contractor who will be able to implement the received tasks within the given deadline.</p> <p>The external person will be unbiased in the assistance that should be provided to the developer.</p>	ADF	Pre-construction	Operating costs of the company
Access problems and Traffic disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The contractor shall ensure that the roads remain open to traffic during construction activities; Prior to construction activities, the Contractor will install all signs, barriers and control devices needed to ensure the safe use of the road by traffic and pedestrians, as required by the traffic control plan; Signs, crossing guards and other appropriate safety features will be incorporated at road crossings; Local authorities and residents in a working area will be consulted before any detours for construction or diverted public traffic are established; 	Provide continuous access to the road and reduce traffic disruption and congestion	ADF Berati local police Contractor Municipality	Pre-construction	Operating costs of the company

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Disposal sites and haul routes will be identified and coordinated with local officials; 				
Community involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realization of a series of consultative activities with stakeholders. A mechanism for grievance and complaints must be created, and it should be publicly available in every affected settlement, at the Berati City Hall. • Drafting a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) that will be developed in accordance with good international practice that WB promote • Organization of a office that will serve as an information office of the project. It will be a public location where all information and documents related to the project will be available to the public. 	Reduce the negative impacts of the project, but also the negative attitude towards the project and better and timely information of stakeholders concerned.	Consultant/ADF Contractor	Pre-construction	Operating costs of the consultant
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 				
Community involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain an open communication channel with stakeholders and project stakeholders in the construction phase. • The consultant must regularly hold meetings with representatives of local populations and other interested stakeholders. 	Maintaining contact with affected communities	Contractor/ADF	Construction	Operating costs of the company

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
Problems related to the organization of the workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of the Employment Plan for the needs of the project, in cooperation with the Berati Municipality Employment office, with a special emphasis on engaging the local workforce and reducing the pressure from losing qualified personnel at the other economic entities in the Municipality 	<p>Engaging the available local workforce</p> <p>Minimizing the potential adverse economic effects</p>	Contractor	Pre-construction	Operating costs of the company
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The developer must implement the Occupational Safety and Health Management System (OHSMS). Occupational Safety and Health Plan (OSHP) of temporary and mobile construction sites with implemented grievance mechanism for workers, as well as a statement of safety with risk assessment for construction site workplaces 	Minimizing the negative risks to the health and safety of workers, as well as the society	ADF Contractor	Pre-construction. Construction	Operating costs of the company
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proper training of employees for using, servicing and integrity of PPE (personal protection equipment). Use of anti-fall devices. 	Minimizing the risks to the safety and health of workers	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training and licensing of industrial vehicle operators for safe handling of specialized vehicles such as forklifts, including safe (un)loading, load limits, and regular control of their health, in accordance with the Law. 	Minimizing the risks to the safety and health of workers	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and application of procedures for protection of the health and safety of local communities. • Plan for the organization of a construction site in order to respond to the unfortunate and urgent cases in a manner appropriate to the construction risks • Safe pedestrian and traffic corridors through the construction site marked with visible signs, but also communicated with the representatives of the local communities, as well as the schools. • Creation and implementation of a Campaign for the safety of the population during the construction 	Minimizing the risks to the population	Contractor	Pre-construction, Construction	<p>2000 EUR for the Plan for organization of a construction site</p> <p>The remaining costs are unknown at this stage of the project</p>

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
Direct or indirect hazards to pedestrians and retail services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of a guardrail system or arrest system in situations that don't allow the use of guardrails. • Implement netting to assure workers they can safely and efficiently do their job • Use the debris netting system to protect those on the ground from falling tools, materials, or other debris, especially the pedestrians walking underneath the scaffolds. • Leave open spaces between the scaffolds that enable entering in the shops 	Easily access to main services and minimizing the risk of offering them	Contractor	Pre-construction, Construction	The remaining costs are unknown at this stage of the project

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
Problems related to workers' behavior towards the local environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terms of labor rights, all workers (including contractors and subcontractors) will have contracts with clearly expressed rights and conditions for their employment, and their legal rights. Contracts will be explicitly explained to all workers when necessary to ensure that workers understand their rights. Contracts must be concluded before the commencement of the working activities. All workers (including contractors and subcontractors) will be able to join trade unions of their choice and have the right to collective negotiations. 	Reducing the risks associated with the workforce, and the attitude of workers	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Problems related to workers' behavior towards the local environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All employees, must sign a Code of Conduct, which should be accessible and visible, and each employee must understand the weight of the document and the consequences it brings if it violates it. 	Reducing the risks associated with the workforce, and the attitude of workers	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Community Safety and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and full implementation of the Traffic Management Plan in the settlements, actively communicated with the stakeholders from the affected settlements and the local public. 	Reducing the traffic jams and the risks of road accidents	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All critical points that must be covered by the plan must have the appropriate traffic signalization during the construction phase and the speed limit that will correspond to the newly occurred situation. The notification of the existence of the plan must be communicated in a timely manner with the local communities, and publicly displayed in the municipality and the premises of the project's information office 				
Community Safety and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings with the local population, where all the negative consequences of the project will be explained, in particular a review will be given of the noise, the frequency of vehicles and workers, as well as the safety of the population during the upcoming period of construction activities in the immediate vicinity of their homes. 	Minimizing the disturbance of the local population due to noise from construction activities	Contractor and ADF	Construction	Operating costs of the company
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 				
Community Safety and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public availability of the timeframes of construction activities, especially for each Sub-projects, to reduce the impact that stems from the lack of availability of desired destinations. Engaging an appropriate % of the workforce for this project from the entire project area, with a special advantage given to the 	Informed local community	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
Community Safety and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record the baseline scenario of all houses located in the project area, and document the situation that will serve for proper compensation of possible damages caused by the vibrations generated in the construction phase. 	Minimizing the potential risk of causing negative social impacts related to housing	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Community Safety and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In case of interruption of access to communal infrastructure, the contractor is obliged to service the interruption as soon as possible or to provide an alternative approach. The Contractor will compensate for any damages incurred. 	Successful organization and management of the negative impacts of the project, as well as the undertaken obligations related to the project.	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Community Safety and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A communication and information channel must be established between the contractor and the local authorities and the affected communities, at the very beginning of the construction phase. It should be maintained until the very completion of the construction activities. 	Reducing the harmful consequences on the local population	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide special training for workers for handling flammable materials and protection and fire prevention. 	Minimizing the risks to the safety and health of workers	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proper training of employees for using, servicing and integrity of PPE (personal protection equipment). Use of anti-fall devices. 	Minimizing the risks to the safety and health of workers	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of specially designed machines that eliminate the danger of a trap (when workers are nearby or work with rotating and moving equipment), as well as ensuring that the limbs are secured from danger of injury under normal operating conditions. 	Minimizing the risks to the safety and health of workers	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training and licensing of industrial vehicle operators for safe handling of specialized vehicles such as forklifts, including safe (un)loading, load limits, and regular control of their health, in accordance with the Law. 	Minimizing the risks to the safety and health of workers	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Chance finding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workers should undergo basic training on the procedure for a randomly discovered archaeological site. 	Minimizing the possibility of damage to archaeological/ cultural sites and objects	Contractor	Construction	Operating costs of the company
Private Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be created. The plan shall include Grievance Mechanism, and this will be publicly available. ◆ Since private property is affected, ADF will create appropriate resettlement instrument: RAP or ARAP. ◆ In case of intervention on the façades that are private properties, an agreement will be reached. 	Minimize property related impacts	ADF	Pre-construction	Operating costs of the company Additional costs related to resettlement, not known at this stage

Social Impact/Area/ Issue	Mitigation Measures	Objective	Competent Institution	Timetable	Cost of Implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A template agreement developed by legal department of ADF which has been used in other similar project will be applied. ◆ In case of damage of private properties, parties should solve the dispute based on understanding and a mutual agreement can be reached. Compensation must be paid in any case. ◆ In case that no agreement is reached, parties should refer to Civil Code of Republic of Albania: Articles 608- 652: Obligation for compensation of damages. 				

8.3. STRUCTURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The institutional responsibility for the implementation of this ESIA falls on ADF and the Municipality of Berat. One of the key ADF roles will be the review of consultants' reports on EMSP compliance. Other roles will be:

- Monitoring the implementation of mitigation actions by contractors
- Coordination of trainings and capacity building, when planned
- Periodic reporting on the implementation of ESMP

Berat Municipality should ensure that all its personnel involved in the implementation of this ESIA have the necessary qualifications and have been appointed on the basis of their qualification and suitability for relevant roles, as no trainings have been provided for them in this ESIA.

Berat Municipality will require contractors to fully implement this ESIA and contractors should designate an Environmental Specialist who will oversee the environment during construction. However, in case the contractor does not have an Environmental Specialist, the supervising engineer or building site manager should be trained on important environmental issues for this ESIA so that he also plays the role of overseeing environmental issues when required. In addition, the Municipality should designate a specialist to represent the client's environmental objectives and interests during the construction phase. The basic employment criterion for such a person is to have a background in environmental issues, in particular related to construction projects.

In Berat, environmental inspectors from the Regional Environmental Agency (ARM) of Berati are responsible for overseeing environmental protection on behalf of the Environment Protection Agency (EPA). They will also have the role of the monitors during the implementation of this ESIA and the associated ESMP. Based on their professional knowledge or recommendations in this ESIA, local environmental officials may play a role in project design as consultants for consultant engineers in different aspects.

IX. MONITORING AND REPORTING

The monitoring will verify whether the predicted impacts have actually occurred and check whether the mitigation actions recommended in the ESIA and ESMP, accordingly, have been implemented in total and what their effectiveness is. Monitoring will also identify unforeseen impacts that may arise from project implementation.

Who monitors and how: The monitoring will be carried out by Berat Municipality and Environmental Inspectorates of the Regional Environmental Agency (REA) Berat representing EPA. Monitoring by REA in this case can be considered as "Monitoring by a third party" but this is its regulatory mandate in accordance with DCM No. 47, dated 29.01.2014 "On the definition of a regulation on the organization and functioning of the National Environmental Agency and Regional Environmental Agencies".

A government agency that can undertake "Monitoring by a third party" is the State Labor Inspectorate. This unit has the authority to inspect any structure for enforcing legality for workplace safety.

Monitoring will be done through inspection, review of complaints registered by interested parties and "ad hoc" discussions with potentially affected persons (construction workers, residents near the project area, etc.).

Frequency: Monitoring will be carried out every month throughout the intervention period.

Audits: Audits will be needed both during construction and during project operation. While construction audits will aim at verifying compliance with the requirements for mitigation measures of impact, post-construction audits are a legal requirement and should be performed as a rule within 12 months but not later than 36 months after completion of construction.

Both construction and post-construction audits can be internal (carried out by the Municipality of Berat) or external (by a consultant engaged by the Municipality).

Reporting: The Municipality should prepare monthly monitoring reports. These reports should be shared with stakeholders. The municipality may allocate its audit reports during the construction and post-construction phase with KTA or other interested stakeholders but has no obligation to disclose audits at the construction stage.

Table 25. Monitoring plan

Phase	What (Parameter will be monitored?)	Where (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	How (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	When (Define the frequency / or continuity?)	Why (Is the parameter being monitored?)	Cost (If not included in project budget)	Who (Is responsible for monitoring?)
During activity preparation	All required permits are obtained before works start.	At Berati municipality	Inspection of all required documents	Before works start	To ensure the legal aspects of the rehabilitation activities	-	Contractor; Supervisor of the construction works; Construction inspector; Contract Manager
	Public and relevant institutions are notified	Contractor's premises	Inspection of all necessary documents	Before works start	To ensure public awareness	-	Contractor; Supervisor of the construction works
	Safety measures for workers, employees and visitors	On site	Visual checks and reporting	Before works start	To prevent health and safety risks – mechanical injuries and to provide safe access and mobility	-	Contractor, Supervisor of the construction works
	Technical progress and implementation of mitigation measures, compliance with Albanian E&S	All areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observations during normal activities - Inspections - Monthly reports and incident reports 	Continuous or as necessary	Verify implementation of mitigation measures		Supervision Consultant

	law, World Bank ESF						
	Waste management	On site	Waste is separately collected and disposed in line with the national regulation;	Continuously, i.e. during operation	Required by series of regulation on waste	Part of the regular operation costs	Contractor, Supervisor of the construction works REA
	Collection, transport and final disposal of the solid waste	At and around the site	Waste accompanying documentation that is submitted to REA in which type and quantities of the waste are identified	Daily level after the collection and transportation of the solid waste	Do not leave the solid waste on the construction site and to avoid negative impact to the local environment and the local inhabitants' health	-	Contractor, Supervisor of the construction works.
	Sanitary water collection	On site; standard parameters	Visual observation; use of kit tests; samples when required by competent authorities	Based on which authorized company is called for cleaning	To prevent accidents	Part of the regular contractor cost	Supervising engineer costs, Inspection
	Level of noise	At and around the site	Monitoring on the level of noise dB (with suitable equipment) in two points in	Upon complaint or inspection finding	To determine whether the level of noise is above or below the permissible level of noise	-	Contractor, Supervisor of the construction works, Accredited company for measuring

			eastern and western part				the level of provided by the contractor;
	Air pollution parameters of dust, particulate matter	Particulate matters, dust at the site	Visual observation; measuring air quality (PM10) in the case of complains	Continuous on a daily basis, however special attention should be put during transport of material and excavation works	To keep the dust level at minimum to protect health and prevent irritations and to keep visibility for safety purposes	Contractor bears full cost, usually is not identified as separate category in bill of costs	Site supervising engineer, Municipality
	Flora and fauna/ trees	On site/ along Mihal Komneno road and 4 connected streets	Surveys, visual observation	Spot checks	Verify surveys are identifying species of concern, mature trees, natural habitat		Contractor E&S manager & specialists
	Vibration	Sensitive receptors	Vibration meter recording for 24hrs (follow testing equipment specifications for use)	Weekly, for a full day (24h period)	Construction activities can create vibration (damage, property, disturb fauna...)	To be covered by the contractor	Contractor
	Provision of uniforms and protective gear to the contractor's personnel and	Construction site	Inspection of the activities	Entire period of construction	Reduce the probability of accidents		Contractor

	enforcement of their use by contractor; Consistency with the rules of exploitation of the construction equipment and usage of private safety means						
During activity implementation	Safe traffic flow	On site	Visual checks and reporting	During equipment delivery and works along the road	To ensure coordinated traffic flow	-	Contractor, Supervisor of the construction works
	Work safety	On site	Visual checks and reporting; Unannounced inspections during work	Unannounced controls during work	To prevent health and safety risks – mechanical injures and to provide safe access and mobility	-	Contractor, Supervisor of the construction works, Contract Manager
	Site is well organized: fences, warnings, sign postage in place, as needed.	On site	Inspection	Unannounced controls during work	To prevent accidents	-	Contractor, Supervisor of the construction works, Contract Manager

	Worker grievance register	Work sites and records office	Review of register	Weekly	Verify grievances are being recorded and resolved	-	Contractor, and PM
	Grievance handling and resolution	Work sites and records office	Interviews of managers responsible for resolution and with complaining workers	Before monthly progress meeting	Verify grievances are being addressed properly	-	Contractor, supervisors
	Stakeholder grievance register	Records office	Review of register	Weekly	Verify grievances are being recorded and resolved		Contractor HR manager and PM
	Grievance handling and resolution	Community	Interviews of selected stakeholders who submitted grievances and with persons responsible for addressing	Before monthly progress meetings	Verify grievances are being addressed properly		Contractor E&S manager, social specialist
	Worker behavior in communities	Community	Reviews of grievance log Interviews with community leaders	Quarterly	Determine need for training/dismissals/ etc.		Contractor, social specialists
	Project area residents and business	Community	Reviews of grievance log	Quarterly	Identify community issues		Social specialist

	satisfaction with project						
	Traffic disruption and limitation of pedestrian access	At and around the construction site Construction supervisor	Inspection	In the course of construction works	Prevent traffic accidents; Limit nuisance to local residents		Supervising engineer
	Hazard to public traffic and pedestrian safety	On site and on roads permitted to use for accessing site, traffic plans	Visual observation and potential complains from the public	Daily checking the signs, fences, accesses and traffic signalization and patterns	To prevent traffic disruption and accidents	Part of the regular contractor costs	Supervising engineer costs, Inspection, Consultants
	Architectural artifacts/Cultural heritage	On site visual assessment	Full supervision by site supervising engineer during excavation works; daily supervision of cultural heritage expert.	During excavation works for foundations	To prevent degradation of potential archeologically important artifacts	Part of the supervising engineer and contractor cost	Supervising site engineer. Municipality, Inspection
	Information sharing and Grievance redress	Construction site and/or nearby buildings which facades will be refurbished	In person, by mail, phone or other means (with records) Evidence of GRM	Prior to beginning of construction works (min 2 weeks)	Minimize nuisance to local population, give opportunity for questions and feedback		Information available on accessible place

		Construction site. Nearby settlement and buildings	Evidence of GRM information available on accessible place Evidence of grievance log and timely response/resolution of feedback and complaints	Throughout the duration of the sub-project	Ensure that questions and grievances are addressed in a timely manner		Evidence of grievance log and timely response/resolution of feedback and complaints
	Disruption of Public Utilities	On site and on roads	Visual observation and potential complains from the public	Daily checking the water pipelines, waste-water sewage, other cables	To prevent public utilities disruption	Part of the regular contractor costs	Supervising engineer costs, Inspection, Consultants
During activity supervision	Waste management	On site	Visual report from supervision.	Control after completion of the activity.	To make sure the wasted material is treated properly based on the respective law	-	Contractor, Supervisor of the construction works

VIII. CONCLUSION

This action envisages the improvement of the walkability and public spaces along the Mihal Komneno road and surroundings, in particular in the area of the Ethnographic Museum and in the linkage between Mihal Komneno road and the Selamlık of the Vrioni Family, through Mangalem.

This area has a highly significant strategic location for the image of the city and its upgrading will ensure consistency of authentic patterns and rehabilitates pieces throughout the historic center and within its linkage with the modern town. The project will allow a significant refurbishment of the street with pedestrian-friendly improvements to ensure pedestrian safety and restore visual integrity within the buffer zone in the eastern area, both considering the horizontal and vertical components of the public realm.

Key environmental significant negative impacts during construction phase will arise from waste handling and management, increase on air pollutions and noise. During operational phase, most of the impact will be positive, such as increase of real estate value of the area, increase the number of businesses operating in the area, etc.

The assessment also found that the Project is unlikely to cause any major social impacts. The Project does not involve any physical and economic displacement of families. The positive social impacts identified include employment and business opportunities for the local people. On the other hand, the possible negative impacts include risks of injuries and accidents to workers and members of the public; disturbance from noise and vibration due to construction activities, among others. Most of the adverse impacts are short-term or temporary and will be more felt during the construction phase of the project. However, most of them can be mitigated with appropriate mitigation measures built in as part of the Project planning process.

Environmental monitoring is essential to track and sustain the effectiveness of the mitigation measures proposed in this report. An environmental monitoring plan has been prepared as part of the ESMP, to be used during the implementation of the proposed project. The focus areas of monitoring cover air, noise, water, waste, occupational health and safety as well as local employment and economy. The burden of mitigation largely lies with the Project Contractor under supervision by the ADF.

All potential adverse impacts are litigable when measures proposed (Chapter 7) are implemented, in which case benefits of this project to the municipality of Berat would by far outweigh potential negative effect.

ANNEX 1: CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN**1. OVERVIEW**

Project construction activities have the potential to result in negative impacts on both tangible and nontangible cultural heritage, which can be held as highly valuable within local communities and often also at a regional level.

The Project seeks to proactively manage, avoid or limit any negative impacts on cultural heritage on the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum of Berat and to this effect has included specific obligations regarding cultural heritage in the tender documents issued to potential Contractors.

1.1. Scope

Cultural Heritage Management Plan of Sub-Project P. 09: **“P09 “Regeneration of the area surrounding the Ethnographic Museum and Mihal Komneno road”** encompasses all Project-related activities associated with the management of findings, which are identified as Cultural Heritage items. The Plan will be implemented during all phases of the Project.

The focus of this Plan is on impacts that can take place through physical disturbances. That said, this Plan does attempt to consider impacts to cultural heritage that can occur through indirect community exposure to disruptive behaviors, influences, non-native cultures, new forms of communication, new technologies, non-traditional forms of livelihood, and the anticipated influx of Project-induced in-migrants.

The Plan has been established in an attempt to minimize impact to the area's unique cultural heritage from Project activities. Potential risks and mitigation measures were compiled through the risk assessment process combined with experiences gained from recent projects in areas of unique cultural heritage.

For the purpose of this Plan's development, the following definitions of cultural heritage are used:

- ❑ Tangible forms of cultural heritage, such as tangible moveable or immovable objects, property, sites, structures, or groups of structures, having archaeological (prehistoric), paleontological, historical, cultural, artistic, and religious values
- ❑ Unique natural features or tangible objects that embody cultural values,

such as sacred groves, rocks, lakes, and waterfalls

- ❑ Certain instances of intangible forms of culture that are proposed to be used for commercial purposes, such as cultural knowledge, innovations, and practices of communities embodying traditional lifestyles

1.2. Objectives

The objectives of the Cultural Heritage Management Plan are to:

- ❑ To avoid damages or alteration of the authentic elements or materials of the Cultural heritage site.
- ❑ Where avoidance is not possible, manage cultural heritage sites in compliance with the requirements of Albanian laws and regulations, World Bank Operational Policy OP 4.11 (Physical Cultural Resources) but also International Charters, including UNESCO-s resolutions on Cultural Heritage.
- ❑ Keep informed the local community and work closely with the local responsible institutions as to avoid possible complaints related to impacts to culture heritage assets.
- ❑ Avoid or minimize project delays by designing and planning as per the regulation in force and project requirements,
- ❑ Define the roles and responsibilities for implementing the Plan.

1.3. Key Policies and Legislation

Law No. 27/2018, dated 17.05.2018 “On Cultural Heritage and Museums” is the primary legal framework governing the management of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in Albania. The Law aims to promulgate and protect the cultural heritage in the territory of the Republic of Albania.

This Law, in relation to the field of territorial planning and development, defines inter alia:

- ❑ the cases of construction in public or private properties, which must obtain written approval from the National Council of Restorations and the National Council of Archaeology;
- ❑ cases of excavations, restorations, uses and any other action in the cultural monuments, as well as any alteration on the ground under their protection, to be done with the authorization of the National Council of Restoration, Archaeological Institute, Archaeological Service Agency;

□ the rules and types of constructional interventions in the Museum Areas, museum ensembles, historical centers, archaeological parks.

According to the law:

-The state ensures cultural heritage preservation, safeguarding, assessment and management pursuant to provisions laid down hereunder and in the legislation in force.

-Central state authorities and local self-government units coordinate the work, and correlate, approximate and integrate activities with the ultimate goal to ensure cultural heritage preservation, safeguarding, assessment and management, and to provide the conditions for its public accessibility.

-The state adopts measures for cultural heritage preservation from natural disasters and armed conflicts.

Pursuant to Article 42 of the Law, Immovable cultural heritage safeguarding in the context of territory planning and development Immovable cultural heritage safeguarding in the context of territory planning and development shall include:

- a) preservation regimes pursuant the provisions of this law;
- b) detailed plans in national significance heritage sites, aimed at preserving immovable cultural properties, and relevant specific rules;
- c) immovable cultural property management plans;
- ç) general review of development permits and relevant documentation for projects, project investment initiatives, and intervention projects in protected areas, with the aim of preserving immovable cultural heritage and supervising their implementation.

In addition, following is a list of the key additional Albanian legislation related to cultural heritage:

Law No. 9490, dated 13.3.2006 “On the ratification of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage”

Law No.9806, dated 17.9.2007 “On the Accession of the Republic of Albania to the European Convention “On the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage” (revised)

Decision of Council of Ministers No. 625, dated 04.09.2019 “On the approval of the rules of administration of cultural assets and the functioning of legal entities in order to evaluate and revitalize cultural assets”.

Decision of Council of Ministers No. 433, dated 26.06.2019 “On the functioning and the manner of activity development of the National Center of Traditional Activities”.

Decision of Council of Ministers No. 767, 2014, and the regulation “For the protection, integrated conservation and administration of Berat’s historic centre and the surrounding buffer zone”.

1.4. Project’s activities impacting the Cultural heritage

The Project's activities, in particular those that alter the land surface or restrict access to areas, have the potential to cause direct impacts to Berat municipality cultural heritage. This applies to the following Project activities (but not limited to):

- Restoration of Façades along the Mihal Komneno road, Toli Bojaxhi, Namik Mehqemeja, Andrea Tavanxhi and Kostaq Stefa streets.
- Vegetation removal
- Excavation
- Pavement construction

2. KEY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

An integrated approach to cultural heritage management involves a range of stakeholders, including ADF, Contractor, local authorities of Berati Municipality, regulatory agencies (CHRD - cultural heritage regional directorate of Berat), museums and the general public. Effective cultural heritage management therefore requires robust processes regarding information dissemination, training, designation of responsibility, management actions, monitoring, control, and remedial actions.

An initial delegation of activities between key stakeholders is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1. Initial Delegation of Activities

Activities	ADF	RDNC of Berati	Municipality	Contractor
Planning	X	X	X	
Dissemination of information	X	X	X	X
Management of cultural heritage impacts	X	X	X	X

Chance finds implementation	X	X		X
Professional training	X	X		
Monitoring and control	X	X	X	X
Corrective actions	X	X	X	X
Management of cooperation	X	X		

2.1. ADF/PIU Role and responsibilities

1. Approval of this Cultural Heritage Management Plan and of the resources for implementation
2. Coordinate the process of obtaining permits before the start of the implementation works
3. Assist the contractor in communication with Institutions.
4. Coordinate the agreement process with the property owners
5. Keep the community informed during all the processes of the project

2.2. Municipality Role and responsibilities

1. Plan and undertake the necessary procedures for moving the objects of the museums in a safe place
2. Follow the implementation works and assure the works are implemented as per approved projects

2.3. Ministry of Culture and subordinate institutes

Subordinate institutes: National Institute of Cultural Heritage (NICH), National Center for the Inventory of Cultural Assets (NCICA), Regional Directorate of National Heritage (RDNH), National UNESCO representatives.

1. Approve the interventions concepts
2. Supervise the implementation of restoration works and assure that all works are implemented as per the approved project

3. Assist the Contractor in providing specific cultural heritage training for those non-cultural heritage specialist designated as monitors or 'spotters' who shall observe activities

Supervise the implementation of restoration and assure that all works are implemented as per the approved project

2.5. Contractor Roles and Responsibilities

Contractor(s) are required to implement field-based inspection programs that will demonstrate implementation of, and in some instances the effectiveness of, the requirements found in this Plan. Contractor is responsible for supporting the implementation of the Plan and following its provisions. As part of these requirements, Contractor shall:

- Provide cultural heritage awareness training to staff with the potential to encounter tangible or intangible cultural heritage resources during their day-to-day activities.
- Provide specific cultural heritage training for those non-cultural heritage specialist designated as monitors or 'spotters' who shall observe activities with the objective of identifying any artefacts or cultural heritage sites
- Utilize cultural heritage monitors to observe construction activities
- Identify and report potential chance finds to Contractor's Licensed Cultural Heritage Specialist/Archaeologist;
- Regularly communicate planned construction activities to ADF's Environmental/ Social Specialist to allow for cultural heritage monitoring activities
- Managing documents referred to in this CHMP.

Cultural Heritage Management Committee

It is recommended that a Cultural Heritage Management Committee (the Committee) be formed to manage cultural heritage issues before, during and at the completion of the project. This committee should be based on open consultation between the Mangalemi inhabitants, ADF, Cultural Heritage Regional Directorate of Berati, and at the second stage, of Contractor. There are possible structures and functions that could be recommended, provided that the result is agreed by all parties and is workable. ADF is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the CHMP throughout all facets of its activities. Specific responsibilities are outlined below.

Membership

1. One member representing the Mangalemi community (preferably Mihal Komneno road or connected streets);
2. One member representing ADF. This may include managers, environment or heritage staff;
3. One member representing the Regional Directorate of National Heritage of Berati;
4. One member representing the Berati Municipality.
5. A cultural heritage specialist (representing the contractor).

The chair of the committee should be selected from the membership and be a person with the confidence of all members. The processes guiding the committee should follow an established constitution and the rules of normal business practice.

Aims and Objectives

The Committee should be an advisory group with the following aims and objectives:

- To minimise impacts on cultural heritage values during the life of the project; and,
- To fulfil the legal obligations of all parties under the law “On cultural Heritage and Museums”

Table 26. Possible impacts to Cultural Heritage (movable and immovable)

Type of Heritage asset	Direct Impacts	Indirect Impacts
Cultural Heritage Monuments (Old houses), streets of Mangalemi, Caste, historical landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alteration of their historical Character• Damages to the old historic houses and cobble stone paved alleyways.• Use of machineries during landscape restoration of the riverfront.• Excavations• Paths restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited access to their properties (for the house owners)• Limited access for the visitors, tourist and the community to the Ethnographic museum and Berati castle• Decrease of incomes for the businesses in the area due to lack of tourist and visitors.

3. MANAGEMENT, MITIGATION, AND MONITORING

A range of management actions (and other mitigation measures) are required to be implemented in respect of cultural heritage management. The specific management actions and measures required are described in Table 3 of this CHMP.

Monitoring provisions for this Cultural Heritage Management Plan have been developed through the following process as detailed within Table 2:

Table 3. Approaches to Monitoring

Objective	Approach
Risk Based	Monitoring programs to address material issues base on the use of the ‘source- pathway-receptor’ approach in the ESIA. These are commensurate with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the scale and nature of the activity,• the assessed potential level of impact (and uncertainty thereof), and• the sensitivity of the local environment within the activity area of influence
Compliance Based	Addition monitoring programs to meet specific regulatory needs.

Following this approach, the proposed monitoring plans should meet any specific requirements of the Albanian authorities. The specific monitoring requirements for this Cultural Heritage CESMP are presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Mitigation Measures & Management Actions

Ref	Topic	Location	Requirement	Responsibility	Verification Process
CH001	Approval	All Area	Approval of the intervention concepts of the project	Ministry of Culture/ RDNH/ NCICA	Inspection
CH002	Approval	All Area	Approval of the detailed project	Ministry of Culture/ RDNH/ NCICA	Inspection
CH003	Access	All Area	Public access to cultural heritage sites (churches, traditional houses, etc.) will be maintained at all times during the works.	Contractor	Visual inspection
CH004	Supervise	Mihal Komneno road, Toli Bojaxhi, Namik Mehqemeja, Andrea Tavanxhi and Kostaq Stefa streets	Supervision of the implementation of restoration works and assuring that all works are implemented as per the approved project	Ministry of Culture/ RDNH/ NCICA	Inspection
CH005	Best practices	All Area	Contractor will follow best practices to avoid direct physical disturbance of or Damage to Cultural Heritage Site that might results in the loss of scientific, historic, or cultural value	Contractor	Inspection
CH006	Best practices	All Area	Contractor will follow best practices to avoid degradation or damage to the area around Ethnographic museum due to pollution or vibration	Contractor	Inspection
CH007	Chance finds	All Areas	In the event of the accidental discovery of new artifacts and archaeological sites; works will be stopped and will only be resumed after the site has been archaeological discharged by authorized archaeologists.	Contractor	Audit of the Chance Find Procedure paperwork

CH008	Chance finds	All Areas	Contractor will develop a 'chance finds procedure' to define the actions that will be taken should unexpected sites or finds be uncovered during the construction works. This will include liaison with authorized local archaeological representatives.	Contractor	Approval of the Chance Find Procedure
CH009	Mapping	All Areas	All previously recorded sites of historical or cultural value will be mapped/reported at the outset of the works and workers will be advised of their sensitivity in advance of works commencing.	Contractor	Audit of maps
CH0010	Non-invasive methods	All Areas	Should the urban upgrade have the potential to affect any identified cultural heritage sites, alternative non-invasive routes will be evaluated in alignment with WB's performance requirements	Contractor	Management of Change records
CH011	On-site specialists	All Areas	Qualified Cultural heritage specialists will be retained onsite during construction, and will pay particular attention to activities in the vicinity of any previously recorded historically or culturally important sites	Contractor	Qualifications on Cultural Heritage specialist
CH012	Repairs	All Areas	Any damage to any known cultural heritage sites will be repaired or restored.	Contractor	Visual inspection
CH013	Stakeholders	All Areas	Contractor will actively engage with local stakeholders to assess the potential for any material impacts on local cultural heritage (both physical and events).	Contractor	Records of stakeholder meetings/ engagement activity
CH014	Training	All Areas	The project workforce will be trained on the recognition of sites with historical or cultural value and the actions to be taken in the event of any sites or finds being encountered.	Contractor, AFD	Audit of training records

Table 5. Monitoring requirement

ID	Activity	Description	Parameters	Location	Standards	Frequency
CHM 001	Chance finds Procedure	A minimum one culture heritage specialist to oversee and assess as to whether the protected historical site is being negatively impacted and to implement the chance finds procedure in the case of any archaeological artifact's discovery	Archaeological Findings	Construction Work Front	N/A	Ongoing throughout construction phase
CHM 002	Reports	Production of a watching brief report by on site archaeologist, including recording physical impacts of tangible cultural heritage and the mitigation used	Archaeological Findings	Construction Work Front	N/A	Monthly
CHM 003	Reports	Production of a report indicating as to whether there has been a physical disturbance or damage to UNESCO protected zone	Fencing/ Demarcation	Construction Work Front	N/A	Monthly
CHM 003	Reports	Production of a report indicating as to whether there has been fencing or demarcation of cultural heritage area or objects	Fencing/ Demarcation	Construction Work Front	N/A	Monthly
CHM 004	Reports	Production of a report on assessing issues/compliance in regards access of cultural heritage sites	Route Access	Construction Work Front	N/A	Monthly
CHM 005	Reports	Production of report recording number and nature of complaints regarding cultural heritage and resolution	Mitigation Specific	Construction Work Front	N/A	Monthly
CHM 006	Training	Courses of information and recognition of the cultural heritage for all employees and contractor employees, especially in regards to the implementation of the chance finds procedure	Worker training attendance	Construction Work Front	N/A	At the start of the construction works
CHM 007	Compliance Review	A sixth monthly review of the cultural heritage training program, assessing whether the training has been successful in limiting impacts, check on staff participation in the training program	Worker training attendance	Construction Work Front	N/A	Every 6 months during construction phase

CHM 008	Compliance Review	A sixth monthly review of cultural heritage incidents, their impacts, mitigation used and success of mitigation	Mitigation Specific	Construction Work Front	N/A	Every 6 months during construction phase
CHM 009	Visual inspection	The registered site archaeologist(s) will conduct routine inspections of site activities in consultation with the Site Construction Manager to assess the potential for chance finds at work sites and any other cultural heritage issues that may arise	No presence of archaeological findings/ access to cultural site limitations/ works disturbing cultural events	Construction Work Front	N/A	Ongoing throughout construction phase

INTRODUCTION

1.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project area is located in the centre of the old town, north and south of Mihal Komneno road on the hills that have been historically covered by courtyard buildings constructed during the Ottoman period. The area still conserves the pleasant view composed by gardens, green areas and houses of medium dimensions. However, some of the buildings are abandoned and neglected and require an architectonic arrangement, especially when considering the importance of this street that constitutes the access to the Castle and to the important Ethnographic Museum.

The neighborhood's main axes follow the contours of the slopes and give an organic shape. These main axes are not interrupted in straight angles, but they merge with each other in different angles and shapes allowing a free flow for the pedestrians. The intersections are not in straight lines but in harmonious curves adapting to the hilly relief. The doors of the residential buildings are situated on the sides, and the ground floors are clad in visible carved stones. The windows of the ground floors are always positioned in altitude. The surrounding walls are also built in stone and are high enough to protect the privacy of the inhabitants. Where houses are built on both sides, especially in the smaller alleys, the upper cantilever floors and roof edges almost cover the entire road. The main axes are paved with stones and take a slope towards the center of the road, in order to avoid the penetration of water along the base of the walls of houses and gardens. The road axis is marked by larger stones that play the role of linear ditches to collect and channel rain. Important buildings, such as mosques are located at the bottom of the hill, and in some cases, can be identified by the presence of domes.

This project will improve the pedestrian accessibility for all of the overall urban setting, by upgrading the walkability on the historic alleys. All the streets retained for intervention are in fact highly utilised by pedestrians.

The project includes two components.

- ❑ the restoration of the horizontal surfaces of the streets Kostaq Stefa and Toli Bojaxhiu and public lighting; and
- ❑ the restoration of some façades overlooking the streets Mihal Komneno, Kostaq Stefa, Toli Bojaxhiu, Namik Mehmeqeja and Andrea Tavanxhiu.

1.2. OBJECTIVES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

The overall objective of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is to define a program for stakeholder engagement, including public information disclosure and consultation, throughout the entire project cycle. The SEP outlines the ways in which Municipality and JV Atelier4 + Keios (project team) will communicate with stakeholders and includes a mechanism by which people can raise concerns, provide feedback, or make complaints about PIUTD project and any activities related to the project.

The involvement of the local population is essential to the success of the project(s) in order to ensure smooth collaboration between project staff and local communities and to minimize and mitigate environmental and social risks related to the proposed project activities.

The Key Objectives of the SEP can be summarized as follows:

- Provide guidance for stakeholder engagement such that it meets the standards of International Best Practice;
- Identify key stakeholders that are affected, and/or able to influence the Project and its activities;
- Identify the most effective methods, timing and structures through which to share project information, and to ensure regular, accessible, transparent and appropriate consultation;
- Develop a stakeholders engagement process that provides stakeholders with an opportunity to influence project planning and design;
- Establish formal grievance/resolution mechanisms;
- Define roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the SEP;
- Define reporting and monitoring measures to ensure the effectiveness of the SEP and periodical reviews of the SEP based on findings.

I. REQUIREMENTS FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

2.1 National requirements for stakeholder engagement

The Project will be implemented in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Republic of Albania, which are largely aligned with EU standards. These are summarized below.

Law No 119/2014 “On the Right to Information” regulates the right of access

to information being produced or held by public sector bodies. The rules contained in this law are designated to ensure the public access to information, in the framework of assuming the rights and freedoms of the individual in practice, as well as establishing views on the state and society situation. This law aims also at encouraging integrity, transparency and accountability of the public sector bodies

Law No. 8672, dated 26.10.2000, “On the Aarhus Convention Ratification on public right to information, to participate in decision-making and to have access to justice in environmental matters”. The international agreements ratified by the Republic of Albania, pursuant to the Constitution, occupy a privileged rank at the domestic legal order. An international agreement ratified by law of the parliament prevails over the laws of the country that are incompatible with it, and it is directly applicable, except the case when it is not self-executing and its application requires the adoption of a law. In the field of environment, the major part of the international treaties are not self-executing and require positive measures in order to be properly implemented at the domestic level.

Law 107/2014 on Territorial and Development Planning (amended by Law No 288/2017) regulates consultations and organisation of public meetings during the development or relevant urban plans. The Planning Authority notifies the public and interested parties of the location, date and time of each public meeting and makes available the draft planning document, at least 30 days prior to the meeting. The announcement is made through the publication of the information in the register and in two major circulation papers or other media. Comments and suggestions on the draft plan, received during the publication process, are considered in the finalization of the plan.

2.2 World Bank requirements for stakeholder engagement

For all Category A and B projects proposed for financing, during the EA process, the borrower consults project-affected groups and local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) about the project's environmental aspects and takes their views into account. The borrower initiates such consultations as early as possible.

For meaningful consultations between the borrower and project-affected groups and local NGOs on all Category A and B projects proposed for financing, the borrower provides relevant material in a timely manner prior to consultation and in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to the groups being consulted.

Due to the aim for achievement of standards that promote Good International Industry Practice, as well as objectives of good governance, the

WB promotes its new policy for stakeholder engagement described in the Environmental and Social Framework [2018], for all new and active projects to be financed, that are still in preparatory phase.

The World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) came into effect on October 1, 2018. The Framework includes Environmental and Social Standard (ESS) 10, "Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure", which recognizes "the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice". ESS10 emphasizes that effective stakeholder engagement can significantly improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance, and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation.

As defined by the 2018 ESF and ESS10, stakeholder engagement is an inclusive process conducted throughout the project life cycle. Where properly designed and implemented, it supports the development of strong, constructive and responsive relationships that are important for successful management of a project's environmental and social risks. Key elements of ESS10 include:

- "Stakeholder engagement is most effective when initiated at an early stage of the project development process, and is an integral part of early project decisions and the assessment, management and monitoring of the project."
- "Borrowers will engage with stakeholders throughout the project life cycle, commencing such engagement as early as possible in the project development process and in a timeframe that enables meaningful consultations with stakeholders on project design. The nature, scope and frequency of stakeholder engagement will be proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts.
- Borrowers will engage in meaningful consultations with all stakeholders. Borrowers will provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.
- The process of stakeholder engagement will involve the following, as set out in further detail in this ESS: (i) stakeholder identification and analysis; (ii) planning how the engagement with stakeholders will take place; (iii) disclosure of information; (iv) consultation with stakeholders; (v) addressing and responding to grievances; and (vi) reporting to stakeholders.

- The Borrower will maintain and disclose as part of the environmental and social assessment, a documented record of stakeholder engagement, including a description of the stakeholders consulted, a summary of the feedback received and a brief explanation of how the feedback was taken into account, or the reasons why it was not.”

Borrowers are required to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts (paragraph 13). Stakeholders have to be identified and the SEP has to be disclosed for public review and comment as early as possible, before the project is appraised by the World Bank. ESS10 also requires the development and implementation of a grievance redress mechanism that allows project-affected parties and others to raise concerns and provide feedback related to the environmental and social performance of the project and to have those concerns addressed in a timely manner.

II. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Identification of stakeholders was conducted considered the following:

- Berat Municipality would benefit of the PIUTD outcomes both at the urban and economic level;
- local communities are the primary beneficiaries of the PIUTD efforts (inhabitants of the Mihal Komneno road and Kostaq Stefa, Toli Bojaxhiu, Namik Memeqeja and Andrea Tavanxhiu streets);
- private sector stakeholders as appropriate, emerging as key players from field activities, particularly those involved in the tourism value chain;
- general public of Albania, that need to be informed of the progress of the PIUTD project towards the achievement of its development objective.

The first group of stakeholders (the “client” group) included the ADF and the MoIE, through their respective management units appointed for the overall monitoring, administration and implementation of the PIUTD (TOR 6).

The second group of stakeholders included a wide range of institutions, associations and individuals and can be summarised in Table 1.

Table 27. Keys stakeholders

National level	BERAT
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Ministry of Culture (MoC)	Municipality of Berat (beneficiary)
Ministry of Finance and Economy	The local community
Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	DRKK – BERAT
Ministry of Tourism and Environment	Regional Directorate of Protected Areas Berat
National Agency of Protected Areas	
National Territorial Planning Agency (NTPA)	Religious communities
Institute of Cultural Monuments	Business community of Mihal Komнено and Toli Bojaxhi roads
ALUIZNI	Tour Operators
ZVRPP	Cultural heritage without borders (NGO)
Utility providers	CESVI Albania (NGO)
	National and local media

Consultants have carried out **one-on-one** stakeholders consultations with relevant stakeholders throughout the project. A cooperative interaction with the Client has been held throughout the project development and can be summarised in Table 2.

Table 28. Client consultations

Stage	Client Consultations
Phase 1 - Inception	☐ Kick off meeting 04-06-2018 in Tirana.
Phase 2 - IUDC	<p>Client consultation 06-07-2018 in Tirana.</p> <p>Stakeholders' (=Client and relevant stakeholders) consultation presentation 30-07-2018 in Tirana.</p> <p>Stakeholders' (=Client and relevant stakeholders) consultation presentation 30-07-2018 in Tirana, with some experts in video conference.</p> <p>Client consultation 05-11-2018 in Tirana.</p> <p>Client consultation 12-12-2018 via webex.</p>

Phase 3 - Investment Program	Client consultation 21-01-2019 in Tirana. Client and WB consultation and presentation 22-01-2019 via WEBEX. Technical meeting with the Client regarding Safeguard Screenings 23-01-2019 Client and WB 04-03-2019 via WEBEX. Client consultation 06-03-2019 Client consultation 11-04-2019 Client consultation 03-05-2019
Phase 4 - Preliminary Designs	Client consultation in Tirana 09-07-2019 Client and WB consultation in Tirana 11-11-2019 Client consultation in Tirana 02-12-2019 Client consultation in Tirana 14-01-2020 Client consultation in Tirana 24-02-2020
Phase 5 - Detail Designs	Client consultation in Tirana 14-07-2020 Client and WB consultation via WEBEX 02-09-2020 Client consultation in Tirana 15-09-2020

Stakeholders consultation have been one of the most important conduits to collect information as well as inputs from all stakeholders to understand the local conditions, the key issues and the outlines of a shared vision for the development of the project cities.

The overall stakeholders' consultations have been summarised in Table 3.

Table 29. Stakeholders consultations

Stage	Workshops
Phase 1 - Inception	Preliminary stakeholders workshop (04-06-2018) in Berat
Phase 2 - IUDC	Stakeholders' (=Client and relevant stakeholders) consultation presentation 30-07-2018 in Tirana.

	Stakeholders' (=Client and relevant stakeholders) consultation presentation 30-07-2018 in Tirana, with some experts in video conference.
	Stakeholders' consultation workshop presentation 07-09-2018 in Berat.
Phase 3 - Investment Stakeholders presentation in Berat 29-05-2019 Program	
Phase 4 - Preliminary Stakeholders consultations in Berat 10-07-2019 Designs	Stakeholders consultation in Berat 03-09-2019 Stakeholders consultation in Berat 11-03-2020
Phase 5 - Detail Designs	

□ Stakeholder Engagement during the Construction Phase

Through different communication and engagement methods, stakeholders in the immediate vicinity of the construction works will be kept informed about the planned activities, timelines, potential impacts and changes to schedules. Stakeholders should be made aware of whom to address and how to raise any concerns or grievances. This will include the following:

- The ESIA will be publicly disclosed and discussed at the settlement level, even though not required by the Albanian law, providing information with regard to impacts and benefit.
- Project update leaflets will be prepared and widely distributed from six month prior to construction until the end of the construction phase. These information releases will emphasise the limited nature of employment and the recruitment processes and the progress of the *Social and Environmental Investment Plan*. Oral presentations of updates by the community liaison officers will be held in order to address illiterate community members.
- ADF will maintain a community relations team that will include one community liaison officer at construction site location during construction activities. They will proactively and regularly engage with the local stakeholders prior to construction activities, providing updates and answering their queries. They will be present on the ground during

the whole construction process and available to the affected communities.

- The Grievance Mechanism is adjusted to the Project construction phase with the relevant contractor and sub-contractor staff fully aware of their roles. The aim of this is quick and effective response to the concerns raised by local stakeholders and the provision of additional resources if necessary, to resolve concerns within stipulated timescales.
- The commitments that are encapsulated in the Project documents including this ESIA, will be included in the ESMP, which is designed to ensure the implementation of all commitments as the Project progresses through its various stages.
- The Project will communicate to affected stakeholders (residents and businesses along the Antipatrea road) the progress on meeting the Project's environmental and social commitments during the construction phase through the release of performance reports which will be posted on the Project website.
- The Project will commission third party monitoring, which might involve local stakeholder representatives, in assessing whether social and environmental impact mitigation measures and other intended benefits are as effective as anticipated.
- Meeting minimum standards for stakeholder engagement and social performance will be used as one of the selection criteria for the main contractors.
- Communities will be engaged in the preparation of the social and environmental investment activities to be taken forward in the vicinity of their communities. They will then be kept informed on the progress of such activities and opportunities for their involvement will be maximised.
- Engagement process will be inclusive and all vulnerable groups will be attended to and informed.

STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION, ANALYSIS AND COMMUNICATION METHODS

2.1. IDENTIFIED STAKEHOLDERS

Key stakeholders who are to be informed and consulted about the Project are:

A. Stakeholders which are affected or which are likely to be affected by the project (**Project-affected parties**); and

B. Stakeholders that may have an interest in the project (**Other interested parties**).

For the purposes of effective and tailored engagement, stakeholders of the proposed project(s) can be divided into the following core categories:

1. Project Affected Parties include local communities, community members and other parties that may be subject to direct impacts from the Project during construction activities. Specifically, the following individuals and groups fall within this category:

- The local population: Residents and businesses of Antipatrea road (Berat);
- Municipality of Berat and other directly involved Governmental institutions;

2. Other Interested Parties – The projects’ stakeholders also include parties other than the directly affected communities, including:

- Business entities, and individual entrepreneurs in the area of the project that can benefit from the employment, training and business opportunities;
- Residents of parts of the city of Berat, who can benefit from employment stemming from the project or show interest for the project;
- Civil society groups and NGOs on the regional, national and local levels, that pursue environmental and socio-economic interests and may become partners of the project.
- Business owners and providers of services, goods and materials within the project area that will be involved in the project’s wider supply chain or may be considered for the role of project’s suppliers in the future;
- Governmental Institutions – government officials, permitting and regulatory agencies at the national and regional levels, including environmental, technical, social protection and labor authorities.
- Contractors and their employees.
- Mass media and associated interest groups, including local, regional and national printed and broadcasting media, digital/web-based entities, and their associations.

2.2. SUMMARY OF PROJECT STAKEHOLDER NEEDS

Stakeholder Group	Specific needs	Preferred communication methods
Project Affected Parties		
Local residents and businesses of the area surrounding the Ethnographic museum and its community	Directly affected by the planned project interventions (property and their health and safety)	Public meetings Face-to-face meetings Disclosure of written information. Information boards/desks - in Berat
Municipality of Berat and other directly involved Governmental institutions	Issuing permits, consents and opinions in accordance with local legislation, control of compliance with local legislation	Face-to-face meetings Joint public/community meetings Public meetings, trainings/workshops
Other Interested Parties		
Residents of parts of the city of Berat	Show interest for the project interventions	Face-to-face meetings Public meetings, trainings/workshops
Civil society groups and NGOs	Stakeholders of high significance for the Project's success which are interested in protection of the environment and human health.	Public meetings, trainings/workshops
Governmental Institutions	Stakeholders of significance for the Project's success which are interested in protection of the environment and human health and safety	Public meetings, trainings/workshops
Contractors and their employees	Stakeholders of high significance for the Project's success who are directly or indirectly engaged in Project planning and implementation	Public meetings, trainings/workshops

Business entities, and individual entrepreneurs	Interested in joining the subproject activities	Public meetings, trainings/workshops
Mass media and associated interest groups	General interest for the project	Public meetings, trainings/workshops

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

This section describes stakeholder engagement activities that will be implemented by Berati Municipality and JV Atelier4 + Keios going forwards, including activities tailored to the specific project phases/developments as well as the on- going routine engagement.

3.1. ENGAGEMENT METHODS AND TOOLS

The project(s) intend to utilize various methods of engagement that will be used by as part of its continuous interaction with the stakeholders. For the engagement process to be effective and meaningful, a range of various techniques need to be applied that are specifically tailored to the identified stakeholder groups. Methods used for consulting with statutory officials may be different from a format of liaising with the local communities (focus group discussions, displays and visuals with a lesser emphasis on technical aspects).

Information that is communicated in advance of public consultations primarily includes an announcement thereof in the public media – local, regional and national, as well as the distribution of invitations and full details of the forthcoming meeting well in advance, including the agenda. It is crucial that this information is widely available, readily accessible, clearly outlined, and reaches all areas and segments of the target community.

Municipality and JV Atelier4+ Keios and ADF will use a range of techniques to fulfill the main purpose of its consultation activities aimed at raising the community’s and stakeholder awareness about the planned and current activities undertaken by the project, as well as to solicit public feedback that can subsequently be input into the project’s mitigation and enhancement measures. As discussed above, due consideration will be given to the cultural appropriateness and inclusiveness of the consultation settings as well as gender and other sensitivities that may prevail in the local communities. Knowledge and advice of the community representatives and local NGOs are invaluable to ensure that these aspects are fully observed. If deemed

necessary, separate meetings and focus group discussions will be held, as described above.

A summary description of the engagement methods and techniques that will be applied by project developer to all stakeholders, is provided in the following Table below. The summary presents a variety of approaches to facilitate the processes of information provision, information feedback as well as participation and consultation.

4.1.2 Description of Information Disclosure Methods

As a standard practice, the Project materials (ESIA, ESMP, SEP, CHMP) released for disclosure are accompanied by making available the registers of comments and suggestions from the public that are subsequently documented by the project developer in a formal manner.

The project developer will continue applying the similar approach to disclosure for any additional E&S appraisal materials that will be prepared as part of the project development.

The ESIA report (together with the associated environmental and social management plan – ESMP) in Albanian and English will be made available for public review for the period of 30 days in accordance with the international requirements. Subject to the disclosure will also this Stakeholder Engagement Plan. The SEP will be released in the public domain simultaneously with the ESIA and ESMP reports and will be available for stakeholder review during the same period of time, i.e. 30 days.

Distribution of the disclosure materials will be through making them available at venues and locations frequented by the community and places to which public have unhindered access. Free printed copies of the ESIA/ESMPs and the SEP in Albanian will be made accessible for the general public at the Premises of the Municipality of Berat.

The SEP will remain in the public domain for the entire period of project development and will be updated on a regular basis as the project progresses through its various phases, in order to ensure timely identification of any new stakeholders and interested parties and their involvement in the process of collaboration with the project. The methods of engagement will also be revised periodically to maintain their effectiveness and relevance to the project's evolving environment.

4.2 Planned stakeholder engagement activities

Stakeholder engagement activities will need to provide stakeholder groups with relevant information and opportunities to voice their views on topics that matter to them.

Following Table presents the stakeholder engagement activities Municipality/JV Atelier4 + Keios (project team)/ADF will undertake for this intervention. The activity types and their frequency are adapted to the three main project stages: project preparation (including design, procurement of contractors and supplies), construction, and operation.

Table 4. Planned stakeholder engagement activities

Stage	Target stakeholders	Topic(s) of engagement	Method(s) used	Location/frequency	Responsibilities
Pre-Construction Phase	<p>Project Affected Parties:</p> <p>People residing in the area surrounding the Ethnographic museum</p> <p>Businesses operating along the Mihal Komнено road and Toli Bojaxhiu street</p>	<p>Early Project information disclosure</p> <p>ESIA, ESMP, CHMP, SEP, ARAP disclosures</p> <p>Grievance mechanism process</p> <p>Consent for Interventions</p>	<p>Public meetings</p> <p>Face-to-face meetings</p> <p>Disclosure of written information: brochures, posters, flyers, website</p> <p>Information boards or desks - in Berat</p>	<p>Municipality of Berat for public meetings and disclosure of drafts ESIA, SEP, RAP, CHMP, ESMP</p> <p>Continuous communication through mass/social media</p>	<p>Municipality</p> <p>Consultant</p> <p>Specialists responsible for land acquisition RAP consultant</p>
	<p>Project Affected Parties:</p> <p>Municipality of Berat and other directly involved Governmental institutions</p>	<p>ESIA, ESMP, SEP, disclosures</p> <p>Identification of land plots and users</p> <p>Project scope, rationale and E&S principles</p> <p>Grievance mechanism process</p>	<p>Face-to-face meetings</p> <p>Joint public/community meetings with PAPs</p>	<p>Throughout RAP development as needed</p> <p>Project launch meetings in Berat</p> <p>Introductory and by demand meetings with the affected Berat communities</p> <p>Closure meetings in Berat</p>	<p>Municipality and Team & management</p> <p>Specialists responsible for land acquisition and property assessment</p> <p>RAP consultant</p>
	<p>Other Interested Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of parts of the city of Berat; 	<p>ESIA, ESMP, SEP, disclosures</p> <p>Project scope, rationale</p>	<p>Face-to-face meetings</p> <p>Joint public/community</p>	<p>Throughout RAP development as needed</p>	<p>Municipality and Team & management</p>

Stage	Target stakeholders	Topic(s) of engagement	Method(s) used	Location/frequency	Responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil society groups and NGOs; • Governmental Institutions; • Contractors and their employees; • Business entities, and individual entrepreneurs; • Mass media and associated interest groups • Other. 	<p>and E&S principles</p> <p>Grievance mechanism process</p> <p>Project information: scope and rationale and E&S principles</p> <p>Training ESIA/ESMP requirements and other management plans</p> <p>E&S requirements</p> <p>Feedback on consultant/contractor reports</p>	<p>meetings with PAPs</p> <p>Public meetings, trainings/workshops (separate meetings specifically for women and vulnerable as needed)</p> <p>Invitations to public/ community meetings</p>	<p>Project launch meetings in Berat</p> <p>Quarterly meetings in affected communities and Berat</p> <p>Closure meetings in Berat</p> <p>Disclosure meetings</p> <p>Reports as required</p> <p>As needed</p>	<p>Specialists responsible for land acquisition</p> <p>RAP consultant</p> <p>Municipality</p> <p>Consultant</p> <p>HSE team and project management team</p>
Construction Phase	<p>Project Affected Parties:</p> <p>People potentially affected by project activities</p> <p>People residing in project area</p> <p>Vulnerable households</p>	<p>Grievance mechanism</p> <p>Health and safety impacts community concerns)</p> <p>Employment opportunities</p> <p>Project status</p>	<p>Public meetings, open houses, trainings/workshops</p> <p>Disclosure of written information: brochures, posters, flyers, website</p> <p>Information boards in Berat</p> <p>Notice board(s) at construction sites</p> <p>Grievance mechanism</p>	<p>Quarterly meetings during construction seasons</p> <p>Communication through mass/social media as needed</p> <p>Notice boards updated weekly</p> <p>Routine interactions</p> <p>Brochures in local offices</p>	

Stage	Target stakeholders	Topic(s) of engagement	Method(s) used	Location/frequency	Responsibilities
	<p>Other Interested Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of parts of the city of Berat; Civil society groups and NGOs; Governmental Institutions; Contractors and their employees; Business entities, and individual entrepreneurs; Mass media and associated interest groups Other. 	<p>Project information - scope and rationale and E&S principles</p> <p>Project status</p> <p>Health and safety impacts</p> <p>Employment opportunities</p> <p>Environmental concerns</p> <p>Grievance mechanism process</p> <p>Project information: scope and rationale and E&S principles</p> <p>Training on ESIA/ ESMP requirements and other sub-management plans</p> <p>Worker grievance mechanism</p>	<p>Face-to-face meetings</p> <p>Joint public/community meetings with PAPs</p> <p>Public meetings, open houses, trainings/workshops</p> <p>Disclosure of written information: brochures, posters, flyers, website, Information boards in Berat</p> <p>Notice board(s) at construction sites</p> <p>Grievance mechanism</p>	<p>As needed (monthly during construction season)</p>	<p>Municipality</p> <p>Contractor/sub-contractors</p> <p>Supervisors</p>
Operational Phase	<p>Project Affected Parties:</p> <p>People potentially affected by project activities</p> <p>People residing in project area</p> <p>Vulnerable households</p>	<p>Grievance mechanism</p> <p>Health and safety impacts community concerns)</p> <p>Employment opportunities</p> <p>Project status</p>	<p>Public meetings, open houses, trainings/workshops</p> <p>Disclosure of written information: brochures, posters, flyers, website</p> <p>Information boards in</p>	<p>Quarterly meetings during construction seasons</p> <p>Communication through mass/social media as needed</p> <p>Notice boards updated weekly</p>	

Stage	Target stakeholders	Topic(s) of engagement	Method(s) used	Location/frequency	Responsibilities
			Berat Notice board(s) at construction sites Grievance mechanism	Routine interactions Brochures in local offices	
	Other Affected Parties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents of parts of the city of Berat; • Civil society groups and NGOs; • Governmental Institutions; • Contractors and their employees; • Business entities, and individual entrepreneurs; • Mass media and associated interest groups • Other. 	Grievance mechanism process Issues of concern Status and compliance reports	Grievance mechanism Face-to-face meetings Submission of reports as required	As needed	Municipality team & management

3.2. RESOURCES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The management, coordination and implementation of the SEP and its integral tasks will be the responsibility of dedicated team members within the Municipality of Berat together ADF. The roles and responsibilities of the Municipality are inter alia to:

- o Approve the content of the draft SEP (and any further revisions);
- o Approve prior to release, all materials used to provide information associated with the ESIA for Restoration of the historic urban landscape of the area around the Ethnographic museums (such as introductory letters, question and answer sheets, PowerPoint materials, posters, leaflets and brochures explaining the project and ESIA process);
- o Approve and facilitate all stakeholder engagement events and disclosure of material to support stakeholder engagement events;
- o Participate during all face-to-face stakeholder meetings
- o Review and sign-off minutes of all engagement events; and
- o Maintain the stakeholder database.

GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

This section describes avenues for affected persons to lodge a complaint or express a grievance against the project, its staff or contractors during project implementation. It also describes the procedures, roles and responsibilities for addressing grievances and resolving disputes.

Every aggrieved person shall be able to trigger this mechanism to quickly resolve their complaints. The objectives of the grievance process are:

1. Ensure that appropriate and mutually acceptable corrective actions are identified and implemented to address complaints;
2. Verify that complaints are satisfied with outcomes of corrective actions;
3. Avoid the need to resort to judicial proceedings.

The grievance mechanism at the project site will be fed from three main sources:

- a. Community residents.
- b. Supervising engineer, clerk of works or contractor.

- c. Monitoring team who will forward issues/concerns identified in the field.

The project will have a Specific Grievance Mechanism applicable for all sub-projects. Central Grievance Desk (CGD) will be with the ADF as the main implementing entity. The CGD shall serve as both Project level information center and a grievance mechanism, available to those affected by implementation of all Project sub-components. The CGD will be responsible to address grievance received from Berati residents living in the affected settlement and persons who believe are directly or indirectly affected by the project.

The CGD shall be established prior to commencement of any activities under the Project. The ADF will be responsible that there is a transparent disclosure of information of the grievance mechanism by communicating the role and existence of the CGD and its function, the contact persons and the procedures to submit a complaint in the affected areas. The ADF shall inform local communities during the preparation of specific investments of the role and existence of the CGD, its function, the contact persons and the procedures to submit a complaint in the affected areas through the following means:

- distribution of brochures to affected communities, and
- distribution of notices to be placed at notice boards and frequently visited places of the project areas on the notice boards and website of Berati municipality.

Efforts will be made to adequately inform any vulnerable group or persons ensuring the CGD if needed is easily accessible to such persons.

The CGD shall be designed to be accessible, without cost to the complaint, effective, efficient and not precluding any official administrative or judicial legal remedy available under the law.

Any grievance can be brought to the attention of the CGD anonymously, personally or by telephone or in writing by filling in the grievance form by phone, e-mail, post, fax or personal delivery to the address of the ADF. The Grievance registration form is provided in Figure 1.

4.1. GRIEVANCE ADMINISTRATION BY THE PROJECT

Any grievance shall follow the path of the following mandatory 6 steps: Receive, Assess and assign, Acknowledge, Investigate, Respond, follow up and close out.

Once logged the CGD shall conduct a rapid assessment to verify the nature of grievances and determine on the severity. Within 3 days from logging it will acknowledge that the case is registered and provide the complainant with the

basic next step information. It will then investigate by trying to understand the issue from the perspective of the complainant and understand what action he/she requires. The CGD will investigate by looking into the facts and circumstances through interviews with all parties involved and confer with relevant stakeholders. Once investigated, and depending on the severity and type of grievance, the provisional decision shall be discussed with the complainant in the timeframe of 10 days after logging the grievance. Reaching and issuing a decision without conferring with the grievant shall be an exception. The final agreement, once reached through consultation with grievant, should be issued and grievant be informed about the final decision not later than 20 days after the logging of the grievance.

Closing out the grievance occurs after the implementation of the resolution has been verified. Even when an agreement is not reached, or the grievance was rejected it is important to document the result, actions and effort put into the resolution, close out the case. If the grievance could not be resolved in amicable endeavor, the grievant can resort to the formal judicial procedures, as made available under the Albanian national legal framework. Any grievance can be taken to the authority of the judicial bodies at any time after logging. Logging a grievance with the CGD does not preclude or prevent seeking resolution from an official authority, judicial or other, as provided by the Albanian legal framework.

In case of anonymous grievance, after acknowledgment of the grievance within three days from logging, the CGD will investigate the grievance and within 20 days from logging the grievance, issue final decision that will be disclosed on the website of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment. Closing out the grievance occurs after the implementation of the resolution has been verified.

The CGD shall keep a grievance register log that will have all necessary elements to disaggregate the grievance by gender of the person logging it as well as by type of grievance. Each grievance will be recorded in the register with the following information at minimum:

- description of grievance,
- date of receipt acknowledgement returned to the complainant,
- description of actions taken (investigation, corrective measures), and
- date of resolution and closure / provision of feedback to the complainant

The role of the CGD, in addition to addressing grievances, shall be to keep and store comments/grievances received and keep the Central grievance log administered by the ADF.

The flow chart below describes the process that will use to resolve the grievances (Figure 1).

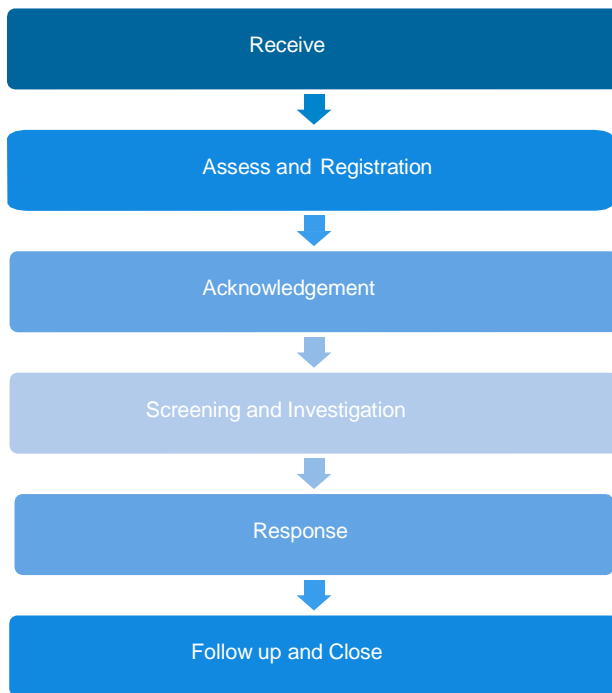


Figure 1. Grievance Mechanism Procedure

ANNEX: Grievance Application Form

Reference No: _____

Full Name

Note: you can remain anonymous if you prefer or request not to disclose your identity to the third parties without your consent

First name _____

Last name _____

- I wish to raise my grievance anonymously
- I request not to disclose my identity without my consent

Contact Information

Please mark how you wish to be contacted (mail, telephone, e-mail).

By Post: Please provide mailing address:

By Telephone: _____

By Email: _____

Preferred Language for communication

- Albanian
- Other indicate _____

Description of incident or Grievance:

What happened? Where did it happen? Who did it happen to? What is the result of the problem?

Date of incident/ Grievance

- One time incident/grievance (date _____)
- Happened more than once (how many times? _____)
- Ongoing (currently experiencing problem)

What would you like to see happen to resolve the problem?

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please return this form to: [name], [company name],
Address _____ Tel: _____ or E-mail: _____@_____.com

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be periodically revised and updated as necessary in the course of the PIUTD project implementations in order to ensure that the information presented herein is consistent and is the most recent, and that the identified methods of engagement remain appropriate and effective in relation to the project context and specific phases of the development. Any major changes to the project related activities and to its schedule will be duly reflected in the SEP.

Monthly summaries and internal reports on public grievances, enquiries and related incidents, together with the status of implementation of associated corrective/ preventative actions will be collated by responsible staff and referred to the senior management of the project(s). The monthly summaries will provide a mechanism for assessing both the number and the nature of complaints and requests for information, along with the Project's ability to address those in a timely and effective manner.

Information on public engagement activities undertaken by the Project during the year may be conveyed to the stakeholders in two possible ways:

- Publication of a standalone annual report on project's interaction with the stakeholders.
- A number of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will also be monitored by the project on a regular basis, including the following parameters:
 - Number of public hearings, consultation meetings and other public discussions/forums conducted within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly, or annually);
 - Frequency of public engagement activities;
 - Geographical coverage of public engagement activities – number of locations and settlements covered by the consultation process, including the settlements in remote areas within the Project Area of Influence (PAI);
 - Number of public grievances received within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly, or annually) and number of those resolved within the prescribed timeline;
 - Type of public grievances received;
 - Number of press materials published/broadcasted in the local, regional, and national media;

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