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Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Use Management
in Dragash/Dragaš

Municipal Development Plan for
the Municipality of
Dragash/Dragaš 2012 - 2022
Draft version for public consultation

PART II: CHAPTER 5 - 9

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5. Vision, General Principles and Goals

5.1 Vision

The aim of the Vision is to formulate an image of the future and a model for Dragash/Dragaš to achieve in the coming years. This image encompasses the main issues and goals for development, uncoupled from external factors. The main issues and goals are included in the next step (Scenarios, see Chapter 6).

As a first step for participation, a Visioning Workshop for the Municipal Development Plan was held from 5th – 8th September 2011. 40 citizens from 18 villages in Dragash/Dragaš and 17 UNDP and MESP members worked together to develop a draft vision for Dragash/Dragaš Municipality, and to provide input and guidelines for the MDP. The participants were members from the Municipal Assembly, the Municipal Working Group, Village Working Groups and members of Civil Society. The main objectives of the Visioning Workshop were to increase the ownership of civil society, the private sector, and the municipality in the Municipal Development Plan, and to strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the various actors and stakeholders.

This draft Vision was presented to the members of the Municipal Working Group during a presentation in July 2012, who confirmed the goals.

In October 2012 another workshop was held with members of the Municipal Assembly. They had the chance to address their ideas, wishes and concerns about the future development of Dragash/Dragaš and to approve or amend the draft Vision.

The actual draft of the Vision formulated by the working groups is as follows:

Dragash presents and preserves traditions.

The southern gate of Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park with rich biodiversity, state-of-the-art infrastructure with the right scale, sustainable economy, ecological usable resources and high quality bio-products is a place where everyone wishes to come and rest in the beautiful and clean nature. Rich cultural heritage and a population ready to welcome guests with hospitality and homemade food attract local and international visitors.

Within the analysis for the MDP, the main themes were outlined. The results are described in Chapters 2 to 4. These results affirm the draft Vision formulated by the Visioning Workshop. The Vision addresses nature and rich biodiversity, cultural heritage and traditions, the people of Dragash/Dragaš, and the sectors to be developed: tourism, sustainable local products, the National Park, and indirectly the necessary infrastructure. Those aspects that can be regarded as the greatest strengths serve as the basis for this Vision.

The Vision is in accordance with national plans and policies, particularly with the Spatial Plan of Kosovo.
5.2 General principles and goals

5.2.1 General principles

Principles present proposed and agreed values that should be respected in the future. Spatial regulation and planning shall be based on these principles with regard to the Spatial Plan of Kosovo:

- The MDP supports the principle of preserving natural resources and supporting sustainable development;
- The MDP supports the principle of an integrated approach, including infrastructure and transport elements; economic, social and environmental development, and other strategic policies for the municipality;
- The MDP promotes equal and balanced development across the entire territory of Dragash/Dragaš.
- The MDP promotes the democratic process of participation and the common interests of Dragash/Dragaš’s residents with the purpose of increasing the quality of life and social welfare;
- The MDP promotes a stable economy which will create opportunities for the generation of new jobs for all residents of Dragash/Dragaš with equal rights for all;
- The MDP preserves traditions and cultural identity of the Opoja/Opolje and the Gora regions;
- The MDP is based on the principle of providing access to education, health and other social services to all residents;
- The MDP promotes economic development in the field of agriculture and the service sector by increasing knowledge and associations;
- The MDP meets Dragash/Dragaš’s remoteness based on the principle of partnership and inter-municipal cooperation and in wider context also with the purpose of protection, rational use of existing resources, which belong to the community, and drawing benefits from joint projects.

5.2.2 Long-term development goals

Definition of development goals and objectives occurs in continuity with the Vision. The MDP sets long-term goals according to themes, based on the strengths and weaknesses as well as taking into account the potential development opportunities and development challenges.

The MDP has also taken into consideration specific recommendations from the Spatial Plan of Kosovo for the “Orange Area”, of which is Dragash/Dragaš forms a part, and which focus on the following:

- Development and enhancement of physical infrastructure
- Development of an attractive network of planned cities, with the governance of public services in favour of the citizens, with increased quality of life of citizens, employment and social equality
- Development of farming
- The LED Program (local economic development) through promotion of SME (small and medium enterprises)
- Development of regional infrastructure
- Development of mountain and cultural tourism, protection of natural, cultural and historical heritage
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Biodiversity and Nature Conservation

Protect, conserve and rehabilitate the rich floristic and faunistic biodiversity of the Municipality
- Protection of water bodies, forest, grassland and rock formations with special biodiversity.
- Cooperation with the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park.
- Prevent air, water, soil and landscape pollution.
- Assure and develop the cross border cooperation with FYROM and Albania with regards to joint efforts of biodiversity protection, research and eco-tourism.

Settlements

Promote further development of settlements in a well-regulated way. Preserve the individual characters and beauty of the settlements as well as the surrounding landscape.
- Regulation of private settlement activities shall lead to sustainable development of the villages.
- All villages shall have areas for a sensitive growth of residential settlement.
- The environment shall be protected from impacts by settlement.
- The individual character and the identity of the villages shall be protected; sites of cultural heritage should be preserved and restored.
- The design of public space in the villages shall be enhanced.
- Inhabitants shall be protected from natural hazards like avalanches, rock fall and floods.

Local Economy

Improve the economic performance of the municipal system, mainly in terms of employment and income for the population. Valorise local resources, organise according to value chains, and upgrade capacities whilst maintaining a long term sustainable environment, social and gender equity.
- Establish a sound governance of the economic system.
- Improve the economic performance and competitiveness of the value chains.
- Establish a system for providing comprehensive services to entrepreneurs, producers, population, civil society organisations, and public institutions.
- Realise and implement an effective territorial marketing.
- Improve capacities in economic development planning.
- Endogenous productive dynamics shall be a main part of Dragash/Dragaš’s economic sector.

Road infrastructure and transportation

Improve road network and public transport as a key to overcome the geographical remoteness of Dragash/Dragaš as a whole and of its villages. Improve maintenance and consider protection of the environment as a key issue of sustainable development. The improved local road network shall offer fast, safe and reliable access to all villages.
- Road network and public transport towards Prizren as the regional centre, as well as connection to Albania and FYROM, shall be strengthened.
- Improved maintenance of roads shall ensure that investments are long-lasting and sustainable.
- Planning and decision making processes for road projects shall include environmental impact analyses and comply with the National Park.

Health and civil protection
Optimise the system of healthcare units to provide an efficient medical supply. Health and livelihoods will be enhanced by modern equipment and well-organised civil protection.
- Increase skills, motivation and number of medical staff.
- Update technical and physical equipment.
- Promote information concerning hygienic and health topics.

**Education**

Raise the level of education in Dragash/Dragaš. Ensure continuing education and job skills for men and women irrespective of financial, social or ethnic background.
- Promote access to higher levels of education for boys and girls.
- Increase vocational opportunities for adults, including men, women, unemployed and low-skilled people.
- Education shall contain current issues (health, cultural heritage, energy, environmental pollution).
- Install Preschool institutions to relieve parents and prepare children for school education.

**Tourism and Cultural Heritage**

Safeguard the natural assets and “place-based authenticity” in every part of the Municipality. Raise internal and external awareness of Dragash/Dragaš’s beauty, as a key factor to economic development. Conduct and maintain an inventory of cultural heritage assets, and take active measures to protect, preserve and rehabilitate heritage.
- Implement human and physical tourism infrastructure.
- Touristic development shall include existing features and discover new fields.
- Dragash/Dragaš town shall act as a “touristic base camp”.
- The National Park Management Plan shall include elements of touristic infrastructure and support its realisation.
- Raise awareness of cultural and natural heritage within the population.
- Maintain tangible and intangible cultural heritage based on professional research and international best practice.
- Local communities shall be actively engaged in drafting and implementing local cultural and natural tourism strategies.

**Agriculture**

Improve the performance of the agriculture and livestock systems. Promote improvement in and environmentally compatible use of the local resources, their organisation into value chains, and upgrade of capacities of competitiveness while maintaining a long term sustainable environmental, social and gender equity.
- Establish sound governance of agriculture and livestock systems.
- Improve the economic performance and competitiveness of agricultural value chains.
- Improve processing, quality and marketing of agricultural products.
- Create additional income for farmers and rural dwellers, particularly for women, leading to improved living standards and working conditions in rural areas.

**Forestry**
Maintain and extend the existing forest area and improve its management to increase production. Minimise avalanche, erosion and landslide risks by afforestation in steeper areas. Improve early warning systems, fire control and fire fighting procedures and measures.

- Establish sound governance of the forest related system.
- Facilitate the certification of public forests according to FSC standards.
- Increase forest area on abandoned land and in steep areas not suitable for agriculture production.
- Increase sustainable legal harvesting of both firewood and technical wood which will help to improve the current structure of forest and increase income generation for the municipality budget.
- Prevent illegal harvesting of public forests.
- Increase awareness of risk from fires.

**Energy**

Promote electrical power supply, thermal energy use and measures for improvement of energy efficiency in both the public and private sectors of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš. Use the potential for electricity generation based on Renewable Energy Technologies (RET) to increase local energy supply, support the local economy and avoid negative impacts on the environment, including causing harm to river habitats and biodiversity.

- Promote secure, reliable, environmentally sound and high quality electricity supply to all users in the municipality.
- Inclusion of RET into the energy mix of the municipality.
- Promote initiatives among international or local entrepreneurs and companies or consortia investing in energy related power generation capacities.
- Promote Energy Efficiency in private households and in public buildings.
- A Municipality Energy Strategy will encourage local and international companies to include local resources and local workforce into their business plans in order to support municipal development.

**Water and Sanitation**

Protect the quality of drinking water and water sources. Reduce the loss in the drinking water distribution systems and provide adequate water and sewerage services for the citizens of the municipality at accessible tariffs. All houses, even those, which are not inhabited during the winter, will be connected to water and waste water systems.

- Establish a sound operation of water and waste water systems based on existing infrastructure facilities, extension of the system and preventive maintenance.
- Achieve the acceptance of the water and waste water services based on economic principles as the only sustainable solution.
- Improve the economic performance of the existing water and sanitation service provider.
- Promote the territorial image at national and international level, and attract external resources to be used coherently with shared strategic guidelines.
5.3 Strategic priorities

Strategic priorities defined by the municipality, civil society, business community etc. are:

1. Very high priority
Sustainable development is the basic principle and main priority issue of municipal development in Dragash/Dragaš. This consists of protecting the environment and considering economic aspects in livelihoods and infrastructural development. Economic development is the foundation of development of other fields, but it must not destroy the natural resources of Dragash/Dragaš. A strategic intention for development in every field is to provide modern media (especially the internet) to overcome the obstacle of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality being comprised of 36 dispersed villages.

2. High priority
High priority for future spatial development applies to:
   • Provision of technical infrastructure to increase livelihood opportunities and enable tourism.
   • Provision of physical infrastructure to facilitate access to Dragash/Dragaš and strengthen connections abroad.
   • Protection of arable land and its rational use.
   • Improvement of the socio-economic situation, with a special emphasis on employment.
   • Improvement and expansion of public services, especially in mountainous areas.
   • Protection of cultural heritage and traditions.
   • Increasing inter-municipal and inter-state cooperation.

3. Medium priority
Subsequent goals are to:
   • Develop public spaces and establish public facilities, which will offer better living conditions.
   • Improve public transport to support inhabitants, facilitate touristic access and reduce the need for vehicles.
   • Reduce dependency on national energy supply by development of renewable energy technology and energy production within the municipality.
6. Scenarios

The scenario technique is a method of strategic planning, which is used both in politics and the economy. Its aim is to analyse possible future developments. This involves alternative future situations and the pathways that lead to them. Scenarios are based on the hypothetical consequences of potential decisions and actions to raise awareness of causal processes.

In addition to showing how a hypothetical situation may occur in the future, variations and alternatives are presented. The central aim is to highlight the possibilities and necessary actions in order to control the process.¹

The starting point of the scenario analysis is generally the so-called “trend scenario”, which is mounted on a timeline. This trend represents the future development scenario under the assumption of a stable development environment. However it is also necessary, assuming an unstable environment, that both positive and negative aspects for development are considered. Thus the relevant factors which have major influence on the development have to be analysed.

6.1 Main factors for development

For the potential development of a rural municipality such as Dragash/Dragaš, the following factors can be regarded as having a major influence:

- Population changes.
- Economic competitiveness.
- Development of land use in general.
- Development of settlement activities.
- Technical level and effectiveness of technical infrastructure.
- Level of education.
- Biodiversity.

The possibility of controlling and influencing development is dependent on to what extent society as a whole and the individual is willing to cooperate, and to accept and follow rules.

The potential development of the municipality is also affected by past development and the present situation. The actual trends in Dragash/Dragaš in the most relevant fields of development are:

- Based on natality and mortality data the natural population growth in Dragash/Dragaš is 1.13 % (2010). The national trend shows a slight decline in natural population growth.² Another factor in population change is migration, which is taking place within Kosovo and internationally. Internal migration balance by municipality shows, that there were important decreases of Dragash/Dragaš’s population within the last few years. The rate of out-migrants (former household member now living abroad) from Dragash/Dragaš is around 25%. On the other hand international immigration into Dragash/Dragaš exists (immigration rate > 10%). National surveys show that while there is clear evidence of families returning to Kosovo, the country continues to experience international out-migration. For one returnee, there are two residents leaving Kosovo to live abroad.² Which of these effects will dominate is impossible to foresee. Migration is a phenomenon caused by many factors and is especially driven by

¹ www.wikipedia.com
economic, political, and cultural factors. It is probable that the impact of out-migration will depend on the improvement of livelihoods and of the local economy in general, and especially in the job market: if there is progress, out-migration may halt and the population could hold stable or possibly increase. If there is no progress, however, out-migration might have a stronger effect than the natural population growth and the current trend of population loss might continue.

- The situation of the municipality shows weak economic competitiveness and problems entering new markets. Dragash/Dragaš’s economy was dominated by a single, large socially owned enterprise, the Sharr/Šarprodhimi/Šarproizvod agricultural produce company, which is today detained by the Privatisation Agency of Kosovo (PAK). A private initiative to return to Sharr/Šarprodhimi/Šarproizvod market strength does not exist.
- A relevant factor of income is remittances from the diaspora, which supports the citizens of the municipality but also generates dependence.
- There is a sizeable area of productive land left uncultivated and a dramatic reduction in the number of livestock which is related to a lack of profitability in agriculture and animal husbandry. This relates to a lack of knowledge, input, management and technical supply. Mismanagement and degradation is also taking place in the field of forestry.
- Uncontrolled expansion of housing areas, caused by a lack of governance, endangers the environment and hinders adequate technical supply.
- The level of technical infrastructure is low, mainly because of failed maintenance and lack of awareness.
- The level of primary and secondary education is rising; however, vocational / professional education is still absent.
- The high value of biodiversity in Dragash/Dragaš has evolved through its wide, untouched landscape. However, habitats of special flora and fauna are also manmade, such as extensive pasture in the mountainous region. On-going degradation of livestock and farming in some cases therefore also causes a loss of biodiversity.

Over the last decades, Kosovo has been through a difficult history which has caused many changes and phases of unclear leadership across the country as a whole and in several regions. As a result, the willingness to cooperate, to accept and follow rules is poorly developed within society, even in Dragash/Dragaš. This has also resulted from a continuing deficit of communication and observation of rules by the administration. There is also a lack of awareness and understanding among the citizens.

### 6.2 Trend-Scenario

If those trends that have occurred in the last few years continue and determine its future, Dragash/Dragaš’s development will proceed slowly and with several shortcomings.

Migration will continue if economic prospects are not enhanced over the next years. Economic development will take place only in small steps, scattered throughout the municipality and not able to enter new markets and increase the employment rate. In the field of agriculture, reduction of livestock and degradation of land use management will compel people to abandon hard agricultural work and move to the city or abroad. Increasing competitive capacity will take place in some parts of Dragash/Dragaš, but not in the whole municipality. Without regulation, the loss of traditional agricultural land use and cultural heritage will continue. Uncontrolled expansion of settlements along roads will disturb traditional settlement patterns; expansion into areas of high risk, of high productivity or biodiversity value will endanger life and health and will destroy natural resources for future successful development. The poor physical situation of existing technical infrastructure and lack of maintenance will not be changed. Thoughtless disposal of solid waste and sewage will cause
further environmental pollution. The government/municipality will play a weak role in the
development process. The awareness of citizens about causal connection and their actions, as well as
their willingness to follow regulations, will still be missing.
This scenario does not at all meet the formulated Vision (Chapter 5).

6.3 Tools to improve

Trends cannot easily be changed. Pathways that lead to alternative future situations start with the
present situation and act alongside several decisions and actions. However in some areas there are
no tools to change the current reality.

In Dragash/Dragaš following tools and issues are important to reach an alternative future:

- **Transfer of knowledge**: in many relevant fields there are better techniques or practices
  available. Transfer of knowledge can improve the competitiveness of economic activities and
  the output of agricultural and industrial production.
- **Professional training for municipal staff in the fields of education, health and administration**
  raises awareness and understanding at the administrative level
- **Transfer of financial means**: Kosovo as a total and Dragash/Dragaš in particular receive a
  great amount of income from remittances from the diaspora and from grants from
  international organisations. It is important to use these financial means not only for
  consumption but also for sustainable improvement of the local economy and the social
  infrastructure.
- **Adjustment of municipal organisation and structure, and capacity development** leads to
  better use of resources.
- **Improved maintenance of roads and other technical infrastructure** can make investments
  long lasting.
- **Investment in projects based on strategic planning and sustainable concepts** ensure success
  and improvement of the situation.
- **Social cooperation**: early involvement of the citizens creates active commitment and
  enhances willingness to accept regulation.

6.4 Best-case Scenario

If these tools can be used, Dragash/Dragaš’s development will reach the formulated Vision, to
preserve its rich biodiversity, concentrate on a sustainable economy and bio-products as well as
increase tourism.

Migration will decline, if economic prospects and livelihoods increase within the coming years.
Associations of economic operators will strengthen economic competitiveness and enable the
entering of new markets. Economic development is funded with the goal of sustainability in mind
and located in select areas which are predestinated for commerce or tourism. In this way the entire
territory of the municipality will be supported. Associations and investments in the field of
agriculture facilitate hard work and knowledge transfer to increase land use management. This
management will be oriented in environmental aspects and preserve traditional land use. Protection
of cultural heritage and traditions will be an important issue within society and will maintain social
identity. Besides the preservation of historic buildings, settlement modernisation and expansion will
be based on well-thought-out regulations. These consider areas of high risks (avalanche, flood) and
high quality of arable land or biodiversity. Problems with the weak physical situation of existing
technical infrastructure will be solved by regular maintenance and deliberate enhancement. The role
of the government/municipality in the development process is in planning, leading and cooperating. Participation of the citizens will raise awareness about causal connection and their willingness to follow regulations. Citizens will take responsibility for the environment in their actions and reduce pollution.
7. Spatial Development Framework

The spatial development framework expresses the desired prediction for spatial development in the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš. It formulates the spatial structure and organisation for future development.

7.1 Development Framework Map

The Development Framework Map shows the key elements of spatial development.

Figure 1: Development Framework Map
7.2 Principles for functional development of settlements

Dragash/Dragaš’s structure of urban development has historically grown upon different cultural, economic and natural conditions. Because of its specific geographical and topographical situation, the Municipality contains 36 villages, which differ in location and altitude, size and demographic development, employment market and infrastructural facilities. As a consequence of the natural preconditions the settlements fulfil different functions within the social, cultural and economic network. Further development should ensure good livelihoods across the whole municipality and in every subspace. Good and equal living and working conditions in every part of the municipality should be achieved and maintained. To attain and maintain efficiency in Dragash/Dragaš’s subspaces and ensure sustainable development, the activation and promotion of existing endogenous potential is essential. Therefore effective spatial management is needed for observing and increasing the reliability of different structured spaces.

The general principle sustains the existing spatial distribution of settlement functions following the Central Places Theory by Walter Christaller.

The Central Places Theory, formulated in the 1930s, is still relevant and often used for spatial planning in Europe. The concept is to build a structure of central places of different hierarchical levels. Depending on their hierarchical level, central places carry different types of public utility supply. Bigger agglomerations contain more installations than places of lower hierarchy.

A hierarchical system of settlement functions should guarantee good and equal living and working conditions in every part of the municipality. According to density of population, sort and structure of job markets, infrastructural equipment and natural preconditions the future development and structure differs between the villages of Dragash/Dragaš. Through balanced and targeted improvements, the limited financial resources of the municipality can increase living conditions and economic development. The general principle is similar to the national concept of spatial development, which characterises large and small centres, areas of economic development and areas of special interest. At the level of the municipality the Municipal Centre is Dragash/Dragaš town, which becomes an urban agglomeration acting as economic, touristic, cultural, educational and healthcare “base camp”, supporting the whole Municipality. In addition sub-centres distributed across the municipality act as smaller centres, which offer supra-local services - often the required public utilities to meet increased demand. Areas of economic (commercial) development in Dragash/Dragaš are located in Dragash/Dragaš town and the sub-centres. Areas of special interest are related to tourism as a main factor in Dragash/Dragaš’s development and to the endemic environment. A proper environment, protected and treasured by the citizens, is the primary base of Dragash/Dragaš endemic value and further development. This environment will be protected and promoted by the Sharr/Šar National Park and create added value for the Municipality, Kosovo and Europe.

**Dragash as the municipal centre should provide services and supply for the whole municipality at the best level available**

Dragash/Dragaš town as the Municipal centre should act as pacesetter, capable business location, centre of education and welfare as well as being a pleasant living area. Beside strengthening the central function of Dragash/Dragaš town, spatial development of other subspaces in the municipality is also important. Urban agglomeration of Dragash/Dragaš town and the surrounding rural areas should complement one another and contribute their specific spatial properties towards sustainable development. Benefit and expense should be balanced in the spatial development of the municipality. Therefore sub-centres should be established, which act as impulse generators for rural areas and offer some autonomy and comparable living and working conditions.
Functions of the Municipal Centre:
- Administrative centre
- Provide improved high school education and vocational training for men and women
- Provide Central Family Medical Centre offering the highest medical care in the municipality
- Specialised stores (e.g. clothes, hardware, electro-technics) satisfying “periodic demand”, should be located in Dragash/Dragaš town
- New industrial enterprises should be located in the commercial zone of Dragash/Dragaš town
- Urban expansion of housing and commercial settlements
- The urban infill and sprawl of Dragash/Dragaš town will see the settlements Shajne/Šajnovce and Ljubovište/Lubovishtë forming suburbs
- Improvement of infrastructure (water, sewage, waste, ...) at a higher level
- Improvement of public transport to Prizren and to sub-centres

Sub-centres should offer good living conditions and supply to the surrounding villages
The selection of villages to act as sub-centres has to be based on the existing settlement structure and natural preconditions. Indicators for the selection of sub-centres are the population and number of households (HH) - namely, an increase in population and number of HH since 1981, as well as a good social and technical infrastructure. Sub-centres are equipped with Central schools, Family Medical Centres and good road access, and are already an economic sub-centre or have more than 50 businesses. Another important aspect for selection of sub-centres following the principle of spatial balance (spatially inclusive and comprehensive public utility supply within reasonable distance) is their location in Dragash/Dragaš. These general principles identify the following settlements as sub-centres: Blaç/Bljać, Bellobrad/Belobrad, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Brezna, Brod, Rapča/Rapçë and Restelica/Restelicë.

Functions of the Sub-centres:
- Provide education for grades 1-9, (central schools)
- Family medical centre offers basic medical care and some specialists
- Stores offer convenience goods (foods, newspapers) satisfying “daily demand”
- Enterprises are located in new commercial zones in the sub-centres
- Controlled expansion, especially for housing, to be prepared
- Improvement of technical infrastructure (water, sewage, waste, ...)
- Good connection to the main road network
- Public transport to Dragash/Dragaš town

Villages should offer good living conditions, supplied by the Municipal Centre and Sub-centres
Most settlements are classified as villages (22 out of 36). The villages shall develop in an organical manner, preserve their traditional character while adapting to the needs of life today. This includes an improvement of technical infrastructure. Regarding social infrastructure (e.g. in the field of health services) but also in terms of commercial development, they benefit from good access to the next sub-centre and to Dragash/Dragaš town as the Municipal Centre.

Functions of the villages:
- Provide education for grades 1-5
- Provide basic medical care
- Economic development mainly through agriculture
- Improvement of technical infrastructure (water, sewage, waste, ...)
- Some expansion of the residential area
Remote Villages: the focus is on supporting the people, not the location
Some villages in Dragash/Dragaš are characterised by a small population and small number of HH, dramatic decreasing tendencies since 1981, as well as a low number of pupils and few businesses. The main reason for this situation has been the remote geographical position of these villages and traditionally poor road access. Even if an improvement in road access has since occurred, or will happen soon, the position of these villages high up in the mountains and at a distance from main roads and prospering areas will probably force further population and HH decrease. Due to limited financial resources, the Municipality will not be able to stop this process or to initiate significant upturn. The Municipality should guarantee good living conditions to the inhabitants of Remote Villages by sustaining public utility supply as far as possible in the village itself, or by arranging safe transport to public utility installation in other villages if necessary. These general principles identify the following as Remote Villages: Bačka/Baçkë, Dikance/Dikanc, Orčuša/Orçushë, Pllajnik/Plajnik and Xërxe/Zrze.

Functions of remote the villages:
- Provide education for grades 1-5 in the village or in neighbouring villages (including safe transport)
- Provide basic medical care in neighbouring villages or by mobile ambulance
- Economic development only in the field of agriculture
- Improvement of basic infrastructure, implementation of infrastructural projects with lower priority
- Little expansion of residential area

7.3 Additional settlement functions:

Economic function
Besides land use management, Dragash/Dragaš Municipality should develop and enhance other economic sectors, e.g. construction, manufacturing, trade, accommodation and the energy sector. These activities should take place in the Intensive Management Area and partly occur in the Extensive Management Areas. Construction should occur with regard to the existing urban area and settlement expansion. Commercial zones exist near Dragash/Dragaš town, Pllavë/Plava, Buçe/Buče and Buzez. New commercial zones should be developed in the subcentres Blač/Blać, Belobrad/Bełobrad, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Brezna and Restelica/Restelicë. As a result there will be commercial areas near Dragash/Dragaš town, in the Opojë/Opolje valley with good access to Prizren and near Restelica/Restelicë with good access to FYROM.

Touristic function
Nature-based tourism shall be developed in Opojë/Opolje and Gora/Gorë region. Touristic centres are settlements related to hiking trails, skiing areas, picnic places, extraordinary landscapes and cultural heritage. They shall offer accommodation and tourist information. The settlements designated to become touristic centres are Belobrad/Bełobrad, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Brezna, Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje, Brod, Rapča/Rapçë, Radeša/Radeshë, Restelica/Restelicë, with Dragash/Dragaš town as the touristic “base camp”. Touristic areas evolve through connection to these touristic centres.
7.4 Framework of the road network

Further improvement of the road network and of public transport is necessary to overcome the geographical remoteness of Dragash/Dragaš as a whole and of its villages. It will improve livelihoods, support the local economy by offering better access to markets and promote tourism. Most important is the improvement of the regional and cross-border road network, especially to Prizren as the regional centre, and to Albania and FYROM according to traditional and cultural (historical) relations. The most important regional and cross-border roads are included in the map of general principles. Proposals for new roads, which would potentially be of great significance but require further studies, are marked with a dashed line.

7.5 Development framework of land use

Beyond the hierarchical settlement network, the general principles are also concerned with the development of Dragash/Dragaš’s landform. According to the high value of Dragash/Dragaš’s environment, biodiversity protection is one of the main principles of the Municipal Development Plan. Land use management should be enhanced with regard to environmental considerations. Protection of the environment at certain levels, with concern for the natural assets, ensures sustainable and efficient development. There shall be a Zone of Strict Protection at the top of Mount Koritnik in the northwest and in the mountains in the southeast of Dragash/Dragaš, where extraordinary natural characteristics shall be devoid of human influences. The mountainous region subsequent to this Zone contains special biotopes contingent on specific human influences. Extensive pasture management is not in contradiction with purpose of protection, but preserves biodiversity. Forestry in this Extensive Management Area should be in accordance with Forest Stewardship Council. In the Opojë/Opolje valley and in the valleys of Gorë/Gora suitable soils mean that intensive pastures and special cultures as well as productive forestry should be possible. An enhancement of agricultural and forestry production should be followed in this Intensive Management Area while environmental aspects are considered (such as installing buffer zones to rivers).

**Zone of Strict Protection: devoid of human influences**
- Environmental protection is the primary objective
- No access except for research
- No forestry
- No agriculture

**Extensive Management Area: maintenance by human management**
- Environmental protection is the main primary objective
- Access for economic or touristic reasons is possible, as far as the environment is respected
- Forestry in accordance with Forest Stewardship Council
- Extensive pasture management in line with environmental considerations

**Intensive Land Use Area: productive land use side by side with environmental protection**
- Environmental protection is an primary objective besides land use production, settlement, commercial and touristic development
- Main living and working area
- Productive Forestry with respect to environmental aspects
7.6 Additional function in the landscape: tourism

Dragash/Dragaš’s great touristic and cultural assets, its natural environment, the cultural diversity of its population, and tangible and intangible heritage, offer several opportunities for touristic and economic development. The Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park in Dragash/Dragaš provides the unique chance to promote tourism in the municipality by offering environmentally and culturally compatible spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities.

The main touristic areas will be Opojë/Opoja valley (especially cycling, walking, road trips) and Gorë/Gora Mountains near Brod and Restelica/Restelice (especially hiking, skiing, visiting the National Park). Another touristic area can be developed near Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje, where skiing is possible. Detailed planning of touristic development in Dragash/Dragaš is needed and will be concretised in the tourism strategy.

7.7 Socio-economic and Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposed framework

The whole MDP and especially the spatial development framework are developed for the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable land use management. The aim of the proposed framework is therefore to reduce negative impacts on the environment, economy and society. Nevertheless, the Law on Spatial Planning and the Guidelines on Spatial Planning as well as the Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) designate the drafting of an impact assessment of all plans and programmes, which are likely to have significant environmental effects.

The results of the conducted SEA are that the environmental impacts of the spatial development framework can be expected from the extension of the road network and development of touristic areas for skiing. The dimension of environmental impacts cannot be assessed at this level, but should be minimised by routing and positioning. Further impacts on the environment by land-use development are not expected because environmental aspects have been considered in location and scope. In addition, the MDP framework will have a positive effect upon and improve environmental and socio-economic issues in the municipality.
8. Strategies

8.1 Nature conservation and biodiversity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protect, conserve and rehabilitate the rich floristic and faunistic biodiversity of the municipality according to the Law of Nature Conservation and the requirements of a sustainable environmental, social and economic development of the municipality.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish a sound governance of the nature conservation and protection system for the municipality, through facilitating multi-level networks at government level (among the municipal departments of economy, agriculture, education etc.), at local civil society level (through associations, and between civil society and public institutions), at inter-municipal level (among neighbouring municipalities), at vertical level (coordination with the National Government and its institutions). This includes in particular:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Protection of water bodies, forest, grassland and rock formations with special biodiversity values in their ecological functions and services according to the Law of Nature Protection (i.e. strict nature reserve, special areas – SPAs and SAC, nature monuments and protected landscapes).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cooperation with the Sharr/Şar Mountain National Park Directorate and the Kosovo Forest Agency in planning, implementing and enforcing a National Park Management with the aim to conserve the biodiversity and the ecosystem services (including the forest functions for water balance, avalanche, erosion and landslide risk control) of the protected areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Prevent air, water, soil and landscape pollution through effective measures combined with monitoring, control and effective enforcement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Assure and develop the cross border cooperation with FYROM and Albania with regards to joint efforts of biodiversity protection, research and eco-tourism.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Actions (Adapted from Dragash/Đragaš Municipality (2010): Local plan of action on biodiversity in Dragash/Đragaš Municipality 2011-2015)

A) Establish nature conservation in municipal development

A1) Develop a guide for nature conservation in the Municipality for each main field (biodiversity, forestry, agriculture, animal husbandry, water management, waste management, infrastructure measures such as traffic and transport)

A2) Develop and install financing mechanisms to maintain the Municipality’s engagement in biodiversity protection and development

A3) Organise and sustain awareness campaigns for the landscape and high variety of biodiversity wealth of the Municipality in villages, schools and fairs to promote nature and environmental protection.

B) Establish the Sharr/Şar Mountain National Park

B1) Support the sustainable management of the National Park (National Park Management and Spatial Plan) through the National Park Directorate

B2) The municipality should cooperate with the National Park Directorate to optimise revenue generation and to optimally use them, i.e. to balance added values for nature

B3) Establishment of a Biodiversity Centre in Dragash/Đragaš (one field office in Opojë/Opolje and one in
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>the Gora/Gorë region</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B4) Facilitate and initiate the establishment of partnerships with cross-border municipalities to facilitate and promote cross-border tourism of the Balkan Mountain National Park (Sharr/Šar, Korab, Deshat/Dešat)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**C) Other protected areas and management plans**

| C1) Actively support the competent authorities in establishing detailed inventories of the biodiversity hotspots inside the National Park (flora, vegetation, insects, reptiles and amphibians) |
| C2) Actively promote and inform the public about the adequate status of protection according to legal requirements and respective behaviour |
| C3) Actively support and promote the preparation of management plans for the National Park and all the protected areas (i.e. strict nature reserve, special areas – SPAs and SAC, nature monuments and protected landscapes) outside the National Park. The municipality will actively pursue compatibility of the management plans with traditional land-uses and landscape management requirements. |
| C4) Including the protected areas into a hiking concept |

**D) Development of the sustainable tourism – Rural tourism**

| D1) Strengthen a department for tourism in the Municipal administration |
| D2) Prepare an Eco-tourism action plan that includes |
| i. Marking and regulation of the biking and hiking paths - renovation and construction of mountain huts |
| ii. Initiation of private activities which are compatible with the aims and requirements of the protected areas and the NP; licensing will be limited to such activities that are compatible |
| iii. Support the development of information material for tourists and the local population – e.g. school programmes |
| iv. Develop mountain biking opportunities with a concept that shall not harm biodiversity and have a negative impact on environmental assets |
| v. Develop hunting and fishing tourism for the areas outside the National Park |
| D3) Initiate the recognition of Dragash/Dragaš as an official UNESCO “Biosphere Reserve” (UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme, 2012) in cooperation with the National Government |
| D4) Develop a “Brand Name” for the Dragash/Dragaš region and the environment, and promote its use for local products |

**E) Special species programmes: hunting, fishing and others**

| E1) Increase fish populations with different native species without harming the freshwater ecosystems |
| E2) Develop hunting and fishing tourism in cooperation with the Hunters’ Association for the areas outside the National Park. This includes: |
| i. Deciding on plans for the hunting of wild animals |
| ii. Hunters’ education on the proper level |
| iii. Regulating and giving clear responsibilities and procedures in case of complaints and observations : |
| a. Illegal logging |
| b. Transgression of fishing or hunting codes and rules |

**F) Plans, measures and enforcement of regulations for Non-Wood Forest Products (mushroom and herb collection)**

| F1) Support the competent authorities in announce areas where collection of Non Wood Forest Products (NWFP) is allowed for the local population |
| F2) Support the competent authorities in establishing rules and regulations for professional collection of NWFP (codes of conduct, permitted quantities, protection periods etc.) |
| F3) Support the competent authorities in establishing and implementing required control and supervision mechanisms |

**G) Support and facilitate measures for forest protection** (see also Municipal Forest Strategy):

| G1) Fire early warning and control |
| G2) Forest preservation and restoration |
| G3) Afforestation measures, including facilitation of nursery material |

**H) Pollution prevention and control**
H1) Prevention of illegal waste dumping (land pollution) – household and construction waste
H2) Prevention of or decrease in pollution that contributes to climate change
H3) Enforcement of waste cleaning in rivers
H4) Replacement of mercury electric bulbs with sodium bulbs

Other environmentally relevant activities are contained within the separate strategies for:
8.2 Settlement, 8.7 Tourism and Cultural Heritage, 8.8 Agriculture, 8.9 Forestry, 8.10 Energy, 8.11 Water and Sanitation, 8.12 Solid Waste

Further Planning

- Develop a guide for nature conservation in the Municipality for each main field (biodiversity, forestry, agriculture, animal husbandry, water management, waste management, infrastructure measures such as traffic and transport) and obtain strong agreement from civil society and community representatives.

Responsibility / Institutional Framework

- Directly involved are the following directorates of the Municipality:
  a. Directorate of Urban Planning, Cadastre and Environmental Protection is responsible for drafting development, spatial, urban and rural plans; drafting criteria for construction permits; keeping a database related to property; protection of the environment; and management of sewage and solid waste.
  b. Directorate of Agriculture, Forestry, Tourism, Rural Development and Inspection is responsible for policies in the field of sustainable development of agriculture; preparation of draft regulations and administrative orders related to farming, infrastructure, tourism development and inspection services.

- Indirectly involved are the following directorates of the Municipality:
  a. Directorate of Education is responsible for planning the development of local education, training of teaching staff, and infrastructural issues related to education facilities.
  b. Directorate of Defence, Rescue and Public Services is responsible for the emergency services, planning and implementation of protective measures and defence plans.

- Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park Directorate is responsible for governing all of the resources of the National Park
- MESP - the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning is responsible for developing policies, implementing laws, and supervising activities for environmental protection of water resources, air, and land.
- KEPA - Kosovo Agency for Environment Protection is responsible for environmental and nature monitoring, the establishment and management of databases and environmental information systems, as well as providing expertise on the management of protected areas.
- The Kosovo Forest Agency is responsible for managing forests (i.e., public forests), and supervising private forest land.

Time Frame

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority projects (short-term measures)</th>
<th>Financial implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop a guide for nature conservation in the Municipality for each main field (A1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtain agreement with the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park Directorate and the Kosovo Forest Agency for direct participation in planning, implementing and enforcing a National Park Management Plan (B1, B2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop and install financing mechanisms to maintain the Municipality</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>engagement in biodiversity protection and development (A2)</th>
<th>medium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mid-term measures</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Awareness campaigns about landscape and biodiversity (A3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establishment of a Biodiversity Centre in Dragash/Dragaš (B3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Formation of partnership with cross-border municipalities (B4)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Inform the public on the adequate status of protection (C2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Support and promote the preparation of management plans for NP and protected areas (C3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Creation of an Eco-tourism action plan (D2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Initiate recognition as an official UNESCO “Biosphere Reserve” (D3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Production of a guide to hunting activities outside NP (E2)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Support and control collection of Non Wood Forest Products (F1-3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establishment of fire early warning and control (G1)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Forest preservation and restoration (G2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Enforcement of waste cleaning in rivers (H3)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long-term measures</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Support of detailed inventories of biodiversity hotspots (C1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Afforestation (G3)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Replacement of mercury electric bulbs with sodium bulbs (H4)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assessment

The strategy on nature conservation will have definite positive impacts on the environment. The measures for nature conservation will increase environmental protection (of soil, water, air and climate), thereby increasing health and contributing to the protection of intangible cultural and natural heritage.

The nature conservation strategy contains several measures to increase socio-economic development. There are no negative impacts or restrictions expected, not even from the creation of the National Park or other environmental regulations.

### Reasons

The existing status (rarity) of forests, rangelands, and wetlands is recorded to an extent that allows a first definition of areas requiring protection in order to preserve their ecological functions and services according to the Law of Nature Protection (i.e. strict nature reserve, special areas – SPAs and SAC, nature monuments and protected landscapes) and the zoning of the National Park, as part of the National Park Management Plan.

The following Assessment Maps provide the basic data for the Development Guidance:

- A1.1 and A1.2 Assessment of biodiversity
- A3 Assessment of water resources - regeneration, threats, and quality
- A4.1 - A4.3 Assessment of natural hazards
- A5.1 and A5.2 Assessment of forest and agriculture - condition of forest and forest functions
- A6 Assessment of solid waste
- A7 Assessment of cultural heritage and tourist potential

Map “G1-1 Nature conservation” characterises the preferential zones for nature conservation as:

- Zones that classify according to the law of Nature Protection as
  - Strict reserve
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- Special Area of Conservation and Special Protected Areas (SAC-SPA)
- Nature Monuments
- Protected Landscape
- Zones that require rehabilitation (or a mix of development and rehabilitation)
- Zones which are available for further development

It is important to note that most of Dragash/Dragaš’s landscape is a result of a centuries-old land-use practices that are also the origin of a lot of the existing biodiversity and the attractive landscapes. Changing the land-use pattern interfere with the biodiversity.

The distribution pattern of biodiversity hotspots clearly shows that most of the outstanding ecological areas are within the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park (see SDA: Maps mentioned above). The findings of the Preliminary identification of Natura 2000 Sites in Kosovo are confirmed (and considerable details are added) (Mustafa et al. 2009).

The coppice forests and extensive pastures and dry grasslands also have a very high value for biodiversity. However, these vegetation types are dependent on (traditional) land use management.

The vegetation and floristic resources form part of the information for an overall conservation strategy and have to be combined with the faunistic assessment and ecological functions of forests in order to provide overall guidance for nature conservation.

The definition of different kinds of protected areas according to the Law of Nature Protection and the zoning of the National Park and can be based on this assessment.

About 70% of the municipality provides a habitat for mammals, birds, and butterflies according to the European Habitat Directive (including the Birds Directive – EU 2007 and 2009). Apart from the alpine habitats for Chamois, the subalpine, the high mountain forests, and the ecotone of the forest-grassland transition are ecological corridors for lynx, bear, and wolf connecting the mountain ranges of the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park with the mountains of FYROM and Albania. It confirms the findings (and adds considerable detail) to the Preliminary identification of Natura 2000 Sites in Kosovo (Mustafa et al. 2009).

The faunistic resources form part of the information which supports the extension of the National Park and the future definition of different kinds of protected areas and species according to the Law of Nature Protection (strict nature reserve, special areas – SPAs and SAC, nature monuments and protected landscapes). Ecological corridors play an important role to allow free movement of species from one site to another and constitute part of the existing ecological network.

Due to the high diversity of land uses and landscape structures, the territory of Dragash / Dragaš Municipality provides for a high diversity of habitats for numerous groups and species of animal. Besides the open grasslands, high forests, coppice forests, all types of wetlands, and rocky and gravel areas are of high importance.

There are no systematic scientific studies available on the fauna of Dragash / Dragaš. However, data from NGOs, villagers, scattered information from literature and observations made by UNDP experts provide a good basis for an overview on the local fauna.

Mammals:
- Brown Bears (Ursus arctos): One of the highlights of the Sharr/Šar Mountains. Bears breed in forest sites (such as in the forest east of Bresanë/Brodosavce and Blaç/Bljač, in Mount Koritnik or in the Hellenic Beech/fir forest between Restelica/Restelicë and
Kruševo/Krushevë), crossing the border in the remotest parts of the southeast and in the continuation of the Sharr/Sar National Park in the northeast. Bears are rarely observed in the high mountain grasslands and in the centre of the Opojë/Opolje region.

- **Balkan Lynx (Lynx lynx balcanicus):** The lynx has a similar distribution pattern to the bear in the forested areas and forest borders at higher elevations. Although it is endangered to serious level in the Balkan Peninsula, it is expected to be present in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality in the areas bordering Albania and FYROM.

- **Wolves (Canis lupus):** are present all over the municipality.

- **Balkan Chamois (Rupicapra rupicapra balcanica):** present in higher level ranges and rocky outcrops, scree of the subalpine and alpine areas.

- **Roe Deer (Capreolus capreolus):** more or less present in the whole territory at lower altitudes (similar to Chamois).

- **Wild Boar (Sus scrofa):** share the same area as Roe Deer - closer to agricultural areas.

**Birds:**

NGO Finches provided data on Birds for the years 2004 to 2010, relating to 11 locations in the municipality. A total of 153 bird species has been observed during this period. The individual locations count between 27 and 85 different species. Approximately one third of these species are listed in the various Annexes of the EU Birds Directive. The findings show a high diversity of bird species in the municipality. The areas observed represent the different types of landscapes and habitats being present in the municipality.

**Butterflies:**

40 species of butterflies have been observed to date in high mountain pastures and coppice forests. A pronounced diversity at high mountain pastures and in coppice forests is notable, out of which 30 species are named either in Annexes II or IV of EU Habitat Directive, or are assessed as “endangered” or “vulnerable” in Kosovo according to IUCN criteria.

**Aquatic Insects (based on sampling undertaken by UNDP in spring 2011):**

Beside very frequent species, very rare species have been identified in the rivers of Dragash / Dragaš:

- **Limnephilus petri** found in Brod River is an endemic species of the Balkan Peninsula being present only in Kosovo (and within Kosovo only in upper reach of Brod River) and in Bulgaria.

- **Genus Trianodes,** with its Trianodes bicolour species found in Brezne/Brezna Lake, is the first and the only record of this genus and species in Kosovo so far. These relatively scarce and few results of adult aquatic insects in Dragash / Dragaš municipality reveal a very rich and specific fauna of this area. There is a high potential in the area for other local endemics of aquatic insects or even new species for science. There is a need to collect data more extensively for this group of animals in order to correlate with management and conservation issues.

**Amphibians and reptiles**

5 amphibian (all Annex IV species) and 6 reptile species have been located. Since there is no systematic inventory for the area, these numbers are only random samples. Considerable recordings can be expected form a systematic investigation.
8.2 Settlement

General goals

Further development of settlements should take place in a well-regulated way. In contrast with the uncontrolled individual activities in the past, a stronger influence from the Municipal administration will ensure that common interests are regarded, natural resources are protected and sustainable development is advocated. The process of urban planning and applying for construction permits will respect the laws. Thus the villages will have opportunities for sensitive growth which preserves their individual characters and beauty as well as that of the surrounding landscape. Qualitative improvement in design and functionality of public space and the maintenance of traditional architecture and cultural heritage should contribute to strengthen the identity of the villages.

Objectives

- Regulation of private settlement activities shall lead to sustainable development of the villages. It will allow for the proper planning and building up of technical infrastructure, and the construction of buildings in areas where connection to technical infrastructure is possible.
- Construction areas for the further development of housing, for economic settlement and other purposes shall be prepared at suitable places and at a sufficient scale, depending on the size, the number of inhabitants, and the classification of the settlements according to the general principles of planning.
- All villages shall have areas for sensitive growth of residential settlements. The size and position of settlement areas in the villages shall be determined with regard to the settlement structure, the expected demand and the environmental possibilities. In the guidance map proposals for all 36 villages are elaborated.
- Areas for large-scale commercial constructions shall be concentrated in Dragash/Dragaš town as the Municipal Centre and in the sub-centres. The guidance map includes proposals for an industrial zone in Dragash/Dragaš and commercial zones in Blać/Bljać, Bellobrad/Belobrad, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Breznja and Restelica/Restelicë at locations with good access to traffic and on flat ground, maintaining a distance from residential areas to protect from noise and emissions. Commercial settlement areas shall create opportunities for the establishment of various kind of business and thus promote the local economy and the creation of jobs.
- The individual character and the identity of the villages shall be protected; sites of cultural heritage should be preserved and restored.
- The design of public space in the villages shall be enhanced. Public squares and main roads in the centres of the villages shall become attractive places, appropriate for multifunctional uses.
- Inhabitants shall be protected from natural hazards such as avalanches, rock fall and floods by avoiding dangerous places for settlement. Therefore steep slopes, riverbanks and other dangerous areas should be restricted for settlement activities. Where necessary, measures to minimise existing risks need to be taken (for example: avalanche risk reduction project for Restelica/Restelicë)
- The environment shall be protected from impacts by settlement; thus the selection of suitable areas must consider the “spatial resistance” given by natural factors. Green space with functions as “green belts” shall be kept devoid of construction.

Actions

A) Proceed with urban planning:
A1) Draft urban development plans [UDP] and urban regulatory plans [URP] for Dragash/Dragaš town and the
sub-centres of Blać/Bljać, Bellobrad/Belobrad, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Brezna, Brod / Brod, Rapča / Rapçë and Restelica/Restelicë

A2) Draft urban regulatory plans for large construction zones such as the industrial zone in Dragash/Dragaš town.

B) Establish responsibilities and procedures for application of construction permits according to existing laws:
B1) Consider certain issues through urban planning: well-regulated urban density and open space, vulnerability to risks and disasters (avalanches, erosion, floods), macro-microclimate (sunlight, wind, freezing sites), data on development area and cadastral parcel, rules for accessing the building (road infrastructure and other installations), security and public order, as well as historic and cultural value.
B2) Control, supervise and inspect construction conditions (Buildings are allowed only in areas designated by MDP/UDP/URP and in accordance with regulations set by the URP).
B3) Provide physical and social infrastructure within the urban area.

C) Development of areas for commercial / industrial settlement:
C1) Dragash/Dragaš town and Shajne/Šajnovce: Realise the development of an Industrial Zone in the north of Dragash/Dragaš town (Decision of the Municipal Assembly from 2008: the area is currently under construction).
C2) Dragash/Dragaš town: Widening of the existing commercial area in the south of Dragash/Dragaš town; prevent the construction of private housing.
C3) Verify the need for commercial settlements in the sub-centres of Blać/Bljać, Bellobrad/Belobrad, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Brezna and Restelica/Restelicë; prepare infrastructural conditions for potential private construction activities.

D) Development of residential areas:
D1) Verify the need for residential settlements in the villages as proposed in the guidance maps; prepare infrastructural conditions for potential private construction activities.

E) Enhancement of the village centres:
E1) Improve amenity value and urban design of central public space in the villages as attractive places, using elements such as pavement with natural stone, trees, benches, fountains etc.

F) Cultural Heritage
F1) Collect systematic data about traditional buildings and architecture as well as of sites and elements of cultural and religious life (such as cemeteries, etc.)
F2) Promote the value of traditional buildings as part of cultural heritage by implementing pilot projects, e.g. finding new uses for old buildings as cultural centres
F3) Support private owners in the preservation and restoration of traditional buildings by providing technical expertise and funds.

G) Preserve green space; improve greenery in the villages
G1) Issue a statute to protect large trees in the settlements from being felled
G2) Promote pilot projects of open space design (e.g. Green market or square at the Municipal Assembly in Dragash/Dragaš town)
G3) Raising awareness about the environment and the green belt system (marking green belts to keep them devoid of construction)

H) Risk reduction programme for dangerous housing areas
H1) Conduct a geological risk analysis survey combined with a technical risk reduction plan for Restelica/Restelicë.
H2) Carry out a risk reduction programme including: reforestation in the relevant area surrounding Restelica/Restelicë, construction of technical avalanche protection systems, if necessary undertake active measures to reduce rock-fall risk by eliminating danger zones, establishment of an avalanche risk monitoring system
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### Further Planning
- Draft urban development plans for Dragash/Dragaš town and the sub-centres of Blać/Blijač, Bellobrad/Belobrad, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Brežna, Brol / Brod, Rapča / Rapčë and Restelica/Restelicë
- Draft urban regulatory plans for large construction zones such as the industrial zone in Dragash/Dragaš.
- Conduct a detailed geological risk analysis and draft a technical risk reduction plan for Restelica/Restelicë.

### Responsibility / Institutional Framework
- According to the Law on Spatial Planning and to the Law on Construction, the Municipality is responsible for urban planning and to allow applications for construction permits.
- The Municipality provides building permits for all buildings, except those specified in Article 35 of the Law on Construction. Construction outside defined construction areas is prohibited except for buildings named in article 17.3 of the Law on Spatial Planning. For these constructions the construction permit granted by MESP.
- Maintenance of public space falls under the responsibility of the Municipality, as long as the ground is public property. Local communities could support Municipal activities in this field.
- All construction on private properties remains under private responsibility.

### Time Frame

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<td>Reduce effectively the risks of natural hazards, especially in Restelica/Restelicë, by taking relevant measures. (H)</td>
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Assessment

Environmental impacts are expected due to further expansion of construction areas, but the location of these areas are selected in line with environmental considerations. Furthermore, the green belt system protects areas of high environmental value. Health and cultural heritage issues are not harmed by the settlement strategy, but will be improved; protection and development of open space and landscapes inside and outside the villages, as well as data collection about tangible heritage, will have a positive impact on these issues. Expansion of residential and commercial areas connected to the existing villages will support socio-economic development. Upgrading certain villages to sub-centres and strengthening the municipal centre will increase livelihood opportunities.

Reasons

Settlement activities have taken place without regulation in previous years. According to the laws in force, this practice has to be regarded as illegal. In addition, it is leading to a rising number of conflicts.

The MDP gives guidance for the position and the size of settlement areas in the villages, based on the concept of the functional meaning of the villages. The final defined construction zones have to be assigned through urban development plans and urban regulatory plans.

Dragash/Dragaš town as the municipal centre shall have the largest amount of space for development of all kinds of settlement, in particular to improve its function as the commercial and social centre. The villages Shajne / Šajnovce and Ljubovište / Lubovishtë may serve as a suburb and provide residential areas near Dragash/Dragaš town.

The sub-centres shall also develop commercial areas, if their geographical situation offers opportunities for this.

In the Municipal Centre, sub-centres and villages, construction areas for private housing shall be provided. Their size correlates with demand, which can be determined by the development of the population and size of living space per capita. The size of construction zones, dedicated for a period of 10 years, should account for 10 to 30% of the existing size of the villages.

A difficult question is how to deal with the remote villages that are under a process of depopulation. As they have been losing inhabitants dramatically in the past and probably will not gain them again, it makes no sense to suggest large areas for further construction. On the other hand, there should be options for development and construction works in these areas as well.

Criteria for definition of construction zones

The main purposes of this guidance are to direct the spatial development of settlements in a sustainable way, to avoid environmental pollution and natural hazards, to facilitate access to technical infrastructure and to preserve the historical structure of the villages. According to the topography, the soil, the scenery and other criteria, different areas are more or less suitable for construction. This is shown in the Spatial Resistance Map (IG1), on which the MDP recommendations are also based. Therefore the topographical, historical and structural assets of a

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3 Data relating to this is shown in the following Assessment Maps: A1.1 and A1.2 Assessment of biodiversity, A4.1 - A4.3 Assessment of natural hazards, A5.3 Assessment of forest and agriculture – productive capacity of soils, A7 Assessment of cultural heritage and tourist potential
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village in connection to the goals and objectives, formulated in the settlement strategies for Dragash/Dragaš municipality, determine the settlement guidance.

The spatial resistance map is an important tool that indicates which places are not suited to construction. This means avoiding construction in areas with a high spatial resistance: slopes of more than 15 %, zones with vegetation associations of high biodiversity value, agricultural land of category I-II, areas with increased risks of natural hazards, and forests which fulfill important functions. The merging of villages should be avoided, if villages are disconnected by natural elements. These areas that are to be kept devoid of construction are declared as green belts.

Besides the results of the spatial resistance map, the guidelines for urban design should also take into consideration the embedding of some villages into their surrounding relief and landscape. Growth in these circumstances should be focused in concentric bands than a linear growth along the roads.

Quantity of proposed settlement areas

The existing settlements comprise a total size of about 510 ha. Under the assumption that the population will remain more or less at the same level as today, but that the consumption of space for various kinds of settlement (housing, commerce, trade, tourism ...) per capita will increase (as it does in all developing countries). It seems realistic to expect a demand of construction in maximum of about 10% of the existing urban area for a period of 10 years. The total size of the proposed residential settlement areas is around 120 ha, which is almost 25% of the existing urban areas. This figure is much higher than the expected demand because the guidance intends to demonstrate a range of possibilities for future development. As most plots are private property there will be a need to buy and sell construction land in future. In the process of urban planning it is impossible to foresee which plots will become available to a real estate market. Thus the guidance should include much more space than necessary, but all the while ensuring that all of the proposed spaces are located at well suited sites.

Description of the settlements’ development

The spatial development of settlements is shown in the Guidance Map G4: Guidance on settlements. Additional detailed information is given for every village and Dragash/Dragaš town in A3 maps (G4.1 – G4.35) at a scale of 1:5,000. These maps characterise the settlement guidance (village zones) as:

- Construction zone (area for new housing construction/settlement expansion. Construction outside this zone is not allowed)
- Commercial zone (area for enterprises, trade and business. Small shops may be outside this zone, but noisy businesses (e.g. factory, garage) should be located in this zone)
- Public facilities (area around new school in Dragash/Dragaš to concentrate new public facilities/public buildings)
- Touristic zone (areas within the settlement or nearby, where touristic buildings/accommodation (such as hotels, holiday houses, National Park buildings) may be built)
- Urban core (area in the village where there should be some public space for traditional/common gathering – this area should be designed to provide amenity values)
- Green belt (devoid of construction; preservation of environment/green space)
Dragash/Đragaš town is the main administrative and commercial centre of Dragash municipality as well as the main market town. It forms the centre point for the roads leading along the main valleys of the municipality to Restelicë/Restelicë and Brod. The centre of the town contains a number of large institutional buildings and services, and is very much the culmination and focal point of all the roads through the municipality. The inter-municipal bus station is located close to the centre of the town. Dragash/Đragaš’s territory has a high urbanisation and a comparative lack of agricultural and pastoral lands. The town is located very close to Ljubovište/Lubovishtë to the southeast and to Shajne/Šajnovce to the northeast. A new road has been laid between the north of Dragash/Đragaš town and Shajne/Šajnovce, along which a new secondary school building is under construction and a large patch of ground has been cleared, where the Municipality intends to create a new commercial centre. In the southwest of Dragash/Đragaš town is the old commercial centre, and the Remateks wool factory is located here.

Dragash/Đragaš as the municipal centre is the place where new enterprises should be located; thus there are two large industrial zones declared in the north and south of the town. The area surrounding the new secondary school is designated for public facilities. The construction zones for Dragash/Đragaš town are located in the south and northwest of the town, mainly to provide an “infill” to the existing clustered neighbourhoods through allowing additional buildings. A clear and finite borderline should be generated to define the urban area in the appearance of the landscape. There are “green belts” attached to the built-up area. These green zones, which have to be devoid of new buildings, emphasise the urban contours, protect valuable environmental zones and keep the distance between several villages. In the centre of the town, between the bus station and the square around which sit Dragash/Đragaš’s main institutional buildings, public space for traditional or common gathering should be designed to provide amenity values. This may be achieved by the enhancement of the two squares and the connection between them (traffic control, open space design etc).

Shajne/Šajnovce
Due to its proximity to Dragash/Đragaš town, the village is subject to urban infill and sprawl. Shajne/Šajnovce is comprised of mostly rural plots and fields, although there is an increase in ’suburban’ development. Guiding this development means keeping some of the rural flair of the village and managing the urban growth.

The area in the southwest of Shajne/Šajnovce is proposed as an urban residential zone to offer space for housing close to Dragash/Đragaš town, the new commercial zone and the secondary school. Building development should fill the gaps between the village centre and the new houses lining the main road and keep away the river valley. The “urban core” of the village near the mosque should be designed to provide some amenity values.

Ljubovište/Lubovishtë
The village is becoming a suburb of Dragash/Đragaš town because of the urban infill and sprawl of the main town. There is some growth especially along the highly frequented road to Brod. There are many houses, with yards to the front and rear, but little business due to its proximity to Dragash/Đragaš.

The thin green belt between Ljubovište/Lubovishtë and Dragash/Đragaš town should to be kept devoid from construction and the riverbanks should be devoid of construction. Housing is proposed on the hillside below the school, but should maintain some distance to the main road. The “urban core” of the village is located at the top of the hill.

Restelicë/Restelicë
The village is a sizeable settlement that has rapidly developed. It is very isolated, but is also the gateway to the mountain ranges leading to FYROM and the Mavrovo National Park in the south. There are two clear parts to the settlement: north and south of valley line. The northern part has a network of winding roads and a dense urban pattern which forms the historical grain. In the last decade Restelica/Restelicë has extended to approximately twice its former size. The narrow relief has constrained development so that clusters of denser semi-settlements appear to be forming along the valley. Unfortunately the rapid and uncoordinated development of the village has caused severe problems related to road network and traffic, public infrastructure and the high risk of avalanche and rockslide in this steep terrain at high altitude.

Restelica/Restelicë, being the settlement with the second highest number of inhabitants in Dragash/Đragaš municipality, is classified as a sub-centre and should aim to strengthen this position. There is therefore need for space for further development. This means further expansion of the residential area and the setting up of some commercial construction (e.g. for trade, handicrafts...). The recommendation of the MDP is to locate this at the top of the hillside in the northwest of the village, where the slope is less steep, and connected to a proposed road bypass. This is the only location where the Spatial Resistance Map shows suitability for new settlement. The river valley and the remaining open spaces inside the built up area ought to be devoid of housing. The traditional gathering point at the mosque in the northern part of the village should be enhanced by open space design. Furthermore measures are needed to protect Restelica/Restelicë against rockslides and avalanches. A first measure is to avoid construction in areas of high risk; a second measure is to protect existing houses against natural hazards, especially in the north, the east and the south of Restelica/Restelicë. For this purpose there is guidance for a risk reduction programme included in the MDP.

**Brod**

The village is located in a small valley deep within the mountains. The population has decreased over the last decades and there is no sprawl due to a lack of space. Three streams flow through this dense settlement, with the main Brod River valley extending to the north and south. The road to the south leads to the Arxhena hotel.

The position of Brod indicates limited possibilities for housing extension, but contains high potential for tourism. The MDP therefore proposes a small construction zone in the north in the only suitable terrain remaining. Even though Brod is classified as a sub-centre, the natural situation does not allow a larger proposed urban area, as can be seen from the Spatial Resistance Map. The initiation of a satellite settlement, as is recommended for Restelica/Restelicë is not useful for Brod because of its special character and its topography. The edges of the settlement are surrounded by green belts to keep the high risk and ecologically valuable areas devoid of housing. In the south of Brod, within the river valley but still at some distance to the river itself, touristic zones are proposed to develop a recreational area that could possibly include some camping facilities or holiday housing. Another measure to support Brod’s role as a touristic centre is to enhance the open space in the centre of the village.

**Bresanë/Brodosavce**

Bresanë/Brodosavce has the largest village population in the municipality *(according to statistical estimate)*. The village is well connected to the surrounding villages and to the main road out of the municipality, being closer to Prizren than the other village centres. It is a sizeable settlement spreading along the main roads and in-filling to create a fairly dense settlement. Expansion is constrained on the north and northeast edge by forest and topography. A fairly common pattern of urban sprawl is observed along the main road axes leading out of the village towards Zgatar, Kuk/Kukovce, Buzez and Blaç/Bljać. There is also close proximity and growth towards
Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg. Bresanë/Brodosavce also has a strong heritage character, especially the ensemble of traditional buildings in the eastern part of the settlement.

As Bresanë/Brodosavce is classified as a sub-centre, and there is a need for further growth of the settlement. The natural situation allows expansion into the western/northwestern direction. Further development of housing should concentrate in the “gaps” between the existing houses in the northwest to keep the original dense character of the settlement. The further expansion in the direction of Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg in the south ought to be stopped to keep two discrete settlements with their specific characters. The open space in the centre of the settlement, located between the two crossroads near the medical centre and the old mosque, may be upgraded by extension of the park-like square in the medical centre. The MDP proposes a commercial zone in the north of Bresanë/Brodosavce. Green space should be kept between the commercial zone and the residential areas to provide visual and audible separation.

Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg

This small village to the south of Bresanë/Brodosavce has close proximity and growth towards its larger, neighbouring settlement. It also shares Bresanë/Brodosavce’s mosques (both old and new). There is, however, already some sprawl into isolated settlements towards Kuk/Kukovce.

This direction of expansion is compatible to sustain the green belt between Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg and Bresanë/Brodosavce, but there ought to be a “second row” of houses with road access. Construction in a single row of houses lining the main road destroys the character of the village. Furthermore Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg should not merge with Kuk/Kukovce in the south. The centre of the village can be strengthened through the design of its open space, so the village can retain its own identity.

Kuk/Kukovce

Due to its position in the Opoja/Opolje valley, the settlement is fairly flat and sprawling into the plains in the north. Green space and fields are located between the houses. The south of the area is slightly hillier with some forest beside the river, so this area is not suitable for further construction.

The construction zone stands in the “gaps” between the new built houses in the north, to create a closed settlement borderline. The river beds are declared as green belt zones to simultaneously protect the environment and the residents. The river beds inside the settlement contain the potential to be a designed open space and the village centre.

Blaç/Bljać

The village is situated to the south of steep and sparsely vegetated hillsides along river streams. It is split into three parts, connected by the regional road to Bresanë/Brodosavce in the west and Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje in the east. Between these areas, larger plots with single houses have developed.

If the three parts of the settlement grow together rather than expanding and moving apart, a clear village area will be defined within the landscape. The riverbanks should remain devoid of new buildings, so that the rivers can form the natural borderline of the settlement. Between the squares at the mosque (western part) and at the fountain (middle part) a designed open road area should define the “core” of the village. Along the road to Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje a proposed commercial zone provides space for setting up some commercial construction.

Bellobrad/Belobrad

Due to its position on the edge of a wide valley, the terrain is relatively flat but rises steadily in the north of the village. Bellobrad/Belobrad has developed into a village street form, as the regional road, along which some business has developed, runs directly through the village. There is also some sprawl into the steep north and the south, where the river constrains expansion.
In conjunction with its origin as a village street, further development ought to occur alongside the main road where the terrain is suitable and infrastructural access is available. Arable land of high value, steep slopes and the meadows of Belobrad River ought to be devoid of housing.

As Bellobrad/Belobrad is classified as a sub-centre some space for commercial settlement should be proposed, but there are no suitable locations for this in the village. The proposal is therefore to reuse and to convert the area of the former SOE “Sharr/Šarprodhimi/Šarproizvodi” in the south of Bellobrad/Belobrad. The existing agricultural shelters should be removed and the ground used for commercial settlement. The road leading to this zone is the connection between the regional road and the southern Opoja/Opolje valley. From the crossroads in the centre of Bellobrad/Belobrad to the square at the mosque and library an open space design might support public space for traditional or communal gathering.

*Brezne/Brezna*

This village is located at the foot of Mount Koritnik, where the wide plain opens into the north. There are easy road links to both Prizren and Dragash/Dragaš town, and the population has been steadily increasing since 1961.

A fairly dense settlement exists on the slope, but there is also expansion into the plain. The settlement actually comprises a number of smaller settlements, with upper, middle and lower neighbourhoods. Unique characteristics of Brezne/Brezna are its lower altitude (900m – 1570m) and its proximity to Lake Brezne/Brezna, which is the only significant lake in the municipality. Brezne/Brezna is classified as a sub-centre.

According to the plans for of the Zhur/Žur Hydropower Plant (HPP) project, the planned water reservoir would flood large parts of the village, including the area of Llapushnik / Lopušnik, where the school building is located. The bank line would lead through the village; more than one third of the built up area, and around 150 existing houses, would have to be removed.

As long as there is no final decision about the realisation of this project, construction activities have to respect this plan. Therefore the proposed construction zones take the HPP project into consideration, maintain some distance to the new water area, and utilise the topography and planned bank line. A necessary commercial zone is located in the east of the village, at a short distance to the main road.

*Rapča/Rapçë*

The village is located at the foot of Mount Koritnik in a valley leading to the southeast. There are two parts to the settlement, which are about 500m apart. The upper part is a dense settlement mainly formed of residential houses. The lower part is smaller but contains public buildings, and retains more of the traditional urban grain to the streets and buildings.

Due to the topography and the historical origin of the two parts of the settlement, a merging of the areas is not recommended. The gradient, riverbanks and meadows are declared as green belt to preserve the appearance of the village in the valley. Construction in the upper part should infill the gaps between the houses and orientate around the existing dense settlement. Furthermore, there is a proposal for a touristic area, which could be a location of a restaurant / hotel or holiday housing, in the north of Rapča/Rapçë. Like the lower part, the upper part also has an “urban core”, both of which have to be enhanced to provide some open space for traditional or communal gathering. The public space scheme in the lower part is to connect with the crossroads (leading to the upper part, to Krstec/Kërstec village and to Dragash/Dragaš town) and the square by the mosque, through open space design. Proposed construction zones are located beside the road in the upper part and in the southeast, connected to the existing houses.
Radeša/Radeshë
Despite the mountainous terrain, Radeša/Radeshë has grown into a large village, which is divided into a lower and an upper part located in a small valley in the east of Dragash/Dragaš. There is little space and the terrain is very steep, so the neighbourhoods are fairly dense and most of the streets are narrow and winding. The river streams flow through the lower settlement and between the different parts of the village. River beds and steep slopes as well as the vegetation covered areas means a high level of spatial resistance and are declared as green belts to be devoid of housing. In the lower part of Radeša/Radeshë there are no suitable fields for construction, so the construction zones are proposed in upper parts of the village. Both parts of the settlement contain squares which have the potential to form public space for traditional or communal gathering through open space design. Some tourism already occurs in Radeša/Radeshë because of its attractive position up in the mountains. A touristic zone is proposed on the road to Leštane/Leshtan. This comparatively flat area is suitable for a restaurant, hotel or holiday houses, and could be used as starting point for hiking.

Buče/Buće
The village is located at the foot of Mount Koritnik, where the wide plain opens into the Opoja/Opolje valley. Mountain streams flow from the north and the south of the village towards the east. Between these streams the small village is very dense, but there are also some open spaces and green areas. The main (paved) road into village terminates in a ‘village square’ area.

This area needs a little design enhancement, probably in conjunction with rehabilitation of derelict and abandoned stone houses in the east back towards the main road. Small construction zones for new housing are proposed in the gaps between the village’s built-up areas to form a continuous settlement borderline. The expansion alongside the roads, into the south and into the riverbeds, has to stop. These areas are declared as green belts.

Brut/Brut
Located at the northern edge of Opoja/Opolje valley, the landscape surrounding the village is hilly and most of the constructed area is very steep. The fairly dense settlement extends on both sides of the regional road to Bellobrad/Bełobrad in the west and to Zgatar/Zgatar in the east. Extension of the settlement through sprawl is beginning to take place along the smaller roads into the north and the east.

Because of existing slopes, construction is problematic in the south and north of Brut/Brut. To keep the distance between Brut/Brut and Zgatar/Zgatar, expansion to the east also has to stop. The construction zone should instead be orientated within the original dense structure of the village and form a definite settlement borderline. - In this way the village will maintain a clear appearance in its striking landscape in the Opoja/Opolje valley.

Zgatar
Located at the edge of Opoja/Opolje valley, the village is situated on steep slopes with little space. Thus the older part of the village is dense. There are several old houses within the village. The village’s extension primarily follows the regional road to Blač/Bljač, but at the base of the hillside it sprawls into the plain. On the other side of the village, extension beyond the borders of Zgatar’s district is occurring towards Brut/Brut..

A merging with Brut/Brut destroys the historical structure of two discrete settlements, which have their own character and identity. The topographical situation does not allow an expansion to the north or the south, and further growth along the road correlates with Zgatar’s character. However, construction in one row of houses lining the road should not occur. The existing fields the east of the village are suitable for construction and should be “filled up” to create a clear, defined settlement zone and rural zone.
Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje
This village is located in the very east of the Opoja/Opolje valley at the end of the regional road. The settlement is divided into two parts, located alongside two streams leading into the Blać/Blijać River. The road network is relatively good, especially in the southern part, where many new houses have been built.

Construction zones are declared in both parts of the settlement in the gaps between the existing housing to define a clear settlement borderline. Furthermore some touristic development is intended in Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje. There is a proposal for two touristic zones, located near the main roads to ensure an easy access. The river beds and steeper areas surrounding the village have to be devoid of construction.

Globočica/Glloboçicë
The village lies alongside the road to Restelica/Restelicë. A steep road diverges from the regional road up into the fairly dense settlement. The village is characterised by steeply sloping terrain, with little room for future growth, although infill is occurring in existing plots, with old buildings being replaced by newer constructions. Globočica/Glloboçicë’s population has decreased in the last few decades.

There is not much space and probably not much need for further expansion in Globočica/Glloboçicë. The only existing sites that are suitable for housing are located in the west and on the regional road, where the terrain is a little less steep. The areas where the spatial resistance is very high are foreseen as green belts, to be devoid of construction. The centre of the village, where the traditional gathering point and mosque is located, should be enhanced to obtain amenity values.

Kruševo/Krushevë
The settlement has grown along the regional road to Restelica / Restelicë on a steep hillside above Restelica River. The village is characterised by steeply sloping terrain, with little room for future growth. The population is constant on a low level in the last decades.

There is not much opportunity and probably not much need for great expansion in Kruševo/Krushevë. Some fields which are suitable for construction are located in the west alongside the regional road, allowing the original street village character to be preserved. Another site for future house construction is above the village in the north; however all the other surrounding areas have to be devoid of construction.

Buzez
The village, located in the middle of the Opoja/Opolje valley, is connected to Bellobrad/Belobrad, Kapre/Kapra, Kosavë/Kosavce, Kuk/Kukovce and Bresanë/Brodosavce. It is not a large village, although it has some light industry. Houses sprawl around the milk factory on the one side, with the older part of the settlement (around the new mosque) located on the other side of the road.

The existing commercial settlement remains in the proposed commercial zone. The proposed residential areas are located in the gaps between the existing houses to keep the village grounded. Another measure to strengthen the settlement in relation to the wide rural area is to enhance the physical attributes of the village centre by open space design.

Kapre/Kapra
This small village near the crossroads of asphalted roads in the middle of the Opoja/Opolje valley is well connected to Buzez, Bellobrad/Belobrad and Kosavë/Kosavce. The village is surrounded by wide open plains/fields used for grazing livestock. The village reveals a trend for the replacement of traditional buildings with modern houses. There is a large open space near the mosque, by way of a form of ‘village square’.
This square represents the ‘core’ of the village. Further expansion of housing should relate to this centre, and so the construction zones are located in the gaps between the existing built up area. Further expansion will lie on arable land of higher value, but is not restricted by steep slopes. The riverbeds have to be devoid of construction.

Kosavë/Kosavce
The village is located at the southern edge of the Opoja/Opolje valley, with a steep hillside to its west where some quarrying is occurring. The settlement’s expansion is directed towards the Pljajnik/Plajnik River and the main road. There are very few old buildings remaining, with dense new construction in most of the village. A large area in the upper part of the hillside beyond the village is experiencing severe erosion and rockfall is likely.

Many parts of the surrounding area are declared as green belt because of their spatial resistance, based on the mentioned risks and the highly valued landscape structure (rivers and groves). Construction zones are located in the western part of the village as an infill to the settlement’s clusters through additional buildings.

Krstec/Kërsteç
This small village is divided into two parts – upper and lower – lying over 500m apart from each other, located on the foothills of Mount Koritnik close to the border with Albania. The centre of the upper village (in the west) sits on a small plateau, with steep hillsides below and above the settlement. This gradient is slightly flatter in the lower part, with a little space between the slopes.

There are small proposed construction zones in both parts of the village, located in the suitable places that remain. Further expansion lining the road is problematic because of the gradient and the riverbanks, which ought to be devoid of housing.

The terrain allows only one direction of expansion - onto the plateau in the east of the village - where a construction zone is proposed. The northern, western and southern fields surrounding the settlement are very steep and the existing vegetation is of high importance for groundcover and to minimise natural hazards. These areas are therefore declared as green belts.

Kukuljane/Kukulanë
This dense settlement is built on a small plateau, except for small group of newer houses in the north. The village is located on both sides of the road from Dragash/Dragaš to Brod on a steep hillside.

The northern part of the village is developing in connection to the school. Furthermore construction zones are proposed linked to the existing buildings to form a dense settlement. Expansion lining the roads should not develop. Expansion into the south and the merging of the two parts is restricted by the terrain. The riverbeds are declared as green belts to be kept devoid of housing.

Leštane/Leshtan
The small and remote village in the mountains southeast of Dragash/Dragaš town is a dense, concentrated settlement lying between river streams and significant hilly geography. The road to Dragash/Dragaš is paved and in good condition, although the road to Radeša/Radeshë is unpaved and difficult to manoeuvre. Arranged around a main square, with a mosque that appears to have been recently renovated, are ensembles of vernacular buildings in varying condition that are significant for cultural heritage.

There should not be further growth of the village near the riverbeds and also along the steep hillsides in the north, east and west of Leštane/Leshtan. These ought to be devoid of housing. The construction zones are located in connection to the existing built-up area to fill the gaps in the urban pattern and maintain the dense character of the village.
Mlike/Mlikë
The small and compact village is located in the lower mountains of the Gora/Gorë region where the gradient is not so steep. The dense settlement has begun to spread into the north. In the south the settlement ends in a wider space near the mosque. The main social area of the village appears to be a fountain by the side of the road, on the edge of the school yard.

A village centre ought to be enhanced between the squares at the school and at the mosque by open space design. Construction should take place in the gaps between the existing housing near the mosque and in the northern part of the village. The forest-covered and steep areas in the west and the south, as well as the meadows of the river in the east, ought to be devoid of construction.

Vraništë/Vranisht
This small village has a collection of old and new houses, located in the foothills of the Gora/Gorë region, where the gradient is not too high. An asphalted road leads through the village, opening up into a central public area. In some parts, the settlement is dense but it extends and sprawls on both sides of the road.

It is not the steep terrain in Vraništë/Vranisht which constrains expansion of housing but the high ecological value of landscape structures (rivers and groves) and arable land, which have some protection functions as well. In order to keep these fields devoid of construction they are declared as green belts. Proposed construction zones are located at the gaps between the built-up areas to form a clear settlement borderline. The centre of the village, especially the road section between the aforementioned square and the school and mosque, needs some enhancement by open space design.

Pllavë/Plava
Located on flatter terrain (although steeper towards the west), the village is situated near the regional road between Prizren and Dragash/Dragaš. There are a number of traditional, rural buildings and agricultural outbuildings, comprising fields and orchards as well as larger houses with yards to the front and rear. This fairly dense settlement sprawls into the south and the east. In the northeast of the village a meat factory is located on the regional road.

This existing commercial settlement remains in the proposed commercial zone located at the regional road, and residential housing should not be located here. The settlement has its historical origin at the plateau, so this is the place for new houses. To stop sprawl, construction ought to be located near the centre of the village, mainly as an infill to the clustered neighbourhoods with additional buildings. Green belts surround the village in the north, west and south to keep the landscape structure (rivers and groves) and steeper slopes devoid of housing. The two squares in the centre of the village, at the school and at the fountain, should be enhanced and connected by open space design.

Rrenc/Renc
This is a small village alongside the main road to Prizren - Dragash/Dragaš town, although located higher up a winding, paved road. The settlement is not very dense, with gardens and fields between the houses. The majority of houses are newly constructed, although there is some trace of the older settlement on the lower levels of the hill. New development is occurring on the flat areas alongside the main road at the entry to the village.

Expansion in the direction of the regional road in the northwest and to the east should be stopped. The carpet of vegetation (coppice forest, shrubs) contains important functions, e.g. wood production, avalanche protection and biodiversity protection, and is declared as green belts. The construction zones are located in the gaps between the existing built up areas.

Zlipotok
This remote village is located in the mountains of Gora/Gorë on a steep hillside. A gravel covered road leads from Zlipotok to Kruševo/Krushevë and to Globočica/Glloboçicë, located along the Dragash/Dragašto Restelica/Restelicë road. Apart from the dense centre of the village where the terrain is very steep, there are some larger plots in the northwest of the village. A number of old buildings remain, as well as the location of an old mosque and a carved stone tablet.

Further expansion of the main settlement is restricted by the gradient and risk of natural hazards, so the construction zones are declared in the outer settlements. Instead of spreading in one row of houses alongside the roads, denser conglomerations should be developed. Green belts are located at riverbeds and steeper slopes, as well as in the National Park Area in the north and east of the village.

Zym/Zjum
This is the first village on the road through the Opoja/Opolje valley. It is divided into two parts: one to the north of the main road, and the other one in the south. There are a number of traditional houses in the northern part of the village, forming an ensemble. The topography is very steep, with some dense areas as well as spread out housing with fields and small gardens. A large outdoor area (focused around a large, old tree) on the way out of the village by the school is the location of community festivities and celebration.

This area and the following fields in the northwest of the village are declared as green belts to keep them devoid of housing, to preserve the view to lake Brezne/Brezna and to form a clear borderline to the settlement. The construction zones are connected to this green space to benefit from the scenery. Furthermore, construction should follow the original dense character of the village, so there are some gaps in the urban pattern to infill. Construction lining the regional road should be avoided because of increasing traffic.

Bačka/Baçkë [Remote Village]
This is a small village surrounded by forests and pastures with shrubs, with one access road running the length of the village and leading to the main road between Brod and Dragash/Dragaš town. Housing settlements spread perpendicular from the main road down the hillside, forming a small cluster that curves around the steep contours of the hillside. Uninhabited houses most of the year are a problem (burglaries). The infrastructure is weak. There is a high concentration of old stone houses and barns, but they are in increasing disrepair due to non-inhabitation.

Because of the steep slopes, high risks of natural hazards, and forest areas with important functions, the village is surrounded by a green belt. There is a small construction zone in the south of the village, relating to the character of the village and its difficult situation of topography and population.

Dikance/Dikanc [Remote Village]
The village lies just off the road to Brod, at the base of the Brod River valley. Dikance/Dikanc is a small village surrounded by cultivated land and extensive pastures. The infrastructure is weak. There is a very steep drop into the valley just beyond the centre of the village. The village centre is a sizeable area, with trees and seating places. The older buildings are generally in poor condition.

As in Bačka/Baçkë, which is located on the opposite hillside, steep slopes, high risks of natural hazards and forest areas with important functions restrict great expansion. The need of residential areas is also low at the moment. There is a small construction zone declared in the south of the village, where topography allows housing. The surrounding fields are marked as green belt and ought to be kept devoid of construction.
This is a small, dense settlement at a high altitude in the south of the Opoja/Opolje valley. It is located on a steep hillside near the Plajnik/Plajnik River with a stream leading into the village. The road edge drops steeply into the valley, where only a single line of houses is being built. There are a number of traditional stone buildings, and the centre of the village has an attractive natural stone feature and fountain.

**Orčuša/Orçushë [Remote Village]**
This is a Remote Village in the mountains near the border with Albania. There is no cross-border connection by road, but a path leads across the border. The small village stands on a steep south-westernly-exposed slope, clustered around the end of the unpaved road which is in very poor condition. An interesting collection of older buildings sit at the base of the village.

Due to the steep slope, the existing risks of natural hazards, and preservable plant carpet, there is not much space for expansion. There is, however, also not much need for expansion because of the small number of inhabitants and decreasing tendencies in population. A possibility for some residential areas exists in the west and east of the village in connection to the existing built-up area. The surrounding area is marked as green belt and ought to be devoid of housing.

**Xërxe/Zrze [Remote Village]**
The road to Xërxe/Zrze is partially paved, although the upper areas of the village are not; these roads are in very poor condition. It is a small and remote village in the mountains to the northeast of Dragash/Dragaš. The houses are scattered across 20ha and there is little correlation or connection between them.

This splintered accumulation of houses, based on the difficult topographical situation, has to discontinue. There is a small need of new housing, which can be supplied in connection to the main settlement, where construction zones are declared. Outer settlements without any connection to the historical source of the village are at risk of breaking the village apart and lessening the unity of the village’s inhabitants. Furthermore the outer settlements are located on steep slopes and in risky areas. These are declared as green belts.

### 8.3 Local Economy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General goals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve the economic performance of the municipal system, mainly in terms of employment and income for the population, through the valorisation of the local resources, their organisation into value chains, and upgrade capacities competitiveness whilst maintaining a long term sustainable environment, social and gender equity.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Establish a sound governance of the economic system, through facilitating multi-level networks at government level (among the municipal departments of economy, agriculture, education etc.), at local civil society level (through associations), at local level (among civil society and public institutions), at inter-municipal level (among neighbouring municipalities), at vertical level (coordination with the national government).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Improve the economic performance and competitiveness of the value chains with high impact potential on long term development, such as bees, milk, meat, herbs, forest products, forest fruits and mushrooms, and the cultural and tourist system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Establish a system for providing comprehensive services to entrepreneurs, producers,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
population, civil society organizations, and public institutions, for assuring a sustainable long term socio-economic development

- Realise design, implementation, and fund raising for priority infrastructure projects
- Realise and implement an effective territorial marketing either for promoting the territorial image at national and international level, and for attracting external resources to be used coherently with shared strategic guidelines.
- Improve capacities in economic development planning

### Actions

#### A) Establish a sound governance of the economic system

A1) Establish a municipal inter-department board for economic development and planning, and including at least the department of agriculture, economy, and education (labour?)

A2) Support existing Associations of producers and promote new Associations (when needed) by economic sector (beekeepers, breeders, dairies, etc.) as described by the strategic guidelines

A3) Promote the creation of Forums by value chains (VALUE CHAIN FORUMS), with the participation of the Associations of producers and traders adequately related to them, with the main functions of:
   - continuously evolving the strategic guidelines,
   - implementing the strategic guidelines through managing in an integrated way the whole of the value chain (from raw material to final consumer),
   - supporting the creation of Consortia by value chain.

A4) Establish a MUNICIPAL FORUM (MFORUM) for economic development and planning - including the municipality, representatives of the Value Chain Forums, and experts - with the task of sharing priorities for the annual and multi-annual strategies and plans regarding economic development. These guidelines shall shape behaviours and actions of each part in coherence with what is established by the MFORUM.

A5) Establish inter-municipal cooperation agreements with neighbouring municipalities, with specific reference to synergies especially related to satisfying the needs of providing raw materials, sharing rules, techniques and good productive practices, managing marketing activities and fairs, organizing the delivery of services, acquiring necessary and useful kinds of certification and managing quality control.

A6) Promote an annual Conference involving national and municipal Government for sharing plans, and identifying financial lines and development projects to be jointly implemented in accordance with the Municipal Development Plan.

#### B) Improve economic performance and competitiveness

B1) Improving the performance of the Bees, Forest, Herbs, Meat, Milk value chains through:
   i. Improving their productive block,
   ii. Managing the introduction of suitable compatible and sustainable innovation, in order to increase their sustainable utilisation of the high level of the territorial competitive advantage owned by the area of Dragash/Dragaš, that so far has been only little used.
   iii. Improving marketing strategies for increasing sales at local, national, and at least regional (Balkan peninsula) level.

B2) For the Textile and Clothes value chain:
   i. Assessing its competitiveness and obstacles, and
   ii. Elaborating the detailed strategic guidelines.

B3) Elaborating upper level strategies in order to increase and improve the integration of the FVC (Fruit, Vegetables and Cereals) in the productive system of Dragash/Dragaš

B4) Improving the economic and social effectiveness of the tourist resources of Dragash/Dragaš through the institution of a Local Tourist System based on the interaction among the subsystems Attractors - Hospitality - Services - Productions managed by a subsystem of Control.

B5) Assessing the chances and, consequently, elaborating strategic guidelines for the establishment of a productive Local Cultural System.

#### C) Establish a system for providing comprehensive services

C1) Establish an agreement between the municipality of Dragash/Dragaš, neighbouring municipalities, and
civil society and producers for the organisation of a public-private partnership, which is able to manage and deliver comprehensive services for economic development, with a priority on economic animation (stimulation of local actors towards the valorization of the local resources, stimulation and support of local networks and associations, provision of information; access to finance (for capitalizing the local businesses, without penalty for the local people); technical assistance (assistance to the preparation of business plans for accessing to bank and finance, for improving productivity and competitiveness, commercialization, animal sanitation, quality control), vocational training, project Development; support to innovation (improving capacities for identifying and supporting the transfer of technologies, as well as innovative practices available in Kosovo or internationally and favoring transfer/adaptation).

C2) This system shall be self-sustainable, and include existing as well as necessary new services. It shall also include a partnership management board (with representatives of local partners), and a skilled technical structure.

C3) Assure a sustainable start-up period for the system, through financing the first two years’ operations, and the elaboration of the five year financial plan.

C4) Establish a financial mechanism, as a Guarantee Fund, for facilitating access to finance for entrepreneurs, population, and producers who have difficulty in accessing bank credit.

C5) Improve capacities of the management board and technical structure

D) Realise the design, implementation, and fund raising for priority infrastructure projects
The following projects have priority:
D1) Communal public spaces for fairs and special events
D2) Waste management
D3) Laboratories for quality control
D4) Tourist information centre
D5) Capacity building or skills’ development needed for value chain development

E) Realise and implement an effective territorial marketing
E1) Define the municipal socio-economic personality, through identifying and synthesising the main characteristics as far as the tangible and intangible territorial parts, i.e. geographic position and morphological character, social and relational capital level, productive sector and market characteristics, intensity of economic and cultural external exchanges, cultural heritage, spirit of the place, social and civic values system, services system, infrastructure, and level of knowledge for social and economic development
E2) Define the image that local actors want to provide within and outside the territory (possibly in collaboration with neighbouring municipalities), and establish corresponding icon-logos
E3) Define the communication instruments for better dissemination of the territory’s profile and image, starting with the Balkan region and Europe, for promotion, to market its product-resources, and to attract external resources.
E4) Improve skills in communication and information technology, through cooperation with a university for a related educational program.

Further Planning

- Governance: the established MUNICIPAL FORUM will take in charge the elaboration of the annual municipal plans in the future, and establish an evaluation and monitoring system
- Competitiveness:
  - Plan the implementation of the Strategic Guidelines (by value chain),
  - Plan the action-research required to continuously update the Survey of Resources and consequently update the Strategic Guidelines of I and further levels (integrated strategies)
  - Provide Quality (ISO), Food safety (HACCP), Organic and Halal certification
- Services: Strengthen support to territorial international trade and innovation
- Territorial Marketing: Establish a territorial brand, and international positioning at least at regional and potentially at European level.

Responsibility / Institutional Framework
The Municipality of Dragash/Đragaš has the institutional task and responsibility of endorsing and coordinating the plan, in harmony with the institutions which constitute the Forum and National Government. The municipality should also facilitate the establishment of a comprehensive system of support services, possibly in collaboration with neighbouring municipalities.

The Dragash/Đragaš Economic Development Forum (DEDeF), constituted by the Municipality and representatives of the productive sector and civil society, will be charged with the task of identifying the objectives and priorities for development, and for their monitoring.

The value chains Forums, will be charged with the task of facilitating common actions among the participating actors, and representing them in the DEDeF.

The National Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, as well as Ministry of Economy and Finance), is responsible for coordinating actions with the municipalities.

The private sector, as major driving force of the economy, shall be represented through the sectoral associations.

### Time Frame

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority projects (short-term measures)</th>
<th>Financial implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support existing Associations of producers and promote new ones (A2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish a MUNICIPAL FORUM for economic development and planning (A4)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realise priority infrastructure projects related to event space, waste management, quality control, tourism and value chain development (D)</td>
<td>high</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mid-term measures</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish a municipal inter-department board for economic development (A1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promote Value Chain Forums (A3)</td>
<td>medium high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve the performance of the main value chains (B1, B2)</td>
<td>medium high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elaborate upper level strategies (B3)</td>
<td>medium high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve tourism (B4)</td>
<td>medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide organisation and start-up support for public-private partnerships (C1-C3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish a Guarantee Fund for facilitating access to finance (C4)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Define the municipal socio-economic personality and the image for territorial marketing (E1, E2)</td>
<td>medium high</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long-term measures</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish inter-municipal cooperation agreements for synergies in production, marketing and quality control (A5)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Install annual State-Municipality Conference (A6)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess the opportunities and elaborate strategic guidelines for the institution of a productive Local Cultural System (B5)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve capacities of the management board and technical structure (C5)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Define the communication instruments and improve its technology for disseminating the territorial profile and image (E3, E4)</td>
<td>low medium high</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assessment

Some impact on the environment is expected, relating to environmental development. This includes infrastructural projects and improving tourism. Nature conservation should not restrict municipal development in the enhancement of the economy and tourism, but in line with the spatial development framework, negative impacts will be kept to a minimum. Furthermore the strategy for local economic development takes environmental issues into consideration. Supporting existing
agricultural traditions will protect special flora and fauna in the mountains as well as cultural heritage in Dragash/Dragaš. Socio-economic development will be supported by this strategy.

Reasons
The municipality of Dragash/Dragaš can be typified, according to the European Union Leader approach, as an area with biodiversity of high variation, the potential to provide attractions through cultural and natural tourism, and as a border area; whilst having problems in maintaining and valorising its human and natural heritage, problems in productivity and competitiveness, unemployment, poverty, and emigration.

In general, the strategic options available for different types of areas are as follows:
• complementary strategies in territories that already have a good level of competitiveness;
• integration and critical mass strategies, in very fragmented territories, with no tradition or culture of collaboration, weakened by the absence of coordination instruments;
• diversification and consolidation strategies in areas with a negative trend in competitiveness (mature sectors with comparative factors rather than competitive advantage);
• recovery and re-valuestrategies in areas where resources and traditional skills are going to disappear but with competitive potential;
• rebalancing strategies in areas where development is concentrated in one part of the area, while in other parts there is a situation of decline;
• back-up and spread and animation strategies in areas suffering from intense rural exodus or isolation, where there is a strong trend in abandoning agriculture and/or closing down of remaining businesses, and a need for utilising creative strategies.

In the case of Dragash/Dragaš, the optimal strategy is a combination of the “integration strategy” with the “animation strategy”, through the realization of economies of scale and purpose (value chains), through the creation of links between the actors and institutions at municipal level and also with other municipalities, and through promoting collective action and an intense animation, and technical assistance. The aim is to introduce a new dynamism through the restoration of confidence among local populations in the value of their resources and their capacity for action, innovation, and creativeness. The animation designates large territorial actions aimed at enhancing ideas and innovative projects, and providing a recognisable and effective image of the territories of both Dragash/Dragaš and Kosovo. This aims to reduce dependence on external forces and introduce strong elements of competitiveness, in terms of expertise in niche markets, diversification and production differentiation, increased productivity and quality.

This strategy has to be backed by complementary approaches to succeed in the long term. These combine:
• The participatory approach, through the involvement in the decision-making process of the public and social actors
• The focus on human development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): it assumes that "the basic objective of development is to enhance human freedoms in a process that can expand personal skills, all the while expanding the options available for people to live a full and creative life.” In particular the MDGs refers to citizens’ right to live a long and healthy life, education, access to resources needed for a decent standard of living, and to participate in the social, economic and political life of the community.
• The reduction of inequality and exclusion that aims to achieve a better allocation of resources, particularly taking into account the situation of social exclusion of different populations.
• The reduction of the gender inequality: it involves breaking down the gaps between women and men, showing the different effects of contradictions on different sectors of the population, and the denial of choices and freedoms to women as subjects of rights and citizenship, and ensuring affirmative action by women (for their own interests and needs) as well as other vulnerable populations.
• The protection of the environment, biodiversity, and cultural heritage, that are necessary to ensure the welfare of current and future populations and of resources as development assets.

Available resources and competitive advantages

The following Assessment Maps provide the basic data for the Development Guidance:

- A5.1 Assessment of forest and agriculture - condition of forest
- A5.3 and 3.4 Assessment of forest and agriculture - productive capacity of soils and livestock and suitability for crops
- A7 Assessment of cultural heritage and tourist potential
- A10.1 Assessment of economy, infrastructure and energy – roads and transportation
- A10.3 Assessment of economy, infrastructure and energy - economy

The municipal potential for competitive and sustainable economic development consists in various resources, once they have been adequately valorised and networked, such as bees, herbs, forest products, livestock (milk and meat), textile, culture, and tourism.

In general their competitive advantage consists in intrinsic environmental sustainability; the good opportunities of high production through farming, due to the intrinsic characteristics of the local germplasms; the good opportunities of obtaining varieties of product due to the existence of many extended and not-degraded gathering/farming areas belonging to several different ecosystems; the recognisable prestige of the products, because the Sharr/Šar region is generally acknowledged as an area characterised by a significant level of biodiversity; the high level of healthiness and quality of many local products; and the geographical position on the border with two other countries.

Specific added values for each value chains are also present.

Services for supporting economic development are scarce, with some exceptions in the municipal departments of agriculture and tourism.

A LAG (Local Action Group) exists but it does not function properly, consisting of only one person undertaking some projects on voluntary basis. Officially it is constituted of 25 members, but they are individuals and not representatives of civil society organisations. The LAG is dependent on the municipality, although the relevant municipal department does not provide much support. It has elaborated and realised some small projects, but it is far from supporting the economic and rural development of the municipality.

Obstacles

The main obstacles consist of:

- the small production scale, due to a low number of residents, entrepreneurs, and producers, the productive possible production volumes, and the difficulty of organising appropriate services;
- the limited knowledge of the ecosystems;
- the lack of adequate technical skills;
 the lack of adequate equipment;
 the low quality of territorial relational capital;
 the lack of enterprise organisation;
 the poor state of the internal relationships;
 the lack of external relationships (with other value chains);
 the lack of market knowledge;
 the low level of certification (ISO, HACCP, Organic, Halal) of the products;
 the lack of an integrated Waste Management System;
 the lack of an integrated Water Management System;
 the lack of services for improving local economic performance.

The aforementioned economic development strategy is aimed at reducing the obstacles to the full valorisation of the local endogenous resources, as a means for achieving the economic development objectives of improving employment and income for the population, and upgrading the capacities of competitiveness while maintaining a sustainable environment, and social and gender equity in the long-term.

The four strategic steps for achieving these objectives are illustrated in the following diagram and guide the presented strategic plan of action.

① Improve capacities of local producers and their organisations
② Link the local producers with corresponding producers in neighbouring municipalities
③ Organise a comprehensive system for providing effective and efficient services for economic development at a proper scale
④ Position the local products in the proper niche markets; also through territorial branding
8.4 Road and transportation

General goals

Further improvement of the road network and of public transport is key to overcoming the geographical remoteness of Dragash/Dragaš as a whole and of its villages. It will improve livelihood opportunities, support the local economy by offering better access to markets, and promote tourism. Improved maintenance of roads will ensure that investments will be long lasting. With regards to the environment and the National Park in Dragash/Dragaš, some road projects that would have a large environmental impact shall not be realised.

Objectives

- The improved local road network shall offer fast, safe and reliable access to all villages.
- Road network and public transport towards Prizren as the regional centre shall be strengthened.
- The borderlines to Albania and FYROM shall allow controlled legal traffic of humans and goods; new cross-border connections shall connect Dragash/Dragaš to the road network of both countries.
- Public transportation shall provide regular, comfortable and affordable connections between Dragash/Dragaš town, the municipal sub-centres and Prizren.
- Improved maintenance of roads shall ensure that investments are long-lasting and sustainable.
- The planning and decision making process for road projects shall include environmental impact analyses and compliance with the National Park.

Actions

Initiate consultations with both national and local authorities from Kosovo, Albania and FYROM regarding options for improvement of the cross-border road network.

Coordinate planning processes for the road network, in consideration of general development plans in all municipalities. Conduct transnational feasibility studies for such projects.

A) Local Road Network:

A1) Pave the road connecting the villages of Leštane/Leshtan and Radeša/Radeshë

A2) Pave the road connecting the village Ljubovište/Lubovishtë to the Dragash/Dragaš – Brod regional road

A3) Construct a new local road connecting Brod and Restelica/Restelicë; elaborate the planning for a new road between Brod and Zipotok; renovate the road from Zipotok to the Dragash/Dragaš – Restelica/Restelicë regional road

A4) Construct a bypass road for Brrut/Brut and Zgatar

B) Regional road Network:

B 1) Widen the existing regional road (Dragash/Dragaš – Prizren via Zhur); improve the speed and safety of travelling by partial widening to three lanes and partial improvement in alignment

B 2) Widen the existing Dragash/Dragaš – Brod regional road to two lanes

B 3) Construct a second road access between Dragash/Dragaš and Prizren via Zapljudhe/Zaplužje and Lez by upgrading and paving the existing gravel road.

B 4) Elaborate the planning for and construct a bypass road for Restelica/Restelicë

B 5) Construct a new road connecting Brod and Restelica/Restelicë; elaborate the planning for a new road
in the south of Brod to Restelica/Restelicë along traditional paths.

C) Cross – Border connections:

C 1) Create a cross-border connection near Orčuša/Orçushë by paving the existing road to Orčuša/Orçushë and by construct the missing road connection to the existing border station at the Albanian border.

C 2) Pave the existing road from Kruševo/Krushevë to the existing border station at the Albanian border.

C 3) Pave the existing gravel road from Restelica/Restelicë to the border with FYROM.

C 4) Assess the feasibility of a cross-border connection from the Dragash/Dragaš – Prizren regional road along the Plava River to the Albanian border, using the low altitude of only 800 – 900m above sea level (potentially important regional connection to the international motorway).

D) Agricultural road network:

D 1) Expand local roads / paths to arable land to make agriculture and land use more efficient

E) Maintenance:

E 1) Create a unit in the Municipal administration that will be responsible for the maintenance of roads, and ensuring that it has a budget and technical expertise to fulfil this task carefully.

E 2) Monitor the situation of roads regularly; undertake repair work as soon as necessary to avoid increasing damage.

F) Public Transport

F 1) Improve the frequency and the schedule of public buses by coordination through the Municipality.

F 2) Improve the connection to public transport especially in the Gora/Gorë region, support existing lift-sharing by creating an internet-aided reservation system of lift-sharing between Dragash/Dragaš – Restelica/Restelicë and Dragash/Dragaš – Brod. (This may also be used by tourists)

F 3) Construct bus stations and shelters at important stops (in Dragash/Dragaš, at the crossroads Dragash/Dragaš – Prizren / Dragash/Dragaš – Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje, ...)

G) Road projects that should not be realised: (see reasons below)

G1) Road project for a cross-border connection from Brod to FYROM, passing Lake Shutman

G2) Road project for a cross-border connection from Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje towards the border of FYROM (at the Skarpe/Skarpa Mountain at an altitude of 2474m)

G3) Project for a border-to-border road from the Albanian border near Kruševo/Krushevë (existing border station) to the border with FYROM south of Restelica/Restelicë (new alignment without using existing roads, passing to the west of Restelica/Restelicë at a higher altitude)

Further Planning

- Planning for regional roads needs coordination with national authorities. The Municipal Development Plan may only express the ambitions of the municipality, but the responsibility lies with the Ministry of Transport and Communications.
- Planning of cross-border roads needs consultation with both national and local authorities from Kosovo, Albania and FYROM. Coordinate planning processes for the road network, considering general development plans in all municipalities. Conduct transnational feasibility studies for such projects.
- Creation of new roads needs detailed planning, starting with feasibility studies.
- Draft plans for an efficient transport system with coordination of destinations, routes, and timetables of buses.

Responsibility

Improvement of the road network and public transportation will need cooperation at the national
and municipal level, as well as public-private partnership.

- The local road network is under the responsibility of the Municipality.
- The regional road network is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Transport and Communications.
- Legal provisions regarding cross-border traffic must be adopted at the national level.
- Public transportation is run by private companies, but the Municipality shall play a major role in coordination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Financial implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority projects (short-term measures)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Widen the existing regional road (Dragash/Dragaš – Prizren via Zhur/Žur) (B1)</td>
<td>medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Construct a second road access between Dragash/Dragaš and Prizren via Zapluxe/Zaplužje (B3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Pave the existing road from Kruševo/Krushevë to the existing border station at the Albanian border (C2)</td>
<td>high medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Pave the existing gravel road from Restelica/Restelicë to the border with FYROM. (C3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Install an administrative unit of the Municipality responsible for maintenance (E1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term measures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Pave local roads (A1, A2)</td>
<td>low medium high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Widen the existing road Dragash/Dragaš – Brod (B2)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Elaborate the planning for construction of a bypass road for Restelica/Restelicë (B4)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Elaborate the planning for construction of a new southern road connection Brod – Restelica/Restelicë (B5)</td>
<td>high medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Conduct a feasibility study of a cross-border connection alongside the Plava Rive (C4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Organise and conduct continuous maintenance (E2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Improve public transport in the Opójë/Opolje and Gora/Gorë regions (F1, F2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term measures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Construct new road connection Brod – Zlipotok – Restelica/Restelicë (A3)</td>
<td>medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Construct a bypass road for Brrut/Brut and Zgatar (A4)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Create a cross-border connection near Orčuša/Orçushë (C1)</td>
<td>low medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Improve the agricultural road network (D)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Construct bus stations at important stops (F3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment

In context of road projects, environmental impact is unavoidable. However, the negative impacts can be reduced when routing takes environmental aspect into consideration, as has been done in this strategy.

In the case of socio-economic development, road improvement and construction will increase access to Dragash/Dragaš and the mobility of its citizens. Negative impacts related to traffic noise is not expected at the moment but should also be considered.
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Reasons

The physical situation of local roads has improved a lot over the last few years. It is essential to ensure that there is a continuous maintenance of the road network in order for these improvements to be successful. The situation of cross-border connection is still difficult; Dragash/Đragaš is impaired by long borderlines which do not allow legal traffic of humans and goods. Furthermore, the only road access to Prizren is not in good condition (see also chapter 3, Municipal Profile).

A long list of road projects has been drawn up by the Municipality. Additionally, there is a need of road bypasses for Restelica/Restelîca and for Brrut/Brut and Zgatar. All of these projects have been mapped and assessed, although it was not possible to undertake detailed feasibility studies because road planning is not in detail. To give a comprehensible recommendation about the practicability of the projects and some priority for implementation, these road projects were evaluated based on their position in the road network, their cost level, their environmental impact and their separation effects within the National Park.

Table 1: Assessment of road projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Altitude</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Added value</th>
<th>Costs</th>
<th>Conflict National Park</th>
<th>Conflict Biodiversity</th>
<th>Final Assessment</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Prizren-Dragash</td>
<td>improve</td>
<td>920-1020</td>
<td>11.844</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>realise</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3</td>
<td>Zaplluxhe-Prizren</td>
<td>improve</td>
<td>1170-1250</td>
<td>2.524</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>realise</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>Krushevo-Albania</td>
<td>improve</td>
<td>1140-1405</td>
<td>3.226</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>realise</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Radesha-Leshani</td>
<td>improve</td>
<td>1050-1100</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>realise</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Ljub-REG</td>
<td>improve</td>
<td>1144-1150</td>
<td>1.948</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>realise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4</td>
<td>Bypass_Zgatar</td>
<td>improve</td>
<td>1280-1360</td>
<td>2.497</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>realise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Dragash-Brod</td>
<td>new/improve</td>
<td>950-1120</td>
<td>3.174</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>realise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Orcushe-Albania</td>
<td>improve</td>
<td>1020-1380</td>
<td>12.420</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>realise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>Restelica-FYRM</td>
<td>improve</td>
<td>1440-1900</td>
<td>16.705</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>check</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3</td>
<td>Gora</td>
<td>new</td>
<td>1380-1480</td>
<td>6.978</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>B5</td>
<td>Brod-Restelica</td>
<td>new/improve</td>
<td>1400-1920</td>
<td>12.463</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>Bypass_Restelica</td>
<td>new</td>
<td>800-850</td>
<td>5.136</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>check</td>
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<tr>
<td>B4t</td>
<td>Tunnel_Restelica</td>
<td>new/improve</td>
<td>1350-1400</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>check</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C7</td>
<td>Plava River</td>
<td>new</td>
<td>1200-1520</td>
<td>11.090</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>check</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>Brod-FYRM</td>
<td>new/improve</td>
<td>1160-2470</td>
<td>11.650</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>dismiss</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C5</td>
<td>Zaplluxhe-FYRM</td>
<td>new/improve</td>
<td>1420-2200</td>
<td>12.744</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>dismiss</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C6</td>
<td>Albania-FYRM</td>
<td>new</td>
<td>1400-1940</td>
<td>12.055</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>dismiss</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 very high    very high   very high
2 high         low          high
3 moderate     moderate    moderate
4 low          high         low
5 very low     very high   very low

The following Assessment Maps provide the basic data for the Development Guidance:

- A1.1 and A1.2 Assessment of biodiversity
- A3 Assessment of water resources - regeneration, threats, and quality
Criteria of assessment

The assessment of “Added Value” defines the significance of the road project for overall improvement of the existing road network. It is based on the position of the project in the existing road network, its geographical relation to existing settlements, its altitude range and the access to existing roads, especially connections abroad. The assessment uses a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the best.

The cost of a project depends on its construction type (improvement of existing road or new construction), its configuration (road, bridge or tunnel) and its length. At the actual level of planning it is not possible to estimate the exact cost of a project, so the assessment differentiates between very low costs (1), low, middle, high and very high costs (5).

The assessment of the environmental impact of the road projects contains an analysis of the sensitivity of the environment and the level of damage that would be caused by the road construction. Areas of high environmental sensitivity are Vegetation Associations of High Importance, some Vegetation Types, Habitats of mammals protected according to the European Habitat Directive and areas for Regeneration of Water Resources. The level of damage caused by the road construction depends on the construction type (improvement of existing road or new construction) and the length of the road project. According to the actual level of planning, which is not in detail until now, it is not possible to estimate the environmental impact in detail. The assessment uses a five-point-scale, with 1 being the best (very low impact).

The assessment of the criterion “National Park” is based on the construction type and length of the road projects within the National Park. Projects which do not affect the area of the Sharr/Šar National Park are awarded the best rating (1). The assessment of the other projects examines every single project without consideration accumulative impact by other projects. Later in the planning process, when it has been decided which projects will be implemented; a detailed assessment will be necessary which also takes into account the correlating impacts of all implemented projects together.

Recommendations of the MDP

Aggregation of the separate valuations enables a final evaluation to be made. According to this aggregated assessment, the MDP formulates recommendations about which project(s) ought to be implemented and which should not be realised.

To improve the local and regional road network is an important part of Dragash/Dragaš’s development. The MDP therefore recommends the realisation of the projects listed above under Actions A and B. With regard to the bypass for Restelica/Restelicë, the project B 4t (tunnel version) is preferred because it anticipates a lower impact on the environment. However, its projected costs are very high, and so a feasibility study is required. It is also necessary to elaborate the planning of projects A3 and A4 through the Gora/Gorë region to reach a final conclusion.

Cross-border connection projects are also important, but there has to be a differentiation between the proposed road projects. The projects C1 and C2 are both useful to create a good and legal connection to Albania. The road from Kruševo/Krushevé appears easier to realise because it already

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4 Associations listed in EU Flora-Fauna-Habitat Directive, Annex I, endemic in Kosovo or the Balkans, or glacial or tertiary Relic, or rare.
5 Broad-leaved Forest, Shrub and/or herbaceous Vegetation Associations, Open Spaces with little or no Vegetation and Wetlands.
6 Depending on geology and soil.
exists, but there will be a greater impact on the National Park and the distance to the north (Dragash/Drugaš, Prizren) is longer. Therefore a feasibility study is necessary in order to decide which project option (or even if both) may be realised. It is also necessary to determine whether the road connection to Albania along Plava River (project C7) will be beneficial.

The MDP guidance leads to the conclusion that in the Municipality of Dragash/Drugaš only one cross-border road project to FYROM should be realised: Project C3: improvement of existing road from Restelica/Restelicë to the border with FYROM. While the Spatial Plan of Kosovo in its Spatial development strategy map (see Chapter 2) contains one line, which indicates a possible road connection to FYROM from Brod – which may be interpreted as the Project C4 (Brod – Lake Shutman) – the MDP comes to another finding.

Due to their high costs, high environmental impact, and total length within the National Park, and also because of a lack of connecting roads abroad, the road projects C4 (Brod to FYROM), C5 (Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje to FYROM) and C6 (Albanian Border to Border with FYROM) are opposed to a sustainable development and should be dismissed.

The results and recommendations are shown in the Guidance Map G5: Guidance on roads and transportation.
8.5 Health and civil protection

General goals

The graded system of health care units (Main Family Medical Centre in Dragash/Dragaš, Family Medical Centres in sub-centres and Health Clinics in certain villages) shall be optimised to provide an efficient medical supply. The medical staff, technical equipment and physical equipment of the healthcare units should match national standards in all facilities. Continuous professional training for medical staff, upgrading of technical instruments, etc. shall guarantee a high standard of healthcare in Dragash/Dragaš. The Municipality supports invalids as far as possible. A mobile medical service is proposed to act as an additional health facility and to cover the distance between remote villages and mobile medical services. Health education activities will take place at village level. The citizens will have access to information concerning health topics (awareness on different diseases and useful tips for better health) through an internet webpage. Health and livelihood opportunities will also be enhanced by well-organised civil protection.

Objectives

- Establish additional Family Medical Centres in those sub-centres that are situated at a greater distance from Dragash/Dragaš or the next Family Medical Centre.
- The national standard for the number of healthcare units and medical staff (especially specialists) per inhabitant shall be attained in every medical centre and health clinic. Due to the dispersed settlement structure, this requires, a higher number of staff than the national budget offer. Therefore fundraising for additional financial means is necessary.
- Medical staff shall be well-skilled and motivated to ensure high quality of health care.
- Technical and physical equipment shall be regularly improved to be up-to-date.
- A mobile medical service, equipped with a doctor, a nurse and basic facilities, shall visit immobile patients / remote villages at least twice a month.
- There shall be a safe emergency patient transport to the Main Family Medical Centre in Dragash/Dragaš.
- There shall be a well-organised regular patient transport to Prizren.
- Pharmacies shall be located in every sub-centre.
- Hygiene and health topics shall be part of curriculum and adult information projects.
- A well-maintained, bilingual website will inform citizens about current diseases and healthcare.
- The Municipal and the voluntary fire brigades shall be able to extinguish fires quickly and efficiently.

Actions

A) Adjust spatial distribution of healthcare units
   A1) Upgrade Health Clinic in Brod to Family Medical Centre; ensure adequate infrastructure.
   A2) Upgrade Health Clinic in Restelica/Restelicë to Family Medical Centre; ensure adequate infrastructure.
   A3) Downgrade Family Medical Centre in Kruševo/Krushevë to Health Clinic; transfer infrastructure to Restelica/Restelicë.
   A4) Open up pharmacies in the sub-centres of Blaç/Bljać, Brod and Restelica/Restelicë.

B) Increase number of staff
   B1) Ensure the existence of a minimum of 1 doctor, 1 nurse, 1 midwife and 1 dental technician in every Family Medical Centre (additional staff may be according to number of inhabitants in catchment area).
   B2) Employment of additional gynaecologists (preferably women).

C) Improve medical staff performance
   C1) Regular professional refresher training for staff.
C2) Increase staff motivation.

D) Improvement of infrastructure
   D1) General improvement of physical and technical equipment to attain modern standards.
   D2) Improvement of energy efficiency and hot water supply through use of solar water heaters.

E) Additional health services
   E1) Install a mobile medical service, equipped with a doctor and a nurse as well as basic facilities, to visit remote villages at least twice a month.
   E2) Organisation of safe emergency patient transport to the Main Family Medical Centre in Dragash/Dragaš.
   E3) Organisation of regular transport of patients with special diseases from home to Prizren.
   E4) Introduce hygiene and health topics into school-based curriculum (especially at primary school level).
   E5) Organise adult information projects about current diseases, sanitation and hygiene, and food education.
   E6) Digitalisation of Health Information System.
   E7) Install a maintained bilingual website about current diseases and healthcare.
   E8) Increase funding for health and support process of decision-making based on evidence.

F) Civil protection
   F1) Install basic firefighting equipment in every sub-centre (Blaç/Bljać, Bellobrad/Belobrad, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Brezna, Brod/Brod, Rapča/Rapçë and Restelica/Restelicë).
   F2) Educate voluntary fire brigades in every sub-centre.
   F3) Conduct training on fire fighting and fire prevention among citizens.

Further Planning
- Detailed inventory of existing equipment in Dragash/Dragaš’s health care units; assessment and planning for further improvement.
- Planning for further improvement of thermal insulation and hot water supply by solar water heaters.
- Planning for mobile medical service and patient transport facilities.

Responsibility / Institutional Framework
- According to the Law on Local Self-Government (No.03/L-040) and the Kosovo Health Law (No. 2004/4) the Municipality is responsible for provision of public primary health care.
- The Ministry of Health is among others responsible for health policies and professional and legal supervision of health care activities, including the setting up of national standards. In the national standards, the number of staff for primary health care is limited.

Time Frame | Financial implication
---|---
Priority projects (short-term measures) | medium
- Transfer infrastructure of Family Medical Centre (FMC) in Kruševko/Krushevo to Restelica/Restelicë in order to upgrade the Health Clinic (A1, A3)
- Upgrade Health Clinic in Brod to Family Medical Centre (A2)
- Movement of rescue station in Dragash/Dragaš to ground floor (D3) | low
Mid-term measures | medium
- Open up pharmacies in sub-centres (A4)
- Employment of additional gynaecologists (B2)
- Improvement of physical and technical equipment to modern standards (D1)
- Improve energy efficiency and hot water supply by solar water heaters (D2)
- Organisation of emergency patient transport to Main FMC in Dragash/Dragaš (E2) | high
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- Organisation of regular patient transport to Prizren (E3)
- Include hygiene and health topics in school-based curriculum (E4)
- Install a maintained bilingual website for health topics (E7)
- Increase funding for health (E8)
- Improve civil protection with respect to fire fighting (F)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long-term measures</th>
<th>low medium</th>
<th>low medium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensure existence of a minimum of 1 doctor, 1 nurse, 1 midwife and 1 dental technician in every FMC (B1)</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve medical staff performance (C)</td>
<td>medium</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Install a mobile medical service (E1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organise adult information projects about health (E5)</td>
<td>medium</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digitalise Health Information System (E6)</td>
<td>medium</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Assessment**

Negative environmental impacts are not expected because planned construction measures affect only existing built-up areas. Traffic load and emissions will not increase to a problematic level because of mobile medical services. But these will improve livelihood. If energy efficiency and fire fighting measures are implemented, the health actions will even have a positive effect on the environment.

**Reasons**

The following Assessment Map provides the basic data for the Development Guidance:

- **A8 Assessment of health, medical services and civil protection**

The specific settlement structure of Dragash/Dragaš with its 36 small and dispersed villages requires specific adaption of the national health standard. There have to be more specialists, especially gynaecologists/midwives, made accessible for invalids and pregnant women. Alternative solutions to solve this problem are through the employment of additional specialists, improvement of patient transport and mobilisation of medical services. The number of specialists in Dragash/Dragaš does not reach the national standard, so even if the total number of doctors per inhabitants is attained, an improvement in staffing is required. Improvement in patient transport equipment is necessary within the Municipality as well as to Prizren, where specialist therapies are available. Even if the national standard is reached, and the ambulance service is improved, great distance remains between remote villages and medical centres/health clinics. To cover this distance there are doctors who work part-time in several villages. However, home visits for vulnerable villagers (such as the elderly and those disabled by disease or mobility) are still required. A mobile medical service, equipped with a doctor and a nurse as well as basic facilities, is necessary to visit immobile patients and remote villages. Another medium to reach patients is the internet, since the disadvantage of spatial dispersion in the health sector can be solved by using modern media. For example, a well-maintained, bilingual website informing patients about current diseases and healthcare, for undertaking email-correspondence with doctors, and through the digitalisation of the Health Information System, can each facilitate the health services.

Besides basic health services provided by the Health Clinics, a wider variety of service is offered in the Family Medical Centres. These centres ought to be in every sub-centre, because of the size and function of sub-centres. The presence of a Family Medical Centre in Kruševo/Krushevë is illogical considering that there are 4,200 inhabitants in Restelica/Restelicë and 625 in Kruševo/Krushevë. Movement of the special service equipment from Kruševo/Krushevë to the sub-centre of
Restelica/Restelicë follows the general principle of spatial development, which assigns sub-centres as a supra-local utility service for their catchment area. Another upgrade is needed in Brod where special healthcare services are required, but where the equipment of the healthcare unit meets that of a Health Clinic.

The spatial development of Health and civil protection is shown in the Guidance Map G7: Guidance for health, medical services and civil protection.
### 8.6 Education

#### General goals

Education is the most important factor for a better life. It contributes to social progress in values such as tolerance and international understanding, and serves to improve individual opportunities for a successful life. The level of education in Dragash/Dragaš shall continue to improve. Therefore, the educational system needs to be adopted to changing demands. As Dragash/Dragaš is part of the territory of Kosovo, every school and all teachers and pupils should be integrated into the Kosovar school system, even if offering education in the Serbian language. There shall be an efficient and diversified school system in Dragash/Dragaš based upon the principle of “Education at the nearest point”. The secondary level and the pre-school level of education shall be extended, while in some remote villages an existing oversupply with teachers can be reduced. The spatial distribution of primary and secondary schools and/or transport to school shall enable every child in the municipality easy access to school. Girls attending secondary school and continuing education shall be a matter of course for everybody. Further education (at university or vocational school) increases the educational level and further development in the municipality. The job market in the municipality shall be based upon well-skilled youth and skilled adults. Job training, especially for women and the unemployed, in the main economic development fields (agriculture, forestry, herbs collection, food processing, cultural heritage and tourism) will widen Dragash/Dragaš’s opportunities and strengthen its position in the Sharr/Šar/Șhar region.

#### Objectives

- **In the long term,** the Kosovo school system should become the only school system in Dragash/Dragaš. Teachers and the teaching content of the Serbian system should be integrated into the Kosovo system while fully respecting the cultural background of the Gorani communities and the requirement to be taught in the Serbian language. To reach this objective a dialogue with relevant participants both at a national and municipal level should be initiated. Facilities for secondary education shall be expanded. The majority of Dragash/Dragaš’s youth shall graduate from secondary education. There will be no gender-related difference.
- **There will be a good system of central and satellite schools and a well-functioning transport system to schools in Dragash/Dragaš.**
- **To increase vocational opportunities for adults, including men, women, the unemployed and low-skilled persons,** and for the further development of the municipality, there shall be adult education programmes (lifelong learning).
- **Endogenous productive dynamics shall be a main part of Dragash/Dragaš’s economic sector.**
- **By 2015 there will be no school with less than 10 students,** as the maintenance of school buildings for less than 10 students is uneconomic and exceeds the financial capabilities of the Municipality.
- **Parent-teacher-student communication shall be increased and active engagement of parents in the education process facilitated.**
- **Every boy and girl in Dragash/Dragaš should obtain the highest level of education according to his/her personal possibilities and not dependent on his/her financial, social or ethnic background or special needs.**
- **Installation of Preschool institutions will relieve parents and prepare children for school education.**
- **Education shall contain current issues (health, cultural heritage, energy, environmental pollution).**
### Actions

**A) Parallel (Serbian) school system**
- **A1)** Integrate teachers of Serbian system into the Kosovo system.
- **A2)** Motivate a discussion within civil society about the integration of the parallel (Serbian) system into the Kosovar system; Negotiate especially with parents of children who attend Serbian schools.
- **A3)** Motivate exchange activities among both communities.
- **A4)** Extend the Kosovo school system into the Gora/Gorë region (especially in Restelica/Restelicë)

**B) Secondary Education**
- **B1)** Open the new secondary/vocational school in Dragash/Dragaš town.
- **B2)** Increase number of students in secondary school and university (boys and girls) and ensure that records of school attendance are disaggregated according to gender.
- **B3)** Establish satellite secondary school classes in the Gora/Gorë region (Restelica/Restelicë, Brod).

**C) Lifelong learning**
- **C1)** Open the new secondary/vocational school in Dragash/Dragaš town as an adult education centre for youth over 15 years of age.
- **C2)** Realise adult education programmes for men, women, the unemployed and low-skilled adults; attract additional financial means and organise specialists to hold courses for adult education.
- **C3)** Realise job trainings in the main economic development fields (agriculture, forestry, herbs collection, food processing, culture and tourism).
- **C4)** Provide opportunities for local communities to act and participate in economic strategies, through training in business planning, management, hospitality and service-provision, accounting and marketing.
- **C5)** Enable equal opportunities for women to access these opportunities, with targeted training. Projects should focus on building the skills and social capital of women to participate actively in traditional activities of food preparation, providing accommodation, agriculture and the processing of agricultural products, and the making of clothes and textiles, in relation to tourism as well as other income-generating opportunities.

**D) Optimise Primary Education**
- **D1)** Re order for teachers, not needed in class (because of small pupil number).
- **D2)** If transport to other primary schools is arranged, close primary schools with less than 10 pupils.

**E) Education process**
- **E1)** Commit teachers to regular professional refresher training.
- **E2)** Establish parent-teacher conferences; enable active engagement of parents in the education process (days of action for the environment, for safeguarding traditions/cultural heritage, etc.).
- **E3)** Exchange of experiences and knowledge with other schools in Kosovo and abroad.
- **E4)** Integrate children in special needs into mainstream education.

**F) Improve Infrastructure and further conditions**
- **F1)** Improvement of school infrastructure (buildings, sports fields, laboratories, technology, learning materials, etc.).
- **F2)** Arrange school transport to secondary school, and to Primary school where necessary.
- **F3)** Financial support (scholarship, transport, books).

**G) Develop new fields**
- **G1)** Establish a preschool institution (kindergarten, pre-primary classes, community based centres).
- **G2)** Include current issues into school-based curriculum (about health, cultural heritage, energy, the environment and waste collection).
- **G3)** Integrate modern technology (computers, internet) into school life (also to manage the problem of dispersed villages).
### Further Planning
- A long-term process to only one school system has to be planned.
- In anticipation of the Law on obligatory secondary school, demand for secondary classes has to be assessed and covered within the Municipality.

### Responsibility / Institutional Framework
- The municipal and national responsibilities with regards to education are laid out in the Law on Education in the Municipalities No.03/L-068 and the Law on Pre-University Education No.04/L – 032. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has (amongst others) the responsibility to develop policies for education, to supervise educational administration and to facilitate the development of the education system. Within the legal framework the Municipalities have full and exclusive powers in the provision of public pre-primary, primary and secondary education, including licensing of educational institutions, recruitment, payment of salaries and training of education instructors and administrators.
- A law on obligatory secondary school is expected to be adopted. Decisions on the future of the Parallel System are not under the Municipal responsibility but require negotiations at the national level.

### Time Frame

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority projects (short-term measures)</th>
<th>Financial implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motivate a discussion within civil society, including parents, about integration of the parallel system into the Kosovar system (A2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decide on the establishment of secondary school classes in sub-centres in the Gora/Gorë region (B3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open the new secondary/vocational school in Dragash/Dragaš town (B1, C1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attract additional financial means and organise specialists to hold courses for adult education (C2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realise job training in the main economic development fields (C3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Mid-term measures | \n|-------------------|\n| Motivate exchange activities between the Opojë/Opolje and Gora/Gorë regions (A3) | low |
| Enhance capacities and opportunities of women to participate in the economic sector (C5) | medium |
| Commit teachers to regular professional refresher training (E1) | medium |
| Establish parent-teacher meetings (E2) | medium |
| Improve school infrastructure (F1) | medium |
| Arrange school transport (F2) | high |
| Establish preschool institutions (G1) | high |
| Include current issues into the school-based curriculum (G2) | low |
| Integrate modern technology into school life (G3) | medium-high |

| Long-term measures | \n|-------------------|\n| Integrate teachers of the Serbian system into the Kosovo system and extend the Kosovo system into the Gora/Gorë region (A1, A4) | high |
| Increase the number of students in secondary school (B2) | medium |
| Integrate communities into economic strategies (C4) | medium |
| Optimise primary education by reducing the number of schools and teachers (D) | low |
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- Exchange experience and knowledge with other schools in Kosovo and abroad (E3)
- Integrate children with special needs (E4)
- Attract and provide financial support (scholarship, transport, books) (F3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>medium</th>
<th>high</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Negative environmental impacts are not expected because planned construction measures affect existing built-up areas. Traffic load and emissions will not be increased to a problematic level because of pupil transport to school. In addition, several education measures will raise awareness for nature conservation, so the education strategy will have a positive effect on the environment. As education is the basis of economic development and good livelihoods, socio-economic issues will be positively affected.

Reasons

The specific settlement structure of Dragash/Dragaš with its 36 small and dispersed villages is one reason that makes it difficult to provide effective educational facilities for everybody. The assessment of the existing situation showed overcapacities in primary education in remote villages experiencing a loss of population, while capacities in the pre-primary and secondary sector are missing.

The following Assessment Map provides the basic data for the Development Guidance:

- A9 Assessment of education

The results and recommendations are shown in the Guidance Map G6 Guidance on Education.

The other factor that prevents a rational use of existing resources is the existing parallel system. The MDP strategy therefore proposes a unification of both systems in the long-term.

The principle of “Education at the nearest point” cannot be followed without some exceptions. Dragash/Dragaš’s low density of small settlements must be mitigated by efficient spatial distribution and effective transport to school, including during winter. This relates not only to primary schools, but also to secondary and vocational education. Overcapacities in the sector of primary education may be reduced, while both the pre-primary and the secondary sector need to be expanded. A well-trained youth and higher skilled adults are the basis for successful development in Dragash/Dragaš.
8.7 Tourism and Cultural Heritage

General goals

Dragash/Dragaš’s great touristic and cultural assets, its natural environment, the cultural diversity of the population, and tangible and intangible heritage, offer several opportunities for touristic and economic development. The Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park in Dragash/Dragaš provides the unique chance to promote tourism in the Municipality by offering environmentally and culturally compatible spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities. Dragash/Dragaš as a part of Europe and western Balkan culture attaches high importance to conduct and maintain an inventory of cultural heritage assets, and takes active measures to protect, safeguard, preserve and rehabilitate heritage. Through cooperation between environmental protection, maintenance of cultural heritage and touristic issues, the Municipality shall retain its natural assets and “place-based authenticity” while raising internal and external awareness of its beauty (and unique competitiveness), from which economic success will develop. Strategic investments in tourism infrastructure (human and physical) shall raise the standards, meet the expectations of visitors, and deliver great value for money. Dragash/Dragaš shall develop a sustainable tourism economy through inter-municipal partnerships as well as a partnership of the public sector, private sector, and civil society to protect the environment, expand employment and entrepreneurial opportunity, provide social benefits, generate industry profits and municipal revenue. The spatial distribution of touristic centres will guarantee an equal benefit from tourism across the whole municipality, and pay equal heed to natural and cultural heritage in every part of Dragash/Dragaš. The existence of the National Park and its Management shall serve as a motor for sustainable touristic infrastructure.

Objectives

- Tourism development shall be supported by implementing human and physical tourism infrastructure.
- Dragash/Dragaš’s tourism development shall be developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Association of Kosovo Municipalities (AKM), communities within Dragash/Dragaš, and neighbouring countries.
- Tourism development shall include existing features (e.g. hiking trails, festivals) and the exploration of new fields (e.g. skiing, ethnological museum ...).
- Dragash/Dragaš town shall act as a “touristic base camp” – the first point of arrival and the source of basic information about the Municipality and what it offers.
- Villages with outstanding cultural assets, useful location and with a good connection to Dragash/Dragaš’s main touristic assets shall act as “touristic centres” – the point from which to start for certain touristic activities.
- Tourism development shall help to protect the environment, maintain cultural heritage and improve infrastructure (road network, waste management, energy and water supply).
- The National Park Management Plan shall include elements of touristic infrastructure and support its realisation.
- Awareness for cultural and natural heritage shall be raised among Dragash/Dragaš’s population.
- Maintenance activities of tangible and intangible cultural heritage shall be undertaken based on professional research and international best practice.
- Adequate utilisation concepts for heritage buildings shall protect currently vacant buildings from degradation.
- Professional research about Dragash/Dragaš’s archaeological, monumental, natural and intangible heritage shall explore the historic value of Municipality and touristic opportunities.
- Cataloguing of cultural and natural heritage assets shall be a priority of the Directorate of Culture
in collaboration with the regional Centre for Cultural Heritage in Prizren, local communities and village working groups.

- Local communities shall be actively engaged in drafting and implementing local cultural and natural tourism strategies.

### Actions

#### A) Support Tourism Development / Stimulate potential tourism

A1) Develop an Action Plan to implement the Nature Based Tourism Strategy and incorporate cultural tourism.

A2) Use the establishment of the National Park to create a Visitor Centre and possibly other facilities for touristic interest.

A3) Develop and raise the standard of technical infrastructure (water, sewage, waste management)

A4) Establish a special officer for tourism within the municipal administration (e.g. within the Directorate of Finance, Economy and Development)

A5) Removal of Prizren Waste Site at the entrance to Dragash/Đragaš and other (illegal) waste sites

A6) Undertake awareness raising programmes on the benefits of a clean environment aiming to minimise littering of roads or rivers

A7) Establish inter-municipal partnerships and benefit from precedent, lessons learnt and experiences from other projects and municipalities in Kosovo

A8) Hospitality, service and quality training as well as hiking guide training for citizens of Dragash/Đragaš

A9) Encourage Private-Public Partnerships to increase investment in the tourism sector

A10) Marketing of Dragash/Đragaš in regional, national and international tourism (e.g. with postcards, booklets, books about Dragash/Đragaš and on the internet)

A11) Establish a Tourism Website that allows visitors to plan their trip before they arrive and eventually make reservations with Bed and Breakfast accommodation

A12) Increase road network considering that some roads around heritage buildings / vernacular ensembles should retain the traditional form of construction / materials

#### B) Explore several (new) fields of tourism

B1) Secure Environmental Impact Assessments for skiing infrastructure, e.g. on top of the mountain near Brod or Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje

B2) Conduct a feasibility study for skiing tourism on the hills near Plajnik/Plajnik

B3) Assess opportunities for fishing, canoeing and other water-based activities; as well as mountain biking, rock climbing and other outdoor activities.

B4) Incorporate cultural tourism into Nature Based Tourism Strategy and explore traditional festivals etc. for tourism

B5) Hunting tourism development in cooperation with the Hunters’ Association for the areas outside the National Park

i. Decision on plans for the hunting of wild animals

ii. Hunters’ education on the proper level

iii. Regulate and give clear responsibilities and procedures in case of complaints and observations of

a. Illegal logging

b. Fishing or hunting code and rules are transgressed

#### C) Develop touristic centres in Dragash/Đragaš

C1) Establish Dragash/Đragaš town as the “touristic base camp” including tourism office/tourist information point to provide practical information to visitors and to help organise accommodation, transport and guides; accommodation (hotel)

C2) Establish Bellobrad/Beško as “touristic centre” including as a starting point for walks, cycling, road trips etc. in Opojë/Opolje valley

C3) Establish Bresanë/Brodosavce as a “touristic centre” including as a starting point for walks, cycling, road trips etc. in Opojë/Opolje valley

C4) Establish Brezne/Brezna as a “touristic centre” including as a starting point for walks, picnic, etc. at Lake Brezne/Brezna; accommodation (hotel, holiday houses)
C5) Establish Zaplloxhe/Zaplužje as a “touristic centre” including as a starting point for walks, cycling, road trips etc. in Opojë/Opolje valley; for hikes, picnic, etc. in Sharr/Šar mountains; international connection point for hiking abroad; skiing area; accommodation (hotel, holiday houses)

C6) Establish Brod as a “touristic centre” including as a starting point for hikes, picnics, etc. in the Gora/Gorë mountains; accommodation (hotel ‘Arxhena’, holiday houses, possibly camp ground); skiing area; international connection point for hiking abroad

C7) Establish Rapča/Rapçë as a “touristic centre” including as a starting point for hikes at Mount Koritnik; international connection point for hiking abroad

C8) Establish Radeša/Radeshë as a “touristic centre” including as a starting point for hikes in Gora/Gorë mountains and into Opojë/Opolje valley; accommodation (hotel, holiday houses)

C9) Establish Restelica/Restelicë as a “touristic centre” including as a starting point for hikes; international connection point for hiking abroad; possibly as a location for a “National Park visitor centre”

D) Increase hiking trail system
   D1) Identification and signposting of walks/hikes
   D2) Maintenance of tracks
   D3) Creation of maps, marketing strategies
   D4) Develop a hierarchy of routes, catering to a broad spectrum of visitor (such as families with children, less-abled persons, expert hikers and climbers, cultural tourists). Looped walks are preferable. These may also link clusters of villages, and may pass by sites of cultural and natural interest, and/or follow traditional trails.
   D5) Amenities and other tourist infrastructure such as toilets/wash facilities, refreshment points, signposts, fixed maps, picnic tables, litter bins, information signs, fences etc. may be required to ensure comfort and security along nature paths as well as to ensure protection of the environment and way-finding.

E) Cooperation between tourism and cultural/natural heritage
   E1) Establish an ethnological museum in Dragash/Dragaš
   E2) Concentrate efforts in establishing the National Park
   E3) Establish projects which focus on “place-based authenticity” tourism, building the skills and social capital especially of women to participate actively in activities relating to tourism (e.g. traditional activities of food preparation, providing accommodation, agriculture and processing of agricultural products, and making clothes and textiles)
   E4) Renovate existing ensembles of traditional vernacular buildings into visitor accommodation. Establish them as ‘visitor hubs’ at various points in the municipality from which other cultural and natural assets can be explored, tapping into the history of movement across the municipality
   E5) Convert the mills into useful tourism facilities (e.g. exhibition points for the history of the village, hosting amenities), and maintain them as cultural landscapes (i.e. including surrounding river/forest protection measures)
   E6) Examine a concept of establishing an outdoor museum in Zlipotok

F) Awareness raising for cultural heritage
   F1) Awareness raising programmes within communities and with citizens about proper treatment of cultural heritage (e.g. what to do if archaeological finds are discovered, what ‘heritage’ is etc.) to guarantee respect and protection
   F2) Formation of working groups for cultural / natural heritage and tourism comprising Gorani and Albanians, including women and youth.
   F3) Include the topic of cultural heritage / traditions into the teaching curriculum and organise exchange activities between Gorani and Albanian communities
   F4) Training of municipal staff from a variety of sectors concerning cultural and natural heritage assets, the values, the issues they face in protection, and methodologies to ensure their safeguarding

G) Maintain cultural heritage
   G1) Emergency conservation works of all sites under National Protection or Temporary National Protection, pending further research that will help to define a conservation strategy.
   G2) Signage for tombs, mills, religious sites and monuments as an asset of cultural heritage
   G3) Establishment of vocational training in heritage construction techniques, traditional craftsmanship, artisan
and handicrafts, and other intangible heritage processes.

G4) Use of heritage buildings as setting and backdrop for celebrations, festivals and other community events and/or conversion into new uses in line with professional heritage/conservation advice and input.

H) **Execute research of national heritage**

H1) Compiling the inventory of cultural heritage in Dragash/Dragaš: verification of facts, conducting of new research, completion of sections on cultural landscapes, movable heritage and intangible heritage.

H2) Enable professional research in archaeological areas (and in any other sites of “former settlements” that may be subsequently uncovered) and professional research and community involvement to compile a proper database of archaeological artefacts.

H3) Enable research by professionals in collaboration with local and national institutions for a final classification of Architectural Conservation Areas.

H4) Enable research through participatory methods on recording and safeguarding of intangible heritage.

H5) Gathering of more complete information about ‘cultural narratives’, for example, relating to Dragash/Dragaš’s abundant water resources, historic trade routes and international connections, landscapes associated with legends and stories, and the development and fabrication of traditional clothing.

**Further Planning**

- Develop an Action Plan to implement the Nature Based Tourism Strategy and incorporate cultural tourism.
- Include the aspect of touristic infrastructure into the Management Plan for the National Park.
- Creation of a strategy for archaeological sites: planning for future research and measures for immediate protection.
- Devise a strategy for the protection and maintenance of religious sites, mills, tombs, ensembles of vernacular buildings, agricultural buildings and çardak buildings. Emergency conservation works may be deemed necessary.

**Responsibility / Institutional Framework**

- The role of the public sector in tourism development is to set the appropriate conditions for product development, infrastructure, tourist information and promotion of Dragash/Dragaš’s image as a tourism destination. The public sector’s main responsibility is to provide appropriate and convenient conditions for tourism development and the operation of private enterprises, supporting areas such as overall infrastructure, promotion and marketing, and public services. The Municipality should also consider the plans of central government when planning its tourism strategy. By aligning the natural assets of the municipality with the current pillars of the Kosovo Tourism Strategy, Dragash/Dragaš will make it easier for the Ministry of Trade and Industry to market and package the touristic offers in Dragash/Dragaš.

- The role of the private sector is to convert Dragash/Dragaš’s tourism assets into marketable products. It should be noted that the private sector is the major driving force of the tourism sector, generating over 90% of the related revenues and contributing to investments in the municipality, promotion and human resource development.

- Local communities should be actively engaged in the drafting and implementing of local cultural and natural tourism strategies.

- Cataloguing of cultural and natural assets as well as their maintenance is under the responsibility of the Directorate of Culture in collaboration with the regional Centre for Cultural Heritage in Prizren.


- The Association of Kosovo Municipalities (AKM) helps coordinate touristic development in the Southern Region; it formulated the priority areas for development in the AKM Policy Statement.
on Tourism. A masterplan including a marketing concept and action plan is planned to be undertaken as soon as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Financial implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority projects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(short-term measures)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Develop an Action Plan (A1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Develop technical infrastructure (A3)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish a special officer for tourism (A4)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Removal of Prizren Waste Site at the entrance to Dragash/Dragaš and other illegal waste sites (A5)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Execute awareness raising programmes on the value of a clean environment especially to reduce littering of roads or rivers (A6)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hospitality, service and quality training as well as hiking guide training for citizens of Dragash/Dragaš (A8)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase road network and maintain traditional forms of construction (A12)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish Dragash/Dragaš town as “touristic base camp” (C1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Awareness raising programmes within communities (and citizens) about proper treatment of cultural heritage (F1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Formation of working groups for cultural / natural heritage and tourism, including women and youth. (F2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Emergency conservation works of all sites under National Protection (G1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term measures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Advance the Establishment of the National Park four creating point of interests (A2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish inter-municipal partnerships (A7)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Encourage Private-Public Partnerships (A9)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Marketing of Dragash/Dragaš (A10)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish Tourism Website (A11)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Incorporate cultural tourism into Nature Based Tourism Strategy (B4)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hunting tourism development (B5)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish touristic centres (C2-C9)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Identification, maintenance and mapping of hiking trails (D1-D3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish an ethnological museum in Dragash/Dragaš (E1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Concentrate efforts on realisation of National Park (E2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish projects focusing on “place-based-authenticity” (E3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Examine a concept of establishing an outdoor museum in Zlipotok (E6)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Include the topic of cultural heritage into school-based curriculum and establish exchange activities among Dragash/Dragaš’s communities (F3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Training of municipal staff about value and protection of cultural heritage (F4)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Vocational trainings in heritage construction techniques (G3)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Compiling the inventory of cultural heritage (H1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Enable research and gather more complete information about intangible heritage and cultural narratives (H4, H5)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term measures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Conduct Environmental Impact Assessments for skiing projects (B1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Feasibility study for skiing tourism near Pllajnik/Plajnik (B2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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- Assess opportunities for water-based and outdoor activities (B3)
- Expand the hiking trail system by developing a hierarchical system and enhancement of amenities and other infrastructure (D4, D5)
- Renovate existing ensembles of traditional vernacular buildings into visitor accommodation (E4)
- Convert historical mills into useful tourism facilities (E5)
- Signage of tangible (architectural) heritage (G2)
- Re-purposing of heritage buildings as a setting and backdrop for community and private events (G4)
- Enable professional research on archaeological and architectural heritage (H2, H3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental impacts because of tourism development are expected. However, negative impacts can be reduced when positioning takes environmental aspects into consideration as is done in this strategy. The tourism strategy communicates that a clean and protected environment is the main value and basis for success, so there will be a positive effect on the environment. In the case of cultural heritage, the strategy will not harm the environment, but will preserve cultural traditions and assets. The socio-economic impacts of the strategy are expected to be positive because it will support economic development in the field of tourism and preserve the cultural traditions and identity of Dragash/Dragaš.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reasons**

The following Assessment Maps provide the basic data for the Development Guidance:

- A1.1 and A1.2 Assessment of biodiversity
- A3 Assessment of water resources - regeneration, threats, and quality
- A6 Assessment of solid waste
- A7 Assessment of cultural heritage and tourist potential
- A10.1 Assessment of economy, infrastructure and energy – roads and transportation

Dragash/Dragaš is starting from zero in terms of tourism planning and policy, has limited infrastructure, and a lack of brand awareness not only internationally, but also within Kosovo itself. Furthermore while the natural assets of Dragash/Dragaš fit with central level tourism planning, there is no mention of Dragash/Dragaš specifically in the national plans for touristic development; the municipality, without a current tourism budget, is responsible for taking the lead in this sector.

“Place-based authenticity” is an essential component of tourism planning. Compared to both the domestic and regional tourism market, Dragash/Dragaš’s 3 main unique aspects are:

1. Natural Beauty (mountains, biodiversity)
2. Culture and Heritage (Gora/Gorë and Opojë/Opolje culture, way of life)
3. Hospitality and cuisine (locally produced food; village hospitality)

Based on these factors it is recommended that Dragash/Dragaš focus its tourism strategy and development on the link between nature and rural culture. This link to a natural way of living, with traditional hospitality, agriculture and livestock, has disappeared in much of Europe and offers a unique experience close to source markets. The main prerequisite for Dragash/Dragaš’s tourism development is the protection of its endemic environment and cultural heritage (place-based
Mass tourism is incompatible with these goals, so the tourism strategy should be oriented towards the following groups:

1. Domestic tourists interested in experiencing nature, culture, and a healthy lifestyle
2. Diaspora returning during the summer months
3. Internationals living in Kosovo and seeking to explore the country and who are interested in adventure, nature and culture
4. International tourists looking for unique cultural and natural experiences

Local communities should be actively engaged in drafting and implementing local cultural and natural tourism strategies, including a consideration of the desired / permissible extent of tourism activities in order to protect assets of cultural and natural value from undue alteration or exploitation through commercial activities. Education and awareness-raising about Dragash/Dragaš’s cultural and natural assets, the scope of their values, and how they should be treated is very important to ensure their safeguarding. This should be undertaken with schoolchildren, youth and all sectors of local communities, jointly between the Gora/Gorë and Opojë/Opolje regions.

Conducting and maintaining an inventory of cultural heritage assets, taking active measures to protect, preserve and rehabilitate heritage, is a legal requirement and strongly recommended at the European and international level. It is evidence of a shared European and western Balkan culture; the protection of heritage is very important for society in general, including common histories across the Sharr/Sar Mountains and throughout Kosovo. Protection of such assets can help in future archaeological and other research studies that can broaden historical, social and scientific knowledge of the region.

Forming working groups to consult the community allows them to devise strategies for the use of cultural and natural resources for tourism (and other income-generating) purposes. The groups may also be a forum to discuss and record local histories, to aid in the research still required into cultural/natural assets. Training in heritage and tourism concepts, management and even more technical activities (e.g. appropriate renovation of buildings) should be provided in order to expand understanding and capacities.

Dragash/Dragaš is also in direct competition with other rural, nature-based tourism centres around the region, which have benefited not only from a higher level of donor investment but also stronger national tourism boards to develop and market consistent strategies. Engagement and participation in the Association of Kosovo Municipalities (AKM) as well as reinforcing a “Sharr/Sar Mountain culture”, comprising communities from the different municipalities (and even countries) that share the mountain range and cultural similarities, is a key tool to widen markets for tourism as well as local products. It may also help to extend research into the historical and cultural development of the region. A number of rural tourism initiatives have been set up in Kosovo (Velika Hoča/Hoça e Madhe, Novo Brdo/Novobërdë, Rugova) with varying degrees of success. The use of precedent, lessons learnt and other experiences from projects and municipalities in Kosovo, the wider region and further abroad is highly recommended. This should form part of training and awareness-raising among the local administration and communities, as a guide to strategy-making.

The AKM could also help to facilitate a regional tourism strategy, masterplan, and coordination system that would benefit all municipalities in the Southern Region and more specifically those that have areas inside the Sharr/Sar National Park. The National Park should also be seen as a significant actor in the tourism sector in the area and due to the profile of the park, specifically in nature-based tourism. It is also necessary to coordinate activities with park officials and according to National Park zoning rules and the management strategy.

The spatial development of Tourism and Cultural Heritage is shown in the Guidance Map G8: Guidance for Tourism and Cultural Heritage.
### 8.8 Agriculture

#### General goals

Improve the performance of the agriculture and livestock systems of the Municipality, mainly in terms of employment and income for the population, through the improvement and environmentally compatible use of the local resources, their organisation into value chains, and the upgrading of capacities of competitiveness whilst maintaining a sustainable environment, and social and gender equity in the long term.

(see also Local Economic Development strategy, MDP: for integration in a Dragash/Dragaš Economic Development Forum (DEDeF) and activities)

#### Objectives

Establish a sound governance of the agriculture and livestock systems as the responsibility of the Municipality, through facilitating multi-level networks at government level (among the municipal departments of economy, agriculture, education etc.), at local civil society level (through associations and networking of civil society and public institutions), at inter-municipal level (among neighbouring municipalities), at vertical level (coordination with the national government).

- Improve the economic performance and competitiveness of the value chains with high impact potential on long term development, such as
  - small livestock meat,
  - wool and skins,
  - milk and milk products,
  - potatoes,
  - fruits and berries,
  - special cultivations (herbs, medicinal plants, nurseries),
  - bees and products,
- Improved processing and marketing of agricultural products, through increased efficiency and competitiveness;
- Support the improvement of product quality by facility provision and training opportunities to a level of certification;
- Create additional income for farmers and rural dwellers, particularly for women, leading to improved living standards and working conditions in rural areas using non wood forest products, local farmers markets, tourism;

#### Actions

**A) Improve the economic performance and competitiveness of value chains with a focus on**

- Meat (focus on small local cattle breeds, sheep and goats)
- milk and milk products
- potatoes (especially seed potatoes),
- fruits and berries and special cultivations (herbs) through
  - A1) improving the productive block
  - A2) vocational training in modern production techniques, marketing and quality control/certification level
  - A3) Improving marketing strategies for increasing sales at local, national, and at least regional (Balkans) level
### B) Develop jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD) and the National Park Directorate/MESP the following:

**B1** Facilitate the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD) (for instance with the “Programme on the Direct Support to the Agriculture 2012”)

**B2** Pasture management system to improve yield and preserve mountain ecosystems

**B3** Establish facilities for certification process acc. to international standards

**B4** Developing a “Brand Name” for the Dragash/Dragaš region and its environment, and promote its use for local products

### C) Elaborate upper level strategies in order to increase and improve the integration of local products

**C1** For: FVC (Fruit, Vegetables and Cereals) in the productive system of Dragash/Dragaš

**C2** Support the National Government in initiating a process to acknowledge Dragash/Dragaš as an official UNESCO “Biosphere Reserve” (UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme, 2012)

### Further Planning

Strengthening of the Municipal Department of Agriculture in their technical skills and their management competencies to support and lead changes in strategies for agricultural production, quality and market access. A strong and mutual effort is required to bring the agricultural field to a unique business area that uses all its natural resources in a wise and non-destructive manner.

Therefore further planning consists of developing a Municipal Action Plan – together with livestock keepers and farmers - including key elements:

- What can farmers/farmers’ associations do to improve their economic performance and competitiveness?
- What support do they need?
- What support and assistance can the municipality provide?

### Responsibility / Institutional Framework

**Directly involved:**

The Directorate of Agriculture, Tourism, Rural Development and Inspection is responsible for:

1. Drafting plans for the analysis of information and programmes, which then serve as the basis for determining policy in the field of agriculture,
2. Performing all work which contributes to overall progress for the sustainable development of agriculture and farming,
3. Preparation of draft regulations, administrative orders and decisions in order to regulate issues in farming, as well in the socially owned and private sector,
4. Keeping records on all real estate land and of livestock,
5. Conducting analysis of the situation in agriculture and livestock,
6. Awarding permits for registration of agricultural mechanisms,
7. Drafting plans and programmes for tourism development, especially for the villages,
8. Drafting plans and programmes for infrastructure and rural development in the municipality,

and The Directorate of Finance, Economy and Development is responsible for:

1. Drafting municipal regulations for financial issues,
2. Providing professional advice regarding the municipal budget to the municipal bodies,
3. Designing concrete plans for sustainable development of the municipality,
4. Designing concrete plans for development of the handicraft industry,
5. Drafting plans for the use of economic resources within the municipality,
6. Creating conditions for the sustainable development of small and medium enterprises.
Indirectly involved:
The Directorate of Urban Planning, Cadastre and Environmental Protection is responsible for:
1. Drafting the Development Plan of the Municipality in coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning,
2. Drafting of Spatial Development Plan, Urban and Rural Plan of the Municipality, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning,
3. Conducting assessments of property as per the required criteria and standards set by legislation,
4. Keeping a register of real estate property and the municipal land registry; performing an update of the property register on the basis of verifiable documents, Protects property from usurpation of various municipal,
5. Responsible for the preservation and maintenance of the environment, and for the treatment of sewage and solid waste.

At the National Level:
• The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD) is responsible for the development of policies, the legal infrastructure, inspection and human development capacities in matters relating to agriculture, forestry and rural development at the central level.
• Different Agencies and Associations (see “References”) responsible for food and veterinary services, livestock breeding, dairy product processing matters, agriculture and rural development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Financial implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority projects (short-term measures)</td>
<td>low high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Develop a Municipal Action Plan</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Facilitate the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (B1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term measures</td>
<td>high low medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Improve the economic performance and competitiveness of agricultural value chains (A)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Develop a pasture management system (B1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Develop a “Brand Name” for the region (B3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term measures</td>
<td>low medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Establish facilities for certification process (B2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Improve the integration of local products (C1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Support National Government in initiating a process of acknowledging Dragash/Dragaš as a UNESCO “Biosphere Reserve” (C2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment
The strategy for agriculture will not harm the environment. Supporting existing agricultural traditions will protect special flora and fauna in the mountains as well as cultural heritage in Dragash/Dragaš. Socio-economic development will be supported by this strategy.

Reasons
Sustainable development in Dragash/š is only possible if rural living conditions and the younger generation are supported and have access to attractive opportunities for creating livelihoods. a.

The Municipality should take a committed lead in the creation of opportunities to:
• Facilitate agricultural associations and their access to markets
• Support training and capacity building of youth in new agricultural fields (medical herbs, berries, fruits etc.) as well as organic “eco-agriculture and livestock breeding”

• Investigate in the option of a biosphere reserve suitable for the local economy, local products and “Branding” of Dragash/Dragaš.

According to the Kosovo Development Strategy Plan (KDSP) the overall vision for agriculture and rural development in Kosovo for 2007–2013 is to:

“make a balanced contribution to the economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being of rural areas, and Kosovo as a whole, through effective and profitable partnerships between the private sector, central/local government and local communities within the European context.”

To make this vision realistic for the mountain area of Dragash/Dragaš it is important to closely consider the potentials and limitations of the environmental conditions and their opportunities:

a. In general (some exceptions may occur due to specific local climatic conditions) agriculture is only competitive up to an altitude of 1300m. Intensive pasture and fruit trees are suitable up to 1600m; generally, areas above this are only optimal for extensive pasture when the climatic conditions are suitable (vegetation period).

b. It is important to note that most of the Dragash/Dragaš landscape is the result of a centuries-old land-use practices that are also the origin of the existing biodiversity and the attractive landscape. Changing the land-use pattern will interfere with the biodiversity.

The Assessment Maps “A5.3 Assessment of agriculture and forest - productive capacity of soils” and “A5.4 Assessment of agriculture and forest - livestock and suitability for crops” provide the basic data for the Development Guidance, and depict:

• the suitability of soils for different types of agriculture below 1600m
• existing management of pastures (limited data available)
• land suitable for crops (below 1300m and less than a 30º slope in 4 categories)
• land suitable for pastures (below 1600m in 3 categories)
• land suitable for extensive pasture above 1600m
• for each village, a record of the number of hectares of arable land, of heterogeneous arable land, of pastures, and of natural grassland
• for each village the number of cows/livestock units, and number of sheep/livestock units

Map “G2.2 Guidance for Agriculture” characterises the preferential zones as:

• not fit for any pasture and pasture management (only sparse vegetation or cliffs),
• suitable for extensive management of pastures – protected for pasture (above 1600m)
• suitable for extensive or intensive pasture, including hay production – development possible (between 1300 and 1600m)
• suitable for agriculture, special cultures and intensive pastures – development possible (better soils and below 1300m)

Additionally, areas that are mainly pastures at the moment are suggested for afforestation because of geo-risk reduction measures.

Relevant agencies and services:

A) Kosovo Veterinary Services
B) Kosovo Milk Producers Association (KAMP)
C) Kosovo Dairy Processor Association (KDPA)
D) Kosovo Food and Veterinary Services (KFVA)
E) Kosovo Centre for Livestock Breeding (KCLB)
F) Programme on the Direct Support to the Agriculture 2012 - Crop Sector (Grain: wheat and Corn) - and Livestock Sector (Cattle: Milking cow, Small livestock: Sheep and Goats)
G) Agriculture and Rural Development Project in Kosovo (ARDP 2007–13) World Bank and MAFRD
## Forestry

### General goals

Maintain and extend the existing forest area and improve their management to increase the production and supply of firewood, particularly through more productive and more sustainable use of existing coppice forest resources. The support and facilitation of improved forest management skills can help to increase productive output and maintain the outstanding biodiversity of the forest areas.

Support and facilitate the management of technical wood forests according to FSC Standards and Forest Management Certification in Kosovo.

In the medium term, afforestation is a realistic option to increase the forest area with native broadleaved trees (conifers cannot be used for firewood because of resin content, with the current heating techniques). There is a considerable potential for afforestation of suitable abandoned land with low agricultural productivity.

New forests in steeper areas would contribute to protection against avalanches, erosion and landslides.

In general, newly established forests will expand the productive resources for non-wood forest products like mushrooms.

The risk from burning the forests has to be taken seriously and there is a need to improve the early warning, fire control and fire fighting procedures and measures. Bad management practices of burning pasture areas and the remains of harvests on farm land increases the risk of wild fires especially in drier periods of the year.

### Objectives

Establish a sound governance of the forest related system among the responsibilities of the Municipality, through facilitating multi-level networks at government level (among the municipal departments of economy, agriculture, education etc.), at local civil society level (through associations, and networking of civil society and public institutions), at inter-municipal level (among neighbour municipalities), at vertical level (coordination with the national government).

- Improvement of coppice forest structure through silviculture treatments (thinning, spacing and cleaning, appropriate cutting intervals, tree planting).
- Facilitate the certification of public forests according to FSC standards to enable the joining of the international market, increase value of timber and, at the same time, ensure sustainable management of forest resources.
- Increase forest area with native broadleaved species on abandoned land and in steep areas not suitable for agricultural production.
- Afforestation with native, coniferous trees in areas not suited for broadleaved trees for erosion and avalanche control and technical wood harvesting in the future.
- Increase sustainable legal harvesting of both firewood and technical wood which helps the improvement of the current forest structure and increases income generation for the municipality budget.
- Prevent illegal harvesting of public forests.
- Increase awareness of risk from fires if pasture area and remains of agriculture land are burned.
in an uncontrolled manner.

**Actions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A) Improve forest structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1) Apply and increase the thinning of coppice forest dominated by beech forest and other broadleaved species at a wider scale, applying appropriate cutting intervals and plant new trees where required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2) Provide communities with the possibility to harvest firewood under control of the Kosovo Forest Agency and forestry sector of municipality, through forest guards who shall be responsible for a particular area of the forest and where each forest district in the municipality has its own guard. This could help to maintain the forest and provide the resources to the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3) Prepare an afforestation plan for the municipality in close cooperation with the villages, the KFA and the National Park Directorate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4) Support the establishment of local nurseries for the reproduction of local high quality populations for replanting and afforestation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5) Plant native species in areas which are left unused due to low productivity in elevation less than 1500m and with a focus on disaster-prone areas (erosion, avalanches and landslides)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A6) Start and/or support the certification process of high productivity forests acc. to Kosovo FSC standards. Ensure management of old forests in harmony with FSC standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A7) Increase harvesting in high forests if good forest management practices can be assured. This can improve the forests and their future productivity, and produce technical wood to increase income for the municipality budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A8) Establish effective fire early warning mechanisms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A9) Improve the qualifications and the control skills of the forest guards (including illegal logging activities).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B) Improve administrative structures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B1) Strengthen the role of the forest officer in the “Municipal Directorate of Agriculture, Tourism, Rural Development and Inspection”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2) Support the close cooperation of the Municipal Forest officer, the officer for Nature Conservation and the Tourist Sector (officer for tourism development).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C) Improve awareness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C1) Prepare awareness campaigns highlighting the negative impacts and risks to forest and biodiversity from forest fires.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2) Discuss annual plans with community, to incorporate their needs and integrate them in the planning process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3) Explore options to use conifer wood for new heating technologies (pellets etc.).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D) Training programmes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D1) Training and emergency exercises for fire early warning and fighting of forest fires.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D2) Training of forest guards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D3) Management practices for private forest owners (especially coppice forest management).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Further Planning**

- Prepare an afforestation plan for the municipality in close cooperation with the villages, the KFA and the National Park Directorate
- Elaboration of a joint strategy for forest management improvement, protection and National Park Forest Management with the Ministry of Agriculture: Department of Forestry, the KFA and the National Park Directorate and the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

**Responsibility / Institutional Framework**

- The municipal and national responsibilities with regards to forest management are laid out in the Laws No. 2003/3 on Forests in Kosovo and Amendments to the Law No. 2003/3 on the Forests of Kosovo (March 2010): Year V / No. 67/29
- One officer in the “Municipal Directorate of Agriculture, Tourism, Rural Development and
Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land use Management - Dragash

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“Inspection” is responsible for forest protection and supervising 7 forest guards (officially employed through the municipality budget)

- The officer works closely and coordinates with the Regional Forest Agency (Prizren) – Kosovo Forest Agency (KFA)
- Municipalities are responsible for forest protection and ensuring the correct tendering procedures for forest harvesting. The Municipality is responsible for forest protection from illegal harvesting and other risks. Additionally its responsibility is to assure the correct evaluation process of tenders for harvesting:

  The Municipality has a number of limitations regarding forest policy and management. Representatives of MAFRD should participate in the evaluation commission. Tendering is initiated based on annual plans prepared by MAFRD-Kosovo Forest Agency and are opened for public discussion before they are approved and executed. Current practices of public discussion have not shown to be effective and there are no technical capacities in planning as well using management plans (developing 10 year plans, which provide figures on forest production capacities) in the Municipality. Due to this, KFA receives no comments and plans are always approved without taking into consideration community needs and the maximisation in use of the forests on a sustainable basis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Financial implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority projects  (short-term measures)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase firewood supply for the community with a programme for coppice forest through improvement in silviculture measures – (including advisory service, cooperation with KFA and National Park Directorate and skills training courses for forest owners) (A1, D3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Give access to the community in harvesting operations where firewood harvesting is planned (A2)</td>
<td>high medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Afforestation of abandoned land with a focus on disaster-prone areas (A5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Start and/or support the certification process of high productivity forests acc. to Kosovo FSC standards. (A6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term measures</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish effective fire early warning mechanisms (A8)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improve the qualification and the control skills of forest guards (A9)</td>
<td>medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improve administrative structures (B)</td>
<td>medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Prepare awareness campaigns (C1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Discuss annual forestry plans with communities (C2)</td>
<td>medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Training and emergency exercises for fire fighting (D1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Training for forest guards (D2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term measures</td>
<td>high medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Support the establishment of local nurseries (A4)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase harvesting in high forest if good forest management practices are assured (A7)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Explore options to use conifer wood for new heating technologies (C3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment

The strategy for forestry will not harm the environment. Afforestation and forestry according to FSC standards will develop and preserve habitats of high environmental values. Fire fighting measures will positively affect the environment.

Socio-economic development will be supported by this strategy by increasing the quality of stock production and enhancing support for citizens with firewood.
Reasons

The following Assessment Maps provide the basic data for the Development Guidance:

- **A4.1 to A4.3 Assessment of natural hazards**
- **A5.1 and A5.2 Assessment of agriculture and forest - condition of forest and forest functions**

Map “G2-1 Forest” characterises the preferential zones for forest use and protection as:

- Zones that should not have any forest use and should be protected forests (mainly forests with very difficult access and the ecotone at treeline and riverine forests required for water course protection and stability)
- Zones that could have forest management according to Forest Stewardship Council Criteria
- Zones which need rehabilitation and management plans to increase productivity and simultaneously maintain and improve their ecological stewardship functions (water retention and geo-risk reduction)
- Zones that can be developed with special consideration of the ecological stewardship functions (water retention and geo-risk reduction)
- Zones that can be developed without restriction

Additionally, areas that are mainly pastures at the moment are suggested for afforestation because of geo-risk reduction measures.

1) Dragash/Dragaš is located in a high mountain / subalpine zone and characterised by long winters. Forests are an important resource for Dragash/Dragaš’s inhabitants for both firewood and, to a lesser extent, for technical wood supply. The forests are highly important for biodiversity as habitats and ecological corridors, in relation to risk minimisation, and maintaining the overall water balance in the municipality. These are crucial for the ecological and social equilibrium of the Municipality.

There is a high demand for firewood during long winters, normally from broad-leaved tree species. At the moment the main supply comes from other municipalities and only partly from Dragash/Dragaš’s own forest resources. However, of the potential for its forest resources can be improved if proper management and treatment is applied. The forest structure in Dragash/Dragaš has the capacity to generate firewood mainly from thinning and cleaning activities.

Production per year is twice as high in better-managed forests than in the current coppice forests (1.3m$^3$ versus 3m$^3$ in coppice with standards; and versus 5-7 m$^3$ in high forest) (see MAFRD-KFA 2009 and 2010).

- Public forest: there is approximately 17 300m$^3$ per year that can be harvested in a sustainable manner (according to official forest management data MAFRD-KFA 2009 and 2010)
- Private forest: there is approximately 4 400m$^3$ per year that can be harvested in a sustainable manner (according to assessment by Arneni, N.SH.T, 2011). See Table 2: Income and harvest volume of public and private forests in Dragash/Dragaš
Table 2: Income and harvest volume of public and private forests in Dragash/Dragaš

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management unit</th>
<th>Harvesting Incomes in Euro</th>
<th>Expenses of harvesting and extraction</th>
<th>Net annual Income in Euros</th>
<th>Potential Volume annually harvested/ m³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Koritniku II</td>
<td>229 858</td>
<td>83 067</td>
<td>146 791</td>
<td>5 358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opoja</td>
<td>184 685</td>
<td>55 085</td>
<td>129 600</td>
<td>4 879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bredhiku</td>
<td>260 717</td>
<td>80 553</td>
<td>126 164</td>
<td>7 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum</td>
<td>675 260</td>
<td>218 705</td>
<td>402 555</td>
<td>17 341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Forest</td>
<td>92 925</td>
<td>35 407.74</td>
<td>57 517.3</td>
<td>4425.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>768 185</strong></td>
<td><strong>254 112.74</strong></td>
<td><strong>514 072.3</strong></td>
<td><strong>21 766.97</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(MAFRD-KFA 2009 and 2010 and Arneni, N.SH.T, 2011)

2) These activities would also help to improve the current conditions and productivity of the (mainly privately owned) coppice forest and **create local jobs**. An estimation is given by MAFRD-KFA for 2009 and 2010:

**Table 3: Job opportunities in Thinning and Cleaning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipalities</th>
<th>Area for thinning</th>
<th>Norms Harvesting/Extraction/Transport</th>
<th>Working man-days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dragash</td>
<td>2 000</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>1 206</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) Due to high demand for firewood, even an increase in forest productivity will not meet annual needs. The **increase of forest area** for firewood production with native species of broadleaved trees is therefore a good option. In the medium term, afforestation is a realistic option to increase the forest area with native broadleaved trees (conifers cannot be used for firewood because of resin content).

Suitable afforestation sites are available (see Guidance map for Forestry and Agriculture) including sites that need forest for risk control (avalanches, erosion and landslides). Current experience shows that there has been afforestation but mainly with coniferous species, which the community does not use for firewood. New forests would also contribute to the area of non-wood forest products such as mushrooms.

4) Forest **certification based on FSC standards** ensure sustainable management of forest resources, guarantee that communities benefit from participation in the planning process, and are provided with local job opportunities. The products which come from certified forests can access international markets in which prices for these products are higher.

5) Forest fires, as recently experienced on Mount Koritnik, have resulted in the destruction and loss of a huge area which had high value for timber production, biodiversity, and which performed
important functions to protect against the risk of erosion. The risk of burning of the forests has to be taken seriously. Bad management practices of burning pasture areas and the remains of harvests on farmland increases the risk especially in drier periods of the year.

6) Strict and efficient regulation and control is required by cooperation with villages, forest guards, the National Park Directorate and the Regional Forest Agency. “The chronic problem of Kosovo forests is the negative impact of illegal cutting and, according to estimates, some 40% of public forest lands and 29% of private forest lands have been subject to uncontrolled or illegal harvesting activities.” (FSC 2010).

7) Based on current legislation all wood from public forests (both firewood and technical wood) is sold by tender and the community has no right to apply. Often companies who win the tenders come from other municipalities: wood is therefore taken out of the municipality and sold in other places in Kosovo. Thus the community gains no benefit from their natural resources, and still have to buy firewood at high prices from other areas of Kosovo. Tendering procedures can be applied for technical wood because harvesting requires special techniques and care. Firewood harvesting does not require specific technology and equipment, and can easily be undertaken by unskilled labour. Firewood is an important basic need of the community.
8.10 Energy

General goals

Electrical power supply, thermal energy use and measures for improvement of energy efficiency in both the public and private sector of the Municipality of Dragash/Đragaš shall follow a medium term Energy Strategy of the Municipality of Dragash/Đragaš (ESMD). The Municipality of Dragash/Đragaš will use its potential for electricity generation (nominal generation capacity below 10 MW per energy generation plant), based on Renewable Energy Technologies (RET) to increase local energy supply, support the local economy and avoid negative impacts on the environment, including causing harm to river habitats and biodiversity. Municipal support of private investments in RET will increase social and economic development, generate jobs and income for the local population, while guaranteeing sustainable and environmentally sound energy supply. Municipal Energy Development will encourage local and international companies to include local resources and the local workforce into their business plans in order to support municipal development.

Objectives

- Municipal energy planning is in line with the national governmental policy of providing extra energy generation capacities at the end of long distribution lines, based on Renewable Energy Technologies [RET], and improvement of Energy Efficiency (EE) in the private and public sectors
- The Energy Strategy of the Municipality of Dragash/Đragaš (ESMD) aims to ensure the support and promotion of:
  - Secure, reliable, environmentally sound and high quality electricity supply to all users in the Municipality, based on internationally recognised technical standards, at affordable tariffs, to be agreed upon with the National Power Operator (KEK)
  - Inclusion of RET into the energy mix of the Municipality
  - Efficient use of electricity and thermal energy in the public and private sector and in households
  - Replacement of unsustainable use of biomass (firewood) for space heating by improving Energy Efficiency (EE) of stoves and residues of forest industry
  - Replacement of electric boilers by Solar Water Heater Systems
  - Initiatives of international or local entrepreneurs and companies or consortia investing in energy related power generation capacities
  - EE interventions in private households (energy saving lights and energy efficient electric appliances), Energy auditing and EE interventions in public buildings
- The ESMD will be developed in close cooperation with residents of Dragash/Đragaš Municipality through the Municipality Working Group and Village Working Groups as well Dragash/Đragaš’s Municipal Assembly and the Municipal Administration, and the national Ministries
- Implementation of the Energy Strategy will be undertaken in close cooperation with the private sector of the Municipality, strengthening energy related capacities of local enterprises including job creation and attracting labour with relevant education and skills rather than tolerating the emigration of the local workforce.
- The Municipality Energy Strategy will encourage local and international companies to include local resources and the local workforce into their business plans in order to support municipal development.

Actions

A) Integrate the Municipality into the Energy Strategy of Kosovo
A1) Install the Municipal Energy Office (MEO) – responsible for energy development planning, supervision of
technical and service control, etc.

A2) Develop the Energy Strategy of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš (ESMD), Municipal Energy Action Plan (MEAP) and Municipal Energy Efficiency Plan (MEEP)

A3) Engage the residents of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality through Municipality Working Groups and Village Working Groups

A4) Implement the Energy Strategy in close cooperation with the private sector

A5) Cooperation between MEO with International Donor Agencies in all energy related interventions

B) Support Electricity Generation below 20 MW\(^7\) (hydropower and wind) in Cooperation with Energy Regulatory Office

B1) Offer power plants with a nominal generation capacity below 20 MW to private companies or consortia for investment, installation and operation

B2) Provide incentives for private investments in promising Renewable Energy Technologies (RET) - Small Hydropower Plants (SHPP), Wind Energy Converters (WEC) as well as use of biomass (e.g. Gasification) - which follow respective directives of the European Union/European Commission and avoid negative impacts on the environment, including causing harm to river habitats and biodiversity.

B3) Commit private investors and companies/consortia to observation of international quality and environmental standards during construction and operation of such power plants in close cooperation with the Energy Regulatory Office (ERO).

C) Demand/Supply Analysis of Additional Generation Capacity for Dragash/Dragaš Municipality

C1) Update existing data to assess future demand and supply of electricity

C2) Assess further electricity generation capacity within the borders of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš based on studies for the potentials of hydropower, solar radiation, wind power, biomass resources and geothermal potential

C3) Special studies on wind potential and solar radiation including possible site assessment for RET based power plants within the boundaries of Dragash/Dragaš shall be conducted in cooperation with MED and funded for example by donor agencies, and form the database for proposals of additional installations for power generation in the Municipality.

D) Municipal Plan for Solar Thermal Applications

D1) Conduct a potential analysis for Solar Thermal Systems (STS) for the public and private sector (hospitals, pharmacies, schools, mosques, police stations; Small and Medium Enterprises and private households)

D2) Initiate awareness seminars for potential private and commercial users about cost-benefit of STS, their operation and maintenance

D3) Initiate capacity development and training for local entrepreneurs such as plumbers, installators of central heating systems

D4) Explore the possibilities of financing schemes for private investment in STS including options for soft loans in cooperation with the MED

E) Municipal Energy Efficiency Plan and Strategy for Demand Side Management

E1) Introduce Energy Efficiency (EE) appliances in the public sector, commercial sector and households

E2) Demand side management with respect to avoiding electricity peak loads by scheduling use of electricity such that peak loads are minimised

E3) Improve thermal energy efficiency by insulation of walls, roofs, and introduction of window glazing with minimised heat losses

E4) Improve the Energy Efficiency in the street lights of the municipality and install additional lighting with EE technologies only in all villages.

E5) Incentives and awareness raising of the user groups including public sector decision makers, local commercial users (shop owners, restaurants, cafes, etc), local staff of SMEs (electricians, plumbers, pipe layers and connectors, etc.) as well as citizens including students of public schools

E6) Initiate capacity building and vocational training for local users including public sector decision makers, local commercial users, local staff of SMEs as well as citizens, including students of public schools

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\(^7\) Law on Construction of Republic of Kosovo, No. 2004 / 15, Article 35, point b
Further Planning

- Develop the Energy Strategy of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš (ESMD), Municipal Energy Action Plan (MEAP) and Municipal Energy Efficiency Plan (MEEP)
- Conduct an assessment of future demand and supply of electricity as well as further electricity generation capacity within the borders of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš, which will be based upon studies for the potentials of hydropower, solar radiation, wind energy, biomass resources and geothermal potential. This is to be conducted by international, governmental and local experienced and acknowledged institutions.
- Analysis for Solar Thermal Systems (STS) for the public and private sector

Responsibility

- Activities under the ESMD will be regulated by the Energy Regulator Office (ERO) or the Kosovo Energy Efficiency Agency [KEEA] respectively under the political framework set by the Government of Kosovo / Ministry of Economic Development (MED) - Energy Department of the Republic of Kosovo.
- Such ESMD forms part of the municipality development documents as per Law on Energy of the Republic of Kosovo (No 03/L – 184), Chapter II “Energy Strategy, Implementation Programs and Energy Balance”, Article 6 “Role of Local Government”, 2010
- The Municipality has a decisive role in energy related issues because it has to decide on “...right of access to lands for the placement of energy equipment and energy facilities” (Law on Energy, Chapter II, Article 6, paragraph 2) as well as by implementing an EE Action Plan (Law on Energy Efficiency of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 9, No 04/L – 016, 2011)
- A Municipal Energy Office (MEO) should be established to:
  - take responsibility within the Municipality Administration for implementation of the ESMD in cooperation with all national authorities in the Kosovo energy sector, and report to the Mayor of the Municipality.
  - be the addressee and counterpart of MED, ERO and KEEA for energy related issues falling under the national energy strategy and the national energy legislation. It will also be the focal point for the Municipal Assembly and Municipal Working Group and the municipal village working groups for initiating and reporting about energy related development of the Municipality and proposition of the MEAP. International Donor Agencies have to cooperate with the Energy Office of the Municipality in all energy related interventions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Financial Implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority projects (short-term measures)</td>
<td>medium medium medium low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Install the Municipal Energy Office (MEO) (A1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop energy planning as mentioned above (A2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide incentives for private investments in promising Renewable Energy Technologies (RET) (B2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct a potential analysis for Solar Thermal Systems (STS) for the public and private sector (D1)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve thermal energy efficiency by insulation of walls, roofs, and introduce window glazing with minimised heat losses (E3)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduce incentives and awareness raising about Energy Efficiency (EE) among all user groups (E5)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term measures</td>
<td>low low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage the residents of Dragash/Dragaš (A3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pursue close cooperation with the private sector and International Donor</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land use Management - Dragash

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agencies (A4, A5)</th>
<th>medium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Ensure observation of international quality and environmental standards (B3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Update existing data to assess future demand (C1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Initiate awareness seminars about Solar Thermal Systems (STS) (D2)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Initiate capacity development and training for local entrepreneurs (D3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Introduce Energy Efficiency (EE) appliances (E1)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improve EE in street lighting in every village (E4)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Initiate capacity building and vocational trainings for local users (E6)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long-term measures</th>
<th>low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Offer power plants with a nominal generation capacity below 10 MW (B1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Assess further electricity generation capacity within the Municipality (C2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Conduct special studies on wind potential and solar radiation (C3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Explore possibilities of financing schemes for private investments in STS (D4)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Demand side management with respect to avoiding electricity peaks (E2)</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment

The energy strategy is based upon increasing (thermal) energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy. This follows an environmental approach. However, negative impacts on the environment cannot be excluded because they are expected and must be considered, e.g. with regard to Small Hydropower Plants and their impacts on riverine flora and fauna. Energy development will improve economic issues, such as by providing employment and training, and social issues, such as reduction in household-costs.

8.11 Water and Sanitation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The drinking water and wastewater sector in the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš will take EU environmental standards into consideration. Protection of water sources will be assured; the losses in the drinking water distribution systems will be reduced and adequate water and sewerage services will be provided for the citizens of the Municipality at accessible tariffs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100% connection to piped water supply systems in compliance with the Drinking Water Directive will be achieved within the next 10 years. All houses, even those which are temporarily not inhabited, will be connected to water and waste water systems. The services for water and waste water collection and treatment, whether free or paid, are governed by the same principle: The Beneficiary of the Services has to be satisfied. In relation to this principle, the aims is to:
1. the availability of the water in adequate quality and quantity at the tap
2. the collection and the adequate treatment of generated waste water.

The strategy to apply when deciding and prioritising water and wastewater projects derives directly from the above: The order of implementation of identified measures has to follow the opposite direction of the flow of the water, starting from the lowest consumer or user and...
Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land use Management - Dragash

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ending with the water source.

### Objectives

- Achieve a sustainable rehabilitation of existing infrastructure facilities.
- Establish sound operation of the systems based on preventive maintenance;
- Achieve acceptance of the water and waste water services based on economic principles as the only sustainable solution;
- Suggest solutions to improve the economic performance of the existing water and sanitation service provider and establishment of additional units for the zones where these were identified as missing;
- Observe and implement environmental protection and conservation principles;
- Provide a comprehensive plan for implementing new projects and assuring sustainable, long-term infrastructure for socio-economic development;
- Coordinate interfaces of proposed measures and projects currently under implementation or approved for implementation;
- Achieve and implement an effective model for promoting the territorial image at national and international level, and for attracting external resources to be used coherently with shared strategic guidelines;
- Improve municipal capacities on economic urban/rural infrastructure development planning

### Actions

#### A) Improvement of water and waste water system

A1) Enhancement of Water and waste water planning (Master plan) in detail to rehabilitate existing infrastructure facilities
A2) Expansion of existing and operative systems into all villages
A3) Undertaking measures for appropriate water treatment according to size of the villages and number of beneficiaries (piped water supply and waste water treatment; sewerage network and biological treatment, etc.)
A4) Install permanent service units for preventive maintenance and repairs in every village

#### B) Information and training

B1) Implementation of an awareness campaign for convincing the population about the necessity of implementing a professional operation, maintenance and management of their water supply and waste water services: that water is an inherited asset and should not be wasted, unused.
B2) Awareness raising programmes about environmental and health risks as a consequence of not treating waste water
B3) Initiate projects to achieve acceptance of tariffs
B4) Initiate capacity development and training for local entrepreneurs such as plumbers, sanitation pipe layers and pipe fitters

#### C) Improve planning

C1) Affiliation of the service units to Hidroregioni Jugor (HRJ) concomitantly with the endorsement of the Masterplan by the Municipality and MESP.
C2) Improve municipal capacities in planning
C3) Establish a system for providing a comprehensive plan for implementing new projects
C4) Fundraising for refurbishment and rehabilitation as well as upgrading e.g. by donor agencies
C5) Implementation of an institutional mechanism to secure financing

### Further Planning
Affiliation of the service units to Hidroregjioni Jugor (HRJ) concomitantly with the endorsement of the Master Plan by Municipality and MESP.

Enhancement of Water and waste water planning (Masterplan) in detail to rehabilitate existing infrastructure facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Financial implication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority projects (short-term measures)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Enhancement of Water and waste water planning (Masterplan) in detail to rehabilitate existing infrastructure facilities (A1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Awareness raising programmes about environmental and health risks in consequence of not treating waste water (B2)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Affiliation of the service units to Hidroregjioni Jugor (HRJ) concomitantly with the endorsement of the Master Plan by the Municipality and MESP (C1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term measures</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Expansion of existing and operating systems into all villages (A2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Taking measures for appropriate water treatment according to size of the villages and number of beneficiaries (A3)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Awareness campaign about the necessity of implementing a professional operation, maintenance and management of the water supply and waste water services (B1)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Initiate projects to achieve acceptance of tariffs (B3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Initiate capacity development and training for local entrepreneurs such as plumbers, sanitation pipe layers and pipe fitters (B4)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improve municipal capacities in planning (C2)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fundraising for refurbishment and rehabilitation as well as upgrading e.g. by donor agencies (C4)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Implementation of an institutional mechanism to secure financing (C5)</td>
<td>medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term measures</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Install permanent service units for preventive maintenance and repairs in every village (A4)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish a system for providing a comprehensive plan for implementing new projects (C3)</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment

The strategy for water and sanitation will not harm the environment but reduce its pollution. The strategy will also improve economic and social issues by reducing the loss of drinking water and improving the quality and quantity of service.

Reasons

With respect to water and wastewater services, the following needs have been identified during the initial phase of the Masterplan’s preparation:

- Rehabilitation/reconstruction/refurbishment of existing assets;
- Extension of services to areas of the settlements currently without access to services;
- Implementation of improved technical concepts;
• Organisation of professional operation units being able to provide repairs and preventive maintenance;

• Implementation of an institutional mechanism for securing the financing of the above needs.

Investing punctual, but not into the whole network, will not solve the problems in the medium and long term, which is a primary means to achieve sustainable development. Due to the physical life cycle of the assets, the lack of maintenance and the influence of the environmental factors will cause continued degradation if the investment concept strategy is not tackled in due time.

Facilities
A summary of facilities identified as necessary for the rectification of the current situation is presented in the table below:

### Water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Storage volume- Extension [m$^3$]</td>
<td>508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution Net - Extension [m]</td>
<td>2 650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanitary Protection Areas [# of 20mx20m fencing]</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Water Intake [#]</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment (or chlorination) [#(1 for each river/lake intake)]</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage [m$^3$]</td>
<td>1 961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehab. Transmission [m]</td>
<td>13 553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehab./Replacement Distribution [m]</td>
<td>79 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Pressure Reducing Valves [#]</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of existing valves (Nos.)</td>
<td>972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation New Section Valves with chambers [#]</td>
<td>890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reinstatement of Domestic Connection [m]</td>
<td>5 421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Water Meters [Nos.]</td>
<td>8 155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Pumps [#]</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pumping [kwh]</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pumping Stations Storage [m$^3$]</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Waste water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sewers Extension incl. Manholes [m]</td>
<td>63 349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewers Rehabilitation/replacement [m]</td>
<td>33 214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Included above New Main Collector incl. Manholes [m]</td>
<td>25 955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septic Tanks [Nos.] each for 5 HH</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equivalent of WW Primary Treatment (nos)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operation and Maintenance
The punctual fixing of present bottlenecks and the retention of the same structure in place is not a solution. The following 3 conditions have to be fulfilled in order to enable the sustainable funding of projects:

• Capital investments should be of a scale and size that will be of interest to donors;

• Existence of one unique entity to sign the finance contract;

• Sustainability has to be substantiated according to the following criteria: economic (payback
strategy), technical, institutional, social and environmental.

**Sequence of effecting capital investments**

The mechanism for securing operation and preventive maintenance funds in the future has and can only be based on the collection of service tariffs. The customers will pay these tariffs only if they are satisfied with the services. For this reason the sequence of implementing investments (the choice of scope of investment) has to follow the path of continuing customer’s satisfaction with the services, as following:

1. Availability of good quality water in sufficient quantity that will satisfy the demand of each community (quality and yield of water sources, sanitary protection areas, water treatment and storage, metering);
2. Availability of sufficient pressure at the tap (distribution networks, pumping, customer connections, metering);
3. Collection and transportation of the waste water (wastewater house connection, collecting system combined with storm water or not, joining settlements or communities to shared collection systems, need for pumping);
4. Treatment of wastewater to environmentally acceptable levels and release of this effluent into natural recipients (adapted treatment process, choice of treatment solution, industrial wastewater treatment needs, choice of effluent receiving water bodies, choice of location for wastewater treatment plant).
5. Treated waste water Sludge Management Strategy.

**Effecting capital investments in any of the above service areas without having solved its predecessor would put the proper use of the available funds at risk.**

**Areas requiring funds**

It is clear that the financial needs are much larger than any grant would be able to satisfy. Therefore a prioritisation of components designated to be financed through grants, bearing in mind that futures loans are unavoidable, is the only responsible way to address the financial needs. As noted above, the resulting 2 main areas in need of financial assistance are:

1. Initial capital investments for customer satisfaction: (i) starting with No. 1 of the sequence presented above; (ii) the other 3 positions in the sequence above have to result from an analysis of options which will be performed in the frame of the UNDP Masterplan; (iii) setting up (including training) of professional, authorised operation and service units for groups of communities – can be done independently,
2. Development of institutional capacities and capabilities: (i) securing collection of tariffs (can be performed only by a provider with mandate); (ii) securing the operational management of the assets and their preventive maintenance; (iii) development of an institutional concept making the provider(s) eligible for receiving loans (demonstrating payback capabilities and including presentation of an exit strategy).

Any investment (from grants) satisfying the sequences presented or advancing the progress according to the presented sequences for a group of communities (agglomerations) in the two above areas of needs will be an added value to the contribution of the Masterplan and a benefit for the Dragash/Dragaš region.
9. Implementation provisions

Provisions for implementation present conditions to be met for the application and implementation of the Municipal Development Plan of Dragash/Dragaš. A high degree of social governance should be achieved; future development should follow well-thought-out regulations.

9.1 Guidelines on issues of interpretation of the MDP

- The MDP is based on the Spatial Plan of Kosovo and ought to be in accordance with its proposals. Decisions and specifications of the Spatial Plan are settled at the national level and should be respected.
- The MDP agrees to establish the “Sharr/Šar Mountains” National Park in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality.
- The MDP is the basis for designing the Urban Development Plans (UDP) and Urban Regulatory Plans (URP). These plans should follow the recommendations of the MDP, especially with respect to the settlement strategy.
- The MDP serves as a guide for all other sectors in the municipality.
- Any proposal or decision regarding the URP that is in conflict with the provisions of the MDP should pass through the public review process (as foreseen by the provisions of the Law on Spatial Planning) and receive Assembly approval.

9.2 Conditions on issues that are significant for land use and development

9.2.1 Conditions for determining the destination of areas in the territory of the municipality

Determining the areas’ destination in the territory of the municipality is based on geographic and constitutional conditions and characteristics, as well as vision and goals of the plan, which provide the future directions of development. The MDP sets out the conditions for the regulation of settlements and construction zones, agricultural land, forests, commercial and industrial zones, public spaces, physical and social infrastructure, facilities for sport and recreation (tourism), natural hazards, etc. In general the conditions are set out in the spatial development framework of the MDP, the strategies and Guidance Maps of MDP and in detailed plans (e.g. UDP, URP) as well as through relevant laws.

9.2.2 Conditions for space regulation

Regulation of settlements is determined by the settlement strategy and Guidance maps (see Chapter 8.2). Detailed specifications of space regulation will be undertaken through the UDP/URP.

(a) Buildings of importance for Kosovo

Tangible cultural heritage and landscape assets (mills, traditional vernacular buildings, etc.) have been surveyed and assessed in the Report on Cultural and Heritage Assets (2012); the strategy for tourism and cultural heritage presents the main issues and actions to preserve these buildings (see Chapter 8.7) which are of national interest, and to support the owners in their protection. The municipality will cooperate with central institutions and take responsibility to maintain control of development around these buildings.
(b) **Construction areas for settlements**

Buildings are allowed only in areas designated by the MDP. Physical and social infrastructure will be provided only within the urban area. Conditions for construction zones within the urban area are determined by settlement strategy and Guidance maps (see Chapter 8.2). These conditions consider:

- Well-regulated urban density and open space
- Vulnerability to risks and disasters (avalanches, erosion, floods)
- Macro-microclimate (sunlight, wind, freezing sites)
- Data on development area and cadastral parcels: include analysis on the position, orientation, shape, size of development area, plot construction, the suitability analysis, land use in surrounding areas, site preparation (removal of buildings and rehabilitation of soil, etc.)
- Rules for accessing the building (road infrastructure and other installations)
- Security and public order (life and health of people, environment, stability, fire protection, sanitation, heat and sound insulation, stability and distance of neighbouring buildings, etc.)
- Historic and cultural value

The municipality provides building permits for all buildings, except those specified in Article 35 of Law on Construction. For these structures, the construction permit is given by MESP:

- Construction and telecommunications connections (refer to details on the law)
- Energy facilities, hydropower and industrial facilities
- Facilities for special purposes

Buildings/structures which do not require a building permit are defined in Article 41 of the Law on Construction.

(c) **Structures built outside settlements**

Construction outside of defined construction areas is prohibited except for buildings named in article 17.3 of the Law on Spatial Planning. MESP issues construction permits for the needs of:

- Protection from fire and harmful materials - explosives etc.
- Water resource management
- Transport and other infrastructure
- Buildings for research and use of exploited mineral materials
- Recreation and agricultural activities, forestry, hunting, fishing and rural tourism

The municipality will not be responsible for providing infrastructure outside settlements that are specified in the MDP.

9.2.3 **Conditions for establishing economic activities**

The MDP has defined economic zones in Dragash/Dragaš town and the sub-centres, where economic activities shall be permitted. Proclamation of this area as an economic zone must accord with the criteria set by law for economic activities, and includes: status of the zone (e.g. economic or industrial zone, technological or industrial park, etc.), area boundaries, types of activities that will be developed in the area etc.

Permits will only be granted for construction for agricultural and industrial production, warehouses for storage of products, services and commercial purposes with no negative impact on the environment. The drafting of the URP will contain the conditions for regularisation of the designated area as per the Law on Spatial Planning and the Law on Economic Zones as well as drafting the Strategic Environmental Assessment. General conditions for the establishment of the area include defining the land ownership status, previous consents, drafting the business plan, construction project plans and other special conditions set by the project task.

The Municipality will stimulate trade and commerce entities that offer sustainable programmes for their business using renewable energy technology and integrating energy efficiency. Manufacturing
businesses will be permitted within the economic zones if they comply with land use conditions and other provisions of environmental protection.

The MDP spatial framework has determined areas of intensive and extensive agricultural management and land use. This will protect the environment and preserve agricultural activities. The municipality will stimulate farmers’ associations and the collection of non-wood forest products if laws and permissions from respective Ministries are observed.

Conditions for touristic development are based on the Nature-Based Tourism Strategy (2011) and the Tourism and Cultural Heritage Strategy (see Chapter 8.7). Touristic zones are defined in the settlement strategy and Guidance maps (see Chapter 8.7), while touristic centres and areas are defined in the spatial development framework. The municipality will only permit construction for tourism within tourism areas and zones which do not harm the environment. Accommodation and holiday houses should be scaled in adequate relation to demand and natural conditions. Oversized projects will not be permitted. The municipality will encourage and permit touristic infrastructure and development fields such as gastronomy, cultural activities, handicrafts, etc. in accordance with legal provisions and development plans.

### 9.2.4 Conditions for establishing public activities

Public activities take place in the village roads and at traditional locations in the landscape. The MDP promotes the enhancement of public space design and the preservation of open space for traditional or communal gathering. Public green spaces damaged by construction must be compensated for under the conditions and in the manner specified by the Municipality. Guidance maps of the settlement strategy (see Chapter 8.2) define the space design framework, which will be detailed in landscape architectural projects and UDPs/URPs. In addition, traditional buildings of cultural heritage and Cultural Houses, named in the Tourism and Cultural Strategy and maps (see Chapter 8.7), as well as sport fields and schoolyards should be developed and enhanced for public activities. The Municipality shall form public private partnership agreements for use of the facilities for cultural purpose, in cases where the sites are privately owned (this applies particularly to structures with cultural heritage value).

A special topic of the MDP is the promotion of education and providing support to youth. The Municipality maintains observation of school attendance, provides transport to school where necessary and ensures an adequate student:teacher ratio. Projects which involve young people in social life and enhance facilities for sport activities and recreation will be promoted by the Municipality. The project task specifies in detail the location and urban-technical conditions.

### 9.2.5 Conditions for establishing corridors or trackways, communication areas and other infrastructure systems

The municipality is responsible for the improvement and maintenance of the local road network, for safety and efficiency in traffic, public transport and other infrastructure systems. According to the Law on Roads, construction should not occur within a certain distance of roads and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted. Road dimensions are defined in accordance with the mobility policies and road standards of the road category to which they belong. Local roads and streets should be regulated in order to ensure the safe flow of traffic in all weather conditions. Care should be paid to the design of intersections, and roundabouts for circulation giving priority to pedestrian safety and comfort. Every road user should be able to overlook the situation.

### 9.2.6 Measures for protecting landscapes, natural values and cultural-historical entitities

The Municipality cooperates with relevant ministries, institutions and other organisations to prepare management plans for nature conservation and maintenance, a local action plan for environmental
Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land use Management - Dragash

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The municipality ensures the participation of the public, NGOs, professional organisations, the business community etc. in the process of drafting plans, programmes and projects. The Municipality cooperates with neighbouring municipalities to ensure the protection of landscapes and natural and cultural-historical values. Two or more municipalities may jointly develop and adopt joint action plans or programmes for environmental protection to reduce the negative effects on the environment.

The Municipality undertakes the following measures and activities within its competences:

- Is responsible for the preservation of biological diversity and landscape in its territory;
- Declares protected areas to which it is responsible and takes part in the procedure to declare protected areas, which are declared by the Government or Parliament;
- Provides the conditions for protection and conservation of protected areas for which it is responsible;
- Promotes nature protection and supports associations whose activity is the protection of nature;
- Monitors the situation of nature protection and reports to the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning; keeps records of relevant data concerning nature protection;
- Informs the public about the condition of nature in its own territory and with respect to measures undertaken for its protection and preservation;

The municipality ensures the preservation of characteristic features of landscapes and maintenance of biological, geological and cultural values which determine its importance and aesthetic experience. The municipality observes a minimising of environmental impacts from development projects of any kind. MDP strategies (see Chapter 8) specify municipal development considering environmental aspects. The municipality’s responsibilities in nature conservation are:

- To cooperate with the relevant ministries and ensure that actions are in accordance with the Law
- To consider environmental aspects in the preparation and adoption of plans (e.g. position of buildings, routing of roads, ...)
- To promote awareness campaigns to increase citizen awareness on issues of environmental protection
- To cultivate native species (agriculture, livestock and forestry)
- To increase technical infrastructure and eliminate environmental pollution (through waste water, solid waste)

The municipality’s responsibilities in protection of cultural heritage are:

- The municipality cooperates with the Ministry of Culture and its institutions for inventoring heritage values, drafting the heritage list for inclusion of certain values under temporary or permanent protection, creating and updating a database on the status of cultural heritage as well as in the implementation of restoration/renovation/rehabilitation and re-purposing projects of cultural heritage.
- Once an asset of cultural heritage comes into temporary or permanent protection list (refer to the Law for procedures of declaring a value in temporary or permanent protection), it is recorded in the cadastral records. Cultural heritage under temporary or permanent protection is exempt from property tax. The issuance of building permissions for facilities under temporary or permanent protection or within archaeological sites, the means of use with the aim of economic and cultural benefit, compensation issues, financing, sales, property rights of cultural heritage under state control or ownership or privately owned cultural heritage are regulated by the Law on Heritage Protection.
• Interventions in whole or in the values of cultural heritage must obtain written permission from the competent institution. Unauthorised works are not allowed in the assets or values of cultural heritage.

• Conservation and restoration activities, projects and processes of conservation and restoration interventions should be made by bodies licensed by the Ministry for this purpose, and which have received in advance the approval as well as are supervised by the competent institution.

• The architectural monuments inscribed on the list for temporary or permanent protection have an area of protection which is 50 metres from the perimeter of the monument. The radius of a Protective Zone is 100 metres from the perimeter of a protected archaeological heritage site.

• The municipality conducts regular inspections and undertakes measures to protect the heritage values.

• The municipality conducts awareness activities for the protection of heritage values and their promotion in support of the municipal development.

• All archaeological finds and movable heritage dating back to before 1453 are the property of Kosovo. The public museums are competent institutions for the management of public collections.

• Movable heritage as defined by the Law on Cultural Heritage with an age of more than 100 years are automatically placed under protection.

• The movable objects, components of cultural heritage, historical complexes and religious buildings are under protection and cannot be moved without permission from the natural context of the site where they are located. Measures for conservation, protection and preservation of movable heritage under protection, distribution of heritage, alienation, etc. are regulated by the Law on Heritage.

• Any legal and physical person is obliged to safeguard the integrity of cultural heritage if he/she is its owner, possessor or user. Any legal and physical person that damages the cultural heritage, regardless of their relationship with the property, shall be fined or sanctioned on basis of the Kosovo Provisional Penal Code, Law on Offense and in accordance with Article 11 of Law for the Protection of Heritage.

9.2.7 Means of dealing with waste

The Municipality is responsible for the treatment of municipal solid waste. The Municipality develops the local plan for waste management in conformity with the Kosovo Strategic Plan for waste management which has been developed by MESP. The local plan for waste management includes a period of at least 5 years and must obtain an approval from MESP. Two or more municipalities can draft a joint plan. The content and preparation method of the plan should be in conformity with the Law on Waste, Nr.02/l-30.

The Municipality regulates the environmental waste management activities and organises the management within its territory through the issuance of permits for waste management. The obligations of holders of waste, producers of waste, carriers, operators for waste treatment and for landfill are regulated by law.

The Municipality arranges, collects, treats and regulates the organisation and the method of segregation of waste for recycling in compliance with legal provisions (Article 28) and in accordance with its local plan. Hazardous waste (explosive, oxidising, highly flammable and flammable, toxic, etc.) and special wastes are collected and transported separately by appropriate means.

The Municipality is responsible for the treatment of waste water. It will compile a programme for the rehabilitation of the existing sewerage network and the extension of the network into undeveloped...
areas. The Municipality prohibits the discharge sewage into riverbeds and the disposal of waste and dangerous substances.

9.2.8 Measures for preventing harmful environmental impacts

The Municipality, as part of its responsibilities defined by law, provides continuous control and monitors the state of the environment in accordance with special laws and monitoring programmes. Monitoring of the environment consists of systematic measurements, research and evaluation of environmental pollution. This includes monitoring of natural factors (air, water, soil, biodiversity, and landscape), the ozone layer, radiation, noise and waste, as well as taking into account the obligations and responsibilities from international agreements. The data gathered from monitoring will be included in the Information System of Environmental Protection and presented to public.

Detailed measures to protect the soil from pollution and erosion, flora and fauna from pollution and degradation and nature and human life from hazards (especially fires, avalanches, floods ...) are described in the sectorial strategies (Chapter 8). These measures also contribute to reduce manmade climate change.

Strategic Environmental Assessment: The municipality should reach a high level of environmental protection and should harmonise environmental issues in the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes, by ensuring that the strategic environmental assessment is conducted for plans and programmes which are likely to have an evident impact on the environment. (Strategic Environmental Assessment Law, Nr.03/L-230)

Environmental Impact Assessment: Projects which may lead to the pollution of the environment or could pose a danger to human health - including technological changes, reconstruction, extension of capacities or termination of activity - have to be assessed according to the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment, Nr.03/L-024. Guidelines for the design of EIA of projects proposed by MDP are also given through assessment of the socio-economic-environmental impact of the MDP (see Chapter 8 and SEA of MDP).

9.2.9 Measures for preventing negative social impact

To avoid negative social impact, the municipality will provide the necessary social infrastructure in line with the envisaged projects in the plan (enhancement of schools, youth centres, museums, libraries, cultural houses, mobile medical services, sports halls and adaptation of spaces for sports and recreation, etc.), and drafts programmes and activities that will generate and create conditions for social well-being.

The municipality promotes employment programmes and adult education projects. The municipality cooperates with NGOs, businesses, donors, etc. to conduct projects that engage youth, the unemployed and the elderly to participate actively in society. The spatial distribution of sub-centres and development measures ensure enhancement of every subspace in the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš, throughout the Opoje/Opolje and Gora/Gorë regions.

During the drafting and development of various projects envisaged in the plan, the Municipality must ensure a transparent process for the public. In this regard the municipality must give particular attention to the creation and dissemination of information, people, which are affected by projects have to be involved into the project.

9.2.10 Measures for implementing the Plan

(a) Obligation for drafting the Plan

The Municipal Assembly is obliged to provide financial and other conditions for preparing and supervising the implementation of Plans. After drafting the Municipal Development Plan, drafting of
Urban Development Plans (starting first with Dragash/Dragaš town) and Urban Regulatory Plans follow. These Plans ought to be in accordance with the provisions of the MDP.

According to the Kosovo Spatial Plan, for every space that exceeds a surface of more than 2ha outside the urban area, a URP should be drafted (this includes spaces for business parks / industrial areas for tourism development, areas for sports and recreation, etc.).

Construction permits for developments outside the urban area have to be in accordance with the decisions of the MDP. The Municipality takes into account the legal provisions for urban planning and construction permits for facilities as described by the Law on Spatial Planning, the Law on Construction and other relevant laws.

(b) Application of development measures and other measures

Upon approval of the plan, the Municipality undertakes measures for linking the plan with the cadastral register including activities for creating a new cadastral plan, if the plan converts the land use to a different function. Whilst the implementation of plot realignment may be necessary to achieve the spatial objectives, expropriation should be avoided. The Municipality establishes and maintains the system of plan data (in reference to the Law on Spatial Planning) which should be harmonious with that of the Ministry. Special measures should be taken for the protection of areas designated as being of special interest and in protected areas. (See above).

(c) Reconstruction of buildings for which destination is in contradiction to the planned destinations

The MDP will draft a municipal regulation or even a programme (in accordance with legal provisions) for the treatment of illegal construction. The municipality will not allow the expansion or upgrading of existing buildings that are in areas with beautiful natural landscapes. The specific problems related to informal settlements will be solved in accordance with the instructions of MESP/DSP. The municipality undertakes measures to prevent construction in areas where buildings are not allowed.

9.3 Provisions regarding cooperation

- The Municipality informs, cooperates and/or reaches co-financing agreements with ministries and relevant agencies for projects proposed in the MDP that require the participation of these institutions.
- The Municipality informs, cooperates and/or reaches co-financing agreements with neighbouring municipalities for projects of common interest. The Municipality cooperates with the Agency for Regional Development in the implementation of such projects.
- The municipality informs, cooperates and reaches partnership agreements with public companies for public services in the competencies of these companies (issues of water supply, sewage, electricity, waste management, etc.)
- The Municipality cooperates and establishes partnership agreements (PPP) with the private sector for projects, in which both sides have a common interest
- The Municipality establishes cross-border cooperation relations with municipalities of neighbouring states for projects of common interest
- The Municipality cooperates with various donors for projects envisaged by the plan, whose implementation can be assisted by various donor programmes.
- The municipality supports and cooperates with NGOs in a number of projects envisaged by the plan, especially in those dealing with awareness campaigns and promotion of municipal values.
- During the development of other plans derived from the MDP, the municipality should ensure the participation and involvement of the public (citizens and various interest groups) from the
beginning stages and throughout the process, and undertake information campaigns as foreseen by the provisions of the Law on Spatial Planning.

9.4 Provisions for the chronological ordering

- As foreseen with the Amended Law on Spatial Planning No.2003-14 (Law Nr.03/L-106), the municipality must establish a Spatial Planning Unit. This unit should be responsible for coordination of the activities in the implementation of the plan and define criteria for permanent monitoring of plans; thus it reports regularly to the municipal authorities.
- Within 6 months from the adoption of the MDP, the Municipal Assembly must approve the budget plan, which will provide clarifications as to the funding of the plan’s implementation for the period of at least the next 3 years. Among other aspects, it must define how the municipality envisions funding the drafting of UDP/URPs and the implementation of development policies as foreseen within the development plans (MDP and UDP).
- In addition, within this period of six months from the adoption of MDP, the municipality must review sectional policies in order to meet with the MDP and UDP provisions.
- The Municipal Development Plan has envisaged the following stages of activity development: The municipality establishes a planning unit which will review and monitor the implementation of plans and projects arising from it, will prepare annual reports for monitoring and evaluation of the plan and will provide suggestions for possible changes, etc.
- The municipality (planning unit) drafts the programme for the implementation of the Municipal Development Plan.
- The actions/projects proposed in the MDP are grouped into three development phases:
  - Phase I: the period 2013-2016, during which mainly short term projects/actions are included that are also associated with the mid-term municipal budgetary planning
  - Phase II: the period 2017-2020 includes mid-term action/projects
  - Phase III: the period 2021-2023+ includes long term actions/projects
- All investments in the municipality that have a spatial character must be in harmony with the proposals and priorities outlined by the Municipal Development Plan.
- Upon approval of the plan and its entry into force, the municipality must analyse the current budget plan (budget framework) and during its review should incorporate the envisaged projects in the revised budget framework.

9.5 Elements and guidelines for further research

The Municipal Development Plan of Dragash/Dragaš promotes further research and studies in several fields such as:

- Biodiversity research within and outside the National Park
- Geological risk analysis (especially avalanche and rockfall)
- Economic action-research, in order to continuously update the Survey of the Resources and consequently update the Strategic Guidelines
- Feasibility studies for certain road projects
- Professional research about Dragash/Dragaš’s archaeological, monumental, natural and intangible heritage
- Feasibility study for utilisation of (conifer) forest potential in the development of timber industry, final processing and further marketing, as well as the potential in using new heating technologies
• Studies for the potentials of hydropower, solar radiation, wind power, biomass resources and geothermal potential

9.6 Final provisions

Entry into force: This plan enters into force after approval by the Municipal Assembly and after 8 days of publication in the Official Gazette of Kosovo

Validity: This plan will be valid until the year 2023. The plan must be reviewed / revised every 5 years.

Assessment and plan amendments: Assessment and amendment of the plan: The professional review of the MDP implies amendments or additions that must be made in the defined manner and procedure for their initial approval (Law on Spatial Planning, 2003/14, Article 20). Any proposed change, amendment or repeal (abolition) of the plan has to pass through the public review process which takes at least 15 days and not more than 30 days (Administrative Instruction for implementation of Law on Spatial Planning on the public review procedure for spatial and urban plans 54/2005, Article 5.4).