United Nations Development Programme

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

Municipal Development Plan for the Municipality of Dragash/Đragaš
2013 - 2023

PART I:
CHAPTER 1 - 4

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With contributions from:


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2013-2023 Municipal Development Plan

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

**Project Background:** The preparation of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) has been undertaken as part of the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Use Management (CBSLM) project, which covers the whole of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš. CBSLM is a three-year programme that started in November 2010, which is funded from the Governments of Finland managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) is the main national institution responsible for biodiversity conservation, spatial planning and most aspects of environmental protection. It is therefore one of the main national stakeholder for the CBSLM project with the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš as the key local administrative stakeholder.

UNDP currently provides support to national and local institutions throughout Kosovo in order to meet the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). In so doing, the CBSLM project would promote the Eighth MDG “to ensure environmental sustainability”. As part of this work, a major component of UNDP’s work in Dragash-Kosovo is to develop capacity to address issues of environmental sustainability and improved livelihoods, especially at the local level. Thus, the preparation of the MDP for the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš is a key component of this work.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the CBSLM are set out in the UNDP Project Document: Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Use Management in Dragash/Dragaš (September 2010). Outputs 1 and 2 of this programme state that the following will be achieved:

*Plans and policies in place for the adequate conservation of biodiversity and sustainable land use management.*

*Plans and capacities developed for improved livelihoods.*

The preparation of the MDP falls, for the most part, within these programme outputs.

**Previous Relevant Work:** There have been a number of studies undertaken for the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš within the last five years, which are relevant to the MDP. Of principal importance are the following documents:

- **Municipal Development Agenda 2004-2006. Prepared by Ministry of Economy and Finance:** This provided a situation analysis of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš, principally covering 1999-2003, and outlined some strategic aims with suggested implementation actions.
- **Dragash/Dragaš Municipality – Spatial Analysis (October 2006). Prepared by the Institute of Spatial Planning and Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš for the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning.** This was an assessment of the exiting land use and spatial situation in the municipality up to 2006.
• Preliminary study in view of the consultation and elaboration of the Municipal Development Plan (July 2010). Prepared by UNHABITAT. This gives a short overview of the municipal profile, drafts a vision, spatial framework and implementation strategy for Dragash/Dragaš.
• Regional development strategy for the economic Region South (2010-2013). Prepared by the Regional Development Agency south (RDA). This presents the economic assets and opportunities of the Region South in Kosovo, formulating a development strategy and some priority measures.
• Dragash/Dragaš Municipal Guidelines (for International Cooperation) (2011-2013). Prepared by UNDP. This reported on participatory planning work undertaken for five villages in Dragash/Dragaš. It also outlined some key issues that needed to be tackled for subsequent work on the MDP.

1.2 Purpose of the MDP

The Municipal Development Plan is, according to the definition in the Law on Spatial Planning, a “multi-sectoral plan that determines the long-term goals of economic, social and spatial development”. It covers the entire territory of the municipality.

The MDP for Dragash/Dragaš has been prepared to cover a timescale of 10 years from 2013 to 2023. During this period the MDP’s principal purpose will be to act as a strategic planning document for the municipality. In so doing, it will fulfill the following key functions:

• To provide an updated analysis of the existing situation for the Municipal area;
• To outline strategic plans and policies for the ten-year period;
• To provide a framework for detailed spatial planning (such as for Urban Development Plans and Urban Regulatory Plans) in the Municipal area;
• To promote poverty alleviation and socio-economic development for Dragash/Dragaš and, in so doing, to promote social inclusion and equal opportunities for disadvantaged groups;
• To promote environmental sustainability and nature conservation as a key dimension for sustainable development in this rural area.
1.3 Planning Principles

The preparation process and the contents of the Municipal Development Plan obey the following underlying planning principles:

**Hierarchy of planning**: The MDP considers the broader spatial context and the relevant plans and policies set out at the national level; the guidance given by the MDP fits into the national framework (see Chapter 2), focuses on the local area and specifies strategies and goals for further actions at the municipal level.

**Integrated planning**: the MDP provides an inter-sectional concept for spatial development of the municipality, integrating elements of all relevant sectors such as economic, social, infrastructural and environmental development.

**Multidisciplinary planning**: The preparation of the plans has been undertaken by a multidisciplinary team under the responsibility of UNDP, in which planners, economists, civil engineers, ecologists and others have cooperated. The team consisted of national professionals and international consultants, working in intensive cooperation with the local administration and citizens.

**Iterative planning**: The process followed the common rules of iterative planning. It started with an intensive analysis of the existing situation, during which much data was collected that had not been available before. The analysis ended with an assessment of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis). Based on the results of this, visions and goals were compiled during the second stage. These formed the basis for stage three: the elaboration of the strategic development framework. As the final and fourth stage, implementation strategies were defined.

**Transparent and public planning**: This was an intensive process of cooperation between the UNDP team the municipality, the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, during which participatory measures were undertaken to incorporate public consultation into decision-making during the preparation of the MDP to achieve a strong degree of consensus on its content.

**Sustainability as key aspect of planning**: The specific characteristics of Dragash/Dragaš reveal it to be a rather sparsely populated municipality lying high in the Sharr/Šar Mountain chain. It contains huge biodiversity and the prospect of a national park prospect, so environmental aspects are of central importance. It was therefore necessary to include a component into the planning process which provided detailed information on the ecological situation and facilitated spatial planning with further assessment and guidance. Thus, a “Sustainable Development Atlas” (SDA) for Dragash/Dragaš was elaborated and embedded into the UNDP Project for Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Use Management in Dragash/Dragaš. The Baseline Maps, Assessment Maps and Guidance Maps of the SDA form a highly relevant source of information for the MDP, and are duly cross-referenced with the MDP document. Furthermore, the MDP’s planning results have formed important sources for the work of the SDA.
1.4 Consultation Process

The preparation process of the MDP has incorporated public consultation at various levels. It is very important that different sectors of the community in Dragash/Dragaš participate in decision-making and take a stake in the content of the plan. It is equally important that the content of the MDP incorporates a strong degree of public consensus and that it effectively integrates the communities’ views. This has been undertaken as part of the early stages in the preparation of the MDP, including during the information-gathering process for the SDA. Different working groups were involved in the planning process.

Municipal Working Group: The Municipal Working Group (MWG) is a participatory, consultative forum established under the leadership of the local authorities. The MWG accompanied and supported the whole process of the MDP. Members are the representatives of the municipal government (by sector), representatives of the business sector and representatives of civil society.

Village working groups: In addition, village groups were consulted for their views on the planning needs in early 2011 [ref: Dragash Municipal Guidelines (for International Cooperation) (2011-2013)]. The first five village working groups (established in 2010-2012) included Bellobrad/Belobrod, Blać/Bljač, Brod/Brod, Brrut/Brut and Restelica/Restelicë. Additional five working groups were established in 2012 in villages Bresane, Kuk, Shajne, Rapce and Zlipotok.

The public consultation exercise for the MDP included a four-day Visioning Workshop in early September 2011. There were some 45 attendees from different sections of the local population (village residents, non-governmental organisations, private sector representatives and municipality officials) who contributed towards the key issues that needed to be addressed by the MDP, as well as the most important elements of the plan’s Vision. The workshop is described in more detail in Section 5.1.

The formal process of preparation of the MDP evolved over the period in an iterative process between the different actors involved: experts, core planning team in Municipality, Municipal Working group and Assembly members, civil society and working group representatives and public institutions in Dragash. In July 2012, the Strategic Development Options were presented to the Municipal working Group and the Municipal Assembly representatives, including representatives from different sectors of the community in order to ascertain their views and preferences. The opinions of these participants contributed to the formulation of the Preferred Strategic Development Option, which has been used as the basis for defining subsequent policies and proposals for the MDP. The discussion and consensus on the Strategic development Options evolved over a period of 3 months of iterative work between the different experts and local actors and the final versions were reviewed in workshop held in October 02, 2012.

The Republic of Kosovo Law on Spatial Planning (Law No 2003/14) requires that the Draft MDP be made available for review and comment by the public and government agencies during a 60-day consultation period. The public consultation process was held in Dragash – after decision by the Municipal Assembly of March 26, 2013 – during April 4 and June 4 of 2013. The comments from the public have been either incorporated into the finalized plan, or, alternatively responses given on why they have not been incorporated (documented in Annex 1).
Complementing the final process, and according to the procedures established in the Law No.03/L –230, there has been done a strategic environmental assessment of the MDP. The process followed the requirements of the law, under which a public consultation process and a public debate took place. The SEA for the Dragash MDP has been approved by the corresponding authority Ministry of Environment and Spatial planning on August 07, 2013 (documented in Annex 2).
2. NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SPATIAL PLANNING CONTEXT

The following chapter describes the legal framework for the Municipal Development Plan, the context of spatial planning at the national level in Kosovo, relevant policies at the national level and how this relates specifically to the MDP.

2.1 Legal Framework

The legal framework on spatial planning includes the Law on Spatial Planning, its Amendment and the Administrative Guideline on the implementation of the Law on Spatial Planning. Also relevant is the Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The Law on Spatial Planning (Law No 2003/14) regulates spatial planning over the entire territory of Kosovo. The law defines that the national level of spatial planning in Kosovo consists of the Spatial Plan of Kosovo and Spatial Plans for Special Areas. The Spatial Plan of Kosovo is the basic concept for the spatial development in Kosovo. It contains the profile and spatial analysis of the whole territory, visions, principles and goals for the future of Kosovo and frames the spatial structure of development. Its strategy and implementation actions set objectives at the national level and frame activities and projects to achieve these objectives.

At the municipal level, the Municipal Development Plan (MDP), Urban Development Plans (UDPs) and Urban Regulatory Plans (URPs) regulate spatial development.¹ The MDP is a multi-sectoral plan, covering the entire territory of the municipality, which determines the long term goals for economic, social and spatial development for a period of at least five years. The MDP shall include a plan for development of urban areas and villages within the municipality. The MDP includes a short summary of socio-economic and environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the plan. The public and other government agencies shall be given an opportunity to review and comment on the draft MDP. Before final approval of the MDP, the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) verifies compliance with the Spatial Plan of Kosovo.²

The Spatial Planning Law Amendment (Law No. 03/L-106) specifies the MDP as a Spatial Plan for regularisation, utilisation and development of space, which prescribes timelines and includes realistic investment projections.³

The Administrative Guideline (Guideline No. 33, Pro. No. 29/03) on the implementation of the Law on Spatial Planning defines the content of MDPs. These contain textual and graphic components. The textual component includes the Profile of Spatial Development and situation analysis; Vision, Principles

¹ Law No 2003/14, Art. 10.
² Law No 2003/14, Art. 13.
³ Law No. 03/L-106, Art. 2.
and Goals; Spatial Development Framework; Implementation Strategies and Actions, as well as Implementation Provisions. The graphic component includes cartographic data and other graphic annexes that portray the situation and interventions in space. The MDP includes spatial elements of transport, economic development, social, environmental and other strategic policies for the municipality. It precedes strategic development in the territory of the municipality, focuses on local matters and takes into account aspects of equity and of gender sensitivity. The MDP should be expressed in a form that facilitates monitoring and review.\(^4\)

The Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Law No. 03/L-230) regulates the assessment of plans and programmes to ensure a high level for protection of the environment and human health. The law determines the condition, form and procedure for the assessment of the environmental impacts of certain plans and programmes through integration of environmental principles in the preparation, approval and realisation of plans and programmes.\(^5\) The responsible authority determines whether the plan or programme is likely to have significant environmental effects or not. Plans or programmes shall not be submitted to the legislative procedure for adoption until the strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is carried out, the SEA report has been taken account and the Ministry has authorised the adoption.\(^6\)

Responsibilities: According to the Law on Spatial Planning Article 13 each municipality is responsible for preparing a Municipal Development Plan. The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) is responsible for advising and assisting municipalities in their drafting of their MDP.\(^7\) The Spatial Planning Institute, as a unit of the Ministry, deals with drafting of the planning documents, research on spatial development and the creation of spatial database.\(^8\) MESP is responsible for preparing the Spatial Plan of Kosovo (SPK).\(^9\)

2.2 National Development Strategy

As every MDP shall be consistent with the SPK, the objectives, visions, principles, etc. that are relevant to Dragash/Dragaš are shown in the following.

The Spatial Plan of Kosovo (SPK) 2010-2020 defines spatial development goals and objectives for the whole territory of Kosovo:\(^10\)

- Country integrated into the European Union
- Achievement of a balanced social development with equal access to services for all Kosovo inhabitants
- Sustainable and balanced spatial development, protection and respect of resources - cultural and natural heritage of its territory (and neighbouring territories)

\(^4\) Guideline No. 33, Pro. No. 29/03, Art. 1.
\(^5\) Law No. 03/L-230, Art. 1
\(^6\) Ibidem, Art. 3-5.
\(^7\) Law No. 2003/14, Art. 5.
\(^8\) SPK 2010-2020.
\(^9\) SPK 2010-2020, Art. 10.
\(^10\) SPK 2010-2020, p. 118 et seq.
Sustainable economic development, balanced according to natural, human resources, modern technology, competitive markets and implementation of environmental standards.

Transport and integrated infrastructure and communication, while respecting environmental standards.

The **strategy and implementation actions** of the SPK 2010-2020 force social and economic development, preservation and protection of the environment, natural resources and cultural heritage, as well as the development of infrastructure and communication.\(^{11}\)

Actions and activities for achieving **social development** goals are mainly related to the development of education, health and improving the quality of housing. The spatial consequences of achieving quality **education** are:\(^{12}\)

- Education at the nearest distance, to comply with social, physical, cultural and emotional needs.
- Construction of new education premises
- Training of the teaching staff in implementation of modern methods of teaching
- Transport provision for remote areas

Main activities to enhance general **healthcare** are:

- Improvement of people (medical staff), buildings and equipment
- Improvement of funding for healthcare, decentralisation of funding for primary healthcare to municipalities

To improve the quality of **housing** provision, strategies must concentrate on locations possessing infrastructure, in the manner of promoting sustainable development and a better utilisation of urban land. New housing design must be modern and enable urban regeneration of degraded settlements and improvement in quality of life. Necessary actions in spatial coherence are:\(^{13}\)

- Creation of sustainable housing environments
- Better land use
- Linking development with public transport
- Re-designation of business and other functions into housing
- Promotion of mixed-use development
- Green spaces in housing areas
- Quality design

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\(^{11}\) Ibidem, p. 157.
\(^{12}\) Ibidem, p. 157 et seq.
\(^{13}\) Ibidem, p. 159
The challenges of economic development in Kosovo are related to specific issues or problems such as unemployment, poverty, inequality in economic development, poor quality of development in urban areas, settlement with insufficient development, difficult energy supply, informal settlements, loss of agricultural land, lack of access to livestock fund growth, limited development of viniculture and depopulation of settlements.

The SPK states activities in spatial coherence:14

- The government and municipal authorities must draft employment strategies, including for specific groups (women, youth, etc.)
- Development of suitable policies especially in agriculture, creation of favourable conditions in rural areas, regeneration of industrial capacities
- Focus on areas stalled in economic development such as the Sharr/Šar Mountain region (Dragash/Dragaš)
- Prioritise governmental investment for the establishment of new social infrastructure and technical and economic reactivation of existing capacity
- Stimulate agriculture and animal husbandry in order to lower the rate of migration from villages to cities
- Review existing policies and the adoption of incentive measures which will support development of renewable energy resources sector
- Development and empowerment fiscal stimulant measures to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies
- Reach a broad political agreement and approval of laws to address illegal construction
- The Land Administration Coordination Committee prepares political instructions on agricultural land management, irrigation and drainage, agricultural and stock production, forestry and participation in activities of agricultural land protection against pollution of any kind

- **Physical infrastructure development**
  - Improvement of physical infrastructure (road, sewage, water supply, telecommunication, etc.), largely in rural areas
  - Road asphalting and a functional railroad network to shorten links between settlements. This will enable a wider circulation of commodities and people in an indirect way, in turn reducing migration towards developed areas

- **Technical infrastructure development**
  - Concentrate into developing information and communication technology, modernisation of telephony services, distribution of the network and provision of better internet services, etc. to approach diversification and improvement in quality of telecommunications services
  - Provision of uninterrupted electricity supply
  - Build new water accumulation systems to enable a better water supply for urban areas
  - Identification and evaluation of smaller hydropower potential existing in Kosovo and providing incentives for private investors to build small hydroelectric plants

- **Settlement policies and development**
  - Assessment of existing situation of informal settlements in the cities of Kosovo

➢ Prevention of immediate development of informal settlements and illegal construction
➢ Prevention of construction on land in Categories I – IV
➢ Regulation of informal settlements by providing technical and social infrastructure, resolving property issues and to facilitate participation in governance
➢ Compile reports regarding the condition of buildings without permission

- Protection of quality agricultural land and development of sustainable farming
  ➢ In harmony with the Law on Agricultural Land, the land in Category I, II, III and IV is protected (use of such land only for agricultural production)
  ➢ Establishment of a fund for agricultural land revitalisation, to increase agricultural land area per capita

Grouping of scattered plots in a larger area by land consolidation (new land measurements, new plot shaping to regular geometrical shapes, new regularisation of property-legal relations, new Land Cadastre)

- To initiate a better use of agricultural mechanisms, access to roads and increased agricultural productivity per unit area
- Urbanisation of villages with all accompanying infrastructure

The objectives of the SPK related to the environment, natural resources and cultural heritage are conservation and environmental protection from pollution and degradation, conservation, protection and rational exploitation of natural resources and conservation and protection of cultural heritage assets. The necessary activities to achieve these objectives in spatial coherence are: \(^{15}\)

- Reducing of environmental pollution
  ➢ Inhibition of exploitation of inert matter from river beds by unlicensed operators, of waste discharge into river systems and of any mechanical activity in rivers
  ➢ Use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides should conform to standards on the minimisation of underground and superficial water pollution
  ➢ Landfill standardisation and assurance of more efficient protection in hazardous waste landfills; elimination of illegal landfills
  ➢ Undertake chemical and biological cleaning of water within each industrial facility or activity, e.g. open-cast mines, etc.
  ➢ Waste water treatment plants to clean water from settlement sewage systems

- Protection of flora and fauna
  ➢ Rational utilisation of natural resources, protection of biodiversity and natural values
  ➢ Protection and preservation of the integrity of forests and forestry assets
  ➢ Sustainable management of forests and forestry assets, prevention of illegal cutting and destruction of forests
  ➢ Enlargement territory of the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park into Dragash /Dragaš Municipality
  ➢ Protection of relict and endemic species of flora and fauna

\(^{15}\) Ibidem, pp. 168-177.
- Protection of the environment from construction and development of recreation-tourist areas
- **Prevention of flood and erosion**
  - Minimise flooding or minimise its consequences (database, mapping of risk areas, warning system for flooding, construction of protection measures and other technical responses)
  - Prohibition of agricultural land use along riverbanks, which may affect flooding risks
  - Prohibition of all construction activities in proximity to river banks, apart from structures of an infrastructural function (bridges, dams, drainage channels, etc.) which do not increase the risk of flooding
  - Take counter-erosive actions (construction of terraces, embankments and dams, agricultural land maintenance, prevention of grazing in bare massif and flora-deficient areas, planting of forest)
- **Protection of natural scenery**
  - Application of clause: “a tree felled to be replaced with two others”
  - Prevention of flora destruction along river banks, planting of wood plants along river banks (also erosion prevention) and providing natural landscapes
  - Creation of green belts around areas with environmental negative impacts (also protecting flora and fauna)
- **Preservation of cultural heritage**
  - Continuous protection from degradation of cultural heritage by inventory of buildings and sites according to the criteria from the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS), definition of historic cultural heritage areas and promotion and information on the role and importance of cultural heritage
  - Performing functional inclusion of cultural heritage into cultural tourism by enabling free access to visitors, improving of infrastructure (restaurants, etc.) and offering craft workshops, museums, galleries, exhibitions, etc.

Activities to develop infrastructure and communication are mentioned within the activities above. The national plans for infrastructure development identify certain roads in Dragash/Dragaš that ought to be asphalted. In addition there is a plan for laying a fibre optic cable to Dragash/Dragaš town. According to the main concept for Dragash/Dragaš’s spatial development there are no more large projects of infrastructure planned.

### 2.3 National Concept of Spatial Development

The Spatial Plan of Kosovo provides a **concept of spatial development** for the whole territory from which relevant specifications for spatial development in Dragash/Dragaš arise.

**Definition of central importance of centres:**

The SPK includes a definition of responsibility and the relative importance of each settlement within the settlement network. According to this, Prizren is regarded as a large centre, and Dragash/Dragaš as a small centre.
Large centres shall further strengthen their position as regional centres, serving other centres surrounding them, completing services and complementing services in relation to the capital. These centres must be carriers of development. The regional centre is the place for renewal and adaption of industrial areas to new production and development requirements, and for business parks as future integral parts of the whole centre. An efficient road structure connects the regional centre with the other centres (regional and smaller).

Smaller centres shall have an active role in future spatial development in the aspects of improvement of service provision and efficacy

- in strengthening links to surrounding villages and
- in efforts that the area as a whole function according to pre-determined development programmes.\(^{16}\)

Definition of regional areas of spatial development:

According to geographical characteristics, potential development and economic activities, Kosovo is divided into the following four conceptual areas.\(^{17}\)

- The “Harbour of Kosovo” in Prishtinë/Priština and its surroundings is the administrative centre and a centre of service, trade, agricultural industry and tourism.
- The “Treasury of Kosovo” in the north is characterised by industry, service and trade.
- The “Bridges of Kosovo” in the southwest and southeast operate as nodes of trade links with neighbouring countries.
- In the “Gardens of Kosovo” (the Orange Area) in the northwest and south, the main focus is on culture, tourism, service, trade and the agricultural industry.

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\(^{16}\) Ibidem, p. 126.
\(^{17}\) SPK 2010-2020, p. 121.
Figure 1: Structure and settlement network. Source: SPK 2010-2020, p. 126.

Dragash/Dragaš is part of the southern orange area called “Gardens of Kosovo”, which consists of three municipalities: Suharekë/Suva Reka, Dragash/Dragaš, and Prizren as a regional centre.

The pasture areas in Dragash/Dragaš and the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park are regarded as Special Interest Spatial Areas.

The **Vision** for the orange area in the South is:

*Developed area of cultural tourism, agro-industrial and commercial place in Prizren where the roots of the ancient tradition, as modern economic centre with local responsible government, private business activities and local economic development through the use of natural and human resources.*

*Creation of an attractive environment for development of private business activities and encouragement for the best utilisation of local economic potentials and natural and human resources, especially in tourism and agriculture.*
The **general goals** for the southern Gardens of Kosovo are:18

- 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

In the context of the development scenario of Dragash/Dragaš certain **conflicts must be noted**, such as the expansion of settlements into agricultural land, horizontal expansion of settlements conflicting with rational space use and the degradation of cultural-historical heritage conflicting with tourism development. Therefore the MDP has to regulate rational space use, construction of road infrastructure in synergy with agricultural development, construction of transit roads around cities to relieve urban traffic, protection of natural and cultural heritage and investment in the Sharr/Šar Mountains in synergy with tourism development.19

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18 Ibidem, p. 147.
19 Ibidem.
The plan **Spatial Development Strategy** for the Orange Area comprises:

Dragash/Dragaš town is marked as a small economic centre, connected to the larger one in Prizren (the regional centre).

Road and railroad network: the axis Prizren – Durrës is part of the internationally important traffic corridor Serbia – Kosovo – Albania, connecting Merdare, Prishtinë/Pristina, Prizren and Durrës. The European motorway E 851 along this axis is currently under construction. According to the plan, the existing road is also proposed for widening and a new railway is proposed to be built. Dragash/Dragaš is linked to this axis and to Prizren by the regional road Dragash/Dragaš – Zhur/Žur. There is a proposal for construction of an international road connection to FYR Macedonia which would run from Dragash/Dragaš town southwards and across the Sharr/Šar Mountains.
3. DRAGASH/DRAGAŠ MUNICIPAL PROFILE

3.1 Description of the Municipality

3.1.1 Location and Geography

Dragash/Drakaš is the southernmost municipality in Kosovo, sharing borders with the neighbouring countries of Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia) to the east and south, and Albania to the west. The municipality’s coordinates are 41°50’ 58” - 42°09’ 03” in northern latitude and 20°35’ 39” - 20°48’ 26” in longitude. To its north, Dragash/Dragaš is bordered by Prizren municipality which is the centre of the Kosovo South region under which Dragash/Dragaš falls. Dragash/Dragaš town is 37km from Prizren town.

The municipality covers an area of 435.8km², approximately 4% of the entire territory of Kosovo and is eighth largest of Kosovo’s thirty municipalities. Dragash/Dragaš municipality comprises 36 settlements with the small town of Dragash/Dragaš as the municipal centre. The municipality is edged by the high Sharr/Šar Mountains on its southern and eastern sides, stretching into FYR Macedonia and Albania. This mountain range extends northeast-southwest for approximately 70km in length and 30km in width, with a total surface area of about 1600km². 900km² (56.25%) of this area lies in FYR Macedonia, with 690 km² (43.12%) in Kosovo and 10 km² (0.63%) in Albania. A special characteristic of Dragash/Dragaš are the extended areas of pastureland that has made the area suitable for livestock farming, agriculture and the creation of agricultural products.

The Sharr/Šar range in Kosovo is divided into three regions comprising the Ljuboten/Brezovica winter sports and tourism area, the central Prizren zone, and the Dragash/Dragaš section comprising Gora/Gorë and Opoja/Opolje. 18.5% of this mountain range is over 2000m above sea level. The highest mountain of the entire Sharr/Šar area is Mount Korab (2764m), while the highest summit is Maja e Titos/Titov Vrv at 2747m. In Dragash/Dragaš the most important peaks are: Koritnik in the northwest on the border with Albania (2262m), Kodra e Karanikolles/Karanikolin Vrh in the northeast (2409m), Maje/Vrh in the east (2493m), Kryet e Kaqit/Kaćina Glava north of Brod (2207m), Vraca e Madhe/Velika Vraca in the southeast (2536m, highest peak) and Kesula e Priftit/Popova Šapka in the southwest (2075m).

In some municipal records the number of settlements may differ from 36. The counting of 36 settlements in all of UNDP’s research is based on the fact that there are 36 cadastral zones in Dragash/Dragaš, within which a number of smaller settlement areas may be recorded (such as Upper Radeša/Radeshë and Lower Radeša/Radeshë). The number of 36 settlements aligns with the municipality’s previous Municipal Development Agenda 2004-2006 and the Preliminary Study for Dragash/Dragaš’s MDP conducted by UN-Habitat (2010). As the MDP is a spatial plan for the whole municipality and not an urban plan its spatial classifications are based on the higher territory level.
3.1.2 Topography

Topographically Dragash/Drageš can be divided into its main river sub-basins: with the Restelica/Restelicë river, the Pllavë/Plava river (in the Opoja/Opolje region, including the eastern parts of the Sharr/Šar Mountain area in Dragash/Drageš), and the Lepenc river basin (in the southern part of the municipality). A fourth system lies around Brezne/Brezna, where the area drains via an underground Karst structure to the Prizren area. Two of these main water courses belong to the large Drini i Bardhe/Beli Drim (White Drin) river basin draining through Albania and into the Adriatic Sea: the Pllavë/Plava River with its tributaries in the north, and the Restelica/Restelicë River which flows into the Pllavë/Plava River. The third main water system – the Lepenc River Basin - lies in the south and drains mostly through FYR Macedonia into the Aegean Sea.\(^\text{21}\)

However, the territory is more frequently identified as comprising two areas: Opoja/Opolje in the north and Gora/Gorë in the south. The hilly and mountainous geography has influenced the development of small, concentrated, rural village settlements along the three main valleys, but is also the cause of the municipality’s isolation and current infrastructural and other problems. According to the Altitude Profile, 55% of the territory is classed as Steep or Very Steep, and respectively provides limited or no access for machines.\(^\text{22}\) This limits opportunities for agriculture as well as for the extension of roads and settlements.

The altitude of the municipality varies between 750 and 2550 metres above sea level, with the average lying at 1620m. The largest proportion – 40.3% of the territory – is classified as High Montane, with an altitude between 1450m and 2050m. The mountain range in the north of municipality reaches altitudes of between 1100m and 2200m. 30.4% of the area lies at the Montane region (1050 – 1350 metres above sea level), with 20.3% of the total area being significantly higher and ranging in altitude from 2050 to 2550 metres, the level at which trees do not grow (Timberline). Only 6% of the territory is Sub-Montane (2600ha at altitude 750 – 1050 metres above sea level), located in the north around the Pllavë/Plava valley, and the lower parts of the Brod and Restelica/Restelicë River valleys.\(^\text{23}\) This indicates that the municipality is generally of high altitude and mountainous especially when compared to the average altitude for the whole of Kosovo of 800 metres above sea level.\(^\text{24}\) The neighbouring municipality of Prizren is at an average altitude of 400 – 500 metres above sea level.

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\(^\text{21}\) Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2 (Draft) Baseline, UNDP, June 2012

\(^\text{22}\) Ibid.

\(^\text{23}\) Ibid.

\(^\text{24}\) Data obtained from Independent Commission for Mines and Minerals in Kosovo.
Figure 3: Altitude Classes in the territory of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality

25 Unless otherwise stated, all diagrams, charts/tables and maps are from Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2 (Draft) Baseline, UNDP, October 2012
3.1.3 Climate

Dragash/Dragaš municipality has a subalpine climate with an average yearly temperature of 8.6° Celsius. Summers are short and fresh with an average temperature of 18.1° C, with long and relatively cold winters (average temperature -0.4° C). Higher temperatures are experienced in the valleys, where it is roughly 10°C warmer than on the mountain peaks, and it is in this area that most of the settlements are found. The average temperature during the vegetation period from April – September is 15°C. The maximum recorded temperatures were 36.5° C in July and -21.5° C in January.²⁶

²⁶ Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2 (Draft) Baseline, UNDP, June 2012
The high mountains surrounding the municipality protect the village settlements from extremes of weather and create moderate microclimates. It is relatively sheltered from high winds, with approximately 18.1% of days without wind per year. The wind generally blows from the northeast and southwest.\textsuperscript{28}

There is no reliable wind data available in the Dragash/Dragaš region. A professional wind potential assessment is still pending. The closest point that has been used to measure wind speeds in the past, in order to assess its energy potential, is near Zym/Zjum village. This is approximately 16km from the border of Dragash/Dragaš municipality and approximately 25km from Dragash/Dragaš town, and is judged to be too far to provide relevant data for the municipality.

**Precipitation**

The annual relative air humidity is 76%, with a peak in November of 83.15% and a minimum in August of 67.6%.\textsuperscript{29}

Dragash/Dragaš experiences a high level of rainfall and snowfall, spread evenly across the municipal area. The highest amount of rain falls during June with just over 100mm, and subordinate peaks in September and November. The driest months are January to March, and August. Approximately 50% of total annual rain falls from April to September. The annual average quantity of precipitation is 807mm. More precipitation falls on the peaks in the northwest (Koritnik) and southeast of the municipality (Shutman/Šutman).\textsuperscript{30} The average rainfall at lower altitudes is 800 mm, with snow cover for around 120 days per year, while rainfall is on average 1370 mm in higher areas with snow for around 280 days.\textsuperscript{31}

\textsuperscript{28} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{29} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{30} Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2 (Draft) \textit{Baseline}, UNDP, June 2012

Table 1: Average seasonal Temperature in Dragash/Đragaš

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average temperature in Dragash/Đragaš °C</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Autumn</th>
<th>Vegetation period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Precipitation and average Temperature during Vegetation Period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Precipitation and average Temp. during the vegetation period</th>
<th>April to September</th>
<th>October to March</th>
<th>Annual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mm</td>
<td>mm</td>
<td>mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharr/Šar Dragash/Đragaš</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>48.9</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Solar radiation

Specific, detailed data on solar radiation frequency does not exist for Dragash/Đragaš municipality, although there is some information for the cities of Prishtinë/Priština, Prizren and Pejë/Peć which can be used as a baseline for comparison. These are, however, not yet proven to be reliable.32

32 Tahirşlay S.: “Several attributes of solar radiation and wind velocity in Kosovo – the natural energy potencial” (Disa veçori të rrezatimit të diellit dhe shpejtësisë së erës në Kosovë – potencial energetik natyror). Taken from UNDP Energy Assessment Report for the Municipality of Dragash, Pireci, M., March 2012
### Table 3: Data of solar energy for Dragash/Dragaš for the horizontal surface

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Dragash/Dragaš</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calculated for locations</td>
<td>Latitude</td>
<td>N 42°3′41″</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Longitude</td>
<td>E 20°39′20″</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Altitude</td>
<td>1054m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly and yearly solar</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>48.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irradiation in horizontal</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>64.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plate (kWh/m²)</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>110.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IV</td>
<td>144.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td>177.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VI</td>
<td>198.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VII</td>
<td>217.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VIII</td>
<td>187.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IX</td>
<td>121.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>92.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>XI</td>
<td>56.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>XII</td>
<td>40.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>1461.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4: Data of solar energy for Dragash/Dragaš for optimal angle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location Calculated for locations</th>
<th>Municipality Dragash/Dragaš</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latitude</td>
<td>N 42°3'41&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longitude</td>
<td>E 20°39'20&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altitude</td>
<td>1054m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monthly and yearly solar in optimal angle plate with orientation to the South (kWh/m²)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Data (kWh/m²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>68.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>81.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>132.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>155.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>176.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>189.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>213.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII</td>
<td>199.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX</td>
<td>142.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>125.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI</td>
<td>83.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII</td>
<td>57.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>1625.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1.4 Population

There has been some difficulty in obtaining accurate population figures in Kosovo as a whole and for Dragash/Dragaš municipality in particular. Comparing data over the last decades is problematic since many records were destroyed in 1998-1999 and had to rely on manual processes of collecting and recording information, which is still a limitation today despite advances in electronic and centralised resources. Furthermore, a large proportion of the Kosovo-Albanian population in Kosovo boycotted the census in 1991, so the 1981 census is often taken as the pre-conflict baseline. No official censuses were conducted after this time, although UNMIK and OSCE conducted surveys to obtain population estimates for 2006 and 2008.

Estimates from the Kosovo Statistical Agency for population figures in 2008 give a municipal population for Dragash/Dragaš of 42,171 inhabitants. There are serious doubts as to whether this figure is reliable, as it indicates a continuous growth of population – and in some settlements, a dramatic spike in population – while in reality emigration from Dragash/Dragaš to other places in Kosovo, to other countries in the former Yugoslavia, or to other European countries has had a greater impact on the resident population than has been recorded. This could come from an irregular method of reporting or
counting during the various data collection exercises. Most of the settlements exhibit an upward trend of steadily increasing population from 1921, with a sharper spike from 2008 - 2010 (where records are available), followed by a significant decrease in recorded population in 2011 to a level similar to the records for 1991. Settlements which exhibited a trend towards population increases in 2011 are Restelica/Restelicë, Radeša/Radeshë, Kruševo/Krushevë, Globočica/Giloboçicë, Brod, Zipotok and Zym/Zjum.

For the Gora/Gorë region, population data has been obtained by the Municipal Coordinator of Community Minority Rights and Integration, and is based on records kept by the Islamic community in 2007 and 2009.\(^34\) In 2007, figures indicate that 11,007 residents were residing permanently in the Gora/Gorë region, while 17,019 had emigrated. In 2009 the number of permanent residents had decreased to 10,684. It is likely that, in some cases, members of the population living abroad for most of the year have been recorded as permanent residents in Dragash/Dragaš’s municipal records (rather than as temporary residents – if any distinction is made at all) thus possibly accounting for anomalies in population changes. These temporary residents have not been counted in the 2011 Kosovo Census.

The latest available data on population has come from the national census conducted in 2011. The 2011 Census\(^35\) was boycotted by some non-majority households across Kosovo (including the northern municipalities of Leposavić/Leposaviq, Zubin Potok and Zvečan/Zveçan, and a proportion of north Mitrovicë/Kosovska Mitrovica), and therefore national results may be incomplete, although participation was said to be high in Dragash/Dragaš itself. Figures from the 2011 Census suggest that around 33,997 persons live in Dragash/Dragaš as permanent residents.\(^36\)

It can be summarised that population information between 1991 and 2010 has been collected on a piecemeal basis with possibly partial participation, using inconsistent methodologies and baseline definitions, and may therefore be considered unreliable. For the purposes of this municipal profile, the official Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011 is used as the main basis of information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bačka / Baçkë</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellobrad / Belobrad</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>1780</td>
<td>948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blać / Blijaç</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>474</td>
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<td>594</td>
<td>797</td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>2465</td>
<td>4103</td>
<td>1,990</td>
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</table>

\(^34\) Data for 2007 and 2009 from the Municipal Coordinator of Community Minority Rights and Integration, Mr. Uzair Hamza.

\(^35\) Main data for the municipal and national level obtained from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011: Final Results: Main Data, [http://esk.rks.gov.net/rekos2011/repository/docs/Final%20Results_ENG.pdf](http://esk.rks.gov.net/rekos2011/repository/docs/Final%20Results_ENG.pdf) [Accessed 29 January 2013]. Data at the village-level was obtained in January 2013 by the Mayor of Dragash/Dragaš (Mr. Salim Jenuzi) from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics, who shared this information with UNDP. This included a breakdown of population by age, gender, ethnicity, educational level, households, and dwelling/occupancy.

\(^36\) Population is defined in the document Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011: Final Results: Main Data as “all persons who usually resided in Kosovo for at least 12 months at the census date, or had the intention to reside in Kosovo for at least 12 months at that date” (excludes persons with diplomatic status, foreign military personnel and persons who have their usual residence outside of Kosovo). Therefore persons returning for a few months each year to Dragash/Dragaš as temporary residents or seasonal visitors should not have been counted in the census.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>349</td>
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<td>612</td>
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<td>1114</td>
<td>1532</td>
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<td>582</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>452</td>
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<td>Kosavë / Kosavce</td>
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<td>486</td>
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<td>912</td>
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<td>645</td>
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<td>Leštane / Leshtan</td>
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<td>493</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>758</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ljubovište / Lubovishtë</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mlike / Mlikë</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orćuša / Orčushë</td>
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<td>370</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>20140</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pllajnik / Plajnik</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radeša / Radeshë</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>837</td>
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<td>1279</td>
<td>1226</td>
<td>953</td>
<td>1,224</td>
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<td>Rapča / Rapçë</td>
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<td>1781</td>
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<td>Restelica / Restelicë</td>
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<td>1393</td>
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<td>3476</td>
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<td>Renc / Renc</td>
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<td>177</td>
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<td>292</td>
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<td>685</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>581</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shajne / Šajnovce</td>
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<td>1415</td>
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<td>731</td>
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<td>352</td>
<td>783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xërxe / Zrze</td>
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<td>202</td>
<td>205</td>
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<td>335</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaplluxhe / Zaplužje</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>967</td>
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<td>1504</td>
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<td>1,273</td>
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<td>Zgatar / Zgatar</td>
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<td>415</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>818</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zlipotok / Zlipotok</td>
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<td>532</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>322</td>
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<td>999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zym / Zjum</td>
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<td>215</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Municipality** | **11460** | **20140** | **20147** | **21028** | **26850** | **35054** | **39435** | **42171** | **33997**

Table 5: Population of the Villages of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality 1921 – 2011

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37 Data from the Statistical Office of Kosovo (1921 – 2008; 2011). As quoted in Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2 (Draft) Baseline, UNDP (June 2012) and provided by the 2011 Census (Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011: Final Results: Main Data)
The table and chart above show the development of the population during most of the 20th century across the 36 settlements that comprise Dragash/Đragaš municipality. Between 1921 and 1981 the municipal population grew by almost 300%. Until 1981 it can be seen that the populations of almost all the settlements grew steadily except in Brod (which has had a generally declining population trajectory, with smaller subordinate peaks and troughs). From 1981, however, population growth was reported primarily in the northern part of the municipality (Opoja/Opolje), while the villages in the Gora/Gorë region (south) experienced a sometimes-dramatic decline in population. There has been a slight overall decrease in Dragash/Đragaš’s population since 1981 in spite of the higher population estimates provided for 2008.

11 settlements have experienced an overall increase in population between 1981 and 2011. This has occurred mostly in a cluster in the northeast of the Opoja/Opolje region in villages that are well-connected to each other and to the main roads leading to local sub-centres, Dragash/Đragaš town and Prizren. These settlements are Bellobrad/Belobrad, Blač/Blijač, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Buzez, Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg, Kuk/Kukovce, Rrenc/Renc, and Zym/Zjum. In the Gora/Gorë region, the settlements with an increasing population are Restelica/Restelicë, Kruševo/Krushevë, and Ljubovište/Lubovishtë. The latter is likely to be expanding due to its proximity to the municipal centre, while Restelica/Restelicë is rather an anomaly in the municipality as it has exhibited steady, increasing growth as a settlement since 1921 despite its isolated, distant location; it is probable that Restelica/Restelicë’s growth has also stimulated the growth of neighbouring Kruševo/Krushevë.

12 settlements have experienced an overall population decrease between 1981 and 2011. Those with a relatively small decrease are Buče/Buće, Shajne/Shajnovce and Xërxe/Zrze. Those settlements which
have experienced large and significant decreases in population are mostly located in hilly areas of the central part of the municipality, on the foothills of the Sharr/Šar and Koritnik massifs: Rapça/Rapčë, Mlike/Mlikë, Bačka/Baçkë, Kukuljane/Kukulanë, Krstec/Kërstec, Orčuša/Orçushë, Vranişte/Vranisht, Dikanc/Dikance and Pllajnik/Plajnik. It is likely that steeper terrain makes access, productive agriculture and other business more difficult, resulting in economic out-migration.

13 villages are judged to be stable in their populations, having undergone small increases or decreases to +/- 10% of their population between 1981 and 2011. These are Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje, Zgatar, Pllavë/Plava, Kosavë/Kosavce, Kapre/Kapra, Dragash/Dragaš town, Brezne/Breznà, Brut/Brut, Brod, Zlipotok, Radeša/Radeshë, Leštan/Leshtane, and Globočica/Glloboçicë. The latter five are located in the Gora/Gorë region. Radeša/Radeshë and Leštan/Leshtane may exhibit a stable population due to their proximity to Dragash/Dragaš town that can provide for most residents’ needs, thus reducing the necessity to relocate due to poor access, mobility and lack of opportunities. Globočica/Glloboçicë may exhibit a stable population due to its location as a halfway point between the municipal centre and the large settlement of Restelica/Restelicë, and next to the growing settlement of Kruševo/Krushevë. Likewise, Brod and Zlipotok may have remained stable in their population figures due to their distance from Dragash/Dragaš town, providing an isolated but steady cluster of development in the very south of the municipality and acting as a hub for surrounding villages. The population structures of these two settlements are also wider in the middle-aged groups, suggesting that the overall population is older and therefore may be more reluctant or unlikely to move for work or education. The stable settlements in the Opojë/Opolje region are situated close to the two roads leading to Prizren (via Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje and past Brezne/Breznà), within easy reach of neighbouring villages and sub-centres to provide for most needs. The area is also flatter, enabling easier agriculture, mobility, construction and expansion, and business development.

Two-thirds – 24 – of Dragash/Dragaš’s 36 settlements are very small, comprising fewer than 1000 inhabitants. This is fairly evenly spread across the municipality, with 13 of these villages being located in the central and southern region, and 11 in the northern and eastern. 11 mid-sized settlements, containing between 1000 and 3500 inhabitants, are mostly located in Opojë/Opolje and connected well to main roads or to other large settlements or sub-centres. Unusually, the main municipal centre appears not to have the highest individual population in the municipality. While Dragash/Dragaš town itself has fewer inhabitants than e.g. Restelica/Restelicë, it is situated in an area where access and mobility is far easier, with “suburb-type” urban expansion occurring towards Ljubovište/Lubovishtë and Šajno/Šajnovce that increases the overall population of the area, as well as good connections to Prizren. This means that the population is likely to be more mobile and have access to greater opportunities for employment. Restelica/Restelicë has experienced steady growth since population records began, and according to the 2011 Kosovo Census is the settlement with the highest population in the municipality, with 4698 persons. This is despite its significant distance from other main centres, the lack of official cross-border road connections and its isolated, rural character that makes access to pastures, services and other settlements more difficult especially during winter.
The 2011 Kosovo Census reveals that the municipality comprises approximately 1.95% of the total population of Kosovo\(^{38}\). Of these, the majority of the population (36%) lives in households of 2-4 persons; 33% live in households of 5-6 persons, and a relatively high proportion of the population (26%) live in households of 7 or more persons. The average household size for Dragash/Dragaš is 5.5 persons\(^{39}\), which compares with the national average in Kosovo of 5.9 and the European average of 2.4\(^{40}\). This demonstrates that there is a slightly lower than average household size in Dragash/Dragaš than for the whole of Kosovo, but this is still over double the average household size for Europe.

Figures from 2010 record 721 births\(^{41}\) and 245 deaths\(^{42}\) in the municipality. The birth rate across the municipality is approximately 1.7%, while the mortality rate is about 0.58%. Based on this data, it appears that the natural population growth is approximately 1.12%. In terms of natural population changes, it is supposed that Dragash/Dragaš will experience a slight decline in natural population growth because of the impact of migration abroad and to larger urban centres in Kosovo (such as Prizren and Prishtinë/Priština) which offer greater educational and economic opportunities, and the promise of a higher standard of living.\(^{43}\)

The average density of Dragash/Dragaš municipality according to the 2011 Kosovo Census results is 78 persons per km\(^2\), the fifth least densely populated municipality in Kosovo after the municipalities of Novo Brdo/Novoberdë, Parteš/Partesh, Ranilug/Ranillug and Šhtrpce/Shtërpcë\(^{44}\), all of which are predominantly rural and have a Kosovo-Serb majority population. The 2011 Kosovo Census states that around 62% of Kosovo’s population is rural.\(^{45}\)

**Structure by age**

The changes of socio-economic and political circumstances after the 1990s had an effect on the general demographic development of the municipality and on the population structure by age. Throughout the second half of the 20\(^{th}\) century the population pyramid of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš had an extended base with the dominant age group being 0-4 years. This age structure and gender is presented in an analysis of data from 1991. Changes in the rate of natural population growth after 2000 has affected the form of the population pyramid: there has been a decline in population under the age of 14, while middle-age groups have slightly increased. Much new information has been obtained from the

\(^{38}\) Kosovo Agency of Statistics, *Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data*, http://esk.rks.gov.net/rekos2011/repository/docs/Final%20Results_ENG.pdf [Accessed 29 January 2013]. The total resident population of Kosovo in 2011 is given as 1,739,825 persons (excluding the three northern Kosovo municipalities that boycotted the census).

\(^{39}\) Op. cit, Census 2011, Tables 2.1 and 5.18


\(^{44}\) Published in the REKOS Preliminary Census 2011 results. This categorisation has not been included in the final published results of the 2011 Kosovo Census

\(^{45}\) Table 2.1, *Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data*. This is corroborated by a World Bank Report based on Agricultural Household Surveys conducted by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics in 2011 that suggested that Kosovo’s rural population accounted for 60-65% of the total population.
2011 Kosovo Census but there remains a lack of comparative data according to age group for preceding years\textsuperscript{46}.

\begin{figure}
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{population_pyramids.png}
\caption{Population pyramids in 1991\textsuperscript{47} and 2009\textsuperscript{48}}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{46} UNDP report on Population Projections for Dragash/Dragaš, Besim Gollopeni, June 2012.
\textsuperscript{47} Data from the Census, households and residences for the year 1991
\textsuperscript{48} Demographic Survey on social and reproductive health in Kosovo, November 2009, p. 10
In general over the last 20 years, the age group of young people (0-19 years old) has been dominant within the total population of the municipality. A similar trend is also observed in the 2011 Kosovo Census results (see Figure 8), where the most populous groups are between 10 and 19 years of age, indicating that a high natural birth rate is likely in coming years due to the fertility of this age group. Likewise, 52% of women in the municipality in 2011 were of childbearing age\(^{49}\). However, there appears to have been a growth in the middle-age groups (age 35-49) since previous studies, which may indicate that the natural birth rate is slowing. If contemporary trends occurring broadly across Europe indicate future changes, the birth rate may slow further, higher levels of education and employment (especially for females) may be observed, and emigration for work or education may increase. This will have consequences on the age composition of permanent residents and the occupancy (permanent or temporary) of the settlements.

Around 57% of the population is under 34, of which 34% are under 19 years of age. 65% of Dragash/Dragaš’s resident population is considered of working age\(^{50}\) (15-59 for women and 15-65 for

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\(^{49}\) Defined internationally as aged between 15 and 49.

\(^{50}\) “Working age”, as an international definition, includes both men and women of this age group who are potentially able to work. While this figure here excludes persons who are not expected to work (students in compulsory schooling; pensioners etc), it includes persons who may be unable to work, for example, for reasons of disability since this disaggregated data is not
men) with around 9% over 65. The 2011 Kosovo Census results indicate that there is a dependency ratio of 53.1 (which is close to the national average)\textsuperscript{51}, but this has fallen significantly since 1961 - 1981 when the ratio was around 80.\textsuperscript{52}

Structure by gender

According to results from the 2011 Kosovo Census, Dragash/Dragaš’s population is equally balanced between male and female residents (50.11% to 49.89% respectively), and approximately corresponds to the Kosovo national average (50.3% male, 49.7% female).

Overall, there are more women than men in 20 of Dragash/Dragaš’s 36 settlements, equally distributed across the municipality. However, there are more men than women under the age of 35 across the municipality as a whole; from the age group of 35-39 and above there are generally more women than men, with the gap increasing around the age of 60. Emigration of male heads of household after the age of 35 for economic purposes may account for this, although it has not unduly unbalanced the gender ratio in the municipality.

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<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
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<td>10-14</td>
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<td>1,460</td>
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<td>15-19</td>
<td>1,571</td>
<td>1,476</td>
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<td>25-29</td>
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<td>30-34</td>
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<td>35-39</td>
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<td>65-69</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
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<td>70-74</td>
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<tr>
<td>75-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>80+</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>17,035</td>
<td>16,962</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 9: Population of Dragash/Dragaš according to gender and 5-year age grouping\textsuperscript{53}

Migration

The history of migration in Dragas as in other places in Kosovo dates from early years of 60’s and 70’s internationaly and internaly. The migration was mainly considered as labor migration.

High unemployment and lack of opportunities coupled with the upheavals of the 1990s and the conflict in 1999 have added to traditional patterns of movement, revealing that Kosovo has experienced and

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\textsuperscript{51} Table 4.1, *Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data*. The dependency ratio is that part of the population not in the labour force (generally, persons under 15 and over 65 although the Kosovo Census has not stated the exact parameters for its definition).

\textsuperscript{52} Table 2.7, Op. Cit.

\textsuperscript{53} Detailed data breakdown provided to UNDP by the Mayor (Mr Salim Jenuzi). Original source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics, *Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011*
The 2011 Kosovo Census shows that around half a million people have lived in a different location to the one they were residing in at the time of the census, indicating that almost 30% of the national population has undertaken some form of migration. Of this, 66% of the migrants are women while 34% are men. The highest proportion of this migration (70%) is for the purpose of “Family”; in fact, across the country, 166,000 more women than men have migrated - probably because of marriage - accounting for 73% of all migrations for this reason. While 9% of total migration is for “Employment”, 84% of this is undertaken by men while only 16% by women. 7% of migration is accounted for by “1998-1999 war” and 3% by “Education or Training”; in both cases, approximately one-third more men than women are migrating. A significant proportion of migrations are for “Other” reasons (12%).

The majority of migration appears to occur within Kosovo itself, accounting for around 22.5% of movements. A further 7.5% has moved abroad, while 70% are non-migrants. However, the Kosovo Ministry of Internal Affairs states that 30% of families in Kosovo have at least one family member living abroad, with around 20% of families receiving remittances. It is generally understood, however, that accurate statistics regarding emigration to other countries are difficult to obtain because both the migration and transfer of remittances may occur through informal channels, and may not be stated publicly to data collectors. The number of unoccupied or vacant houses in Dragash/Dragaš may give a good idea at least regarding the population fluctuations in the municipality throughout the year, which may also relate to the degree of migration. On average, 37.5% of all conventional dwellings were uninhabited at the time of the 2011 Kosovo Census. Around 12% are stated openly as holiday or seasonal residences, while the remainder are for sale, rent or owned by persons/families living permanently abroad.

Almost 9.5% of national populations are considered “commuters”, attending school or working away from the settlement in which they reside. Just over a quarter of these commuters regularly travel to neighbouring countries, of which the majority are young people aged between 16 and 22 years old, probably as students. The peak age for commuting is 19-20. Commuters in Dragash/Dragaš account for 10.1 – 20% of such movements.

The municipality of Dragash/Dragaš, as a peripheral, rural municipality, is an area that has been characterised by emigration during the 20th century. This trend has continued since 2000, and is believed to be primarily for socio-economic reasons. According to the 2011 Kosovo Census, there are a total of 4,461 employed persons permanently resident in the municipality. Of these, 50% work in the same settlement in which they reside, while 16% travel to other settlements in Dragash/Dragaš. 17% travel to

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54 Table 3.7, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data; also “People on the Move: an analysis of international, national and local mobility of Kosovo people”, Kosovo Agency of Statistics, 2011 Kosovo Census
55 Table 3.8, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data, and “People on the Move: an analysis of international, national and local mobility of Kosovo people”, Kosovo Agency of Statistics, 2011 Kosovo Census
57 There is some overlap, however, with these definitions and it seems likely that vacant houses whose owners live abroad are also used during the summer.
other municipalities in Kosovo to work, and 13% of the municipal population works abroad (556 persons; of which 362 persons work in countries other than those directly bordering Kosovo).\(^{58}\) Furthermore, Dragash/Dragaš has experienced a “moderate loss” of -99.9 to -10% of resident population due to internal migration within Kosovo.\(^{59}\)

In addition to this official data, field data collected in 2007 in Opoja/Opolje suggests that this region of Dragash/Dragaš actually has a much higher number of emigrants living abroad. According to the results, a total of 1443 families live abroad or have family members living abroad. This gives a figure of around 6609 persons abroad. By comparing this to the overall population\(^{60}\), these figures suggest that an additional 25.84% of the population that come from Opoja/Opolje actually lives abroad\(^{61}\).

In addition, records from the Islamic community suggest the extent of emigration from the Gora/Gorë villages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bačka / Baçkë</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brod / Brod</td>
<td>2,544</td>
<td>1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dikance / Dikanc</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragash / Dragaš</td>
<td>1,479</td>
<td>470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globočica / Globoćicë</td>
<td>1,538</td>
<td>625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krstec / Kërstec</td>
<td>1,241</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kruševo / Kruševe</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kukuljane / Kukulanë</td>
<td>1,540</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leštna / Leshtan</td>
<td>1,427</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ljubovište / Lubovishtë</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mlike / Mlikë</td>
<td>1,254</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orčuša / Orçushë</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radeša / Radeshë</td>
<td>2,084</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapča / Rapçë</td>
<td>2,483</td>
<td>823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restelica / Restelicë</td>
<td>5,800</td>
<td>4,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vranjište / Vranisht</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zipotok / Zlipotok</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,019</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,007</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6: Population of the Villages of Gora/Gorë region 2007\(^{62}\)

\(^{58}\) Table 5.14, \textit{Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data}.


\(^{61}\) Clarification: This data was obtained through the registration of emigrants, and was conducted from 20 May 2007 until 08 July 2007. This analysis took a sample of 10% of those included in the questionnaire (145 persons). From UNDP report on Population Projections for Dragash/Dragaš, Golopeni, B., June 2012.

\(^{62}\) Figures obtained from Imam Uzair Hamza, July 2012.
According to this data about 62% of the registered inhabitants from the Gora/Gorë region of Dragash/Dragaš municipality lived abroad in 2007, leaving around 38% who would be considered permanent residents. Due to traditionally close family ties in the region as a whole and the cultural practice of families constructing houses in the family’s place of origin - whether or not they are intended as permanent residences - the high number of unoccupied dwellings as well as the large influx of diaspora families during the summer attest to an ongoing collective tie to the “home” in Kosovo and Dragash/Dragaš.

The issue of migration is closely linked to that of Dragash/Dragaš’s spatial planning. The diaspora have already made a significant contribution to the construction of new buildings across the municipality, constructing buildings and requiring an appropriate level of infrastructure or service provisions to meet their needs. This fluctuating inhabitation of the municipality is of importance, for example, when planning for drinking water supply and electricity as well as for expansion of settlements and local economic development.

Summer and winter population The number of vacant houses at the time of the census may be used as a guide to the number of persons or families living abroad, since it is a frequently stated fact that the populations of Dragash/Dragaš’s settlements increase dramatically during the summer with families returning for the holiday and that for the rest of the year a significant proportion of the buildings are not in use. The 2011 Kosovo Census reveals that while 61.3% of Dragash/Dragaš’s conventional dwellings are permanently occupied, the remainder (38.7% or 3856 units) are vacant.

There is clearly a disparity between the actual situation of migration in the municipality and that which has been officially recorded. Information gained through field data collection is therefore also of importance to help define the level of migration for Dragash/Dragaš, and the shifts in inhabitation throughout the year that is of consequence to spatial planning.

Despite the inconsistency in these various national, official and local statistics on migration and occupation, and taking occupancy rates and field data into account, it is assumed that the municipal population increases by around between one-quarter and one-third at certain times of the year.

**Depopulation**

The movement of large numbers of a settlement’s inhabitants causes an overall decrease in population for that area, with an impact on its outlook and the strategies that must plan for its development. This is caused by a number of factors, including natural conditions, economic development, social factors, level of services etc. The consequences for depopulated settlements include a reduction in farmed arable land due to a lack of labour force or market opportunities, migration of the young labour force and educated persons, a reduction in marriages and births, and an ageing population. As depopulation proceeds, conditions for younger residents become increasingly more difficult (such as access to education, jobs and amenities which may have closed down), thereby increasing the likelihood of

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further emigration from the settlement. The lack of inhabitation also has a negative effect on the infrastructure and physical aspect of the settlement, with paths and roads being overgrown with vegetation through lack of use and maintenance, dereliction of properties and infrastructure, and in some cases a reported increase in burglaries.\textsuperscript{64}

Overall across Dragash/Dragaš municipality a fairly equal number of the settlements have increased in population, decreased or remained stable (respectively, 11, 12 and 13). Of those that have increased, only 3 are in the Gora/Gorë region (Restelica/Restelicë, Kruševo/Krushevë, and Ljubovište/Lubovishtë); 5 Gora/Gorë settlements have remained stable in population (Brod, Zlipotok, Radeša/Radeshë, Leštan/Leshtane, and Globočica/Glloboçicë); and 8 have decreased in population. Inversely, 9 villages in Opojë/Opolje have increased in population, 7 are stable, and 5 have decreased. The variations in population changes may be accounted for by geographical factors, as well as changing social norms. Settlements in the mountainous central and southern areas of the municipality are more remote and harder to access, especially in winter. This leads to restrictions in accessing educational and employment opportunities, difficulties in cultivation, production and trade, and limits business and communication opportunities. Furthermore, access to the internet and other contemporary media often encourage youth to select education, ambitions and employment in more urbanised locations away from traditional, rural-based activities and livelihoods that are considered “backward” or outmoded. Depopulation, especially by the younger generation, from rural locations also tends to self-generate; i.e. as more young people leave, those remaining increasingly seek to move away themselves, leaving behind a largely elderly or ageing population. This rural-to-urban migration is a common characteristic of many regions around the world today, but appears particularly pronounced in Dragash/Dragaš and especially in those villages categorised as Remote Villages.

**Ethnicity and Minority issues**

Kosovo is home to a complex mixture of ethnic groups - Albanians, Serbs, Roma, Ashkali, Egyptians, Bosniaks, Gorani, Turks, Croats and Montenegrans – each playing a notable role in the region’s history and development. Precise statistics on population by ethnicity are difficult to obtain and controversial to report, particularly because a high number of Kosovo-Serbs (including the majority of three whole northern municipalities) boycotted the 2011 Kosovo Census and because individual and collective definitions of ethnicity and cultural background have tended to be more fluid. Sources generally agree that Kosovo-Albanians form the majority community in Kosovo (around 90% of the population), with 5% of the population being Kosovo-Serb and the remainder coming from other ethnic groups\textsuperscript{65}. The 2011 Kosovo Census for the national level confirms this to a large extent, except for a likely under-reporting of the Kosovo-Serb population:

\textsuperscript{64} A field survey in May 2012 reported recent burglaries in Orčuše/Orçushë, Mlike/Mlikë and Bačka/Baçkë which local residents attributed to the lack of inhabitants in the village.

Despite the fact that questions on ethnicity and religion were not compulsory in the 2011 Kosovo Census, the diversity of ethnic groups in the municipality appear to be in continuity with estimated figures from ECMI and OSCE. The Kosovo-Albanian population is around 60%, with 12% Bosniaks, 26% Gorani, and small numbers of several other ethnic groups living in the municipality. This proportion also roughly corresponds with the differentiation between village populations of the two geographic regions of Gora/Gorë (primarily Gorani/Bosniak) and Opojë/Opolje (primarily Kosovo-Albanian).

At the national level, according to a Human Rights Watch Report for 2011, non-majority groups in Kosovo remain at risk of discrimination, marginalisation and harassment, particularly for Kosovo-Serb, and Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The level of employment of non-majority communities in Kosovo’s civil service and municipal structures is judged as unsatisfactory, and there is poor observance of legal requirements for use of Kosovo’s official languages. There is poor interaction between pupils and students from different ethnic backgrounds in Kosovo’s schools and an absence of opportunities to study both official languages. Threats are also posed to the cultural heritage of non-majority communities.

There has been an increase in voluntary returns to Kosovo in 2010, although overall figures remain low, numbering some 1036 persons. Mandatory return of Kosovars from Western Europe has continued (1694 persons in the first nine months of 2010). The scale of mandatory returns to Kosovo is likely to increase at the national level, due to readmission agreements signed between the Kosovo authorities and Germany, Albania, Belgium, France and Switzerland.

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In contrast to the national situation, the good level of tolerance and peaceful co-habitation of different ethnic groups in Dragash/Dragaš municipality is a significant strength. It is a source of richness in the area’s cultural life and provides not only as a strong foundation for the municipality’s future but also sets a positive example within Kosovo.

The ethnic composition of Dragash/Dragaš municipality relates to the two regions of Gora/Gorë and Opoja/Opolje. The former, located in the centre and south of the municipality comprises 16 settlements inhabited by a majority of Gorani and Bosniak communities. The Opoja/Opolje region is situated in the north of the municipality and numbers 19 settlements, with a majority Kosovo-Albanian population.

Reports by OSCE and ECMI emphasise the peaceful, shared multicultural tradition in Dragash/Dragaš municipality, both in official as well as social and cultural arenas, which is a real strength in its vision for development.

Safety and freedom of movement is rated highly by both OSCE and ECMI, and there were no reported incidents concerning returnees who have returned to Dragash/Dragaš between 1999 and 2009. Of these, Bosniaks who returned to Dragash/Dragaš voluntarily before 2008 comprised the largest number (1277). 171 Bosniaks further returned voluntarily in 2008-2009. It is estimated that there were 4000 Bosniaks displaced from the municipality; of these, just over half are still living abroad. A further 228 people underwent the mandatory return process in 2007 (Gorani). A number of international organisations have run projects for return, reintegration, community building, interethnic dialogue and local development, including ICMC, IOM, Swiss Caritas, GTZ and ARC.

Figures from ECMI for 2010 reveal a good level of non-majority employment in the public sectors (administration, health, education) within Dragash/Dragaš, and a proper observance of Kosovo’s official languages with no problems in communication between communities. Bosniaks/Gorani account for approximately 36% of the total population of Dragash/Dragaš, with 27–35% of public sector staff coming from these communities. Official representation in public posts is therefore in proportion to ethnicity.

With regard to mother tongue languages, 59% of Dragash/Dragaš’s population speak Albanian, 6% Serbian, 14% Bosnian, and 0.3% Turkish, with approximately 21% speaking “Other” languages (probably accounting for Gorani, which said to be most similar to Macedonian). In addition to this, many people in Dragash/Dragaš speak several other languages, including those other languages native to the municipality as well as the language of countries to which they might have migrated.

In terms of religious designation, the vast majority - over 99% - of Dragash/Dragaš population is Muslim with a small number of Orthodox and other religious denominations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Islamic</th>
<th>Orthodox</th>
<th>Catholic</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>No religion</th>
<th>Prefer not to answer</th>
<th>Not available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>33,806</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>99.44</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 11: Population of Dragash/Dragaš by religion

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65 Table 5.5, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data
Gender issues

At the national level, the difference between the genders in terms of population numbers is very small, with around 0.68% more males than females. 62.8% of Kosovo’s population that is aged 6-29 is currently in some form of education, of which 52.6% are male and 47.4% are female. This indicates that approximately 5% more men than women are currently in education, despite the gender demographics being almost equal. Women in Kosovo account for only 3% of the 8.2% of the population that has graduated from university; of the 30% who have completed upper secondary school, only 10% are women. While approximately 95% of the compulsory-school-age population (age 6-15) attends school, the 2011 Kosovo Census reveals that the majority of women stop their schooling at the end of this mandatory period (completing lower secondary at the age of 15), while men continue to upper secondary and higher. Overall school attendance peaks around the age of 14, after which it decreases until the age of 18-19, when there is a further drop as people leave school and do not continue to university.

Enrollment of females in secondary and higher education across rural areas in Kosovo is on average 20% lower than for males of secondary school age. Especially with regard to female education, Kosovo lags far behind Europe and most of its neighbours in the region.

The chart shows the difference between education level of men and women in Dragash/Dragaš. It is clear that despite an almost equal proportion of males to females in the municipality as a whole, women have a lower educational attainment than men, completing only the mandatory lower secondary school. A large proportion of women have also not completed any level of education at all. While the drop out from schooling is highest also for men after lower secondary, the decrease in small and significantly more men than women continue their education to upper secondary school and university/tertiary education. The secondary school in Dragash/Dragaš town records that only 33% of the older school population is female, which is significantly below the national average.

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70 Tables 2.2 and 3.21, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data
Overall in Kosovo, the largest proportion of “not economically active” persons (49%) is engaged in “Looking after home/family”\textsuperscript{72}. In Dragash/Dragaš, 63% of the population over the age of 15 is considered economically active; of the remaining 37% who are considered not economically active, 26% are men and 74% are women. In contrast to definition of “working age population” given in the section above, the 2011 Kosovo Census differentiates this productive labour group into “economically active” and “not economically active”, in which persons engaged as “Full-time pupils, students, housekeepers, pensioners, compulsory military servants” are not expected to work. Importantly this means that figures for Dragash/Dragaš’s “economically active” population may not include women who may be able to generate income but do not because of socio-cultural norms and traditions that require them to be engaged in household activities. While this is an appropriate representation of true economic potential, it also indicates that the expectations or opportunities for women, in Kosovo as whole and in Dragash/Dragaš in particular as a rural area, are often limited to traditional house-based roles. This may also account for the lower level of educational attainment of females than males.

A very small number of women in Dragash/Dragaš are currently employed - numbering 302, out of 1275 who are considered “economically active” (24%), and out of a total working age female population\textsuperscript{73} of just under 10,500 (3%).

76.5% of the total female population in Kosovo is classified as “not economically active”. Some 12% of working age women (15-59) are employed in Kosovo, compared to an EU average of 64%, although this is drastically skewed towards those with tertiary-level education and does not reflect participation in

\textsuperscript{72} Table 5.15, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data
\textsuperscript{73} Approximately aged 15-59
technical, traditionally male-dominated professions despite a market shortage. However, the most important sector for female employment in Kosovo is education (21%), followed by wholesale/retail/trade (18%), health and social work (15%) and public administration (13%). Gender stereotypes, attitudes and cultural traditions also play a significant role in the disparity between opportunities for males and females in Kosovo, particularly in rural areas where far fewer educational and employment opportunities are offered. Linked to this, female heads of households are particularly vulnerable to living under the poverty line. Of 890 positions in the public sector, 67 are staffed by females (7.5%), with 6 in decision-making positions. Unemployment is particularly prevalent among younger women across Kosovo.

The census reveals that female employment in Dragash/Dragaš accounts for fewer than 7% of jobs, primarily in the fields of manufacturing and education. Public administration and healthcare also account for a major proportion of female employment, with only 0.45% of declared jobs being in agriculture. However this data does not appear to take account of income-generation through other, more informal means (e.g. through subsistence agriculture, market trading, handicrafts etc), rather than formal work. In fact, female activity accounts for 26% of Dragash/Dragas’s main livelihoods earned from “Work (including work in own land, work in own business or family business”).

This is corroborated by a survey of the majority of SMEs registered in Dragash/Dragaš municipality which shows that out of a total of 705 employed persons, 142 are female (20%). The most equal distribution of male to female workers is in the livestock business, which indicates that women are still associated with the traditional tasks of animal husbandry and agriculture rather than in production, processing or the service industry. A number of NGOs operating in Dragash/Dragaš deal with gender issues (NGOs Flaka, Women Initiative, Sara and Dora e Shpreses), particularly in skills development and vocational training. In general very few women’s associations are present in Dragash/Dragaš and services can only be offered on an ad-hoc basis whenever funds become available. There is a need to empower the Municipal Office for Gender Equality to strengthen the existing women’s organisations and initiatives in Dragash, in order to offer broader services for women and to establish alternative education possibilities and training opportunities for women.

Youth

Kosovo has the youngest population in Europe, with 47% of the total population being under age 25. Of these 19% are considered “youth” (being between the ages of 15 and 24), and two-thirds of whom live in rural areas. Compulsory education finishes at the age of around 15; currently 55% of this youth age group is still in education, indicating that higher level qualifications are being sought by just over half of Kosovo’s young population. However, this still leaves 45% who have left school with only a lower secondary education. The demand for labour is already low across Kosovo, with lack of education and

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74 Table 5.12, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data
75 Kosovo Poverty Assessment, World Bank Report No. 39737-XK, October 2007
76 Results of SME Survey Dragash, UNDP, March 2012
77 Ibid.
work experience contributing to the 81.8% of youth who have been job-seeking for more than 12 months. Migration is therefore an attractive option to help improve their lives.\textsuperscript{78}

This is especially true in highly rural and remote areas such as Dragash/Dragaš, where problems with even basic infrastructure and utilities do not match the expectations of young people, and for which the isolation of a traditional, agricultural lifestyle are at odds with aspirations of the 21\textsuperscript{st} century. 15 of the 36 villages in Dragash/Dragaš municipality do not possess a sports field, and 28 do not have a playground; however, there are internet facilities located in 7 villages, which may provide other forums for socialising for young people. Poor services and availability of popular items or shops in the villages alongside difficulties in transport (especially in winter and due to cost) compound this sense of isolation and lack of opportunities for youth. These factors also contribute to low standards and access to education beyond primary level. There is only one youth centre-NGO, located in Dragash/Dragaš town, which serves all the villages. Regional youth facilities include 4 youth NGOs in Prizren town, as well as a Local Youth Action Council, two student councils and a peer club. There is also a Centre for Education, Mediation and Ecology with a youth focus located in the village of Sredska near Prizren.

In general in Kosovo, youth inclusion in public life is very limited. Findings from a 2010 UNICEF youth opinion poll reveal that the majority of young people perceive themselves as participating “little” or “not at all” in decision-making processes. Firstly, the mechanisms at the local level (youth action councils, Municipal Departments of Youth, etc) are either totally absent or not properly functional. Secondly, both central and local institutions still do not consider young people’s development as a priority. This is reflected by the dismal budget allocations for youth activities at both central and local levels.

Kosovo’s youth are an essential participant of institutions and civil society, to actively engage in developing policy and in designing and delivering evidence-based advocacy for a more institutional and public focus on youth issues. This may be achieved in particular by building on gains made through central and local youth action councils, and the development and implementation of municipal youth action plans.

Efforts in mobilising the youth community to advocate and raise their voice for being part of public life will have to continue and strengthen. UNICEF in particular is focusing on continued support for behaviour change initiatives for young people with the aim of reducing risky behaviour and promoting healthy lifestyles. Financial and technical assistance is planned to target youth from an early age.

Activities that are in utmost need are the increase of youth participation and empowerment through linking ongoing and new youth activities with Dragash/Dragaš Youth Centre, in order to mobilise more youth and participation in activities for the benefit of themselves and their communities.

Another target that is equally important is capacity building for youth on different subjects as well as raising awareness about risky behaviour and HIV.

There are 5854 persons of this age group currently residing in Dragash/Dragaš, which is around 17% of the total population of the municipality. Of this, 2360 are in schooling (40%).\textsuperscript{79} While a large part of the


\textsuperscript{79} Table 3, Popullisia e moshes 6-29 vjecare, neper vendbanime Dragash qe vazhdojn shkollimin: additional data for each village provided by Kosovo Agency of Statistics; obtained from Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011
census focuses on residents aged 15 or over, there is no specific information provided for the “youth” age group in the national census.

Other vulnerable groups

There are few reliable statistics to give an accurate overview of the situation of disabled people in Kosovo, but according to the NGO Handicapped and Disabled People’s Association they number 18,760. Almost all have experienced discrimination in education, employment and provision of medical services. Disabled people and those with special needs are particularly at risk from exclusion from a young age, due to prejudice as well as a lack of resources to provide proper care and support. Finding a job in a job market with already 70% unemployment is another great problem and many remain permanently unemployed.

The 2011 Kosovo Census records that approximately 4.5% of the national population have between one and three “difficulties”, of which 47% are males and 53% are females. Apart from the age group 0-14 which appears to have an unusually high number of recorded difficulties, the number of recorded long-lasting difficulties increases with age group, peaking between the ages of 55 and 70, before decreasing slightly. This may be related to the categories of “difficulty” that were assessed and the natural decline in mobility and the senses that accompanies increasing age: deafness/severe hearing impairment, blindness/severe visual impairment, physical disability, learning/intellectual disability, long-standing psychological/emotional difficulty, or other long-standing illness. Of these the most common are other long-term illnesses and physical disabilities, followed by hearing and sight impairment.80

3.5% of the population of Dragash/Dragaš is over 75 years of age, which is higher than the national average of 2.2%. 8% of the municipal population is retired and receiving a pension, while a further 3% is receiving social care.

As with youth, there is no detailed information on the situation of the elderly or the disabled in Dragash/Dragaš.

3.1.5 Municipal administration

Dragash/Dragaš as an administrative entity dates from 1935 and functioned as such until 1960 when the municipal borders that exist today were created. From 1992 until 1999, the municipality was split into two regions: the municipality of Gora/Gorë, with the Opoja/Opolje region later being attached to the municipality of Prizren. Following the end of the conflict in 1999, under the interim administrative government of UNMIK, the regions of Gora/Gorë and Opoja/Opolje were once again joined into the municipality of Dragash/Dragaš in 2000. The first Municipal Assembly of Dragash/Dragaš was established on 21 November 2000. This replaced the self-appointed PDK structure that had been set up immediately after the conflict.81

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80 Table 3.30, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 201, Final Results: Main Data
81 OSCE Municipal Profile 2006
According to the law on local self-government, a municipality with more than 10% of residents belonging to non-majority communities is required to appoint a Municipal Assembly Deputy Chairperson for Communities. As of 2011, this position is held by Šerif Aga (VAKAT), a Kosovo Bosniak.82

Between 2007 and 2011, municipality investments accounted for around 4.8 million Euros. Of this, around 3.5 million Euros was spent on improvements to roads, sewage/wastewater, water, healthcare and schools in the Opoje/Opolje region, approximately 2.7 times the amount spent in the Gora/Gorë region (1.3 million Euros). The largest sector for investment was in the road network, accounting for some 60% of the budget during these five years. 11% was spent on improvements in water supply, and 8% on improvements to schools. 6% of the overall budget for 2007-2011 was spent on sewage/wastewater upgrades, while only 4% was spent in the healthcare service.83

Table 7: Municipal Administration Representatives 2012

<table>
<thead>
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<th>POSITION</th>
<th>FULL NAME</th>
<th>TEL.</th>
<th>e-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>Salim Jenuzi</td>
<td>044 200 998 / 029 281 543</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Salim.Jenuzi@rks.gov.net">Salim.Jenuzi@rks.gov.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Mayor</td>
<td>Shehadin Tërshnjaku</td>
<td>044 547-568</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shehadin.tershnjaku@ks-gov.net">shehadin.tershnjaku@ks-gov.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Mayor for Minorities</td>
<td>Qasip Kushi</td>
<td>044 257 482</td>
<td><a href="mailto:qasip.kushi@ks-gov.net">qasip.kushi@ks-gov.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MUNICIPAL DIRECTORATES (correct as of June 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>FULL NAME</th>
<th>TEL.</th>
<th>e-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Directorate for Administration and Personnel</td>
<td>Avni Nebiu</td>
<td>044 203 177/029 281 005</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Avni.Nebiu@rks.gov.net">Avni.Nebiu@rks.gov.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directorate for Economy, Finance and Development</td>
<td>Ahmet Batjari</td>
<td>044 203 334</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ahmet.batjari@ks-gov.net">ahmet.batjari@ks-gov.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directorate for Defence, Rescue and Public Services</td>
<td>Tafil Krasniqi</td>
<td>044 309 071</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tafil.krasniqi@ks-gov.net">tafil.krasniqi@ks-gov.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directorate for Health and Social Welfare</td>
<td>Reshit Qafleshi</td>
<td>044203501</td>
<td><a href="mailto:reshit.qafleshi@rks-gov.net">reshit.qafleshi@rks-gov.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directorate of Education</td>
<td>Hajri Ramadani</td>
<td>044 410 124 / 029 281 646</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hajri.ramadani@rks-gov.net">hajri.ramadani@rks-gov.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directorate for Agriculture, Tourism, Inspection and Rural Development</td>
<td>Bajram Hoxha</td>
<td>044 494 141</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bajrampasa@gmail.com">bajrampasa@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directorate of Urbanism, Cadastre, and Environmental Protection</td>
<td>Bean Haxhiasan</td>
<td>044 757 770</td>
<td><a href="mailto:beanadziasan@yahoo.com">beanadziasan@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directorate of Culture, Youth and</td>
<td>Kamber Kamberi</td>
<td>044 604 965</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kamberkamberi@yahoo.com">kamberkamberi@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

82 OSCE Municipal Profile 2011
Figure 13: Organogram of Dragash/Dragaš Municipal Administration
The position for Officer for Energy and Energy Efficiency has not yet been created in the municipality of Dragash/Dragaš and, due to financial restrictions and an unclear national framework, is not likely to occur soon. Municipalities have to plan for the needs of energy supply through their development documents, in harmony with Municipal Energy Efficiency Plans that are yet to be created by the Kosovo Energy Efficiency Agency. A technical contact person for energy issues in the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš has been assigned from the Directorate of Urbanism, Cadastre, and Environmental Protection.

Security Presence

The Kosovo police station in Dragash/Dragaš has 54 police officers, including eight police officers in Kruševo/Krushevë police sub-station; 36 are Kosovo Albanian, 14 are Kosovo Gorani and five are Kosovo Bosniak, while one is female.

Turkish KFOR provides an international military presence.  

Justice

The Legal Aid Office in Dragash/Dragaš was established in December 2009, and comprises three staff: two legal officers and one administrative assistant. The office operates in line with Regulation 2006/36 on Legal Assistance, offering legal aid to all citizens in the municipality regardless of ethnicity, race and gender, in the Civil, Criminal and Administrative cases. The office reports to the Commission for Legal Aid Coordination Office in Prishtinë/Priština on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual basis.

In 2010 the Legal Aid Office received 169 cases, of which 88 were civil cases, 8 were criminal cases and 73 administrative cases. This comprised 33 women and 136 men. 125 were Albanians and 44 were Gorani. In 2011 a total 190 cases were received, comprising 91 civil cases, 18 criminal cases and 81 administrative cases. This comprised 29 women and 161 men. 136 were Albanians 54 were Gorani. In the first quarter of 2012 46 cases have been received: 20 civil cases, 9 criminal cases and 17 administrative cases, representing 12 women and 35 men, of which 43 were Albanians and 13 were Gorani.

Inter-municipal and cross-border cooperation

“Inter-municipal cooperation” (IMC) refers to two or more neighbouring municipalities working together to perform municipal administrative tasks, deliver public services to citizens and promote local development in a more efficient and effective way than through isolated action.  

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84 Source: Kosovo Police, quoted in OSCE Municipal Profile 2011
85 Report from Agim Kamberi, Legal Officer, Dragash/Dragaš, May 2012
The municipality of Dragash/Dragaš does not have any inter-municipal cooperation agreements with neighbouring municipalities. However, there is an agreement and project at the level of the Regional Development Agency for Kosovo South, which includes the municipalities of Prizren, Dragash/Dragaš, Suharekë/Suva Reka, Mamushë/Mamuša, Rahovec/Orahovac, and Malishevë/Mališevo.

Local and international NGOs

Dragash/Dragaš municipality has not been the location of much active work by non-governmental organisations. There are 30 registered NGOs but only 16 of these are currently active.

Table 8: List of NGOs registered in Dragash/Dragaš

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Contact details</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo Red Cross</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Muamer Rexhepi</td>
<td>044 310 993 (029) 281 425</td>
<td>Distribution of Humanitarian Assistance and coordination of humanitarian affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nëna Tereze</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Fadil Reshiti</td>
<td>044 201 052</td>
<td>Distribution of Humanitarian Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handikos</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Support of handicapped persons and their integration in society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flaka</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Fitim Kurtishi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fitimkurtishi@yahoo.com">fitimkurtishi@yahoo.com</a> 044 203 301</td>
<td>Women activities, education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mështekna</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš and Bresanë/Brodosavce</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Micro credits, Small Bussiness and coordination of farmers and other producers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dora e ndihmës</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Selami Beluli</td>
<td>044 200 919</td>
<td>Humanitarian assistance, Ecology, mini farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vatan</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Kruševo/Krushevë)</td>
<td>Arif Kuši</td>
<td>044 365 390</td>
<td>Humanitarian assistance, education, Advanced democratic practises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memlecet</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Zlipotok)</td>
<td>Gazmend Tairovci</td>
<td>044 203 214</td>
<td>Culture and education development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guri i Zi</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Jeton Ramadani</td>
<td>044 200 920</td>
<td>Mountaineering, Ecology, Speleology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dora e Shpresës</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Senavere Spahiu</td>
<td>029 81 876</td>
<td>Women activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Forum of Secondary School “Ruzhdi Berisha”</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>School teacher Selim Kryeziu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:selikryeziu@hotmail.com">selikryeziu@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:selikryeziu@yahoo.com">selikryeziu@yahoo.com</a> 044 201 097</td>
<td>Cultural and sport activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragash Human Ecology</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Murselj Haljilji</td>
<td>044 435 679</td>
<td>Ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Organisation of KLA</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Galip Skeraj</td>
<td>029 81 113</td>
<td>Support veterans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorts Association</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Mitat Bojaxhiu</td>
<td>044 203 695</td>
<td>Sports activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Address (City)</td>
<td>Contact Person</td>
<td>Email/Phone</td>
<td>Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sara</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Bresanë/Brodosavce)</td>
<td>Dashurije Sahiti</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ojq_sara@hotmail.com">ojq_sara@hotmail.com</a> 044 244 967</td>
<td>Women activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHEA</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Bresanë/Brodosavce)</td>
<td>Reshat Reshitit</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Shea47@hotmail.com">Shea47@hotmail.com</a> 044 323 533</td>
<td>Ecology, education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NVO Krusevo</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elvir Ilijazi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nvokrusevo@yahoo.com">nvokrusevo@yahoo.com</a> 044 203 296</td>
<td>Civil society development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents-Teachers Council</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Masar Shabanini</td>
<td><a href="mailto:masarkpa@hotmail.com">masarkpa@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renesansa</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Rapča/Rapçë)</td>
<td>Orhan Tosuni</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Renesansa2004@yahoo.com">Renesansa2004@yahoo.com</a> 044 203 702</td>
<td>Culture, environment, youth education/activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orfe</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Selim Kryeziu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:selikryeziu@hotmail.com">selikryeziu@hotmail.com</a> 044 201 097</td>
<td>Culture, Gender Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qeni Ilir i Sharrit</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Kuk/Kukovce)</td>
<td>Serafedin Osmani</td>
<td>044 604 522</td>
<td>Cultivation of Sharri dogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biser</td>
<td>Restelica/Restelicë</td>
<td>Murat Muska</td>
<td><a href="mailto:korap_1@hotmail.com">korap_1@hotmail.com</a> 044 498 568</td>
<td>Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIB Women Initiative Board</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Gjejrane Lokaj</td>
<td><a href="mailto:xhejrane_55@hotmail.com">xhejrane_55@hotmail.com</a> 044 327 922</td>
<td>Women activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stars</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Radeša/Radeshe)</td>
<td>Eldina Redzhepi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stars_nvo@yahoo.com">stars_nvo@yahoo.com</a> 049 199 653</td>
<td>Environment, Agriculture, livestock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Next Alternative</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Albert Spahiu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fitim.spahiu@hotmail.com">fitim.spahiu@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Youth activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DYC (Dragash Youth Center)</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Sead Nuhui</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dragashyc2002@yahoo.com">dragashyc2002@yahoo.com</a> 045 645 077 044 244 948</td>
<td>Youth activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lepota Sara</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Restelica/Restelicë)</td>
<td>Nail Muska</td>
<td>044 845 986</td>
<td>Environment, Agriculture, livestock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koritnik</td>
<td>Krstec/Kërsteç</td>
<td>Rasmin Hamza</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nvo.koritnik@gmail.com">nvo.koritnik@gmail.com</a> 044 466 875</td>
<td>Ecology, education of youth, environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flores</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Arafat Bajrami</td>
<td>044 760 782</td>
<td>Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth circle</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Radeša/Radeshe)</td>
<td>Turkes Dalifi</td>
<td>044 573 954</td>
<td>Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natyra-Dragash</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Azi Rifaj</td>
<td>044 203 800</td>
<td>Protection of biodiversity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following non-governmental organisations are registered in Dragash/Dragaš municipality, but are currently not active.
### Table of Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Contact details</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nëna Tereze</td>
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<td>044 200 919</td>
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<td>Arif Kuši</td>
<td>044 365 390</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Jeton Ramadani</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Masar Shabani</td>
<td><a href="mailto:masarkpa@hotmail.com">masarkpa@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orfe</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Selim Kryeziu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:selikryeziu@hotmail.com">selikryeziu@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Culture, Gender Issues</td>
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<td>Cultivation of Sharri dogs</td>
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<td>Lepota Sara</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš (Restelica/Restelicë)</td>
<td>Nail Muska</td>
<td>044 845 986</td>
<td>Environment, Agriculture, livestock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koritnik</td>
<td>Krstec/Kërstec</td>
<td>Rasmin Hamza</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Nvo.koritnik@gmail.com">Nvo.koritnik@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Ecology, education of youth, environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flores</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
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<td>Turkes Dalifi</td>
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<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Azi Rifaj</td>
<td>044 203 800</td>
<td>Protection of biodiversity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.1.6 Cultural and historical background

Settlement in Dragash/Dragaš is said to date from ancient times, similar to elsewhere in the Prizren region where evidence of Neolithic and Iron Age inhabitation has been found, as well as significant records from the Roman and Ottoman periods. As a highly mountainous rural area, the topographical...
and climatic conditions have had a large impact on accessibility which has been significant for the area’s socio-cultural history and development.

During the Ottoman reign from 1445-1912, the area of Dragash/Đragaš municipality formed part of the Sançak and, later, Vilayet of Prizren (1871), a wide administrative district that included areas in current-day FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania and Serbia and covered most of what is today Kosovo. Incorporating Elbasan, Gusinje, Pejë/Peć, Tetovo, Debar, Gostivar and Niš, this territory became known as the Vilayet of Kosovo in 1877. Prizren was known for its powerful trading links as a crossroads for both military and commercial routes, and was thus a highly important centre to which communities in the Dragash/Đragaš area would have had strong connections, as they do today.

The word “gora” means “mountain” in Slavic languages, and thus the Gorani people are said to be the “mountaineers”. The language spoken by the Gorani (“Našinski”, roughly translating as “ours”) is a mixture of Macedonian, Serbian, Bosnian and Turkish. Linguistically, Slavic languages have been commonly spoken across the Sharr/Šar mountain region, with nineteenth century travellers reporting “Macedonian” and “Bulgarian” across the territory. Since communities in Dragash/Đragaš have been long connected with those in FYR Macedonia across the mountains along livestock migration and agricultural trails, Dragash/Đragaš has formed a bridge between both Slavic and Albanian communities across contemporary national borders. A widely held view is that the Gorani descend from Orthodox Christian Slavic peoples originally from Bulgaria in the 13th century who passed through Dragash/Đragaš on their way towards what is now Bosnia & Herzegovina, which would tally with the later linguistic observations. It was during the Ottoman period that the population converted to Islam, with Gorani, Bosniak and Albanian groups in Dragash/Đragaš sharing the same religion – a factor which is a cause for strong inter-community integration and tolerance.

Dragaš/Đragaš’s crucial asset is that it weaves its heritage of both cultural traditions and natural features closely in one continuous narrative. It describes rural mountain cultures and ways of life that have responded to and developed in this remote, mountainous landscape over centuries, and generates an authentic sense of place through the tracks, trails, buildings and agricultural patterns, rituals, festivals and traditions.

3.1.7 Challenges inherent in existing situation

Dragaš/Đragaš’s location in the very south, high in the mountains means that it is considered a “dead end”.

- How can the geographical remoteness be overcome?
- Which new connections can be established and which existing connections should be strengthened?

Topography and climate in Dragaš/Đragaš cause strong winters with a high level of snowfall.

- How can the municipality ensure safe access to the villages?
- What conditions can be improved to ensure good livelihoods also in winter?

Dragaš/Đragaš’s population is very young and active for work; but on the other hand the unemployment rate is high.

- How can the municipality create good living opportunities for the youth?
How can jobs and income for youth be generated to avoid the loss of the younger generation by emigration?

Female emancipation and participation in the economy and decision-making processes is not equal to that of males.

How can the Municipality support women?

Municipal administrators have to face several issues to act as a connection between national level (Ministries) and the municipal/communal level (villages).

How can the MDP contribute to the improvement of administrative processes?

Dragash/Dragaš is a municipality which combines Slavic and Albanian communities and traditions.

How can Dragash/Dragaš’s special cultural traditions be preserved?

How can Dragash/Dragaš benefit from its cultural and historical background?

How can equal development be ensured across the whole Municipality and in every subspace?

3.2 Settlements

3.2.1 Housing stock and living conditions

The very low level of artificial surfaces (roads, settlements etc) – 1.21% of the territory’s area – indicates that Dragash/Dragaš is a highly rural area which is not undergoing significant urban development. This is particularly true in the south of the municipality, where the mountainous geography constrains the accessible and buildable areas, leading to tight clusters of houses and paths in the villages. Access to basic infrastructure also limits where construction occurs, although there tends to be a higher level of self-construction or self-financing in this regard which enable services to be extended to new houses in an ad-hoc manner. More urbanisation and growth is observed in the northern parts of the municipality, especially around Dragash/Dragaš town and along the main road towards Prizren, where a better inter-connection of villages is observed and where sprawl along main roads and conjoining of settlements can also be observed, in keeping with urban trends in the rest of the country. This area, accounting for almost 9% of the territory, is significantly flatter. Approximately 36% of the landscape is slight and medium sloped and are connected to these flat areas.

Traditional houses in rural areas such as Dragash/Dragaš were constructed with stone for a ground floor or raised plinth, with a timber framework infilled with adobe brick at upper levels, up to two storeys high. Due to the difficulties in maintaining adobe structures, many of these buildings are in very poor condition and largely derelict, uninhabited, or have been converted to storage buildings. The use of stone for full construction of houses to 2-4 storeys continued well into the late 20th century. A large number of these buildings still exist and continue to be inhabited, having undergone periods of renovation and upgrading by the inhabitants. Current construction trends make use of cheaper, readily

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87 The term “artificial surface” is used in the CORINE Land Cover nomenclature and refers to “continuous and discontinuous urban fabric (housing areas), industrial, commercial and transport units, road and rail networks, dump sites and extraction sites, but also green urban areas” – this mainly means sealed surface.
available materials and rapid construction techniques such as concrete frames infilled with aerated concrete/terracotta blocks. This has also allowed an increase in size and scale of the dwelling unit.

Like most areas in Kosovo, Dragash/Dragaš features a large proportion of newly built houses, although there are also a high number of older buildings. According to the 2011 Census, approximately 38% of the dwellings in Dragash/Dragaš are uninhabited. However, it is likely that the majority of these are inhabited during the summer months when the diaspora returns. These habitable but unoccupied houses constitute an important dormant capital and stock of potential tourist accommodation.

**Household Energy Usage**

A questionnaire was used as a tool to collect data from inhabitants, in 200 households over seven settlements. The results are summarised in the document “Energy Baseline for the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš”.

Respondents’ assessments of their living conditions, in comparison to other households, showed that 70% felt their living conditions were satisfactory, with the second largest proportion (18.5%) deeming their condition Good, and 3.5% judging their living conditions as Very Good. 8% of respondents felt their living conditions were Bad or Very Bad. The purpose of this survey was to assess whether energy efficiency measures could be integrated within households, and whether a lack of financial means or a lack of information would be a problem encountered in doing so.

**Data on households**

- Average house surface area: \( S = 136.5 \text{m}^2 \)
- Annual average electric energy consumption of one household: 330.44 €
- Only 1% of houses have central heating system installed for space heating.
- Average surface area which is heated in the house: 35.4m²
- Average number of heated rooms per household: 2
- Firewood is the most common source of energy for households.
- In general there are only short electricity cuts in Dragash/Dragaš municipality.
- The main problem experienced is in the quality of electricity supply because it is low voltage.

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88 From UN-Habitat Draft MDP, September 2010
Data on energy sources

- Annual average volume of firewood consumed by one household: 8.89 m³
- Annual average volume of dung consumed by one household: 6.28 m³
- The majority (64%) of firewood is purchased in the market; 22% of firewood is cut by inhabitants from public forest; 14% of firewood is cut from private forests.
- The main energy source for heating water is electricity (77%). A number of families use the electric energy in combination with other sources of energy such as gas and firewood.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Energy Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>88.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric energy</td>
<td>5.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briquette</td>
<td>0.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal</td>
<td>1.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dung</td>
<td>3.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diesel</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td>0.76%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 14: The energy source for space heating based on percentage of use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Firewood bought in market</td>
<td>40.39 €/m³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood cut in public forest</td>
<td>19.16 €/m³</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9: Price of firewood according to source

Energy efficiency measures in households

- Only 12% of houses have insulated external walls; 18% have externally plastered walls; 70% of houses do not have any thermal insulation.
- 28% of the houses have insulated roofs.
- 80% of houses have double-glazed windows.

Electricity consumption

Households represent the highest consumers of electricity in Dragash/Dragaš municipality, largely due to the fact that relatively few commercial or industrial enterprises exist in many locations.
Figure 15: Billed energy consumption for different sectors for 2010 (%)

Figure 16: Billed electricity consumption per village in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality (2010)
3.2.2 Village comparisons  

Populations

According to the 2011 Kosovo Census, there are 12 settlements out of Dragash/Drageš’s 36 settlements that have more than 1000 permanent residents. The most populous villages are Restelica/Restelicë, Bresanë/Brodosavce and Brezne/Brezna with over 1900 inhabitants; Restelica/Restelicë is by far the largest, with over 1.5 times the number of inhabitants than the next largest settlement, Bresanë/Brodosavce, and over 4 times the population of the municipal centre, Dragash/Drageš. On average, 40% of the total municipal population lives in the settlements in Gora/Gorë with almost 60% living in Opojë/Opolje, which appears to conform to the demographics according to ethnicity.

The density of population in the Municipality of Dragash/Drageš is around 78 inhabitants per km². In general, the settlements are located over 1000m above sea level, with a density of around 9 settlements per 100 km². However, there are significant differences in density across the municipality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village ID</th>
<th>Settlement</th>
<th>No. of inhabitants 2011</th>
<th>Area km²</th>
<th>Density</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Mlike / Mlikë</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>9.44</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Orćuša / Orçushë</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>4.41</td>
<td>13.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bačka / Bačkë</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td>13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dikance / Dikanc</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>6.04</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Zipotok</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>27.07</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Kukuljane / Kukulanë</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>9.65</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Brod</td>
<td>1544</td>
<td>48.14</td>
<td>32.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Krstec / Kërstecc</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>13.03</td>
<td>32.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Globočica / Glibocici</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>23.37</td>
<td>41.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Rapča / Rapčë</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>20.56</td>
<td>41.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Vraniste / Vranisht</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>7.77</td>
<td>45.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Krusevo / Krusevë</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>18.91</td>
<td>45.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Restelica / Restelicë</td>
<td>4698</td>
<td>84.7</td>
<td>55.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Xërxe / Zrze</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td>66.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Plajnik / Plajnik</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>5.96</td>
<td>68.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Radeša / Radeshe</td>
<td>1224</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>80.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Ljubovište / Lubovishtë</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>8.35</td>
<td>92.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Zaplluxhe / Zaplužje</td>
<td>1273</td>
<td>13.14</td>
<td>96.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village ID</th>
<th>Settlement</th>
<th>No. of inhabitants 2011</th>
<th>Area km²</th>
<th>Density</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Kuklje / Kukljibeg</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>8.27</td>
<td>103.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Shahe / Šajnovce</td>
<td>1069</td>
<td>9.57</td>
<td>111.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Brut / Brut</td>
<td>1164</td>
<td>8.42</td>
<td>138.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Kosavë / Kosavce</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>6.54</td>
<td>138.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Buçe / Buće</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>4.58</td>
<td>140.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Kapre / Kapra</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>141.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Plлавë / Plava</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>6.78</td>
<td>147.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Blaç / Bljaç</td>
<td>1455</td>
<td>9.68</td>
<td>150.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Leštane / Leshtan</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>5.03</td>
<td>155.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Renc / Renç</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>166.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bresanë / Brodosaç</td>
<td>2839</td>
<td>14.34</td>
<td>198.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Zgatar</td>
<td>885</td>
<td>4.26</td>
<td>207.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Zym / Zjum</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>214.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bellobrad / Belobrad</td>
<td>948</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td>217.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Brezne / Brezna</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>9.12</td>
<td>218.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Kuk / Kukovce</td>
<td>1658</td>
<td>6.62</td>
<td>250.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Buzez</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td>252.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dragash / Drageš</td>
<td>1098</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>305.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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90 From Visioning Workshop, Village Characterisation Posters, Dragash Village DB, Village Survey Results
91 Kosovo Agency of Statistics, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 201, Final Results: Main Data
The highest density of population is in Dragash/Dragaš town; where on average around 305 inhabitants reside per km², although its cadastral zone is also the sixth smallest. The density and average distance between settlements across the municipality demonstrates that the Opoja/Opolje region is almost three times more densely populated than the Gora/Gorë region, with approximately 1.6 times shorter distances between settlements.\(^93\)

Table 11: Density and average distance of settlements across the municipality\(^94\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Average T (density)</th>
<th>Average D (distance)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opoja/Opolje</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>2.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gora/Gorë</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>4.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The thirteen least dense settlements are all located in Gora/Gorë, out of a total of 16 settlements in that central and southern region in total. The large surface areas of the respective settlement territories may account for this, especially in the mountainous areas, and bears little relation to the resident population. Restelica/Restelicë, for example, has the highest population in the municipality but also the largest territorial area; the main urban area where most human settlement occurs, however, is fairly dense while the remainder of the territory is uninhabited.

There are large differences in population in the different settlements throughout the year; as mentioned earlier, it is likely that the population is around a third higher in summer than in winter.\(^95\) Thus even the villages that appear largely abandoned throughout the year become very active locations in summer. The 2011 Kosovo Census revealed that 37.5% of the dwellings in Dragash/Dragaš are uninhabited, of which around 12% are stated for use as temporary residences during holidays and seasonal work.\(^96\)

### Classification of settlements

The population data from the 2011 Kosovo Census has been used in the following classification of settlements. All current population figures in the settlement descriptions below, including village-by-
village breakdowns for education and conventional dwellings, are taken from the official 2011 Kosovo Census.

**Primary Settlements**: population over 1700 inhabitants

**Secondary Settlements**: population between 800 and 1700 inhabitants

**Tertiary Settlements**: population under 800 inhabitants

In addition, some Tertiary Settlements are also classified as **Remote Villages**, being subject to a decline in population and being located in a particularly remote area.

**Primary Settlements**

The three settlements considered primary centres are Brezne/Brezna, Restelica/Restelicë and Bresanë/Brodosavce. Apart from Brezne/Brezna, they contain a high number of amenities - between 53 and 71 shops - in comparison to the Secondary Settlements which are far less well provided (having between 1 and 14 shops). Lower than average for the other settlements in the municipality (39%), around 30% of conventional dwellings in Dragash/Dragaš’s primary settlements are uninhabited or vacant. This suggests that emigration from these settlements is also likely to be lower and that the difference between the summer and winter population is comparatively more stable (although still significant).

**Bresanë/Brodosavce** is a business sub-centre, with a total of 89 businesses employing 33 people other than the business owner. It is also a pastoral agricultural market centre, with a scenic setting and access to wildlife areas. The settlement is well connected to the surrounding villages for which it acts as a hub (with regard to facilities and services such as shops, schools, medical facilities and mosques), and to the main roads out of the municipality to Prizren (via Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje, or via Buzez and Pllavë/Plava). Bresanë/Brodosavce also has a strong heritage character and is the location of a number of festivals, and thus could also act as a base for future tourism. Its population has shown steady upward growth since 1921, although its current population of permanent residents (2839) is only slightly higher than it was in 1981. It currently has one of the largest populations in the municipality. In contrast to the rest of the municipality, less than 50% of the population works outside the municipality, and a relatively high proportion live solely on locally provided services. Infrastructure (water, sewage, roads) is deemed good, and there are strong communication networks (mobile phone, internet, landline telephone). The majority of the territory (61%) is covered by forests and semi-natural areas, suitable for the grazing of the high number of cows, sheep and poultry that are raised in the territory, while 33% of the territory is agricultural.

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97 UNDP Business Database
Bresanë/Brodosavce is a sizeable settlement spreading along the main roads and infilling to create a fairly dense settlement. Development is constrained on the north and northeast edge by forest and topography. Road building appears to follow agricultural paths (especially to the east), extending as housing areas extend. There is an ensemble of traditional buildings in the eastern part of the settlement, of cultural heritage interest. 36% of all conventional dwellings in Bresanë/Brodosavce are unoccupied, 7% are in used occasionally during holidays and seasonal work. The remaining 29% are classified as “vacant”. 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 Blač/Bljač. There is also close proximity and growth towards Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg, and potentially future incorporation, linking or “suburb” formation, with potential extension beyond, to Kuk/Kukovce. Cultivated fields patterns are also a feature of the natural terrain.

Restelica/Restelicë is the southernmost settlement in Dragash/Dragaš municipality, and the second largest cadastral zone. Its distance from Dragash/Dragaš and other centres in Kosovo have not, however, prevented it developing into a primary centre and business sub-centre, with a focus on natural products and cultivation (dairy/cheese, wild fruits, beekeeping/honey and herbs). As a centre for Gorani culture, Restelica/Restelicë holds great tourism potential, especially linked to nature tourism in the mountains and river valleys. Other features of potential interest are the Sharri/Šarplaninac dogs, handicrafts, festivals and wedding rituals associated with this region.

Restelica/Restelicë has the largest resident population in the municipality, and which has grown steadily since 1921. It is also recorded to have a more stable population between summer and winter. There is low dependence on local resources (10%) and local services (15%) although this figure is moderate in comparison to the rest of Dragash/Dragaš’s villages. Women also contribute a comparatively higher proportion to household income. However, in relation to its size and location, it has limited services: no
health centre, post office, bank (or mobile bank service), police station, secondary school, pharmacy, hotel, landline or fuel station. Basic infrastructure is also problematic. 25% of the shops are bars and restaurants rather than productive enterprises. There is however a very high production of sheep and cow milk, and eggs, although less plant collection or agriculture probably due to the steeper terrain and higher altitude.

Restelica/Restelicë is a sizeable settlement that has rapidly developed. In proportion to its population, it has the highest number of conventional dwellings in the municipality; however, around 36% of these are uninhabited (9% are stated for use as holiday/seasonal properties). The settlement is very isolated, but is also gateway to the mountain ranges leading to FYR Macedonia 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. Sprawl is observed to the north and east of the settlement, with new roads being formed from extensions to housing areas. New developments are also observed south of the valley line alongside the main road heading south. Unlike elsewhere, a single line of house development following the main road is not observed. 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 settlement has caused severe problems. No adequate road network or public infrastructure has been constructed as it expands. Houses have been built very close to the narrow, single road, making two-lane traffic impossible. Traffic circulation totally halts at times when there are greater numbers of cars on the road. Rescue cars or fire brigades would be unable to access in case of an emergency. There is also a high risk of avalanche and rockslides in this steep terrain. The sprawl of settlement into the endangered areas causes risks that will not be eliminated.
This settlement is located at the foot of Mount Koritnik, where the wide plain opens into the north. 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. To the east, in the direction of the road to Prizren-Dragash/Dragaš road, larger plots exist alongside the wide, paved road. This road also runs through the older part of the village. There are some shops and cafes beside the road. A network of very steep paths and agricultural trails lie just off the main road within the settlement.

The population has been slowly increasing throughout time (despite anomalous, high records for 2008 and 2010), although the current population (1,990) is very close to the population level in 1981. In contrast to most of the other settlements in Dragash/Dragaš, Brezne/Brezna records a high level of permanent inhabitation of its conventional dwellings. Only 18% of buildings are unoccupied (compared to the municipal average of 39%), of which around 54% are stated for use during holidays or seasonal work.

Brezne/Brezna is identified as having key tourism potential, due to its proximity to Lake Brezne/Brezna which is the only significant lake in the municipality, and which is accessible from the main Prizren-Dragash/Dragaš regional road along poor quality agricultural trails. Some small features have been constructed at the lakeside for tourism, such as steps and stone paving, although this is not maintained
and there is a problem with garbage. Quarrying is occurring near the turn off to access the lake from the regional road, and it appears that an additional road is under construction to the lake from this location. Compared to much of the rest of the municipality, the settlement is at a lower altitude (900m – 1570m), although the range within the settlement territory itself is significant.

For a Primary Settlement there is lower number of shops, amenities and registered businesses than would be expected (numbering around 22) although this makes Brezne/Brezna a medium centre for business. Of these enterprises, seven are net employers, with between one and five employees. There is a moderate level of livestock rearing (sheep and cows), with a fairly high production of milk, although no collection point. Overgrazing, however, is a particular problem. As with most other settlements, individual and private cultivation of plants, fruits and vegetables is a notable feature. The highest proportion of land is taken up by forests and semi-natural areas (484ha) with an almost equal number of agricultural areas (382ha). Village surveys report good assessments of firewood, and although there is no logging business recorded in the settlement, it is clear that forestry plays a significant role in the settlement’s activities.

There is limited healthcare provision, with only one clinic. However, compared to many other settlements in the municipality, there are easy road links to both Prizren and Dragash/Đragaš town which provides a range of service options. The village reports poor infrastructure, with water and sewage problems, and high numbers of fires and risk of flooding.

Figure 18: Aerial photograph of Brezne/Brezna

**Secondary Settlements**

16 of Dragash/Đragaš municipality’s 36 settlements are classified as Secondary Settlements, with populations between 800 and 1700 inhabitants. Beside Dragash/Đragaš town these are
Many of these villages are also comprised of a number of smaller, more dispersed settlements, or neighbourhood clusters joined by low density development along roads. They are characterised by moderate infrastructure access and communication, particularly in their connections to the main roads to Dragash/Dragaš town and to Prizren. On average, around one-third of the conventional dwellings in these secondary settlements are unoccupied or vacant; generally this is slightly lower than the municipal average (although higher than the non-occupancy rate in primary settlements) but it still means that there is likely to be a significant difference between summer and winter populations in these settlements.

Some of the villages are significant in their rural character and access to good hiking opportunities, scenic landscapes and natural features, and therefore hold good tourism potential. A few are of interest in terms of cultural heritage: for festivals, rituals and traditions as well as traditional vernacular buildings and monuments. Cultural heritage features are covered in greater detail in Section 8 of the Profile.

Dragash/Dragaš town is the main administrative and commercial centre of Dragash/Dragaš municipality as well as the main market town, with 229 businesses employing 553 people (excluding the owners). It therefore plays the most significant role for employment in the municipality, through the local administration, service provision (schools, healthcare, banking, postal service etc), and through a high number of bars, cafes and restaurants, although it has no tourist facilities. There are no small settlements within its cadastral zone. It is the sixth smallest cadastral zone in terms of land area.

As with the majority of settlements in the municipality, the resident population for 2011 is very close to that of 1981. In Dragash/Dragaš town there is an unusually high number of conventional dwellings that are uninhabited or vacant: 52%, compared to the municipal average of 39%. Only six other villages in the whole municipality have a higher number of unoccupied buildings, the majority of which are classified as Remote Villages and have experienced very high depopulation. Out of a population of 1098 permanent inhabitants in Dragash/Dragaš town, around a quarter are aged 6-19, of whom 84% are in some form of education. All children aged 6-15 attend compulsory education, with one of the highest attendance rates (82%) of upper secondary school in the municipality, probably due to the ease of access since the main secondary school is located in the town. In contrast to the other settlements in the municipality (which consist primarily of one major ethnic group: Kosovo-Albanians in the Opoja/Opolje region and Gorani/Bosniaks in the Gora/Gorë region), Dragash/Dragaš town is highly mixed in terms of its resident ethnicities with 52% Gorani, 45% Kosovo-Albanian, and 1.6% Bosniak and a small number of other communities.

Dragash/Dragaš town contains all necessary public services for the municipality (such as a hospital), including the existing main secondary school and a new secondary/vocational school building under construction. Probably due to its better connection to other major centres in Kosovo (especially Prizren), its location at the convergence of roads leading to most of the main settlements in the municipality (encouraging mobility into the town, for example on market day) and its comparatively small territorial area, very few households are living on local resources and there is little agriculture or livestock rearing, except for small scale garden cultivation of fruits and vegetables, and beekeeping, honey production and poultry/egg production. This is also likely to be due to the relatively high urbanisation of the territory.
(9.4% of the land use) and its comparative lack of agricultural and pastoral lands. However, it has the highest proportion of households surviving solely on local businesses and services (50%), with a comparatively low proportion earning income partly or fully outside the municipality (respectively, 10% and 20%). There is a more positive outlook for future opportunities among Dragash/Dragaš’s inhabitants.

Dragash/Dragaš’s location is key to its development, situated at a split in the main road leading to Restelica/Restelicë and Brod. It is also a hub for the roads leading to Radeša/Radeshë and Rapča/Rapçë. It is located very close to Ljubovište/Lubovishtë to the southeast, and it is likely that urban infill and sprawl will see these two settlements join in a form of suburb. A similar pattern of sprawl (with a single depth of houses lining the main road) is being observed along the main road towards Shajne/Šajnovce, although forests and topography limit this development. A new road has been laid between the north of Dragash/Dragaš town and Shajne/Šajnovce, along which the new secondary/vocational school building is under construction and a large patch of ground has been cleared, where the Municipality intends to create a new commercial centre. “Light industry” developments are present on the southwest road leading to Restelica/Restelicë. The biggest commercial enterprise in the municipality, the Remateks wool factory, is located here. Within the town itself, a fairly dense network of roads/paths run perpendicular to the main road, and connect with agricultural trails leading into natural areas. This is forming a number of clustered neighbourhoods that are likely to be infilled by additional building. 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 main bus station is located close to the centre of the town.

Bellobrad/ Belobrad
Due to its position within the meadows of the river, the terrain is relatively flat. The regional road, along which some business has developed, runs directly through the village. A mostly good road network exists to the south. The dense patterns of construction have begun to spread into the northern parts of the village. Very few traditional buildings remain, although a working combined water/fulling mill is a notable feature. The village has had a steadily growing population since 1921. Bellobrad/ Belobrad also has the fifth highest population density across its territory. A lower than average number of conventional dwellings are unoccupied (26%, compared to the municipal average of 39%), of which just under half are stated as being for holiday/seasonal use.

Blaç/ Bljać
Split into three parts, Blaç/Bljać is connected by the regional road to Bresanë/Brodosavce in the west and Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje in the east. Unpaved roads lead through the dispersed rural settlements, situated along the streams. Between these areas, larger plots with single houses have developed. Steep areas to the north of the Blaç/Bljać River constrain expansion. A carved stone tablet (fountain) and graveyards are of cultural interest. The settlement has seen steady population growth (currently with 1455 permanent residents), and the territory is of fairly high density. Almost a quarter of conventional dwellings in Blaç/Bljać are unoccupied, although this figure is lower than the municipal average. The majority are vacant rather than for holiday/seasonal use.

Brod/ Brod
A single road leads to this settlement located in a small valley deep within the mountains. The road continues into the grain of narrow streets between old and new houses. 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. There has been little construction on the flood plains of the river, so there is some public space left. The road to the south leads to the Arxhena hotel. There are a number of maintained traditional residential buildings. Unlike the majority of settlements in Dragash/Dragaš municipality, Brod has oscillated in population since 1921 in a decreasing trend overall. Also in contrast with the rest of the municipality, the largest demographic is between 34 and 59 (not 10 and 29), indicating an ageing population and possibly a future decline in birth rate. While around a quarter of the total village population of most other settlements are young people aged 6-19, in Brod this accounts for only 19% of the total population. 86% of the residents aged 6-15 attend compulsory schooling (in keeping with the proportions in other settlements), but only 35% of persons aged 15-19 are permanent residents and in education. Migration out of the settlement, or even the municipality, for reasons of education or employment may be a major factor in this. 36% of all conventional dwellings are unoccupied, which is slightly lower than the municipal average (39%). All in all only 6% of these are said to be for holiday/seasonal use.

**Brrut/Brut**

Located at the northern edge of Opoja/Opolje valley, the landscape surrounding the settlement 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/Belobrad in the west and Zgatar/Zgatar in the east. Extension of the urban area through sprawl is beginning to take place along the smaller roads into the north and the roads to Zgatar/Zgatar. There is an open space in the middle of the settlement with a small, tree-covered hill, which splits the building area into two parts. Brrut/Brut has experienced a steady increase in population since 1921. There is a lower than average number of unoccupied dwellings (22%), of which the majority is for seasonal/holiday use (76%) indicating that there is a much higher summer population than in winter.
Globočica/Globoçicë
The village lies alongside the road to Restelica/Restelicë. A steep road diverges from the regional road up into the fairly dense settlement. This village road is generally in poor condition, although it has been paved in the centre of the village. 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 construction. A single line of houses lines the main road, overlooking the valley, but the terrain is too steep to allow further development in the north-south direction of the village, or to the west into the valley. The roads through the village are very narrow but seem to experience a high volume of traffic. Although a significant population decrease was recorded after 1981, the population has since increased according to the 2011 census. There is a lower youth age group compared to other settlements, with only 19% of residents aged 6-19. Around 30% of dwellings are unoccupied in the settlement.

Kosavë/Kosavce
The village is located at the southern edge of the Opoja/Opolje valley, with a steep hillside to its west. The village’s expansion is directed towards the Pllajnik/Plajnik River and the main road. A smaller road leads to the second part of the village which is further up the hill to the east. There are very few old buildings remaining, with dense new construction in most of the village. A large area of the upper part of the hillside beyond the village is experiencing severe erosion and rockfall is likely. This area is also a dumping ground for manure, alongside an agricultural path. Some quarrying is occurring along the top of the road between Xërxe/Zrze and Kosavë/Kosavce. The village’s population has experienced a steady increase over time, with a slightly lower current population similar to the level in 1981. Almost 38% of the conventional dwellings in Kosavë/Kosavce are unoccupied, with a low proportion used as holiday/seasonal residences.

Kruševo/Krushevë
Located close to Restelica/Restelicë and the turning to approach Zlipotok, Kruševo/Krushevë is a village that has extended significantly along the main road due to the steep sides of the valley in which it is situated. The river runs directly through the settlement, closely parallel to the main road, along which a narrow depth of houses has developed. There are a number of old houses and agricultural buildings that give the village a historic character, and a network of historic trade and agricultural trails that lead from the settlement to neighbouring Zlipotok and Restelica/Restelicë, to Bačka/Baçkë and Brod, and across the border into Albania. In contrast to many other settlements, Kruševo/Krushevë appears to have experienced steadily increasing population growth, without the fluctuations observed in estimates for 2008 or the decreasing trend in 2011. Its proximity to the largest settlement of Restelica/Restelicë may account for this stability, since it has easy access to services and facilities nearby. Furthermore, only 15% of dwellings are unoccupied in the settlement (the third lowest rate in the municipality), indicating that emigration may not be as common as in most other settlements. Of these, no houses are said to be used for holidays or seasonal work.

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 which flows to the edge of Kuk/Kukovce in the east. The population
appears to have undergone a slight increase since 1981, exhibiting a similar population structure to the rest of the municipality, with a large group of younger generations particularly in the age groups from 10-19. Kuk/Kukovce also has a lower-than-average number of unoccupied dwellings (33%), of which a lower proportion is in holiday/seasonal use.

**Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg**
This is a small village to the south of Bresanë/Brodosavce with close proximity and growth towards the larger settlement. It shares Bresanë/Brodosavce’s mosques (both old and new) and there is a fountain/spring monument located in the village centre. There is already some sprawl in isolated settlement clusters towards Kuk/Kukovce, the consolidation of housing along this road following an old agricultural trail is likely. There are smaller settlement neighbourhoods within the cadastral zone (Hasanaj/Hasanaj, Islamaj/Islamaj, Sherifajt/Šerifajt, and Hamitaj/Hamitaj). Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg has the fifth lowest number of unoccupied dwellings in the municipality (22%), of which almost a quarter is returned to for holidays or seasonal work. The population exhibits a characteristic structure for Dragash/Dragaš municipality, with a wide base (32% of the total population is aged 6-19). But there is a dramatically lower number of persons between the ages of 25 and 34, suggesting a high rate of emigration for work or education purposes. This may suggest that while young adults move away to work or study, families have remained in the area.

**Pllavë/Plava**
Located on flatter terrain (although steeper towards the west), the settlement 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. Two paved roads lead through the village. This fairly dense settlement sprays into the south and the east. Two tombs are of heritage interest. The population overall started to increase at a faster rate after 1971, the population structure indicates a positive future birth rate. Around 36% of dwellings are unoccupied in the village, with around a third of them being returned to throughout the year.

**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 flows through the lower settlement between old and new buildings. The population overall has been steadily increasing since 1921, and is a trend that has continued in 2011. There is a comparatively low number of unoccupied dwellings (28%), none of which are used as temporary residences.

**Rapča/Rapçë**
The village is located at the foot of Mount Koritnik in a valley, which leads to the southeast. There are two parts to the settlement, which are about 500m apart from each other. The upper part is a dense settlement mainly built up 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. The population halved
between 1981 and 2011, so current population is similar to the level in 1961. The population is ageing and the birth rate likely to decrease in future. There are also a high number of unoccupied houses (45%) of which only a small number (17%) are inhabited seasonally.

**Shajne/Šajnovce**

The settlement is located very close to Dragash/Dragaš town, to the northeast. Urban infill and sprawl may see the settlement forming a suburb. Increasing sprawl (with a single depth of houses lining the main road) is being observed along the main road towards Dragash/Dragaš, although forests and topography limit this development. Shajne/Šajnovce is comprised of mostly rural plots and fields, although there is an increase in “suburban” development. Around 32% of the settlement’s dwellings are unoccupied, about a third of which are used during temporarily throughout the year.

**Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje**

This settlement is located in the very east of the Opoja/Opolje valley at the end of the regional road. There is a direct road connection to Prizren but the road is in bad condition. The settlement is divided into two parts, located alongside two streams leading into the Blaç/Bljać River. The road network is relatively good, especially in the southern part, where many new houses have been built. Around 11% of Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje’s dwellings are in holiday/seasonal use and another 22% are vacant. There are a number of traditional buildings in Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje.

**Zgatar/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 in the village. The village’s extension primarily follows the regional road to Blaç/Bljać, but at the base of the hillside it sprawls into the plain. On the other side of the village, extension to Brut/Brut is occurring. While the overall population structure conforms to patterns across the municipality – with a high number of younger generations – there is a notable drop in population for the age groups between 15 and 34, which suggests emigration. There is an average number of unoccupied dwellings (38%), a third of them are said to be used for holiday/seasonal work.

**Tertiary Settlements**

17 of Dragash/Dragaš’s 36 settlements are considered tertiary centres, with a population of less than 800 inhabitants. 7 settlements are located in the Opoja/Opolje region with the remaining 10 being in Gora/Gorë. Many of these villages are undergoing population declines, with the village appearing “abandoned” for most of the year. There are significant problems with communication networks and infrastructure, especially in solid waste management. Six of these villages are also classified as Remote Villages, with declining population and remote locations that makes access more difficult.

The tertiary settlements in Gora/Gorë are those lining the roads leading to the more significant villages of Brod and Restelica/Restelicë. There is little inter-connection between these villages except via the main road or across more difficult terrain and poor roads or agricultural trails. Those tertiary settlements located in Opoja/Opolje tend often to be close to other larger centres, between Dragash/Dragaš and Bresanë/Brodosavce, and are well-connected to other villages by road. The closer
proximity and ease of access between villages in the northern part of the municipality may account for the low level of services or amenities in these villages, since access to alternative provisions is easier.

There is a very large difference between winter and summer populations in these villages, and a high number of unoccupied houses. There is also a low reliance on local products or services, and low to moderate production through animal husbandry or agriculture. Many of these villages are often characterised by low, stable or decreasing populations (sometimes dramatically so), by a lack of younger generations and a high number of older generations that suggest an ageing population and low birth rate.

Despite negative economic and productive outlooks among the population, there is a strong sense of ownership and a high value placed on the natural features and heritage aspects of these villages.

Bačka/Bačkë [Remote Village]
This is a small village surrounded by pastures with shrubs and also by forests, with one access road running the length of the village and leading to main road between Brod & 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. The village terminates in agricultural paths. Roads are constructed of traditional stone but totally overgrown. There is a high concentration of old stone houses and barns but they are in increasing disrepair due to non-inhabitation. The infrastructure is weak. It is a largely uninhabited village, with security problems (burglaries) due to the lack of residents and the fact that 86% of the buildings are unoccupied, of which only 5% may be inhabited temporarily for holidays or seasonal work. From a population peak in 1981, the village population has dramatically declined so there are only 52 persons currently residing in the village.

Buçe/Buće
The settlement 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 settlement terminates in “village square” area. The side roads are poor quality dirt tracks. A second settlement area is located towards the main road to the east, on a steeper part of the slopes. This second area has a number of derelict and abandoned stone houses, in very poor condition. Buçe/Buće experienced a gradual population increase from 1921 until 1981 but appears now to be on a downwards trajectory, with significant drops in estimated population to a level similar to records in 1971. It has an average number of unoccupied conventional dwellings in relation to other settlements in the municipality, of which almost half are re-occupied seasonally and during holidays. There is therefore a significant fluctuation in population throughout the year.

Buzez
The village is connected to Bellobrad/Belobrad, Kapre/Kapra, Kosavë/Kosavce, Kuk/Kukovce and Bresanë/Brodosavce, located near the crossroads of several asphalted roads in the middle of the Opoja/Opolje valley. 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. There is a notable religious cultural heritage monument in the graveyard.
located just beyond the main part of the settlement. The population structure indicates a high proportion of young people in the village, in keeping with most other settlements in the municipality. 30% of dwellings are unoccupied, of which a third is left for holiday/seasonal use.

![Figure 20: Aerial photograph of Buzez](image_url)

**Dikance/Dikanc** [Remote Village]
This is a Remote Village, lying 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. Dikance/Dikanc has a similar population structure to Bačka/Bačkë. The population peak for the village as a whole was between 1961-1971, after which a dramatic decline has been recorded to a population of 124 in 2011. 53% of dwellings are unoccupied, the sixth lowest rate of vacancy in the municipality. Of these 12% are in temporary/seasonal use.

**Kapre/Kapra**
This small village is located near the crossroads of some asphalted roads in the middle of the Opoja/Opolje valley. It is therefore well connected to Buzez, Bellobrad/Belobrad and Kosavë/Kosavce. The village is surrounded by wide open plains/fields used for grazing livestock. The village itself has few examples of traditional buildings, having mostly been replaced by modern houses. There is a large open space near the mosque, by way of a form of “village square”. There is also an important heritage religious/grave area in the centre of the village. The population has experienced a slow increase over the years, but appears to have halted and is in the process of decreasing. 34% of dwellings are unoccupied, of which a relatively high proportion are used for holidays or seasonal work.
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 it. This gradient is slightly flatter in the lower part, with a little space between the slopes. There is an attractive ensemble of traditional buildings in the upper part of the settlement, with good opportunities for walks along numerous agricultural trails connecting towards Albania and Rapča/Rapčë. In contrast to the municipal pattern which has a high proportion of young people as permanent residents, the 55-59 age group is the most populous demographic group. Overall the population structure of the village indicates a largely middle-aged group rather than a young population. This suggests that until recently the birth rate has been decreasing and/or that there has been high emigration, factors which may be linked. The population trend from 1921 until 1981 indicates general population growth, but this has been followed by a dramatic decline in population since then. This appears to be corroborated by the high number of unoccupied dwellings in the settlement (48%), significantly over the municipal average and the ninth highest in the municipality. The majority of these dwellings are for seasonal/holiday use, indicating a great difference in summer and winter populations of the settlement.

Kukuljane/Kukulanë
This dense settlement is built on a small plateau, except for a 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 population of this village peaked in 1981, after which it experienced a dramatic decline to a third of its former population. 70% of all dwellings are unoccupied, but almost all are used as temporary residences for holidays or seasonal work. This indicates that Kukuljane/Kukulanë has experienced a high emigration rate, and that its summer population is significantly higher than its winter population.

Leštane/Leshtan
This is a small and remote village in the mountains of southeast Dragash/Dragaš. It is a dense, concentrated settlement lying between significant hilly geography on the road between Ljubovište/Lubovishtë and Radeša/Radeshë; the road from Dragash/Dragaš is paved and in good condition, although the road to Radeša/Radeshë from Leštane/Leshtan 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. Agricultural trails lead deep into gorge/valley area. This village exhibits a slowly increasing trend, although this is likely to slow further or even decrease due to the low birth rate. Just over a third of all dwellings in the village is unoccupied, with a negligible number used for seasonal/holiday purposes.

Ljubovište/Lubovishtë
The village is located very close to Dragash/Dragaš town in the northwest, and it is likely that urban infill and sprawl will see it become a suburb of the main town. There are many houses with yards to the front and rear, but little business due to its proximity to Dragash/Dragaš. The centre of Ljubovište/Lubovishtë is located off the regional road to Brod, but there are some houses built beside this highly frequented
road. Ljubovište/Lubovishtë has an irregular population structure with a larger number of young adults and middle aged groups combined. The population has slowly increased over time, although it evened out in 2011. The village has a high number of unoccupied dwellings (49%), of which 41% may be used temporarily throughout the year.

**Mlike/Mlikë**
This is a small, compact village with a collection of older buildings and newer houses, as well as some cultural heritage artefacts in gravestones and carved tablets. It 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. At the end of the village, the settlement ends in a wider space near the mosque. Roads from here link up with existing agricultural trails along and across the river and through woodland. Agricultural trails connect to the road to Brod. It borders the edge of very large forested area. Some scattered houses exist further out from the settlement. 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. Although Mlike/Mlikë had always been a small village, it has been undergoing a steady decline in population throughout the 20th century, with a more significant decline in recent years. It is currently the third smallest village in terms of population, with an ageing population indicated by an inverted population structure that has no residents of the age 20-24 and several times more over the age of 65. Mlike/Mlikë has the third highest number of unoccupied dwellings (79%), but only 16% of these are used temporarily for holidays or work.

**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-west-exposed slope, clustered around the end of the unpaved road which is in very poor quality. An interesting collection of older buildings sit at the base of the village. Similar to Mlike/Mlikë, Orčuša/Orçushë has an ageing population with a very small number of people aged 20-34 and many more over the age of 70. The village was at its peak in terms of population between 1971 and 1981, before experience a dramatic decline in population to the 60 today. 81% of the dwellings are unoccupied but it appears that around to third of these absent owners return throughout the year.

**Pllajnik/Plajnik [Remote Village]**
This is a small, dense village at a high altitude in the south of the Opoja/Opolje valley. It is located between the Pllajnik/Plajnik River with a stream leading into the village on the steep hillside. The village is connected to Xërxe/Zrze via very winding local road, and to Kosavë/Kosavce. The main roads are paved, but the side roads remain unpaved. 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 attractive natural stone feature and fountain. Smaller areas of settlement are located within the cadastral zone (Çengaj/Čengaj, Berisha/Beriša, Çusaj/Čusaj and Domazet/Domazet neighbourhoods). Pllajnik/Plajnik has had a low resident population that has changed little over time (ignoring the extreme estimate from 2008). Just over a third of all dwellings in the village are unoccupied, with around a third of these are inhabited at different time throughout the year.
Rrenc/Renc

This is a small village alongside the main road to Prizren- Dragash/Dragaš, 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. There is a higher than average occupancy rate of conventional dwellings, with around 22% being vacant and 9% are used temporarily throughout the year. The roads/paths are unpaved apart from the main road. New development is occurring on the flat areas alongside the main road at the entry to the village. Despite a slightly lower population recorded in 2011, the village has undergone a steady population increase since 1921. There is a very pronounced dominance of younger age groups in the village, with 30% of the total population aged 6-19 and a low number of older generations. The population structure therefore indicates a high birth rate and a steady growth in population. There is a far lower number of persons aged 30-34 than the pattern suggests, indicating that migration for work or family is an significant aspect in the village.

Vranište/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 great. An asphalted road leads through the village, opening up into a central public area (for example, where taxis occasionally wait). In some parts, the settlement is dense but it extends and sprawls on both sides of the road. There are a number of traditional buildings but these are in very poor condition. A very slow increase in population was recorded until 1981, after which the village experienced a decline in permanent residents. Despite slightly higher numbers of residents of age groups 0-9 and 35-39, overall in Vranište/Vranisht the population structure indicates an ageing population, with the majority of residents aged 50-64. The village has the fourth highest number of unoccupied conventional dwellings in the municipality (74%), of which 21% are seasonally used.
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. There is some evidence of quarrying alongside the road. Xërxe/Zrze has been a small village throughout its history, undergoing a slight increase in population, with a small drop observed in the 2011 records. An average number of conventional dwellings are unoccupied, of which none are said to be used seasonally.

Zlipotok
This is a Remote Village, located in the mountains to the north of Restelica/Restelicë on a steep hillside. A gravel covered road leads from Zlipotok to Kruševo/Krushevë and to Globočica/Globočicë, located at the road Dragash/Dragaš - Restelica/Restelicë. Beside the dense centre of the village there are some greater 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. Garbage is dumped into the river that runs through the middle of the village. Zlipotok has experienced a slow but steady growth in population until 1981 and stagnation in population afterwards. Zlipotok has the highest number of occupied dwellings in the municipality, only 3% of which are vacant and 5% are seasonally used. This may suggest that Zlipotok encounters less emigration than other settlements in Dragash/Dragaš.

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, there are some...
dense and some spread houses 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 festivals and celebration. Zym/Zjum exhibits a standard population structure for Dragash/Dragaš, with a wide base of younger generations and a low number of older residents. The population has grown steadily since 1921. Zym/Zjum has the second highest rate of occupancy in the municipality, with only 4% of conventional dwellings being unoccupied and 6% are used as temporary or seasonal residences.

3.2.3 Challenges inherent in the existing situation of settlements

Productive land and untouched nature are important resources, but are subject to deterioration due to current development.

- How can agricultural land be preserved and its degradation by current development is prevented?
- How should housing be oriented in order to minimise the loss of agricultural land, but also to preserve the traditional typology of housing?

Spatial development in the municipality is poorly conceived, and construction is unsupervised.

- How can spatial development be structured and regulated?
- What conditions can be formulated by the MDP to reach well-thought-out regulation of settlement expansion, which will be adhered to by the citizens?

Some settlements are almost depopulated.

- How should these settlements be treated? What conditions should be provided to the inhabitants of small villages in order to return them to their settlements?

Energy usage and heating of households is in poor condition.

- What kind of modernisation can be achieved?
- How can energy efficiency in Dragash/Dragaš’s households and public buildings be improved?

3.2.4 Informal settlements

Definition

The international recognized definition on informal settlements characterizes them as “human settlements in which residents do not enjoy the rights by life standard needed, especially those of adequate housing”.98 In 2005 Kosovo signed the Vienna Declaration on Informal Settlements, which calls for both the prevention of new informal settlements and the regularization of the existing ones. The

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98 Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning: “Guidelines on drafting Local Development Plans”
Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land use Management - Dragash
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prevention and regularization of informal settlements was also included in the Kosovo Standards Implementation Plan (KSIP) and in its successor, the European Partnership Action Plan (EPAP). The issue of informal settlements is also an important part of Kosovo’s progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

The valid definition for informal settlements is given in the amended Law on spatial planning (Law No. 03/L-106): “Informal settlements” are settlements which are inhabited by individuals and which does not enable the inhabitants to enjoy the appropriate living standard, respectively appropriate accommodation. As such, the informal settlements can have the following characteristics:

a) Informal ownership of the property,
b) Inadequate or privation in elementary services,
c) Inadequate participation or non-participation in governance, and
d) High dangerousness.

Situation in Dragash

In 2005 the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning has undertaken a determination of informal settlements in the Kosovo. The Ministry has defined three areas in Dragash to be informal settlements:

- Dragash/Dragaš: a part of the town in the south of the center, size 7 ha,
- Vranište / Vranisht: whole village, size 40 ha,
- Pllajnik / Plajnik: whole village, size 50 ha,

A GIS-based Dataset regarding these settlements has been given to the UNDP by MESP.

The municipal profile of the MDP on the existing situation shows the following data on these settlements:

Pllajnik / Plajnik is a village in the Opoja region, laying in an altitude of 1400 m. Even if there are only 5 km aerial distance to Dragash, the geographical remoteness and difficult access have led to a heavy loss of population due to migration. Just over a third of all dwellings are unoccupied, with around a third of these are inhabited at different time throughout the year.

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100 Data sent from MESP, Vjollca Puka to UNDP, May 10th 2013
Vranište / Vranisht is village in the Gora region on an altitude of 1000 m. It is located near the regional road Dragash – Restelica and thus geographically better connected. As in all villages in the Gora region there has been a huge impact by emigration in the last decade. The village has the fourth highest number of unoccupied conventional dwellings in the municipality (74%), of which 21% are seasonally used.

In Dragash/Dragaš town the part that is indicated to be an informal settlement lays in the south of the center in about 200 - 300 m distance to the central market place. It consists of residential houses with a settlement pattern which does not differ from others.
Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land use Management - Dragash

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Settlement</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Health care</th>
<th>Road access</th>
<th>Water supply</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plajnik / Plajnik</td>
<td>Primary school “Samedin Emini” (Satellite school) Grade 1-5</td>
<td>Related to Main Medical Centre in Dragash/ Dragaš</td>
<td>Local road, paved 2012</td>
<td>Local water supply system, water quality compliant to microbiological and chemical standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vranište / Vranisht</td>
<td>Primary school “25 may” (Central school) Grade 1-8</td>
<td>Health Clinic in Vranište / Vranisht</td>
<td>Local road, paved paved</td>
<td>Local water supply system, water quality compliant to microbiological and chemical standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Primary school “Fetah Sylejmanji” (Central school), Grade 1-9 Secondary school “Ruzhdi Berisha” Grade 10-13</td>
<td>Main Medical Centre in Dragash/ Dragaš</td>
<td>Regional road and local road network, paved</td>
<td>Local water supply system, water quality non-compliant to microbiological, compliant with chemical standards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regarding the indicator “Inadequate or privation in elementary services”, there are no significant differences between these three settlements and other villages in Dragash or somewhere else in rural areas in Kosovo, which would indicate a lack of public services or governance.

“Inadequate participation or non - participation in governance” is not the case in the three settlements. Inhabitants enjoy the same rights and the same participation as inhabitants of any other village.
Regarding the indicator “High dangerousness” the maps “A 4 Assessment of natural hazards” produced for the Sustainable Development Atlas can be used to assess the existing risks at a certain point. Maps A 4.1 and A 4.2 show, that there is high risk of erosion and a medium risk of avalanches in the surrounding of Pllajnik / Plajnik. Given that the village is laying on the back of a mountain the village itself is mostly protected of these risks. Vranište / Vranisht and Dragash/Dragaš are not at all endangered by these risks.

Regarding the indicator “Informal ownership of the property” the cadastral data for these villages were checked by the UNDP. According to the dataset received by the cadastral agency in all three cases there are no reliable data on the land property.

In the municipality of Dragash the so-called former “socially owned land” (SOE land) covers a big part of the municipalities surface. Regarding Pllajnik / Plajnik and Vranište / Vranisht there are no indicators, that the land might have been socially owned. The part of Dragash town that is being regarded as an informal settlement is located not far away from land which has been socially owned according to cadastral data. This indicates a possibility that a part of the settlement could have been constructed on public land.

**Conclusion:**

Most likely the missing or inconsistent data on the land possession have led to the classification of three villages in Dragash to be informal settlements. It is urgently necessary to clarify the status of land ownership for these settlements. In case the result indeed shows a missing possession of the land property, these three villages must be treated as foreseen in the “Guideline for spatial planning of informal settlement”101.

3.3 Land Use and Soils

3.3.1 Rocks, Minerals and Soils102

The Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš is part of the Sharr/Šar Mountains forming the border between Kosovo and FYR Macedonia. The Sharr/Šar Mountains were formed in the same geological phase as the Alps and the Dinarides.

Half of the territory of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality is formed by various types of metamorphic rocks. Two areas are dominated by various types of limestones which have undergone metamorphic processes. These areas are Mount Koritnik and parts of the mountains around Brod and Restelica/Restelicë. Intrusions of Magmatites are mainly found in the central part of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality between Krstec/Kërstec, Dragash/Dragaš, Pllajnik/Plajnik, Brod, Zlipotok and Kruševo/Krushevë. Larger areas of sandstone can be found in the far southwest of the mountains.

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101 Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, “Guideline for spatial planning of informal settlement”
102 Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2 (Draft) Baseline, UNDP, June 2012. Additional information is contained with Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 3 Assessment, UNDP
(Kesula e Priftit), while smaller areas are scattered all over the area. Approximately 20% of the municipality is formed of quaternary sediments of fluviatile or glacial origin. Major areas are in the north between Brezne/Brezna and Bresanë/Brodosavce, around Dragash/Dragaš, and along the valleys in the high mountains in the south of the municipality.

7ha in the Pllava river basin is currently being mined or quarried.

Within the borders of the municipality the Geological Map shows 8 sites of mineral deposits:

- 3 deposits of iron ore can be found around Zlipotok
- 1 deposit with copper and mercury is located near Mlike/Mlikë
- 1 deposit with copper, lead and tin is located near Dikance/Dikanc
- 1 deposit with copper, lead, tin, moldbenum, wolfram and arsenic near Bačka/Baçkë
- 2 areas for quarries near Restelica/Restelicë and Ljubovište/Lubovishtë, both located in Paraschists.

Caves can be found in the limestone areas.

![Figure 23: Classes of Rocks in Dragash/Dragaš](image-url)
The great variety of soils in Dragash/Dragaš can be summarised into 8 classes:

- Bare rocks with hardly any development of soil cover approximately 1% of the surface, particularly in the high and steep mountains in the south;
- Young, sparsely developed Lithosols on all types of rocks are prevalent in steep areas along valleys and mountains and cover approximately 9% of the territory;
- The next stage of soil development is represented by Rankers on acidic or neutral rocks and Rendzinas on limestones. These soils are usually only superficially developed and cover around 70% of Dragash/Dragaš – Rankers on the mountains along the eastern and southern border, and Rendzinas on the Mount Koritnik Massif in the north.

### 3.3.2 Land use

70% of Dragash/Dragaš’s territory is characterised by natural grass- and shrublands interspersed with rocky or sparsely vegetated areas, wetlands and forests.

Areas able to be cultivated (pastures, cropland and heterogeneous areas) account for 26.6% of the municipal area (11603ha). Due to the high altitude grasslands dominate over tillage and permanent cultures (18% versus 9%). Agricultural areas with arable land, permanent crops and complex land uses composed of annual and permanent crops with hedges are concentrated in the Opoja/Opolje region. Sub-basins of the Pllavë/Plava and Prizren Rivers account for 86% of these land use types. In the Gora/Gorë region major agricultural areas can be found around Globočica/Glloboçicë, Kruševo/Krushevë and Restelica/Restelicë. Pastures and meadows are to be found mainly in a belt east of the villages at the foot of the higher mountains. Sub-basins of Pllavë/Plava, Pris and Restelica/Restelicë River account for 96% of these land use types.

*Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2 (Draft) Baseline, UNDP, June 2012*
A very low area – 1% of the municipal territory - is taken up by urbanized surfaces (roads, buildings, settlements etc).

Forests account for 22% of the territory, concentrated outside the Sharr/Šar Mountains particularly in the valleys of the rivers Pllavë/Plava, Brod and Restelica/Restelicë and in Mount Koritnik where there is a high share of coppice forests. The higher reaches of the Sharr/Šar Mountains are almost bare of forests.

The Sharr/Šar Mountains are characterised by natural and semi-natural grass- and shrublands, associated with wetlands along the water courses and in depressions, sparsely vegetated and rocky areas. These land use types account for 50% of the municipal territory.
3.3.3 Natural hazards and risks

Fire

According to village surveys, fires are frequently observed. The majority of these are located in the central and southern parts of the municipality, primarily in the mountainous, rural areas. Fires may occur naturally, when vegetation or garbage starts burning, but fires are also manmade and used for clearing pastureland from shrubs. Due to the high incidence of manmade fires, it is important to resolve this problem.

Avalanche

The areas at highest risk of avalanches correspond with mountainous areas with steep valley sides, particularly along the valleys leading to Brod and Restelica/Restelicë, and the areas to the west close to the villages Orćuša/Orçushë and Rapča/Rapçë. A medium risk of avalanche is present near the villages in the east and northeast of the municipality. Areas at risk also correspond with those which have little transitional woodland, crown cover or shrubs, which would otherwise offer some protection. The Gora/Gorë region and the western part of the Opoja/Opolje region is much more prone to avalanches than the more densely urbanised areas of northeast Dragash/Dragaš.

On 4th February 2012, an avalanche hit the village of Restelica/Restelicë destroying several houses after a lengthy period of heavy snow during a particularly harsh winter. Two of these homes were occupied at the time and 10 people were killed in the accident, which is said to have been the worst disaster experienced by the municipality. The location is the southernmost part of the village, almost outside the settlement.

A group of about 15 houses that were recently constructed is located at this point. A number were totally destroyed in the avalanche, with some being heavily damaged and others partially damaged. The ground is still covered with debris.

The avalanche came from the southeast direction. A hill at approximately 300m altitude sits above the settlement, the slope of which is not very steep, but long and continuously inclined. There are no trees and only a few shrubs growing, probably due to traditional grazing and possibly burning. Older residents of the village reported that this location has traditionally been called “avalanche place”, as small avalanches have been seen from time to time.

The recent tragedy in Restelica/Restelicë has increased the fear of further disasters among the inhabitants. There is also fear of the risk of rockfall or landslide in another part of Restelica/Restelicë, where around two hundred houses are situated below some rocks. It is reported that these rocks have

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104 Additional detailed information is contained within the Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 3 Assessment, UNDP, June 2012
been subject to erosion and have largely lost their foundation, so there is a possibility that they may start moving of their own accord or in the case of a small earthquake.

Figure 25: Orthofoto of Restelica with indication of the historic centre and the settlement sprawl of the last decade. The red arrow shows the direction of the avalanche, while the black circle marks the affected homes.
Erosion

Due in large part to the steep, mountainous terrain, higher altitudes, vulnerable soils, high water volumes, inappropriate land use, and over-clearance of vegetation/forest, there is a significant risk of erosion across the municipality. The northern and northeastern parts of the municipality (mostly the Opoja/Opolje region) are flatter pastureland, with a low-medium risk of erosion. The exception here is to the north of Blać/Bljać, to the east of Kuk/Kukovce and along the road between Xërxe/Zrze and Rrenç/Renc, where there is a high risk of erosion. The areas around the major settlements of Bresanë/Brodosavce and Dragash/Dragaš town are at low-medium risk.

Areas at high risk of erosion are particularly prominent in the southern central areas, along the valleys leading to Brod and Restelica/Restelicë and in the west, around Mount Koritnik. This is mainly the Gora/Gorë region. On the foothills of Mount Koritnik, there is a particularly high risk to the west of the villages of Rapča/Rapčë and Krstec/Kërstëc. There is also high risk around the village of Radeša/Radesë at the edge of the Sharr/Šar mountain range. Other areas of high risk are along the road to Brod, with a sizeable area of risk around the village of Bačka/Bačkë. There is also high risk to the west of Mlike/Mlikë village and to the southeast of Restelica/Restelicë, where the area just before entering the village along the road is also at high risk. Zlipotok is also situated in an area at high risk of erosion.
Flooding, Landslide and Rockfall

While Dragash/Đragaš municipality only possesses around 3ha of water bodies, wetlands account for 18,899ha (4.3% of the territory) of which the majority (3,359ha) is riparian wetland alongside river margins and banks. Small areas of peat bogs and inland marshes also exist.\(^{105}\)

Floods occur after heavy rainfall or snowmelt. The areas most at risk are Bresanë/Brodosavce, Bellobrad/Belobrad, two areas around Brod, and just east of Lake Brezne/Brezna.

The risk of rockfall increases with altitude, with the areas to be most affected being located higher up the eastern Sharr/Šar Mountains in the Opoja/Opolje region. Villages which are likely experience rockfall due to proximity to areas of risk are Rapča/Rapçë, Krstec/Kërstec, Mlike/Mlikë, Plлавë/Plava, Blaç/Bljać, Kuk/Kukovce, Brod, Restelica/Restelicë and Zlipotok. None of these villages exhibit a high risk of rockfall, however. In Restelica/Restelicë there are serious fears for rockfall, especially as the population is now more aware of natural risks following the avalanche disaster in February 2012.

Earthquake

Kosovo is located in a seismically active area of the world, with fault lines running along the Adriatic littoral and the Vardar Valley making it susceptible to earthquakes.\(^{106}\) The seismicity level is estimated at VII – VIII, which suggests moderate risk of damage to buildings should an earthquake occur. There have been no recent earthquakes recorded in the regions surrounding Dragash/Đragaš\(^{107}\), and those that occurred in or near Kosovo were of an approximate magnitude of 2.7 – 4.8. However, these earthquakes were consistently shallow (located at a depth of 2km below the surface), which increases the risk of damage to buildings, landslide, rockfall and other land hazards. It should be noted that the majority of damage and injury from earthquakes arises from the poor spatial planning, design and construction of buildings rather than the land movement itself.

3.3.4 Water resources\(^{108}\)

Due to the topography there is no natural river connection from Dragash/Đragaš to Prizren. Dragash/Đragaš therefore has no easy access to the Dukagjini/Metohija Plain, a vast fertile area that extends through the region of Western Kosovo and connects Prizren in the south with the main towns of Gjakovë/Dakovica and Pejë/Peć. This is another factor in Dragash/Đragaš’s isolation.

Water is a strong natural resource in Dragash/Đragaš, with numerous water springs from the lowest altitudes to the highest areas above 2500m, and on average 1130mm/m² rainfall per year. The average density for the municipality is 2.1km of water courses per km² of surface area, with 0.4km of large

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\(^{105}\) From UNDP Database: Dragash_Landuse Balance 2011.xlsx


\(^{108}\) From Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 3 Assessment, UNDP, June 2012
permanent water courses and 1.7km of smaller often temporary ones. Approximately 76% (700km) of Dragash/Dragaš municipality’s water courses are located in the mountainous Gora/Gorë region, where river valleys and postglacial lakes contribute to the high number of waterways. About 24% of Dragash/Dragaš’s waterways are located in Opojë/Opolje (215km). The largest proportion of these water courses are small or temporary, with a combined total length across the municipality of almost 740km. Large water courses in Dragash/Dragaš are approximately 170km in length. The two main lakes are Lake Shutman/Šutman and Lake Brezne/Brezna.

The Pllavë/Plava River basin is the catchment area for the highest quantity of water in Dragash/Dragaš municipality, receiving over four times the amount of rainfall than the Lepenc or Restelica/Restelicë Rivers, and is located in the north of the municipality. The most south-western part of the municipal territory belongs to the Basin of Lepenc River draining to the Aegean Sea (6.761ha = 16% of the territory). Its only sub-basin is that of the Lepenc River.

Table 12: Yearly rainfall in m³ per Watershed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Watershed</th>
<th>Sub-Watershed</th>
<th>Surface in ha</th>
<th>Annual Rainfall in m³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lepenc</td>
<td>Black Stone River</td>
<td>6.761</td>
<td>80.950.634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lepenc Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>6.761</strong></td>
<td><strong>80.950.634</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Drin</td>
<td>Brod River</td>
<td>9.118</td>
<td>107.711.462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Drin</td>
<td>Plava River</td>
<td>17.573</td>
<td>191.584.988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Drin</td>
<td>Restelica River</td>
<td>7.090</td>
<td>81.590.998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Drin</td>
<td>Sotke River</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>6.075.304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Drin</td>
<td>Prizren River</td>
<td>2.435</td>
<td>24.161.538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>White Drin Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>36.820</strong></td>
<td><strong>411.124.290</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>43.581</strong></td>
<td><strong>492.074.923</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The basin size of the Pllavë/Plava River is 29,730ha, with a minimum annual flow of 1.43m³/s and a maximum of 14.4m³/s, giving an average of 5.74m³/s. High flow season depends on snowmelt, and lasts from February to June.

The Pllavë/Plava is the most significant water resource in Dragash/Dragaš. It forms a sub-basin as part of the larger Drini i Bardhe/Beli Drim (White Drin), the largest river basin in Kosovo that covers most of the western part of the country (84% of the territory) and links Kosovo’s main cities. The Drini i Bardhe/Beli Drim in Dragash/Dragaš comprises the sub-basins of the Restelica/Restelicë River, Brod River, Sotke River, Pllavë/Plava River and Prizren River.

The smaller Black Stone and Restelica/Restelicë rivers are 9118ha and 7090ha respectively. The average annual water flow of the former is 2.31 m³/s (minimum 0.86/maximum 6.48m³/s) and of the latter 1.92 m³/s (minimum 1.01/maximum 4.73m³/s). The rivers of Restelica/Restelicë, Klek, Soputnica, Zlipotok,
Crnokamen, Cajlanska, Serupska and Suva drain into the Restelica/Restelicë sub-basin. High flow season starts in April due to the higher altitude of the catchments.

The rate of water flow peaks in the month of May for all three rivers, most dramatically for the Pllavë/Plava River which also has a subordinate peak in November. The lowest water flow rate occurs between August and October due to low rainfall, although this is shorter for the Pllavë/Plava River than for the Brod and Restelica/Restelicë. Higher rainfall rates from September to December result in higher flow rates.\(^{109}\)

Forests and wetlands are unequally distributed throughout the municipality. These provided buffering to fast discharges of rainfall and snowmelt, and are therefore important in the control and regulation of ecosystems in Dragash/Dragaš. Due to the mountainous terrain, the southernmost areas of the municipality (the Black Stone sub-basin) have little forest and significantly less regenerative areas than in the north, comprising less than 20% of the area. However this lack is countered by larger areas of wetlands (841ha) – almost 71% of the total wetland area in the municipality. In contrast, high forest and coppice forest cover in the northern parts of the municipality account for higher proportions of water regenerative areas, especially around Mount Koritnik and the Sotke River sub-basin.

**Water quality**

In terms of water quality, 45 test samples were taken from 24 village rivers across the municipality at different locations along its course, at altitudes ranging from 910m to 1402m above sea level. Of these, 15 showed excellent water quality, primarily in locations at some distance from main roads and settlements in the Sharr/Šar Mountains, along the eastern edge of the municipality and leading to the villages in the south. 14 were judged Very Good and Good (some organic pollution likely) and were mainly located in the more rural areas of the south and west. 2 rivers exhibited Fair or Fairly Poor water quality; the 14 territories revealing Poor and Very Poor water quality (substantial to severe pollution) are located in the more developed and settled areas of the northeast part of the municipality, close to the main road to Prizren.\(^{110}\)

**3.3.5 Challenges inherent in the existing situation of land use and soils**

70% of Dragash/Dragaš’s territory is characterised by natural grass- and shrublands interspersed with rocky or sparsely vegetated areas, wetlands and forests.

- How can land use management be improved, taking nature conservation into consideration?

Natural hazards, especially avalanches, erosion and fires, are risks that have to be taken seriously.

- How can loss of life and goods be prevented? Where should urgent interventions occur?
- How can suitable soils and other natural resources be preserved from erosion and landslide?

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110 From UNDP Water Assessment
Water is a strong natural resource in Dragash/Dragaš; it contends mainly with organic pollution.

- How can water resources be protected from loss and pollution?
- How can water quality be improved?

3.4 Education, Health and Social Welfare

3.4.1 Education

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. 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. The role that Dragash/Dragaš municipality plays in local education includes the fostering of collaboration among educational personnel, students and parents, issuance of disciplinary rules, codes of conduct and discipline, selection of principals and teachers, and maintenance and repair of school facilities/buildings through public funds.

**NOTE** that records in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality refer to Grades 5-9 as ‘Upper Primary’. This terminology will be used in this MDP Profile, although the standard national term (as defined in Ministry of Education, Science and Technology) is ‘Lower Secondary’.

According to statistics from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST), there are 444,029 students/children aged 6-18 in the Kosovo Pre-University system. There is a high percentage of enrolment in primary education (over 97%) except among Roma/Askali/Egyptian communities in Kosovo, but access to secondary education is the lowest in the southeast European region. There is also a shortage of access to pre-primary education; only about 10% of children in Kosovo attend early childhood education programmes. Despite increases in the absolute and relative enrolment of girls in school, this is confined to primary education and inequalities remain, especially at secondary level. Further disadvantaged groups are those children with special needs, only 10% of which participate in the mainstream education system and nearly half of whom are illiterate. No training on inclusive education has so far been provided to the teachers, thus contributing to a lack of opportunities for involvement of children with special needs in regular classes. With the support of the municipal education authorities and NGOs that have specialised and accredited training programmes, such trainings could be provided and the situation might improve with regards to enrolment of children with special needs in regular classes.

The importance of consistent, high quality education is clear when considering the opportunities it offers in the future. Of the total number of registered unemployed persons in Kosovo, two-thirds

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111 Law Nr. 03/L-040 On Local Self-Government
112 List of Municipal Administration responsibilities by department, obtained by UNDP May 2012.
(approximately 230,000 jobseekers) are considered “unskilled”, and half of the remaining one-third (approximately 60,000 people) are considered “semi-skilled” or with “outdated skills” (having major skill deficits and skill mismatches). The problem of unemployment linked to poor education is more severe in rural than urban areas.\textsuperscript{114}

An Agricultural Household Survey from 2008 for the Prizren region as a whole notes that only about 3% of the agricultural population aged 15-49 has completed Secondary school, although 75% of this same demographic completed Upper Primary school. Approximately 6% of this population completed higher education.\textsuperscript{115} Of these, approximately 3% of males completed Secondary school, compared to 1% of females, with 46% of males (compared to 23% of females) completing Upper Primary school.

Especially in rural areas, women face widespread exclusion from education and lifelong learning opportunities. Women play a substantial role in society as educators and role models, enhancing children’s cognitive development; thus the exclusion of women from education harms Kosovar society in a number of ways. Education also helps women farmers adopt productivity-enhancing technologies, access to agricultural opportunity, tap into rural credits and invest in income generating activities. As female-headed households are mostly affected by extreme poverty and deprivation, the education of women is a shield against extreme poverty. Education also empowers women by making them less financially dependent and less socially vulnerable. It also enables women to participate actively as citizens and voters, resulting in greater stability and social cohesion.\textsuperscript{116}

In Dragash/Dragaš, there are 8929 young people resident between the ages of 6 and 19. This reflects those who should attend compulsory education up to the age of 15, and those who can continue to complete their secondary education. Of these, around 94% of students attend mandatory schooling while only 62% continue to complete secondary school. Settlements with less than 40% attendance at secondary school are all located in the more remote, mountainous areas (Restelica/Restelicë, Brod, Zipotok and Rapča/Rapçë). A further five settlements in the Gora/Gorë region have participation rates in secondary school of less than 60% (Orčuša/Orçushë, Kukuljane/Kukulane, Radešja/Radeshë, Kruševo/Krushevë and Vranishi/Vranisht). Apart from Xërxe/Zrze and Pllajnik/Plajnik (with 45% and 49% respectively), all of the Opojë/Opolje settlements have over 60% enrolment in secondary school. For Primary Settlements, both Restelica/Restelicë and Bresanë/Brodasavce exhibit low secondary school attendance, with 28% and 66% respectively. Dragash/Dragaš and Shajne/Šajnovce have the highest numbers of secondary school pupils, probably due to the location of the municipality’s main secondary school in this area. On average, the attendance rate of secondary school in the Opojë/Opolje region is around 70.4% while in Gora/Gorë it is 55.2%. A number of reasons may account for the disparity. Firstly, transport and access to either Dragash/Dragaš or to the “parallel school” in Mlikë/Mlike is lengthy, costly and difficult, especially during winter and from the more remote locations. Furthermore, these more rural settlements have a heavier reliance on (and probably deeper tradition in) agriculture and in

\textsuperscript{114} Kosovo Education Strategic Plan 2011 – 2016, Kosovo Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.  
\textsuperscript{115} Agricultural Household Survey 2008, Statistics Office of Kosovo. NOTE that in the figures Upper Primary school is called ‘Secondary School’, and Secondary school is called ‘High School’.  
particular animal husbandry. From a young age, young people may be expected to contribute to and help with these rural agricultural activities, that often leaves little time (or options) for study or alternative employment. The low attendance rate may also be caused by fewer females continuing with their education; families may deem it more important for sons to be provided with education, while daughters are traditionally required to support household activities either within their own family or that of their husband’s.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>School name</th>
<th>Central / Satellite (C/S)</th>
<th>System (Kosovo/Serbia)</th>
<th>Preschool class / No. children</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Total m2</th>
<th>No. classrooms</th>
<th>No of student</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>No of teacher</th>
<th>Condition of facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bačka/Baçkë</td>
<td>Zenuni</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>‘1-4'</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellobrad/Belobrad</td>
<td>Sezai Surroi</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1 class/12</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blaç/Bljač</td>
<td>Ilmi Bahtijari</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kososo</td>
<td>1 class/18</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brezne/Brezna</td>
<td>Shaban Shabani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1 class/20</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>830</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brod/Brod</td>
<td>Zenuni</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1/8</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>1750</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bresanë/Brodosavce</td>
<td>28 Nentori</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>3/20 (60 total)</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brrut/Brut</td>
<td>Sezai Surroi</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1/18</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buçe/Buçe</td>
<td>Shaban Shabani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1/12</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buzez/Buzez</td>
<td>No school</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dikance/Dikanc</td>
<td>Zenuni</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>‘1-4'</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš/Dragaš</td>
<td>Fetah Sylejmani</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>2 (1 Alb, 1 Bosn.)</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>1724</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>Good (with secondary school)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globočica/Globočicë</td>
<td>Svetlost</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapre/Kapra</td>
<td>Sezai Surroi</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>1100</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosavë/Kosave</td>
<td>Ulina</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1/12</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krstec/Kërstec</td>
<td>9 Maj</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>‘1-4'</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kruševo/Krushevë</td>
<td>Svetlost</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1/10</td>
<td>‘1-5'</td>
<td>1140</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg</td>
<td>No school</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kukuljane/Kukulanië</td>
<td>Fetah Sylejmani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>‘1-4'</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 13: Summary of educational facilities by village in Dragash/Dragaš municipality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>n/a</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leštane /Leshtan</td>
<td>Fetah Sylejmani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juhovište /Lubovište</td>
<td>Fetah Sylejmani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S(Ks)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mlak /Mlikë</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>High school (C)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orčuša /Orčushë</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pila /Pilavë</td>
<td>Shaban Shabani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1/21</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plajnik /Plajnik</td>
<td>Samedin Eminë</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radeša /Radesha</td>
<td>Fetah Sylejmani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapča /Rapçe</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Ks(Srb)</td>
<td>1/10</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restelica /Restelicë</td>
<td>Restelica</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Ks(Srb)</td>
<td>2/20</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rrenc /Renc</td>
<td>Fetah Sylejmani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shajne /Sajnovce</td>
<td>Fetah Sylejmani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vraniste /Vranisht</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xërxe /Zërce</td>
<td>Fetah Sylejmani</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zapliške /Zaplužje</td>
<td>Ilmi Bahtijari</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1/20</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zgatar /Zgatar</td>
<td>Ilmi Bahtijari</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>1/12</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zjum /Zëm</td>
<td>Sezai Surroi</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Llapushnik /Lupusnik</td>
<td>Shaban Shabani</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragash /Dragaš</td>
<td>Ruzhdi Berisha</td>
<td>C for all villages</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C = 14</th>
<th>S = 22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ks = 27</td>
<td>Srb = 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed = 3</td>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš figures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg 702m²</td>
<td>301 minus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2314</td>
<td>1962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>471</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 13: Summary of educational facilities by village in Dragash/Dragaš municipality

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Parallel system

The so-called “parallel system” means that Serbia is financing the school system in the Gora/Gorë region. Teachers’ salaries are therefore paid by the Serbian government, rather than being employees of the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš. The municipality is however financing the maintenance of school buildings. In the parallel system Lower Primary school comprises Grades 1-4 and Upper Primary school is Grade 5-8. This is one year less than in the Kosovan system. The parallel system also has different curricula to the Kosovan system. The municipality has not interrupted the parallel system, as it has provided a large financial contribution to the educational system, but it is attempting to slightly reduce the Serbian influence, so that students can, for example, choose the language and the curriculum of their education. Of the 39 schools in Dragash/Dragaš/Dragaš municipality, 27 are funded by Kosovo institutions, 9 are funded by Serbian institutions and 3 receive partial funding from both Kosovo and Serbia.

Access to education

There are approximately 5800 children of school age (6 – 15) in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality. Approximately 27% of these students are currently in secondary school either in Dragash/Dragaš or in Mlika/Mlikë.

Dragaš/Dragaš’s low density of small settlements means that the principle of “Education at the nearest point” can not be followed without some exceptions. The villages of Buzez/Buzez and Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg do not contain school premises. Children from these villages attend school in the neighbouring village of Bresanë/Brodosavce. In the depopulated Remote Villages there are some very small schools, with an unclear future: in Bačka/Baçkë 4 students are reported, while the village of Orčuša/Orçushë has a two-classroom school building of 144m² but currently no students. However, it is clear that living close to a school (such as in Dragaš/Dragaš town, Shajne/Šajnovce and other nearby settlements) encourages participation in education. Ease of access is therefore a crucial factor in supporting the education of young people – and especially of females – to higher levels. This is of particular importance in large centres such as Restelicë where schooling beyond the age of 15 is very low.

29 of the 36 settlements have a Lower Primary school (Satellite school, Grades 1-4/5). Four of the settlements offer both Lower Primary and Upper Primary education (Grades 1-8): Vranište/Vranisht and Brod (within one school in each village) as well as Restelica/Restelicë and Rapča/Rapçë (in separate school organisations in each village). 10 settlements contain an Upper Primary school (Grades 6-9) separate from the Lower Primary school: beside Restelica/Restelicë and Rapča/Rapçë, also Kuk/Kukovce, Dragaš/Dragaš, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Blaç/Bljaç, Belobrad/Belobrad, Zym/Zjum, Kruševo/Kruşevë and Llapushnik/Lapušnik. Dragaš/Dragaš town contains a Lower and Upper Primary school as well as the main Secondary school in the municipality. Mlika/Mlikë has a (parallel-system) Secondary school for
Grades 9-12, which is attended by children of the Gora/Gorë villages. 17 of the settlements provide pre-schooling, five of which are located in the Gora/Gorë region.

In contrast to the high level of school provision for Lower Primary students in almost all settlements, just under half the settlements have the capacity to extend education to the compulsory minimum for leaving school age of 15 (Grade 9) within their settlements. Seven of these cater for the northern Opoja/Opolje region, while 5 schools serve the Gora/Gorë region, on each branch of the roads leading south from Dragash/Dragaš town (Brod, Restelica/Restelicë, Vranište/Vranisht and Kruševo/Krushevë), and the villages around Mount Koritnik (Rapča/Rapçë). Travel between settlements to attend Upper Primary school is therefore a frequent occurrence.

Former reports stated a high drop out rate after Lower Primary school (after Grade 4/5) at an age of about 11 years. It was also reported that male pupils were more likely to attend secondary school and higher education than girls. The actual data collected in 2012 indicates that there has been an improvement. Of those attending Grade 6-9 Upper Primary school, 53% are male and 47% are female. In the Secondary school in Dragash/Dragaš, the genders demonstrate an imbalance, with 63% of pupils being male and 37% female. This may suggest that male education may still be prioritised over female education higher up the formal education system in Dragash/Dragaš. In addition, records by gender are not available for 14 of the schools in the municipality; seven of these are parallel system schools, four are Kosovo-funded schools and three receive mixed funding (Brod, Restelica/Restelicë and Rapča/Rapçë).

This is in line with national trends, where poor access to educational facilities after the age of 10 particularly affects girls’ education. Lacks of financial resources, difficult transport and access, as well as traditional attitudes which encourage females to stay at home contribute to this. This is particularly prevalent in rural areas.117

According to the Director of Education it is expected that attending secondary school will become obligatory in Kosovo by law. This would address the low level of Secondary education and gender inequity in schooling in rural areas. In addition, a large, new Secondary school is being built in Dragash/Dragaš, near Shajne/Šajnovce, under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education.

Most of the female secondary graduates have completed the Medicine Secondary School118 and are currently unemployed, which is in contrast to the existing lack of medical staff (see below).

Teaching staff

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118 According to representatives of villages Blaç /Bljać, Brut /Brut and Bellobrad /Belobrad in a meeting with UNKT held during 2011
There are almost 500 staff working in the field of education, employed by the municipality. The education sector is therefore one of the major employers in Dragash/Đragaš, overseen by the Director of Education. The internal organisation of the Directorate of Education works well; for example, an internal evaluation of teachers’ qualifications occurs regularly, as well as monitoring of the physical condition of school buildings. A Code of Ethics for teachers prohibits political activities at school, violent behaviour of teachers, and aims to avoid discrimination against gender, religion and ethnicity.

**Student : Teacher ratio**

National requirements indicate that there should be a minimum of 10 and maximum of 35 students per teacher. The national student: teacher ratio is currently around 32.3 students per class on average in Kosovo Secondary schools (mainly located in urban areas) compared to 23.3 students per class in Lower primary and Upper Primary schools.

The ratio in EU countries varies between about 10 and 19 students per teacher. The average number of students per teacher in Dragash/Đragaš is 12.09 across the 33 settlements providing educational services, and it would appear similar to rates in Sweden and Belgium and almost half the ratio of neighbouring FYR Macedonia, but this can be explained by the very low population in some of the villages that skews the results. However, there are 7 settlements with a higher student to teacher ratio (over 20). Only 2 villages in Opoja/Opolje have a very low student: teacher ratio of less than 10 pupils (Xërxe/Zrze and Zym/Zjum), while the same occurs in 10 Gora/Gorë villages (Bačka/Bačkë, Krstec/Kërstec, Kruševo/Krushevë, Kukuljane/Kukulanë, Leštan/Leshtan, Ljubovište/Luvovishë, Radeša/Radesë, Rapča/Rapçë, Restelica/Restelicë, Vranisht/Vranisht). 70% of the settlements (8 out of 12) with low ratios are in territories that are experiencing a net decrease in population that is not reflected by a reduction in staff numbers. 2 villages are stable in their populations yet have a low student: teacher ratio.

**School facilities**

A rising number of students in Kosovo have not been accompanied by construction of additional school facilities, or proper maintenance of existing facilities to cope with high usage.

National standards require there to be 2.5m² floor area per pupil. All the schools in Dragash/Đragaš exceed this requirement, largely due to there being a low number of children in the villages for the size of existing school premises. The exceptions to this are: Bellobrad/Belobrad (2.4m²/pupil), Gllobočićë/Globočica (2.3m²/pupil), Kosavë/Kosavce (2.1 m²/pupil), and Mlikë/Mlike (0.9m²/pupil). The Secondary school (parallel system) in Mlike/Mlikë offers only 2 classrooms for 150 students. However, the remaining of school facilities provide ample space for the pupils: across the municipality, the average floor area per pupil is 8.7m², almost 3.5 times the national requirement.
8 of the schools (in villages Bačka, Belobrad, Dikance, Orčuša, Mlikë, Xërxe, Vranisht) were judged as having poor conditions in UNDP field surveys where the building condition and equipment was assessed. This consisted of surveys of the building structure (walls, floors, windows, doors, roof) and of the furniture (desks, chairs, blackboards etc).

Between 2007 and 2011, there were 23 school improvement projects funded by the municipality, mainly in upgrading existing facilities (e.g. with new windows, roofs, paving etc). Municipal investment was approximately 360,000€ - about 8% of the total budget for the five years.

The application of energy efficiency measures for fuel saving and reduction of heating costs is a viable option for the school buildings (e.g. for solar hot water systems).

Violence in schools

Although no major incidents have been reported from Dragash Municipality for cases of violence in schools, there are cases of less severe violence between peers and between teachers and pupils. Until now, Dragash Municipality has not been included in UNICEF’s project for “Prevention of Violence in Schools” (implemented by Kosovo Education Centre), but the municipality is planned to be included in 2012. Structures responsible for a holistic approach towards violence in schools are formed involving the Directorate of Education, the Regional Education Inspection Department, school parent-teacher-pupil committees, etc., thus forming so called internal and external “Protection Networks”. This, as in many municipalities (15) in Kosovo, will have its impact in better understanding of and addressing the issue of violence in schools with the overall aim of creating child-friendly schools free of any form of violence.

Transport to school

Children frequently walk to school, including to neighbouring settlements. This distance is too great in three villages so minivans are paid by the municipality to transport children to school.

This is not possible at Secondary school level due to the schools’ locations in Dragash and Mlikë. There are 7 buses transporting students to schools: 5 private buses and 2 municipal buses. Costs for private transportation must be paid by the families.

Literacy

Kosovo has a 92% literacy rate; of the 55,000 people in Kosovo who are illiterate, almost 80% are women. However, the highest proportion of illiterate people is aged 75 and over\textsuperscript{119}. Training by UNICEF

\textsuperscript{119} Kosovo Agency of Statistics, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 201, Final Results: Main Data; breakdown by village obtained.
in Dragash/Dragašt Municipality has occurred under the programme “Step by Step”. However, with the engagement of local women’s NGOs, the literacy programme would continue to help increase the literacy rate among women.

Quality of education

There are approximately 20,000 practicing teachers in Kosovo in all levels of pre-university education, of which about 30% are untrained to teach the new comprehensive curriculum in multiple subjects as they have undergone a subject-based training in existing teacher-training institutions. There are 944 certified teachers in Dragash/Dragašt. There are also 44 English teachers.

The level of professional education of teachers is well supervised by the municipality.

Vocational training, skill development and lifelong learning

Vocational Education Training (VET) in Kosovo serves a high proportion (56 %) of the secondary student population. Although it is not adequately represented in the public budget, it has received over one third (38%) of the total development partner support in education. Vocational schools in Kosovo also act as adult education centres to meet the needs of youth in ‘catch-up classes’ and the adult education programmes for youth over 15 years of age. During 2008/09 programmes were organised in forty-four schools and more than 3000 trainees were certified.

3.4.2 Health

National situation

At the national level in Kosovo there is insufficient allocation of budgetary resources for the health sector. This continues to hamper the fulfillment of basic needs for mother, child health, public health and nutrition. At least 80% (approximately 45 million euros) of the Kosovo pharmaceutical market is financed through out-of-pocket payments. This is often disproportionally shouldered by non-majority communities (particularly Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities) who have reduced income and may also face stigmatisation by health personnel. The maternal and child health status in Kosovo is considered the poorest in the region. The infant mortality rate is estimated between 35 to 49 per 1,000 livebirths (44 per 1,000). The Perinatal mortality rate in 2010 was 19.1 per 1000 births. In 2010 two maternal deaths were reported. Antenatal care is considered poor across the country, with on

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122 Demographic Health Care Survey, SOK 2003. Input to MDP Profile by UNICEF.
123 Perinatal Situation in Kosovo for 2000-2010, Ministry of Health. Input to MDP Profile by UNICEF.
average four visits during pregnancy. This health service is generally provided by gynaecologists (98% of cases) with only about 2% of pregnant women visiting family physicians.¹²⁴

National studies reveal that there is a high prevalence of anaemia among school children and pregnant women in Kosovo, with 15.7% of the former and 23% of the latter indicating a mild to moderate national public health problem. Stunted growth was also identified in 15.5% of school age children, of which 4.7% exhibited severe stunted growth.¹²⁵

According to the National Institute of Public Health, immunisation coverage in Kosovo is over 95%. Immunisation coverage is lower among Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

Dragash/Dragaš municipality has one Main Centre for Family Medicine (in Dragash/Dragaš town, providing 24 hour assistance), five Centres for Family Medicine and eight Health Clinics.

The national criteria to establish and staff a Center of Family Medicine or a Health Clinic are as follows:

- 1 Health Clinic per 6000 inhabitants
- 1 Family Medical Centre per 10,000 inhabitants
- 1 Main Medical Centre per 100,000 inhabitants
- 1 doctor and 2 nurses per 2,000 inhabitants

Due to budgetary constraints not all villages have a health centre. Nevertheless a zoning exercise has been carried out to verify provision of services. According to this hierarchical system, every medical facility has an outlying area (hinterland) or catchment villages to provide citizens access to healthcare. The catchment areas of Health Clinics provide a basic medical supply at the village level, whereas the catchment area of Family Medical Centres provides additional access to medical specialists for the settlement in which they are situated as well as for the areas covered by the Health Clinics. The Main Medical Centre, which serves the whole municipality and has the highest standard of medical supply, is located in Dragash/Dragaš town. The following list shows the existing medical facilities and their catchment areas at the level of basic medical supply:

Table 14: Catchment areas of healthcare facilities in Dragash/Dragaš

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Type of health centre</th>
<th>Catchment villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>Main Medical Centre</td>
<td>Shajne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹²⁴ Antenatal Care in Kosovo: Quality and Access, UNICEF, 2009
¹²⁵ UNICEF Report 2010
This structure of health service distribution remains a weakness. In Restelica/Restelicë, with a population of 4,200 inhabitants, there is no Family Medical Centre available so inhabitants have to move to the next one in Kruševë/Krushevë.

The Municipality considers that the construction of medical buildings is complete. Nevertheless further improvements of of physical and technical equipment to attain modern standards will be necessary in the future.

Another need for improvement applies to transportation facilities. For example, patients who need regular blood dialysis have to be transported to Prizren three times a week which requires additional vehicles and drivers.

In 2010, according to the Statistical Office of Kosovo, there were 86,179 visits to healthcare facilities in Dragash/Dragaš.
Table 15: Comparison of visits to healthcare facilities in Dragash/Drugaš with national average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of visits in Dragash/Drugaš</th>
<th>% of total visits for Dragash/Drugaš</th>
<th>National average % of total visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family medicine</td>
<td>34577</td>
<td>40.12%</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of motherhood and child</td>
<td>5775</td>
<td>6.70%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of gynaecology and maternity</td>
<td>2450</td>
<td>2.84%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor surgery</td>
<td>15266</td>
<td>17.71%</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory</td>
<td>8207</td>
<td>9.52%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>6832</td>
<td>7.93%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other specialised services</td>
<td>6548</td>
<td>7.61%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentistry</td>
<td>6522</td>
<td>7.57%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>86177</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to this data, Dragash/Drugaš accounts for 2.3% of all visits to health facilities in Kosovo, sitting just above the national median of 1.9%. Municipality accounts for approximately 1.9% of the total population, however the frequency of visits to health services is slightly higher than average. The average number of visits to health services per person each year in Dragash/Drugaš is 2.5, whereas the national average is 2.2.

The majority of visits were to Family Medical Centres (40.12%) with minor surgery being the next most frequented (17.71%). There is notably lower attendance at gynaecology and maternity facilities than for other services in Dragash/Drugaš, due in large part to there being only 1 gynaecologist and 4 midwives in the whole municipality despite the national requirement being 3.4 and 6.8 respectively. In 2011, Dragash/Drugaš’s maternity facilities reported 124 deliveries. More complicated cases are referred to the maternity ward in Prizren; there are also self-referred cases. However, use of these maternity facilities is more than double the national rate. There is a higher use of all facilities compared to the national average, except for family medicine, minor surgery and other specialised services, although these remain in line with the national trends as the most frequented services. Due to a lack of reliable data, more accurate figures are unavailable.

Medical staff

Table 16: List of Medical Staff in Dragash/Drugaš municipality (2012)

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126 Based on data from the Statistical Office of Kosovo, 2010
127 Figures obtained from the Director of Health, May 2012 and adjusted by field work.
40% of positions in health facilities in Dragash/Dragaš are held by Gorani-Bosniak persons, with the remainder being Kosovo-Albanian, which indicates a good level of non-majority community representation in public sector posts in the health field and is in proportion to population representation.

The number of staff that may work in municipal health systems is limited by the Ministry in relation to population size. According to information from the Director of Health, the latest figure for Dragash/Dragaš’s health service is 103 employees overall. But staffing does not meet the minimum standard for number of doctors, nurses, dentists, gynecologists, or midwives according to national staff requirements per number of the population in Dragash/Dragaš. The Municipality has difficulty in finding specialists such as gynecologists, as they prefer to work in urban areas.

**Quality of medical facilities**

Between 2007 and 2011, approximately 200,000€ of the municipal investment budget was spent on the health sector. This is about 4% of the total budget.

The conditions in the Main Family Health Centre in Dragash/Dragaš have been improved after the installation of the solar water system and revitalisation of the hot water grid with central hot water storage. Bresanë/Bresana’s Family Health Centre has also been improved after installation of a solar water heating system and hot water grid with central hot water storage.
3.4.3 Social Welfare

National situation

The mandate of Centres for Social Welfare is to protect citizens who are in need of support by providing social and family services including child protection services for children and their families. It works in cooperation with the communities, NGOs and other organisations. The social service providers at the Centre for Social Work are obliged to conduct a professional assessment on the need for social services for children and families who refer themselves for assistance or who by other means come to its attention as needing or appearing to be in need of Social or Family Services. It offers social care, family counselling and, in exceptional circumstances, material assistance to children and their families. They are also obliged to place a child in a facility outside its family when there is reasonable cause to believe that there is an immediate, serious risk to the health, safety or welfare of a child.

Overall, the Child Protection system in Kosovo is insufficient and fragmented, with limited services for children with special needs, neglected children, children without parental care, victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, child labour and young offenders.

There is a need to enhance awareness about children’s rights and child protection within the communities, public institutions (schools, youth centres, health services etc) and organisations. Furthermore, it is necessary to enhance knowledge by multisectoral training in these issues amongst key stakeholders working with children who, due to their mandate of care towards children, are legally obliged to report child protection cases to the Centres for Social Work when they suspect or have evidence that a child is suffering from physical, sexual or psychological abuse from a parent or care giver.\(^{128}\) In order to enhance the legal obligation there is an urgent need to draft unique forms of referral of violence and abuse cases in all institutions which have a responsibility to care for children. More specifically, unique or standard forms or referral should be drafted for teachers or supporting staff in schools, doctors, nurses and paramedics, social service officials, police officers, prosecutors, judges and defence lawyers to enhance the identification, referral and the treatment of such cases.\(^{129}\) To strengthen the referral and management of child protection cases in Dragash/Dragaš, a child protection coordination mechanism with relevant stakeholders working with children should be developed. The aim of the coordination mechanism for child protection is to refer, manage and monitor cases of children at medium and high risk of delinquency, neglect, abuse, exploitation and trafficking during monthly meetings by the professionals.\(^{130}\)

Dragash/Dragaš situation

Dragash/Dragaš municipality provides the following services: child protection, elderly care, support for chronically ill patients, support for ex-offenders, social housing, psychosocial advice, various therapies,

\(^{128}\) Article 10 of The Law on Social and Family Services (No. 02/L-17).


adoption, coordination with schools, cooperation with courts and other organisations. There is one main Centre for Social Welfare, located in Dragash/Dragaš town, which provides and coordinates the services for all of the villages in the municipality.

The Association of Paraplegics and Paralyzed Children operates in Dragash/Dragaš, which treats disabled persons and cares for about 420 members of different ages in a specialised facility.

Table 17: Social welfare provided per month in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Total no of selected families</th>
<th>No of family members</th>
<th>Total amount €</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>1495</td>
<td>25,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>1568</td>
<td>27,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>1587</td>
<td>27,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>1559</td>
<td>27,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>1397</td>
<td>24,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>1436</td>
<td>25,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>1415</td>
<td>24,735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>1407</td>
<td>25,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>1476</td>
<td>26,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>1509</td>
<td>27,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>1524</td>
<td>26,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1619</td>
<td>28,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>316,745 €</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 18: Social welfare support provided in 2011 by category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of welfare</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children without parental care</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orphans</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orphans being looked after by family</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abandoned children</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incapable parents¹³¹</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children at threat</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child neglect / child abuse?</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children of non-married parents</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children of divorced parents</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delinquency / young juveniles</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in social care under the age of 14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor delinquency (14-16 years)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹³¹ Defined as “Parents or parent, or other care giver, either because of lifestyle, physical or mental disability or illness, psycho-social problems, addiction or other reason, have difficulty providing adequate levels of care and supervision for him or her”, in Article 7, 9 and 10 of The Law on Social and Family Services (No. 02/L-17).
### Minor delinquency (16-18 years)
- Total: 3 95

### Children and adults with special needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Psychological</th>
<th>Physical</th>
<th>Combined</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Children/Victims of trafficking
- Children: 0
- Adults: 0

### Adults with special needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Psychological</th>
<th>Physical</th>
<th>Combined</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychological</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Adults at threat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults outside normal marital status</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic violence</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons in process of divorce</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Adults with anti-social behavior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeless persons</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Elderly people with social welfare needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Without family support</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elderly people with special needs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 19: Provision of services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adoption</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family carer</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe house</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social integration treatment</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult care</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Centre for Social Work also offers services for survivors and witnesses of domestic violence. There is currently no municipal coordination mechanism on gender-based violence or domestic violence in Dragash/Dragaš.

UN Women is due to start supporting the establishment of a Coordination Mechanism in Dragash/Dragaš. Coordinated and managed by the Municipal Officer for Gender Equality this mechanism should establish regular coordination and communication structures amongst stakeholders from the relevant sectors such as social services, police, health, justice and education with the aim to provide a better response to gender-based violence or domestic violence survivors and ensure they are receiving quality services. There is also a lack of awareness among children and youth to report/refer incidents of violence, abuse and neglect. Currently there are very limited services for survivors and witnesses of violence in Dragash/Dragaš, and the survivors and their children depend on the shelter in Prizren. There is a need to support the establishment of adequate services for survivors, witnesses and perpetrators of domestic violence. Overall, there is a need to develop a clear social policy in the area of child protection in order to ensure a comprehensive and multisectoral framework for developing specialised services in the area of prevention, protection and reintegration of children victims of all forms of violence, neglect and abuse.

To raise awareness on matters relating to violence and child rights, the Municipal Office for Gender Equality in Dragash/Dragaš arranges activities during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence for different target groups, with support of the municipality and agencies and organisations working in the field of domestic and gender-based violence. In 2011 this was arranged with the support of OSCE. The office also arranges activities related to the mandate of the office but due to limited funds activities can only be arranged on an ad hoc basis.

3.4.4 Challenges inherent in the existing situation of education, health and social welfare

A parallel school system exists in the Gora/Gorë region which means that there is a lack of coordination and oversight of education provision; it reduces the coherence of the municipality as a spatial unit and does not contribute positively to inter-community relations and building of tolerance.

- How can the differences be resolved between the Serbian (parallel) and Kosovo school systems in Dragash/Dragaš municipality?

Dragash/Dragaš has a specific settlement structure with 36 small and dispersed settlements; rather every village has a school, from this it follows that the student: teacher ratio in some villages is very low.
How can the national principle of “Education at the nearest point” be ensured?
How should schools which have small numbers of pupils be considered?

Even though there has been an improvement, some pupils (especially girls) still do not finish Secondary school.

- How can access to secondary education be facilitated, especially for girls?
- How can unskilled men and women be supported?

Even if the health system of Dragash/Dragaš attains the national standard, there is a lack of medical staff in several parts of the municipality.

- How can the lack of medical specialists and equipment be resolved in small villages and remote areas?

The Centre for Social Welfare is located in Dragash/Dragaš town, which provides and coordinates the services for all of the settlements in the municipality.

- How can the MDP contribute to the improvement of the social situation and welfare of Dragash/Dragaš’s citizens?
3.5 Economic Development and Employment

3.5.1 Economic Development

Between 2004 and 2009, the number of companies registered in Dragash/Dragaš rose by 54%. The progression for the whole of Kosovo for the same period is 82%. Only Novo Brdo/Novoberdë (44%) and Leposavić/Leposaviq (52%) have lower rates of progress.

Registered enterprises in Dragash/Dragaš are mostly very small businesses, often only providing employment for the owner. The total number of formal jobs within the municipality is thus estimated at around 2500.

The largest business sector in Dragash/Dragaš is Trade and Services, closely followed by Manufacturing. The majority of trading occurs through local shops: groceries, construction yards, warehouses and petrol stations. A very small number of other commodities are provided, selling paint, jewellery, leather, textiles and tools. Four pharmacies are located in Dragash/Dragaš town, one in Bellobrad/Belobrad, one in Blaç / Bljać and two in Bresanë/Brodosavce.

In terms of manufacturing only six businesses are registered, most with just one employee processing raw materials (such as wood). Its large contribution to the employment market comes from the Remateks textile factory in Dragash/Dragaš town, which provides 380 jobs mostly in the production of synthetic fabrics with a small amount of wool production, and is the largest single employer in the municipality. The main market for these products is abroad. The administrative staff comes also from Prizren, but the company provides free transport for employees from Dragash/Dragaš. The company was established in 1982, prior to the conflict in 1999 the factory collected whool.

Another significant part of the job market is that generated by hospitality and catering enterprises; this generally relates to cafes, bars and restaurants which exist in the majority of villages, rather than to hotels since the tourism industry is as yet under-developed and there is only one registered hotel. The largest employer within the hospitality and catering sector is Dragash/Dragaš town, with 35 registered businesses, followed by Restelica/Restelicë with 23. A relatively high proportion of registered businesses was unable to be identified or did not exist (10%). This may be because they may have subsequently shut since registering or changed their location or organisation in some other way.

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132 Statistical Office of Kosovo, Statistical Repertoire of Enterprises in Kosovo, Q4 - 2009
133 UNDP Database for Dragash Villages, 2011
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing account 1% of the registered businesses in the municipality, which shows that there is little active capitalising on available natural resources to generate income. However, much agriculture that occurs in Dragash/Dragaš is subsistence and informal, providing food for private families with occasionally excess to sell at markets. Village surveys have confirmed that a high level of fruit and vegetable cultivation occurs in each village, along with the raising of chickens and bees for eggs and honey. This low-scale agriculture allows an overall reduction in household expenditure, as well as a self-sufficient and sustainable way of life that should be given credit and encouraged, although a general trend noticed across Kosovo is that families receiving financial remittances from abroad spend more on everyday items such as food and clothes.

The business and economic centre is Dragash/Dragaš town, with 228 businesses registered out of the municipal total of 856 and providing for most of the service sectors. Bresanë/Brodosavce and Restelica/Restelicë are the two business sub-centres (88 and 95 businesses respectively). There are fewer than 50 businesses in the remaining 33 settlements; with 13 settlements possessing fewer than ten businesses and which are located in two clusters of settlements – from Buçe/Buče to Plajnik/Plajnik and from Krstec/Kërstec to Zipotok.
Table 20: Number of registered businesses and employees by village, Dragash/Dragaš

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VILLAGE</th>
<th>Number of Businesses</th>
<th>Number of Employees (excl. owner)</th>
<th>Number of employed (incl. 1 owner)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural areas</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bačka / Baçkë</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellobrad / Belobrad</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blaç / Bljaç</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bresanë / Brososavce</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brezne / Brezna</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brod / Brod</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brrut / Brut</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buçë / Buçë</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buzez / Buzez</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dikance / Dikanc</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globočica / Glloboçicë</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapre / Kapra</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosavë / Kosavce</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krstec / Kërstec</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kruševo / Krushevë</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuk / Kukovce</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuklibeg / Kukljibeg</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kukuljane / Kukulane</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leštane / Leshtan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ljubovište / Lubovishtë</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mlike / Mlikë</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orçuša / Orçushë</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plajnik / Plajnik</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pllavë / Plava</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radeša / Radeshë</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapča / Rapçë</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restelica / Restelicë</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renc / Rec</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shajne / Šajnovce</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vranisht / Vranisht</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xërxe / Zrze</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaplluxhe / Zaplužje</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zgatar / Zgatar</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zipotok / Zipotok</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zym / Zjum</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTALS           | 848                  | 816                               | 1664                              |
The largest businesses with more than 10 employees are in Dragash/Dragaš (4), Pllavë/Plava (1) and Buzez (1), which are notably in the northern area of the municipality (Opoja/Opolje) and much better linked to Prizren and other markets through main roads. In these locations the number of employees exceeds the overall number of businesses, demonstrating a positive contribution to the employment of Dragash/Dragaš residents. These businesses are involved in the sectors of wool and meat processing, construction and metal work, with one registered as a holding company.

However, in the remaining 33 settlements, the number of businesses is far higher than the number of listed employed. Many enterprises are small trade and skill-based, relying solely on the owner’s capabilities. Few have perhaps one or two support staff. By far the majority of registered businesses do not have any additional employees other than the owner (665 (92.6%) out of the 718 businesses that could be identified). This is particularly prominent in 15 villages (9 in Gora/Gorë; 6 in Opoja/Opolje) which have the lowest numbers of businesses in the municipality. 114 businesses only employ 1 other person. Income from these small businesses, similar to the output from subsistence agriculture which provides for family consumption, has little impact on the overall economic outlook or development of the municipality but do support individual families.

The villages of Kosavë/Kosavce, Pllajnik/Plajnik and Rrenc/Renc in the Opoja/Opolje region are particularly noticeable as small communities with very few services or enterprises with a poor local employment rate. However these villages are located close to Pllavë/Plava and Buzez which each have one large company with 40 and 12 employees respectively. Thus commuting for employment between
villages, particularly in the relatively well-connected northern part of the municipality may be a significant feature. However, Brod is one example of a village with a comparatively large community and a number of shops and services that do not create additional employment in the village beyond that of the business owners.

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

There are 67 registered SMEs in Dragash/Dragaš municipality, of which 57 were surveyed. The majority of these are active in products originating from Dragash/Dragaš’s natural resources, including agriculture and farming. Of these, most are involved in live animal husbandry (raw material), although an almost equal number are engaged in the end product (livestock and food industry). Livestock is by far the most active arena for SMEs in Dragash/Dragaš, engaging 96 people in 30 enterprises. After the largest single employer Rematex, the food industry, producing end products, is the second highest employer with 8 enterprises generating 116 jobs. Craftsmanship is the fourth largest employer. Women comprise 20% of the SME labour force, in keeping with national findings, although the sectors of participation are primarily in livestock and fruit/plant collection; the proportion of women in the food textile industries is lower than the average despite these sectors having overall higher numbers of employees.

Table 21: SME Branches in Dragash/Dragaš (2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Production Depth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>End product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation and Gastronomy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craftsmanhip</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Industry (specify) (dairy, meat etc.)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit / Plant Collection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shops / Trading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textile Industry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Industry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results of SME Survey, UNDP, March 2012
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Number of Male Workers</th>
<th>Number of Female Workers</th>
<th>Number of all year workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation and Gastronomy</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craftsmanship</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Industry (specify)</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(dairy, meat etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit / Plant Collection</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shops / Trading</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textile Industry</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Industry</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>666</strong></td>
<td><strong>142</strong></td>
<td><strong>705</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

136 Results of SME Survey, UNDP, March 2012
The factors having a positive influence on the development and success of SMEs are:

- Availability and quality of local service providers
- Telecommunication
- Availability of reliable energy service (electricity and heat) of international quality standard
- Availability of land for expansion
- Availability of manpower and skilled work force (also quality of locally available skilled work force)
- Availability and quality of local and locally available raw materials
- Support by local administration and administrative processes and rules

The SME survey showed that the factors restricting development or success of SMEs in Dragash/Dragaš are:

- Access to financing
- Roads, accessibility
- Access to knowhow and technology
- Lack of storage capacities

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137 Results of SME Survey, UNDP, March 2012
- Waste water management
- Quality of electricity supply (Dragash has almost regular electricity supply, but the quality of electricity in many cases is bad because of the low voltage of the electricity.)
- Quality of Equipment and workplace
- Solid Waste Management

**Markets**

Before the creation of the socially owned enterprise, Sharrprodhimi/Šarproizvod, agriculture was well organised in Kosovo. However since the dissolution of this socially owned enterprise there is no longer a broad market for products or livestock. This has resulted in a dramatic decline in the number of cattle in Dragash/Dragaš. The road leading south from Restelica/Restelicë to FYR Macedonia was formerly an important road for access to agricultural markets outside Kosovo, but this no longer functions as it is not an official border crossing. Rematex is the main enterprise with markets beyond Kosovo.

**Impact of migration**

Remittances from Kosovar migrants living abroad (the diaspora) account for 13% of Kosovo’s GDP, and remains the most important source of external funding for the country. 70% of households with international migrants live in rural areas. The share of the population receiving remittances is substantially higher than those receiving social assistance, with an average of 2800 euros being received annually by rural households (1500 euros in urban areas), which is about three times higher than the average financial support from social protection schemes. In the Prizren region 23.3% of households receive remittances.\(^\text{138}\)

Emigration may be seen as an indicator of strength of a community that is capable of bringing up and sending “into the world” dynamic individuals. Through the diaspora, the community is directly linked to both positive and negative external factors. The members of the diaspora are the best ambassadors and networkers for their communities of origin. In their professional and in their private environments, they can stimulate interest for the opportunities that Dragash/Dragaš has to offer for foreign investors and clients. The members of the diaspora are trend scouts and change agents. In their respective environments in diverse countries and capacities, they learn about new trends in markets, production techniques and business concepts. They can bring this information back to Dragash/Dragaš and help local actors to innovate and perform better.

The considerable amount of emigration also reveals and exasperates weaknesses of the communities of origin: while the capacity to send young people to the world is a strength, the incapacity to provide them opportunities for the subsequent phases of their personal and family projects is a weakness of the community of origin. The fact that the diaspora invests heavily in local real estate indicates that the diaspora continues to maintain a strong attachment to their place of origin. The weakness is the

incapacity of the community of origin to also provide them with opportunities for strong involvement in the development of the local community.

Due to emigration, productive members of the community are missing in the local institutions, businesses and families who, as a result, may not even have enough human resources to respond to the opportunities that members of the diaspora may be able to point out to them. Threats include the fact that the image of the successful emigrant instils a culture of emigration and lack of vision for the home community. Members of the diaspora may return with attitudes that are in conflict with local needs and projects and thus constitute a nuisance rather than a contribution to local development. But the greatest threat is that the link between the diaspora and the home community is severed and the return of human or financial resources to the home community is interrupted.  

Informal business/employment

The World Bank estimates that approximately 40% of Kosovo’s employment is informal, meaning activities which generate low incomes but cannot afford the cost of legality. This is differentiated from those activities which, despite being profitable, are deliberately concealed from public authority with the aim of avoiding taxes, and from the underground economy and illegal activities which are forbidden by the criminal code (e.g. drug trafficking).

According to information from the Municipal Development Agenda 2004-2006, the tradition of processing milk and fruit collection still continues as an informal business, but recently local craftsmen (such as electric shops, hairdressers, construction workers) continue their business activities without registering their business.

3.5.2 Employment

Kosovo is one of the poorest countries in Europe, with more than one third of the population living under the poverty line of €1.55 per day, and 12% under the extreme poverty line on under €1.02 per day. Kosovo’s total poverty rate is therefore almost 45%; in comparison, the poverty rate in the EU is 10-23%, while in the neighbouring countries of Albania it is 12.4% of the population and 19% in FYR Macedonia.

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139 From UN-Habitat Draft MDP, September 2010
141 Source: World Bank Kosovo Partnership Programme Snapshot, September 2011
This problem is closely linked to the high unemployment levels, which is currently at 45.4% for the whole of Kosovo\textsuperscript{142}. Certain groups face greater challenges: 74% of youth are unemployed while only 11% of working age women are employed. In particular, rural poverty is found to be the most severe and widespread for the following groups, especially in the central and eastern regions of Europe: farmers in upland and mountainous areas, rural wage earners, rural women, the elderly, ethnic minorities, and Internally Displaced Persons and refugees.\textsuperscript{143} While 37.4% of Kosovo’s urban population lives at the poverty line, 49.2% live in poverty in rural areas. Trends observed between 2003 and 2005 show that while urban poverty is reducing, rural poverty is increasing.\textsuperscript{144}

Overall in Kosovo, the largest proportions of “not economically active” persons (49%) are engaged in “Looking after home/family”. In Dragash/Dragaš, 32% of the population over the age of 15 is considered economically active.\textsuperscript{145} Women account for 67% of the not economically active population in Dragash/Dragaš.

However, despite this difficult situation, the number of families receiving social assistance has dropped from 592 on average in 2005 to 360 in 2009.\textsuperscript{146}

The public sector in Dragash/Dragaš is a major employer, approximately equal to those engaged in private sector activities.

Table 23: Number of employees in the public sector in Dragash/Dragaš municipality\textsuperscript{147}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTOR</th>
<th>NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal admin.</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire brigade</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPF (FSK)</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPS (SHPK)</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water supply</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hygiene</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{142} From Kosovo Strategic Education Plan 2011 – 2016 according to which 345,000 persons in Kosovo are registered with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.
\textsuperscript{145} Table 5.15, Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011, Final Results: Main Data. This means that they are employed, unemployed but have worked before/never worked before, or waiting to start a job.
\textsuperscript{146} Data provided by the Centre for social work, Dragash/Dragaš. From UN-Habitat Draft MDP Profile, September 2010.
\textsuperscript{147} Data provided by the Municipal Department of Industry and Development, May 2010. From UN-Habitat Draft MDP, September 2010.
3.5.3 *Challenges inherent in the existing situation of the economy*

The number of companies registered in Dragash/Đragaš is slowly increasing. Most enterprises are very small, only providing employment for the owner.

- What conditions could be offered to increase the number of employed people?
- How can the MDP contribute to the improvement of the business market in Dragash/Đragaš?
- How can the educational level of workers and the competitiveness of businesses be improved?

3.6 Forestry and Agriculture

3.6.1 *Semi-natural areas and Forestry*\(^{148}\)

The territory of Dragash/Đragaš Municipality is characterised by natural grass- and shrublands interspersed by rocky or sparsely vegetated areas and wetlands, and forests. These main types of land uses account for over 70% of the municipality’s surface. Only 27% of the land is used for agricultural purposes. Due to the high altitude, grasslands dominate over tillage and permanent cultures (18% versus 9%). Only 1% of the surface is covered by settlements or infrastructure.

Table 24: Land Use Types in Dragash/Đragaš Municipality in ha and percent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Basins</th>
<th>Settlements</th>
<th>Agricultural Areas</th>
<th>Pastures &amp; Meadows</th>
<th>Forests</th>
<th>Natural Grass &amp; Shrublands</th>
<th>Sparsely vegetated Areas</th>
<th>Bare Rocks</th>
<th>Wetlands</th>
<th>Water Bodies</th>
<th>Total in ha</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Stone River</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.490</td>
<td>1.666</td>
<td>4.061</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>6.761</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brod River</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1.940</td>
<td>1.666</td>
<td>4.061</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>9.118</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plava River</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>2.620</td>
<td>4.234</td>
<td>5.240</td>
<td>3.535</td>
<td>1.199</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>17.573</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prizren River</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>1.202</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.435</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{148}\) Detailed information is contained within the UNDP Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2 Baseline and Volume 3 Assessment
Semi-natural areas

The Sharr/Śar Mountains are characterised by natural grassland, moors and heathland and shrubland, and account for about 50% of the total land use of the municipality. They are also associated with wetlands along water courses and in depressions, and sparsely vegetated and rocky areas. The largest areas of these are found in the south and east of Dragash/Đragaš Municipality, south of Restelica/Restelicë and north towards Brod, along the edge of the Sharr/Śar Mountains, and at the highest points of Mount Koritnik.

Forests

Hundreds of years of pasture-grazing in once-forested areas have left about 17.1% (8,124 ha) of forest in Dragash/Đragaš, mainly in the North Western part of the municipality. 5199ha of the entire forest area are public (64%), including the outstanding old Bosnian Pine forest in Koritnik which is over 70 years old. 1160ha of this forest on Mount Koritnik, are part of the National Park and one of the biodiversity highlights in the municipality.

- Private forest (2,925ha) is mainly coppice forest (2,814ha) and an important source of firewood for the community. The total area of coppice forest is 4048ha.
- Plantations cover 211ha (approximately 3% of the total forest), in only a small area in the north of Dragash/Đragaš.
- The 2462ha of forests on thin soils need special care in forest management in order to prevent erosion and maintain their water retention capacities.
- 18ha of forest are degraded due to illegal harvesting, forest fire or other unspecified reasons149.
- The mixed forests, the forests over 70 years old, and the alpine forest-grassland transition at the treeline are habitats for bear and lynx and form part of their regional ecological corridors.

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149 Compared to the surface of Koritniku II management unit, which has 2843 ha, the surface of 18 ha is less than 1% (0.6%)
Table 25: Incomes from forest harvesting in both sectors public/private

<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><strong>Sum public</strong></td>
<td><strong>675 260</strong></td>
<td><strong>218 705</strong></td>
<td><strong>402 555</strong></td>
<td><strong>17 341</strong></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>

Figure 29: Property situation in Dragash/Drageš’s forests (in ha)

Figure 30: Age classes in Dragash/Drageš’s forests (in ha)
3.6.2 Agriculture and Special Land Uses

Agricultural areas with arable land, permanent crops and complex land uses composed of annual and permanent crops with hedges are concentrated in the Opoja/Opolje region where the terrain is flatter than in the Gora/Gorë region. 86% of these land uses are within the sub-basins of the Pllava and Prizren River. In the Gora/Gorë region, major areas of agriculture can be found around Globočica/Globoçicë, Kruševo/Krushevë and Restelica/Restelicë. Pastures and meadows are to be found mainly in a belt east of the villages in at the foot of the higher mountains.\(^\text{150}\)

Agriculture today in Dragash/Dragaš provides a complementary and informal occupation and income to a large number of households who are not able to lift their farms into the formal economy, and forms a large part of household activity. There are a total of 3500 farms in Dragash/Dragaš, of which 95% are subsistence family farms, 3.5% produce for both domestic needs and for market sale, and only 1.5% of the farms are commercially-focused. This indicates that the entire agricultural sector is under-mechanised.\(^\text{151}\)

The processing of agricultural produce within the municipality is also almost entirely absent (with the notable exception of the Meka butchery employing 40 persons in Pllavë/Plava).\(^\text{152}\) There are four local milk collection points: Kuk/Kukovce, Buzez, Kosavë/Kosavce, and Bresanë/Brodosavce. In addition to this, significant amounts of milk are sold informally. There are three slaughterhouses in Dragash/Dragaš municipality and three dairy processing plants.\(^\text{153}\)

The main grain varieties grown in the municipality are:

- Wheat (96.5ha cultivated in autumn 2009)
- Oats (45ha in spring 2010)
- Barley (40ha in spring 2010)
- Rye (45ha in autumn 2009)\(^\text{154}\)

In the annual Agricultural Household Survey, about 130 households from Dragash/Dragaš were interviewed. When asked for reasons for leaving productive land uncultivated, the lack of profitability of the agricultural production is mentioned as the principal factor (37%), followed by the "lack of inputs (29%). The lack of profitability, i.e. the gap between supply and demand, has many causes. Difficult market access is often cited as the critical factor. This includes physical distance at various steps of the logistics chain (from the fields/meadows to the farms, from the farms to the produce collection points, from the collection points to the processing plants, etc), as much as the lack of certification and

\(^{150}\) UNDP Sustainable Development Atlas, Volume 2: Baseline, June 2012
\(^{151}\) UNDP Dragash/Dragaš Municipal Guidelines 2010
\(^{152}\) UN-Habitat Draft MDP, September 2010
\(^{153}\) UNDP Dragash/Dragaš Municipal Development Guidelines, 2010
\(^{154}\) UNDP Dragash/Dragaš Municipal Development Guidelines, 2010
adequate marketing of Dragash/Drageš's high quality produce that would allow to access higher value segments of the consumer market.

**Special Land Uses**

This includes the collection of firewood, mushrooms, medicinal herbs, wild fruits and the keeping of bees. Firewood collection takes place mainly in remote areas around Mount Koritnik, between Orčuša/Orçushë and Vranište/Vranisht. A significant amount of mushroom collection occurs in spots around the western part of the municipality, in the terrain either side of the road to Restelica/Restelicë, particularly between Restelica/Restelicë and Globočica/Glloboçicë, with scattered locations between Mlike/Mlikë, Orčuša/Orçushë and Vranište/Vranisht. There is also a significant area of mushroom collection around Kukuljane/Kukulanë and Radešha/Radeshë, with smaller and more dispersed areas of collection around Rapča/Rapçë, south of Bresanë/Brodosavce and north of Bellobrad/Belobrad. Medicinal herb collection occurs in the higher altitudes of the municipality, around Mount Koritnik and in the Sharr/Šar Mountain ranges, particularly around Restelica/Restelicë, Brod and between Globočica/Glloboçicë and Kruševo/Krushevë. Smaller and more scattered areas of medicinal herb collection occur across the rest of the municipality, around the settlements on the foothills of Mount Koritnik as well as around in Opoja/Opolje around the road to Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje. Wild fruit collection occurs mainly in the northern parts of the municipality – between Shajne/Šajnovce, Pllavë/Plava, Buçe/Buče and Brezne/Brezna, and in smaller areas near villages along the road to Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje.

Beekeeping is a notable feature of the majority of villages across the municipality and is largely equally spread.

### 3.6.3 Challenges inherent in the existing situation of forestry and agriculture

Forests account for 22% of the territory, largely broad leaved forest, with lower proportions of mixed and coniferous woodland, and coppice forest.

- How can forestry in Dragash/Drageš be improved with regard to quantity and quality?

There is a small amount of land suitable for crops in Dragash/Drageš; in addition, productive land is partly uncultivated. The entire agricultural sector is under-mechanised.

- How can the agricultural sector be improved?
3.7 Biodiversity and Nature Protection

3.7.1 Flora and fauna

Dragash/Dragaš municipality exhibits a great diversity of plant and animal species and habitats, due in large part to the widely ranging altitudes (between 730m to over 2660m above sea level), a variety of bedrocks and soils, and influences from the Mediterranean and Continental climates. Most of the areas below the timberline (approximately 2000 – 2100m) should be covered by forests, but human intervention and the development of agriculture over the centuries has caused deforestation. Areas above the timberline are covered by natural rock formations, alpine grass- and shrublands, with natural wetlands such as peatbogs and low-moor bogs.

Dragash/Dragaš boasts a rich wildlife heritage, with 1500 vascular plant species with 150 endemic species. This makes up approximately 20% of flora within the Balkans. There are 730 vascular species above 1500m. Across the Sharr/Šar Mountain range the combination of alpine and Mediterranean microclimates results in a wide variety of floristic elements, with 40 arctico-alpic floristic elements mostly relicts of glacial period. There are 92 boreal and subboreal floristic elements, 57 of Mid-Europe (Nordico-Alpic), 67 Euroasiatic (Karpato-Balkanic), and 151 South European (Balkano-Apeninne). Submediterranean and Mediterranean floristic elements are found in the areas around Drinë i Bardhë/Beli Drim River, Lumbardhi/Bistrica River in Prizren and the Kaqanik/Kačanička Gorge. 38 plant communities were identified in focal areas, with 438 species identified; of which 37 were identified as being of great importance and in danger. However, there are no systematic scientific studies available on the fauna of Dragash/Dragaš, although data collected by NGOs, village communities, existing literature and observations by UNDP experts provide an overview. The NGO Finches lists 11 key locations in the municipality for bird habitats, and from 2004 – 2010 a total of 152 species were noted, of which about one-third are listed in the Annexes of EU Birds Directive. 40 species of butterfly have been identified, of which about a third are listed in the Annexes II or IV of the EU Habitat Directive or are assessed as “Endangered” or “Vulnerable” by IUCN.

Extensive alpine landscapes, mountain grasslands and forests, including primeval treestands of the endemic Macedonian pine and Bosnian pine, contribute to the natural wealth of the area with a considerable number of natural habitats and rare flora and fauna species, including species of common European importance such as the brown bear, wolf and Balkan lynx. Many of the scientific names for the endemic species of the Sharr/Šar region derive from its reference as ‘Scardus’ in ancient maps by Ptolemy (Claudius Ptolomaeus, 100-178 AD). Examples include Anthyllis scardica, Crocus scardicus, Narthecium scardicum, Onobrychis Montana, Sideritis scardica, Stachys scardica, Verbascum

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155 UNDP Sustainable Development Atlas, Volume 2: Baseline, June 2012
156 Bexhet, M. Ecological Profiles of Plant Species/Associations and Distribution Maps of Specific Plant Communities and Habitat Types of Interest in Dragash Municipality, 2011.
157 For more detailed information, see Vol. 5 Data of the Sustainable Development Atlas.
158 UNDP Sustainable Development Atlas, Volume 2: Baseline, June 2012
scardicolum, and Viola schariensis. The history of scientific research on the botany of this area dates back to 1836.159

3.7.2 The Sharr/Šar National Park

The Sharr/Šar National Park was created in 1986. In December 2012 with the new Law on Sharr National Park new borders have been defined with exaption into Dragash municipality as well. In FYR Macedonia the Sharr/Šar Mountains form part of the Mavrovo National Park and are the location of the popular Popova Šapka winter sports centre.

The northwestern slopes of the Sharr/Šar mountain range as a National Park were established by the Provincial Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Kosovo, under the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia. This covers an area of 230km² over five municipalities (Suharekë/Suva Reka, Prizren, Kaçanik/Kacanik and Shtërpcë/Strpce).160 However it is spatially adjacent to three other large protected areas in the region: the Mavrovo National Park (73088ha; established 1949) and the planned Šar Planina National Park in FYR Macedonia, and the planned Korabi Protected Landscape in Albania.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) categorisation the Sharr/Šar National Park is classified as a protected area of Category II.161 It has also been recognised by international NGOs as an Important Bird Area (IBA, NGO Bird Life International, 1999) and Important Plant Area (IPA, NGO Planta Europa, Plantlife, 2005) as well as on the list of the Prime Butterfly Areas. However, human impact and pressures on the biodiversity of the region has increased especially in the last two decades. Threats include poor sewage treatment and urban waste management, fragmentation and loss of habitats and forest, manmade fires, lack of control and inspection, illegal poaching and fishing, illegal logging, and uncontrolled land development. There may also be a risk of overuse of neutral resources (such as collection of wild herbs) and over- or under-grazing. As many as 32 plant species present in the Sharr/Šar Planina Mountains are listed by the IUCN on the Red List of Threatened Plants, while 26 species are included into the European Red List.162 The armed conflicts of the late 1990s up to 2001 in this cross-border region did not, however, damage the infrastructure, cultural heritage or natural resources. Rather it is increasingly the subsequent administrative changes and challenges (such as lack of awareness, expertise and capacity), careless and unregulated exploitation of natural resources, as well as depopulation, rural-to-urban migration and an ageing population which may contribute to problems in the natural environment, cultural landscapes and socio-economic context. 163

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159 From Feasibility Study on Establishing a Transboundary Protected Area Sharr/Šar Planina – Korab – Dešat/Deshat, Produced by UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), ISCC Vienna, 2010
160 Previous measurements of the size of the National Park had provided an area of 390 km². However, recent measurements by MESp reveal that the area on the ground does not exceed 230 km².
161 IUCN United Nations List of National Parks and Protected Areas, 1990
162 From Feasibility Study on Establishing a Transboundary Protected Area Sharr/Šar Planina – Korab – Dešat/Deshat, Produced by UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), ISCC Vienna, 2010
163 Detailed information on the Sharr/Šar region in this Description come from Feasibility Study on Establishing a Transboundary Protected Area Sharr/Šar Planina – Korab – Dešat/Deshat, Produced by UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), ISCC Vienna, 2010

The largest part of Dragash/Dragaš municipality’s land area (67.67%) is covered by forests and other semi-natural growth, indicating a high level of wild and partially cultivated natural resources, with about 4% of semi-natural wetlands. 26.75% of the area is given over to agriculture. In all, Dragash/Dragaš has a wide variety of natural habitats, ecosystems, flora and fauna that make it a hugely important area of biodiversity in the southeast Europe region.

A high proportion of the municipality’s terrain (55.5%) is included within the protected Sharr/Šar National Park. The term “National Park” is often stigmatised by the perception of restrictions and social fear that economic development will be limited, that agricultural activities including forestry will be strictly controlled, and that tourism, construction and other activities will be limited. However, this is not the case. According to the law, activities that do not harm the harmonious interactions of humans with nature and the development and conservation of nature itself are allowed within a National Park and its vicinity. These are often activities which have been practised for centuries and form a valuable part of the National Park context, and will be promoted as such. Most of the territory is socially owned land, and inhabited areas are not included within the National Park borders. The percentage of private land inside the borders of Sharr National Park in Dragash/Dragaš is approximately 3100ha or 12.6%. Zoning of the territory will define permitted activities.

The National Park’s zoning is carried out in compliance with the Law on the National Park and is the result of a consultation process between the Government, local communities and stakeholders:

**Zone 1** – the Protection Zone - includes areas with exceptional natural features, with rare species, endangered plants and animals and certain types of habitats in wild nature. This area belongs to the regime of strict protection. In Zone 1 construction, exploitation of nature, hunting, fishing, economic activities or any other activity besides scientific work, hiking and extensive grazing (with strict control), is not allowed.

**Zone 2** – the Active Management Zone - includes areas characterised by ecosystems, landscape values and others. Here nature-based activities that do not contradict nature protection - such as managed grazing, controlled reaping of nonforest products and medicinal herbs - may be practised.
Zone 3 – the Development Zone - includes areas for construction of facilities for rest, recreation, tourism and the needs of inhabitants in the territory of a National Park, with limited and selective use of natural resources.

More information on the specific features and characteristics of Dragash/Đragaš municipality’s natural resources is contained within the Sustainable Development Atlas and chapters on Biodiversity & Nature Protection and Forestry & Agriculture in this Profile.

3.7.3 Challenges inherent in the existing situation of biodiversity

Dragash/Đragaš is one of the Balkan’s hotspots with regards to its exceptional biodiversity containing a considerable number of endemic and rare species.

➢ How can municipal development and nature protection coexist?

A high proportion of the municipality’s terrain (55.5%) is included within the protected Sharr/Šar National Park.

➢ How can Dragash/Đragaš benefit from the extension of the National Park into its territory?

3.8 Tourism and Culture

3.8.1 Culture

Cultural facilities

A number of groups, associations and organisations contribute to contemporary cultural and social activities and resources in Dragash/Đragaš.164

There are two registered cultural-artistic associations that are currently active: Bresana (from the village of Bresanë/Brodosavce) and Biseri (in Restelica/Restelicë).

Four Cultural Houses exist in the municipality, with the following provisions:

1. The Cultural House in Dragash/Đragaš town has a number of rooms and a main hall that caters for film screenings and performances, but it does not have an adequate heating system or cinematographic / projection equipment.

2. The Cultural House in Bresanë/Brodosavce village contains a library and a hall for performances.

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164 Information from Kamberi, K., Director of Culture, Youth and Sports, Municipality of Dragash/Đragaš, March 2012
3. The Cultural House in Bellobrad/Belobrad village has a library, performance hall and internet facilities mainly used by young people.

Another public facility that could perform the function of a Cultural House is the Office of the Local Community and Youth in the village of Kruševo/Krushevë. A library and rooms for use by the community are currently available here, although there is no main hall for larger performances. With the exception of the facility in Kruševo/Krushevë, the existing Cultural Houses are located in the northeast of the municipality (Opoja/Opolje), in villages along the main road to Prizren.

There are 6 libraries in Dragash/Dragaš municipality, 4 of which are located in the Opoja/Opolje region with one library on each of the main roads leading south from Dragash/Dragaš town (in Kruševo/Krushevë, on the road to Restelica/Restelicë, and in Brod). There is also a regional library located in the town of Prizren. However the library in Kruševo/Krushevë is a combined facility with the cultural house. The majority of contemporary cultural resources are therefore located in the northeastern part of the municipality and less accessible to villages in the south.

A summary of library facilities in Dragash/Dragaš municipality is as follows:

1. The Central Public Library in Dragash/Dragaš town is a new facility containing around 21,000 books, of which half are in the Bosniak-Serb language. The library has a reading hall with some computers that are free of use for primary and secondary schools pupils.
2. The library in Brezne/Breza village is located in the primary school, and contains around 10,000 books.
3. The library in Bresanë/Brodosavce village has around 7,300 books.
4. The library in Kruševo/Krushevë village has books in the Bosniak-Serb language numbering around 5,200.
5. The library in Bellobrad/Belobrad village has around 4,700 books.
6. The library in Brod village is in the facilities of the primary school and has some 3,500 books.

In line with general European trends, the number of library users is said to be decreasing every year although evidence over the last 20 years in central and eastern Europe suggests that the rate of decrease is less than for EU countries. Surveys from the early 2000s in EU countries indicated a notable declining trend in the number of library service points, but an overall increase in book stocks especially in National and Tertiary (higher education) libraries, which suggests a general centralisation of facilities and pooling of resources. The trend for closures of tertiary library facilities was less pronounced in
central and eastern European countries; these areas were however marked by a greater decline in public libraries.¹⁶⁵

A significant factor that contributes to changing library usage is the advent of digital and electronic publishing and increasing computer usage, particularly for reference purposes. Across Dragash/Dragaš municipality in 2011 there were around 4000 registered users, who read in total around 7000 books.

Ethnographic museums are a frequent feature of towns throughout southeastern Europe, and tend to focus on the character of local culture and traditions rather than a national or regional context. As such they are often a useful resource for information of local interest, culture and portrayals of everyday life in the vicinity, functioning as both a museum for visitors and as a store or archive for local communities. However, despite its rich traditions that are unique in the region, there is currently no facility that performs this function in Dragash/Dragaš municipality.

Sports

Sport clubs and associations in the municipality include:

1. Football club *Pllava* in Pllavë/Plava
2. Football club *Liqeni* in Brezne/Brezna
3. Football club *Opoja* from Opoja/Opolje
4. Hiking association *Guri i Zi* in Dragash/Dragaš
5. Ski club *Arxhena*
6. Ski club *Sharri*
7. Wrestling club *Sharri*
8. Shooting club of the secondary school
9. Football school from Globočica/Glloboçicë for young talent

Dragash/Dragaš municipality contains the following sports facilities:

1. Full-size football pitches are located in Dragash/Dragaš town and the villages of Brezne/Brezna and Blaç/Bljać, but these are currently unused and do not contain spectator stands.
2. Two smaller, private ‘balloon’ indoor pitches are located in Mejdan.

¹⁶⁵ There is no central resource for library statistics across Europe, and no qualitative or quantitative data has been published on library usage or resources in Kosovo. However, a Libecon project dating from 2002 started to develop new methods for comparison. It should be noted that the use of electronic and digital media has scaled up significantly since the early 2000s, and therefore current trends for decline may be more pronounced in Kosovo. [http://www.libecon.org/newsletters/2/default.asp](http://www.libecon.org/newsletters/2/default.asp). Accessed 09 April 2012.
4. A gym facility is located at the secondary school in Dragash/Dragaš town.

The schools in 13 of Dragash/Dragaš’s villages do not have either sporting facilities or a playground. No further information has been provided on other locations that may be used recreationally by children in the villages, although informal areas used for recreation are common.

The skiing grounds are largely undeveloped for tourism but do provide a resource for local recreation, although interest in skiing and hiking trails remains low. These are located:
- At the ‘Arxhena’ hotel beyond Brod village.
- In the vicinity of Radeša/Radeshë village.
- Beyond Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje village.

Significant annual sporting events include a football tournament to honour the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) and a national skiing championship near the Arxhena hotel. Prior to the conflict in 1999, a unique local tradition of ‘pelivan’ wrestling games was held every year on May 1st in Dragash/Dragaš, with visitors and participants coming from across Kosovo as well as from Albania, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey. This traditional sporting event has not been organised in recent years, due primarily to a lack of funds.

3.8.2 Cultural and natural heritage

Cultural and natural heritage comes under the umbrella of the cultural resources of a region, linking to form an integrated narrative of the system of relationships between humankind and the surrounding environment. This has been inherited and transmitted to contemporary inhabitants and incorporates the broader community identity and its markers as a shared cultural resource. This is of particular relevance in Dragash/Dragaš considering the potential for economic development through tourism.

**Cultural heritage**

At the central level, the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS) and the Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) are responsible for the national coordination and protection of cultural heritage, particularly through integration into spatial planning mechanisms and legislation. The Kosovo Council for Cultural heritage (KCCH) is charged with the evaluation and designation of cultural heritage for permanent protection, liaising between the 7 regional Centres for Cultural Heritage (CCH) which are responsible for protection, conservation and integration of cultural heritage in local spatial plans. CCH works closely with the municipal structures, cooperating particularly with the departments of urbanism and culture (although not exclusively) and coordinating between the local and national levels. Cultural

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166 More detailed information is contained within *Survey of Cultural Heritage Assets in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality*, Whitaker, C., UNDP September 2012
heritage in Kosovo is legislated through the Cultural Heritage Law 02/L-88, the Law on Spatial Planning 2003/14, the Law on Special Protective Zones 2008/03-L039 and seven Regulations.

Dragash/Dragaš municipality falls under the Prizren region, with the Regional Centre for Cultural Heritage – Prizren office headquarters located in the town of Prizren.

Summary of cultural heritage

Under the former Yugoslavia, Dragash/Dragaš (as part of the Prizren region) contained three listed monuments that were protected at the national level:

Table 26: List of Protected Monuments, Yugoslavia 1967

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of monument</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date listed</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ruins of religious site/artefact</td>
<td>16th century</td>
<td>Buzez</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>nr.v. E.K. 926/67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently, the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports is undertaking an inventory of cultural heritage across Kosovo. This includes an extended list of 12 sites, monuments and artefacts that are currently under temporary national protection, including the three monuments that had been formerly protected under Yugoslav law. This extended list now contains 2 archaeological sites, 8 religious sites, and 2 agricultural buildings.

Following consultation during Visioning Workshops within local communities, as well as with input from tourism specialists and the Director of Culture in Dragash/Dragaš, a more comprehensive list of the municipality’s cultural heritage assets has been developed. These are not at the level of protected monuments within Kosovo, but conform to international cultural values as defined in a wealth of charters and conventions from UNESCO, ICOMOS and the Council of Europe. This includes consideration of natural heritage and cultural landscapes, intangible cultural heritage, vernacular architecture (including agricultural buildings) and ensembles of buildings, as well as an extended list of potential archaeological sites, religious sites/artefacts and other potential monuments.

Natural heritage and cultural landscapes

This includes important viewing points and panoramas throughout the municipality as well as the sites of legends and folklore, and striking natural features (such as lakes, caves and rocks). It also includes
rural, agricultural and pastoral traditions, such as the use of dung in construction and for fuel, and the coppicing of trees. Although a tentative list of these areas has been formulated, more detailed field-based and community-led research is required to accurately record and locate the sites, as well as to describe and evaluate their characteristics.

Intangible cultural heritage

Dragash/Dragaš municipality is well-known for its unique festivals that demonstrate the synchronising of pagan and religious ritual, inherited from both Islamic and Christian traditions as well as historical customs common across the Balkans.

These are:

1. Shengjergji / Djurdjevdan (St. George’s Day) is celebrated in several locations across the municipality from 5 - 15 May each year. It is the largest and most famous of the gatherings, attracting visitors from across northern Albania and Kosovo as well as Dragash/Dragaš diaspora returning from abroad to celebrate with their families. It is a time of community celebrations in natural locations, such as the forests, when villages rejoice in their belief in god, multi-religious commonality and life.
2. Gorani Day occurs on May 6th in the Gora/Gorë region, a celebration with traditional music and costumes. The main place of gathering is in Vlaska, near Vranište/Vraništ village. During this time wedding ceremonies are commonly held. The festivities then relocate on May 7th to Rapča/Rapçë, and on May 10th to Rapča/Rapçë where Youth Day is celebrated. Traditional horse races occur at this time.
3. Pelivan, the festival of traditional wrestling, occurred annually in Dragash/Dragaš town on May 1st, with participants and spectators coming from Kosovo, Albania, FYR Macedonia, and Turkey. This would be followed by horse races and a parade of Sharri/Šarplaninac dogs, with folk music. The last time this festival was held was in 2004, and is currently inactive due to a lack of financing.
4. A Youth Festival is held at the end of May in the Cultural House of Dragash/Dragaš town, with participation from all schools in the municipality putting on a show of theatre, music, painting and poetry recitation.
5. Verza Spring Festival occurs on March 14th, preparing the fields for the new growing season.
6. National festivals that are important in Dragash/Dragaš include Kosovo Independence Day (February 17th) and International Women’s Day (March 8th).

Apart from festivals and celebrations, a number of other features of Dragash/Dragaš provide a valuable resource of intangible cultural heritage. These include:

- Traditional face-painting of brides
- Pastry-making traditions
• Stories and legends, especially those connected to the natural landscape
• Rural agricultural traditions

As with natural heritage/cultural landscapes, although a tentative list of these areas has been formulated, more detailed field-based and community-led research is required to accurately record and locate the sites, as well as to describe and evaluate their characteristics.

3.8.3 Tourism

To date there has been no defined action plan for tourism in Dragash/Dragaš municipality. A strategy developed in 2002 was never implemented and it suffers from a lack of investments in general infrastructure and more specifically in tourism infrastructure (including capacity building), particularly relating to rural and nature-based opportunities. Decentralisation has meant that the municipality has to take primary responsibility for the tourism sector, and so a tourism policy has had to be developed from scratch. In addition, Kosovo suffers from a weak tourism position regionally due to a negative image, unresolved status issues and lack of funding for tourism development and promotion. Despite these limitations, Dragash/Dragaš, and Kosovo as a whole, has the potential to develop and market unique tourism products that can be integrated into already existing regional resources.

Dragash/Dragaš currently has limited facilities to support visitors, despite its local potential as an area for skiing and outdoor activities. There are two functioning hotels – the Arxhena hotel in Brod and the Mecca Hotel in Dragash/Dragaš, which opened in 2012. There is also a hotel in Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje which has been recently completed but is closed as there have not been enough guests and the owner lives abroad. These facilities, if functioning, would offer up to approximately 110 beds. One private house (Brod) has been converted into guest accommodation although this is in need of renovation and higher quality presentation. Likewise, the newly constructed restaurant (and, soon, hotel) in Restelica/Restelicë requires further upgrades to road access before this becomes a viable tourist location. In addition, a mountain hut between Dragash/Dragaš town and Prizren may be able to offer overnight accommodation to campers, hikers and walkers.

Dragash/Dragaš has much potential to develop a tourism strategy based on its natural and cultural features. A crucial aspect of this is the place-based authenticity which presents the link between nature and rural mountain culture. The municipality’s isolation may be the cause for many of its current problems; however, it can also be considered a strength since it has been able to preserve much of the traditional activities of agriculture and livestock, traditions and ways of life that has disappeared in much

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of Europe, and may thus be an attractive location to tourists. The three pillars of Dragash/Dragaš’s tourism potential are:

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

Dragash/Dragaš contains a wealth of as yet unexplored opportunities for outdoor activities and tourism, including:

- Animal tracking, bird watching and nature observation (including for academic and research purposes)
- Fishing
- Hiking and hillwalking
- Mountain biking
- Picnicking sites
- Camping
- Exploration of heritage, archaeology and rural culture
- Skiing
- Snowshoeing
- Horseback riding
- Cycling
- Scenic drives
- Local, natural products and cultivation (herbs, honey, fruits and vegetables)

The locations of particular natural assets are:

- Sharr/Šar National Park
- Remote areas and one of the only places in Europe where wildlife enthusiasts might see bears and wolves
- Defined set of hiking/cycling trails
- Mt. Koritnik
- Brod (touristic village)
- Opoja/Opolje Valley (cycling, picnicking, mountain tourism, agro-tourism)
- Distinctive features of the southern mountains/plains
- Opoja/Opolje and Gora/Gorë culture
- Cross-border potential (Albania and FYR Macedonia)
However, apart from the main financial and infrastructural restrictions to the development of an effective tourism industry in Dragash/Dragaš, a number of other weaknesses and threats pose obstacles that should be considered in parallel:

- Mismanagement and degradation of natural resources
- Poor waste management, leading to pollution and unsightly dumps
- Little knowledge of hospitality and catering as service providers
- Little knowledge of marketing and branding
- Some lack of trust between different regions / communities
- Emigration of young workforce from the municipality in search of other opportunities and jobs
- Lack of communication and coordination strategy between small operators, as well as regionally and at the national level.


**Impact of the National Park**

Protected areas, such as national parks, are locations which receive protection because they possess great values, such as a beautiful landscape, rich and rare species of plants and animals, important architectonic and historical buildings, relevant customs, or a combination of all these. Protected areas and places nearby are some of the world’s most beautiful locations, attracting many visitors from Europe and the world. They are a significant component of the economy, contributing over EUR 15 billion a year in jobs, food, and other services for populations in Europe.

There are many possibilities for touristic activities in a National Park. According to the draft Spatial Plan for the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park, more than 40% of the overall skiing territories of the Sharr/Šar Mountains (including within FYR Macedonia) are located in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality, in places such as Zaplluxhe/Zaplujë, Radeša/Radeshë, Brod and Restelica/Restelicë. These areas of potential winter tourism also provide important aquatic attractions, with many water sources, streams and rivers, diverse vegetation and picturesque landscapes, and can also be used for summer recreation. Dragash/Dragaš can develop a sustainable tourism economy through a partnership of public sector, private sector, and civil society to protect the environment, expand employment and entrepreneurial opportunity, and provide social benefits, economic profits and municipal revenue. The label of National Park will also increase opportunities for touristic tours based on important aspects of cultural heritage in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality, such as old mosques and tombs, agricultural buildings and processes, archaeological remains, rare ensembles of rural vernacular architecture, and access to unique rituals, traditions and legends. This will also help to ensure the protection of the valuable natural and cultural heritage resources within the municipality.
3.8.4 Challenges inherent in the existing situation of tourism and culture

Lack of public institutions and public areas for culture, sports and recreation is evident.

- How can necessary new areas/facilities be identified (e.g. library, theatre/cinema, public squares, playgrounds, sport fields...) and how can they be provided?

Dragash/Dragaš has a number of cultural assets, which are not inventoried and protected; further research is required.

- How can historical buildings and traditions be safeguarded within the process of development and modernisation?

Dragash/Dragaš has high tourism potential but currently has limited facilities to support visitors.

- How can Dragash/Dragaš’s position, natural and cultural values be used to advance touristic and economic development?
- Which areas and villages should be the focus for tourism development?

3.9 Road Network and Transport

3.9.1 Road network

Dragash/Dragaš municipality is connected to the rest of Kosovo by two roads: one paved road, which is directly connected to the new highway between Albania and Prishtinë/Pristina and starts in Zhur/Žur and enters close to Brezne/Brezna, and another dirt road which enters close to Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje. A single dirt road from Restelica/Restelicë leads to the borders in the south, connecting Dragash/Dragaš to the Gorna Reka region in FYR Macedonia at the Lukovo Pole mountain pass (1500m), although this has been closed since 2001. Other footpaths and agricultural trails stretch across informal border crossings into FYR Macedonia and Albania.

There are about 570km of roads and trails within Dragash/Dragaš municipality, of which approximately half (278km) are accessible to ordinary vehicles. These vary greatly in quality. Until some years ago, the bad condition of the municipality’s roads played a major role in the isolation of Dragash/Dragaš’s village communities, affecting a number of aspects of everyday life from access to education in winter to availability of markets for sale of produce and goods. In the last few years, the municipality has undertaken great efforts to improve the situation of local roads. There are currently only two remote villages without access by a paved road: Orčuša/Orçushë and Plajnik/Plajnik. Thus the majority of settlements have access to the regional roads via paved roads, although it should be noted that roads between villages and within the villages themselves are often still unpaved.
Between 2007 and 2011 the municipality spent the majority of its municipal investment budget on improving the roads. In total almost 3 million euros has been spent – 60% of the overall investment for this period.

3.9.2 Transport

The winding roads of Dragash/Dragaš’s mountainous terrain mean that the majority of transport occurs with cars (including shared ‘taxis’), rather than bus or other public transport. A low number (between 8 and 13) of the villages state that there is no private transportation service offered in the village. There are 7 private bus companies running bus lines. There are more connections with Prizren between Zaplluxhe/Zaplužje and Bresanë/Brodosavce than directly between Prizren and Dragash/Dragaš (only 1 bus line). Other buses provide a service from the villages to Dragash/Dragaš town.

Bus transport is more difficult in the more rural, mountainous villages where journeys tend to be made by private vehicles. There is no bus from Prizren to the Gora/Gorë region or from Opoja/Opolje to Gora/Gorë. The last bus stop for Gora/Gorë is Dragash/Dragaš town, from which journeys continue in private cars or by taxi. Transportation to some Gora/Gorë villages is provided only for students during the academic year.

There are also 3 daily buses to Belgrade in Serbia.168

Borders and border stations169

Officially, Dragash/Dragaš is an enclaved valley that is connected to the rest of the world through the road to Zhur/Žur which, from there, connects to Prizren and Kukës/Albania. However, at the historical and social level, each of the municipality’s valleys has had and still has one or several connections with neighbouring municipalities in Kosovo, FYR Macedonia and Albania. In this sense, political borders erect the bigger obstacles to inter-municipal and international connections than the physical barriers.

Very much like internal connections, some of these transborder connections have the profile and the geographic situation that would suggest their upgrading to full roads. Krusevo/Krushevo has a functioning gravel road to Albania, but the border is closed to vehicles; Orčuša/Orčushë lacks only several hundred metres of road to connect to Albania, too; a road through the Mavrovo National Park in FYR Macedonia links into the southern territory of Restelica/Restelicë, only accessible by jeep in the snow free period. From Zaplluxhë/Zaplužje, two roads connect to the Zhupa/Župa valley via an old road/trail toward Tetovo in FYR Macedonia. This is partly upgraded, but still only practicable by jeep and in the snow free season.

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168 UNDP survey, June 2012
169 From UN-Habitat Draft MDP, September 2010
A few agricultural trails, gravel roads and footpaths cross the border into Albania. A number are still in use as livestock trails. It has been illegal to cross the border by vehicle since 1999. From early 2012 there are now three newly constructed border stations on the Albanian side:

- West of Orçuşa/Orçuşh: vehicle border station, connected by local gravel road to Orgjost on the Albanian side, but only to a footpath on the Kosovo side.
- Northwest of Giloboçicë/Giloboçicë: small pedestrian border station, connected to footpaths on both sides.
- Northwest of Kruševo/Kruševo: vehicle border station, connected by local gravel roads to Novosej in Albania and to Kruševo/Kruševo.

The border between Dragash/Dragaš Municipality and FYROM approximately follows the peak line of the Sharr/Šar Mountains. Due to this, there are only two cross-border connections:

- South of Restelica/Restelicë: A dirt road from Restelica/Restelicë leads to the borders in the south, connecting Dragash/Dragaš to the Gorna Reka region in FYR Macedonia at the Lukovo Pole mountain pass (1500m). This connection was of great importance for transhumance and the trade of agricultural goods, but it has been closed since 2001.
- Southeast of Zaplluże/Zaplužje: A dirt road leads up from Zaplluže/Zaplužje village to the mountains and reaches the border to FYR Macedonia in at the Skarpë/Skarpa Mountain at an altitude of 2474m. Due to this altitude and as there is no prosecution of the other side, this is without great importance yet.

The natural restrictions to path connections across the mountains have always been a reason for Dragash/Dragaš’s remoteness. The political situation that created new and impassable national borders around Dragash/Dragaš has greatly aggravated this disadvantage.

The opening of the borders and the construction of new cross-border roads is likely to create major potential for the economic development of Dragash/Dragaš. Nevertheless these projects cannot be discussed without regard to the environmental impact, which may be particularly high in these sensitive mountain ecosystems.

3.9.3 **Challenges inherent in the existing situation of roads and transport**

The road network coverage is relatively good, but the road quality is poor and there are still many unpaved roads; road connections leading out of the municipality are especially weak.

- Where are urgent interventions needed in the completion and improvement of the road network to facilitate mobility of inhabitants and visitors?
Which connections abroad should be strengthened, taking environmental and economic criteria into account?

Public transport is not organised properly; in some parts of the municipality there is no public transport at all.

How can public transport and services in the Opoja/OPolje and Gora/Gorë regions be improved?

3.10 Solid Waste Management

3.10.1 General Overview

Waste in Kosovo has been started to be collected since 1947, initially by horse and cart, and later by tractor and truck. Waste was collected in Dragash/Dragaš from 1968 by the “Municipal Construction, Water, and Hygiene Company,” which had 22 staff members. The company was split into two companies in 1993, dealing separately with water and waste management.

There is no full national data regarding the generation, collection, treatment, and disposal of waste. However, estimates by the Kosovo Environmental Protection Agency show that in 2008, 39% of households across the country had municipal waste collection services. There is also a great disparity between waste collection provisions for urban and rural areas; the former having 90% coverage while only 10% of rural areas are provided with a service. 40% of Dragash/Dragaš municipality’s settlements (all of which are considered rural) have waste collection services, which is in line with the national average. The disparity between the northern and southern regions of the municipality is striking, however: 3 out of the 16 villages in the Gora/Gorë region have access to waste collection services (about 19%) while all approximately 95% of the villages in the Opoja/OPolje region are serviced.

The waste management field in Kosovo is regulated by the Law on Waste Law N 2011/04/L-060.

According to this Law, the types of waste are:

• Municipal waste
• Commercial waste
• Industrial waste

Another classification of waste is the classification based on exposal and hazard, which is classified as:

• Inert waste
• Non-hazardous waste
• Hazardous waste

In Dragash/Drageš, a waste collection service is offered to about 60% of the villages (21 settlements out of 36), with 60 bin containers of 1.1m³ capacity which are distributed according to necessity, request and the amount of waste. However, despite international donations, Dragash/Drageš municipality lacks appropriate waste management infrastructure and strategies. Those areas which are not served by municipal waste services therefore often dispose of waste in inappropriate ways (such as burning, or dumping in informal landfills or rivers) which pose serious threats to human health as well dangers to the valuable ecosystems and habitats of the natural environment. These highly unattractive waste dumps are also likely to have a negative impact upon economic opportunities for nature-based tourism.¹⁷¹

Publicly Owned enterprise dealing with waste (Ekoregioni) operates in Dragash/Drageš municipality, with its main operations base in Prizren. The company collects waste every day except on Sundays, with weekly collections in rural areas operated on a door-to-door basis. This waste collection unit serves 2694 clients of different categories (private households, institutions, facilities, apartments, villages). However, on average only 59% of the bills are paid by households, premises and institutions. Analysis in the UNDP Draft Report on Waste Management (Hysni, A. 2009) demonstrates that this revenue is insufficient to cover the waste company’s overheads, and lowers the availability and quality of service that is able to be provided to villages in Dragash/Drageš. In some areas, households make use of the waste services but do not pay the service charge. The local government in Dragash/Drageš is not engaged in supporting this operational unit to collect charges and revenues. This leaves an average annual shortfall in revenue of approximately 70,000€ according to figures from 2008.

The only official landfill site in Dragash/Drageš municipality is near Brezne/Brezna village, 12 km from Dragash/Drageš on the way to Prizren, in a place called “Trokon”. The dimensions of the dumpsite are 247m X 40m or approximately 1.2ha, while its total capacity is 50,000m³. The monthly capacity of this landfill site is 20 tonnes. Although the dumpsite has been constructed according to EU standards with funds from the European Commission it still does not conform to minimum standards as half the landfill is not covered by soil layers (due to financial limitations) and waste water does not undergo any treatment.

### 3.10.2 Waste and recycling

Currently, the collection of waste from households, shops and institutions takes place without primary separation of waste, meaning no waste selection is carried out of organic waste, metal, glass, paper, or hazardous waste (batteries, medicines etc.)

Household waste

Household waste is the third largest waste group produced in Kosovo, comprising about 14% (101kg/person) of the total annual waste output. 35.3% of the household waste collected is organic waste that is biodegradable. A further 21% is glass, 11% wood, 9.4% plastic, 9.3% metal, 8.2% textile, and 4.6% paper. 172

Hazardous industrial waste

Across Kosovo, hazardous waste accounts for approximately 1.2% of total waste output. Many substances, in different aggregate forms, have remained unused for a long time in different facilities, depots, and industrial areas, and which have degraded with time. Some measures taken to reduce the risk from these substances have been supported by donations, KFOR and the Kosovo Police Force (KPC). In addition, other hazardous substances are present due to industrial production, termination of production, and other activities. Dragash/Dragaš-based enterprises which produce this sort of industrial waste include Rematex in the processing and production of wool and textiles. However no accurate data has been collected with respect to the environmental impact of these industrial processes.

Medical waste

Medical waste comprises 0.12% of the total annual waste output in Kosovo. 173 This is the waste generated from hospitals and other healthcare facilities, and poses a particular risk to human health and the environment in Dragash/Dragaš since it is not treated properly. According to field monitoring and other data, pharmaceutical waste is not collected, transported and disposed in line with appropriate standards. Hospital waste is being collected in special containers but this is not being observed by the private sector health services. The Main Family Healthcare Centre in Dragash/Dragaš town generates approximately 14 tonnes of waste per year.

Construction waste

Construction waste accounts for 10% of all waste produced annually in Kosovo. 174 Dragash/Dragaš has undergone a recent boom in construction, with 25 registered construction businesses in the municipality, one construction transport business, and one wood processing sawmill, in total employing around 45 persons. 5 of these companies are registered in Dragash/Dragaš town, while the remainder are located solely in the north and northeast Opoja/Opolje region of the municipality. The high proportion of uninhabited houses in Dragash/Dragaš also testifies to this surge in construction, with

173 Ibid.
174 Ibid.
39.1% of houses remaining empty. Data does not indicate whether these buildings are in the process of construction (and therefore as yet uninhabitable) or whether they have been completed and and are deliberately left empty, possibly to provide a holiday location for visiting families in summer.

Other forms of solid waste that pose particular hazards include: vehicle tyres, end-of-life vehicles (ELVs) and metal, waste oil, and batteries. There is currently no data on the situation of these forms of waste in Dragash/Đragaš. The largest form of solid waste produced in Kosovo is Ash & Grime, about 45% of the annual total of waste (331kg/person). This is followed by other forms of waste (packaging, plastics, tyres, pesticides etc) which accounts for 18% of total output (131.4kg/person annually). 175

Solid waste quantity in Dragash/Đragaš/Đragaš villages

Waste collection is carried out door-to-door and from bin containers, which are distributed at certain points in the villages. Waste transportation does not undergo any preliminary treatment, so the collected volume goes straight to landfill.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Annual quantity (tonnes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Dragash/Đragaš town</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Blać/Bljač</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Bellobrad/Belobrad</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Kapre/Kapra</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Zym/Zjum</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Zapl Luxhe/Zaplužje</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Buzez</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Bresanë/Brodosavce</td>
<td>672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Kuk/Kukovce</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Kuklibeg/Kukljibeg</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Kosavë/Kosavce</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Brrut/Brut</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Pllavë/Plava</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Shajne/Šajnovce</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Rrenc/Renc</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Zgatar</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Brezne/Brezna</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Rapça/Rapče</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

175 Ibid.
Waste disposal services are not provided to 14 of the 36 settlements: except Rapča/Rapçë and Restelica/Restelicë and Ljubovištë / Lubovishtë there are no official waste collections from villages in the Gora/Gorë region, while Xërxe/Zrze is the only village in Opoja/Opolje not being served. A significant factor in this is the non-payment of waste collection charges, but the inability for garbage disposal vehicles to manoeuvre the winding roads to these areas and low village populations that do not produce large amounts of waste may also contribute to the poor collection rate. Informal dump sites (in rivers or at the edge of villages) are present in these villages that are not serviced by the waste company. 15 (approximately 42%) of the 36 settlements have informal dumpsites in the village, while there is ongoing and regular burning of waste in the majority of the villages.

**Projects and investments**

Efforts were made to provide a waste disposal service to the more rural villages and the Gora/Gorë region during a one-year project run by the Italian ICS in four villages (in Ljubovištë/Lubovishtë, Kukuljane/Kukulanë, Vranjë/Vranisht and Radeša/Radeshë in 2005. Despite this investment, the project was deemed to have failed since the population refused to pay the monthly charge of 1€. The total project cost was 17,000€.

According to data from the UNDP draft report on waste, it is estimated that over 10,000 inhabitants - over 2700 households – are not provided with waste collection service. This does not include the number of businesses and institutions in these villages. If average waste generation per capita across Kosovo as a whole is taken into account, then it is estimated that over 4000kg of waste are thrown into fields and rivers on a daily basis.

**3.10.3 Challenges inherent in the existing situation of solid waste management**

Waste collection services do not cover the whole municipality. The improper disposal of waste into the landscape, especially into the rivers, damages the environment.

- How can an effective waste collection system be established in the whole municipality?
- What needs to be done to raise awareness of the proper disposal of waste in consideration of the natural environment?
- How should existing informal landfills be treated?

Recycling and re-use of waste as a resource is not generally practiced, and, combined with low environmental awareness, the results are informal landfills.
How can recycling systems for waste be developed in order to create economic benefits, to save natural resources and to reduce the amount of waste?

3.11 Infrastructure and Utilities

3.11.1 Water Supply

Only two settlements in Dragash/Đragaš/Đragaš Municipality are currently supplied by a central water supply system operated by the local supplier Hidroregioni Jugor: Dragash/Đragaš with an estimated population of 1098 and Pllavë/Plava with an estimated population of 1000\(^{177}\). In both cases surface water is used for supply.

Village surveys conducted by UNDP show a high level of satisfaction with drinking water and general water supply among inhabitants.\(^{178}\) The majority of these settlements are supplied by private systems depending on wells, sources or surface water. The lowest supply rate can be found in Brezne/Brezna, Mlike/Mlikë, and Rapča/Rapçë with only 20% of inhabitants being supplied. In Vraništë/Vranisht only 30% are supplied, in Zgatar/Zgatar 50%, and in Brrut/Brut, Kapre/Kapra, Krstec/Kërstec, Restelica/Restelicë, and Rrenc/Renc 80%. All other villages reach a supply rate of 100%.

As with other services and utilities, non-payment of bills and illegal tapping is a significant factor in access to regular water supply. Old and poorly maintained pipe systems also account for water losses and potential contamination.\(^{179}\)

The quality of drinking water is not supervised. Surface water and groundwater from the sources to the settlements come under Category I in terms of cleanliness, but pollution is present (Category 2) in water courses through Dragash/Đragaš town and downstream to the municipal borders and do not meet appropriate standards for safe drinking water as it is contaminated by fecal matter.\(^{180}\)

Dragash/Đragaš municipality invested around 500,000€ in improving water supply across the territory between 2007 and 2011. This accounts for around 11% of total municipal investment for this period.

Table 28: Water Supply in the Villages of Dragash/Đragaš Municipality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Supplied Inhabitants</th>
<th>Future Supply</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bačka / Bačkë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{176}\) UNDP Sustainable Development Atlas: Volume 2: Baseline, June 2012  
\(^{177}\) Kosovo Population and Housing Census Results 2011: Final Results: Main Data  
\(^{178}\) UNDP Village Surveys, 2011  
\(^{179}\) UNDP Report: Assessment of Water Sector in Dragash Municipality, Markaj, T., March 2010  
\(^{180}\) Ibid.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Origin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellobrad / Belobrad</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blač / Blić</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brezna / Brezna</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brod / Brod</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bresanë / Brodosavce</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brrut / Brut</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buče / Buce</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buzez / Buzez</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dikance / Dikanc</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš / Dragaš</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globočica / Gliobocicë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapre / Kapra</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosavce / Kosavce</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krstec / Kërstec</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kruševë / Krushevë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuk / Kukovce</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kukilbeg / Kuklibeg</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kukuljanë / Kükulanë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leštane / Leshtan</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ljubovištë / Lubovištë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mlike / Mlikë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oruša / Orçushë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilavë / Plava</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pljañik / Plajnik</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radeša / Radeshë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapče / Rapcë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restelica / Restelicë</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renenc / Renc</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shajne / Šajnovce</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vranishte / Vranisht</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xërxe / Zrze</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zappluxhe / Zaplužje</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zgatar / Zgatar</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Well</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zilpotok / Zipotok</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zym / Zjum</td>
<td>own</td>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.11.2 Sewage

Village surveys show that 14 (39%) of Dragash/Dragaš/Dragaš municipality’s villages are installed with sewage system, with another 14 not being connected, and 8 with only partial connection. 31 of the villages (86%), irrespective of whether they have full, partial or no sewage connection, report problems.

The villages that are not connected are: Bellobrad/Belobrad, Blaç/Bljać, Bresanë/Brodosavce, Brezne/Brezna, Brod/Brod, Buçe/Buče, Buzez/Buzez, Dikance/Dikanc, Dragash/Dragaš/Dragaš, Globočica/Glloboçicë, Ljubovište/Lubovishtë, Mlike/Mlikë, Orčuša/Orçushë, and Xërxe/Zrze. The number of households without sewage connection is therefore 1753, around 33% of the municipality population (14,452 persons). The villages of Brrut/Brut, Kosavë/Kosavce, Krstec/Kërstec, Kuk/Kukovce, Kukuljane/Kukulanë, Pllajnik/Plajnik, Pllavë/Plava and Rapča/Rapçë indicate partial connection. This affects around 20% of the municipal population (8595 inhabitants; 1030 households). 181

Between 2007 and 2011, the municipality invested approximately 280,000€ in upgrading the sewage and waste water systems across the territory. This accounts for approximately 6% of total municipal investment for this period.

3.11.3 Waste Water Management

Waste Water Management is almost absent in Dragash/Dragaš/Dragaš Municipality which is having severe impacts on several of the water courses. Domestic waste water is discharged to surface water or groundwater without treatment, which is causing environmental degradation. Pollutants of concern include organic and inorganic pollutants, nitrogen and phosphorus compounds, heavy metals and pathogenic bacteria and viruses. Organic pollutants include organic solvents, cleaners and degreasers and other toxic organics. Water monitoring throughout Kosovo is poor and there is no proper hydrological data. The data for specific pollutants with pollutant concentrations and discharge information is not available.

For more information, see Volume 3 Assessment of the Sustainable Development Atlas.

Currently a waste water treatment plant is being constructed at Kapre River, downstream the village of Kapre/Kapra. The villages of Kuk/Kukovce and Kosavë/Kosavce will be connected to this facility, which will serve two out of 27 villages, with a total of 2563 (2011) inhabitants or approximately 7,5% of the population of the municipality. The waste water treatment plant will prevent the pollution load coming from these villages to reach Accumulation 1 (Bellobrad River) of the Zhur/Žur Hydropower Scheme, and will help to keep water quality there at an acceptable level.

During field survey on water resources undertaken by UNDP in spring 2011, several uncontrolled discharge points of waste water to the rivers of Dragash/Dragaš/Dragaš were identified, some of these

181 Data from Village Survey Results and Dragash_Village_DB, based on official population estimates from 2008.
belonging to companies releasing untreated waste water to the surface water bodies. These locations are marked in the water resources map.

No other concrete plans to tackle the waste water problem in the municipality are known to UNDP.

3.11.4 Electricity network

Although Kosovo used to be a net exporter of electricity, it is currently suffering from huge problems in the energy sector. Coal (lignite, mined in Kosovo) is used in private homes but also to fuel Kosovo’s two power stations that provide energy to the national grid. However, this national network suffers from high technical losses in outdated systems and insufficient production to meet peak demands. Shutdowns and lack of back-up capacity also contribute to the frequent power losses. Furthermore, voltage drops to less than 150V (instead of 230V) result in extra costs for commercial and private users who have to purchase voltage stabilisers and UPS (Uninterrupted Power Supply Units) in order to operate modern electric appliances such as (digital) TV sets, computers and energy saving lamps.

Electricity arrived in Dragash/Dragaš in 1957, when the Dikanca hydropower station started to operate. This plant has not functioned since 2000 because the turbines require replacement, although the facility (with an area of 300m²) is well maintained. The installed generation capacity, in both generators, is 1900 kW (i.e. 2x950=1900 kW). This power plant is owned by the Kosovo Energy Corporation (KEK), but was concessioned to the Frigo Food company in 2009. Rehabilitation of the hydropower facilities is finished, which has replaced equipment and increase productive capacity to 2600 KW.

6 more SHPP are being planned along the Brod and Restelica/Restelicë rivers, but these are under investigation with regard to negative environmental impacts on biodiversity of the river habitats.

The electricity network was also installed in 1957 and is currently in use. There is little reliable current data on energy consumption, although information does exist on supply (excluding firewood, as biomass).

Across Kosovo, 17% of primary energy consumption comes from firewood. 88% of households in Kosovo use firewood for heating, with 66% also using it for cooking. Only 10% of the households use diesel or LPG for household energy demands.

182 From Dragash Spatial Plan, MESP/UNMIK 2006.
Households in Dragash/Dragaš account for 78.51% of energy consumption, with 21.35% used by public and commercial facilities, and a smaller proportion (0.14%) used for public lighting.

Table 29: Energy consumption by source in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality, and percentage consumption

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>6.372</td>
<td>23.29</td>
<td>29.66</td>
<td>23.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil</td>
<td>125,000.00</td>
<td>125,000.00</td>
<td>1.425</td>
<td>1.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>754.00</td>
<td>52,000.00</td>
<td>52,754.00</td>
<td>72.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>0.486</td>
<td>0.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal dung</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td>2.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>123.7</strong></td>
<td><strong>22.02</strong></td>
<td><strong>24.56</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22 of the villages (61%) also use coal, consuming 60 tonnes per year in public and commercial facilities. Oil is highly used by public and commercial facilities, although village surveys reveal that it is not used in households. Households consume the highest proportion of electricity from the national grid. Dried sheep and cow manure is another energy source for households and although this is not reflected in the village surveys, the rural centres of Brod and Restelica/Restelicë are prime consumers. The surveys also show that gas is an important energy source for 29 of the 36 villages, most likely in the form of pressurised containers or stoves.

Table 30: Monthly energy consumption for 2009 in Dragash/Dragaš municipality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Household</td>
<td>1.717</td>
<td>1.810</td>
<td>1.864</td>
<td>1.784</td>
<td>1.852</td>
<td>1.976</td>
<td>2.088</td>
<td>2.001</td>
<td>2.006</td>
<td>1.828</td>
<td>2.337</td>
<td>2.026</td>
<td>23.291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>0.427</td>
<td>0.385</td>
<td>0.478</td>
<td>0.492</td>
<td>0.507</td>
<td>0.583</td>
<td>0.487</td>
<td>0.584</td>
<td>0.524</td>
<td>0.547</td>
<td>0.728</td>
<td>0.593</td>
<td>6.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public lighting</td>
<td>0.012</td>
<td>0.006</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.010</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>29.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Table from UNDP Energy Assessment Report for the Municipality of Dragash, Pireci, M., March 2012. Data is approximate obtained from field survey samples.

From Village Survey Results

Ibid.
Peaks of energy consumption are observed in the colder months of November and December when heating is at its highest, but also in the summer (July, August and September). This may be due to an increased summer population with families returning for holidays abroad for some months, accompanied by weddings and festivals for large crowds.

Dragash/Dragaš municipality is supplied with energy from the Kosovo power plants A and B (located in Obiliq/Obilić municipality near Prishtinë/Priština), through a distance conductor of 35KV running from Prizren. The distribution network of Dragash/Dragaš municipality is managed and maintained by the Distribucioni Prizren-Dragash/Dragaš Working Unit. The Dragash/Dragaš Working Unit is located near the base transmitter, and manages the following infrastructure 189:

1. Base transformer station in Dragash/Dragaš
   TS 35/10 KV with two energy transformers/transmitters with installing power Sn = 8 MVA + 4 MVA = 12 MVA, and with Dikanca Hydro power with Sn = 2.5 MVA. The total installing power is Sn = 14.5 MVA.

2. High tension networks 10 KV:
   a) Aerial network 10 KV length L = 86 Km, with Al – Fe conductor
   b) Ground cable network 10 KV of length L = 1 Km

3. Low tension network 04 KV
   a) Aerial network of length L = 140 Km, with conductor Al – Fe
   b) Ground cable network 04 KV of length 0.5 Km
   c) Aerial network with plat cable 04 KV of length L = 2.43 Km

4. Transformer stations TS 10/04 KV to locations in Dragash/Dragaš town and villages.

   In total are 88 Energy transmitters with an installing power Sn = 20.02 MVA. Of these:
   a) TS 10/04 KV Pyramid (timber), 6 Energy transmitters
   b) TS 10/04 KV towers, 11 Energy transmitters
   c) TS 10/04 KV armour - plates, 7 Energy transmitters
   d) TS 10/04 KV Steel Column, 64 Energy transmitters

189 Dragash Spatial Plan, MESP/UNMIK 2006
5. 70 local transformer stations TS 10/04 KV that are property of KEK. Of these 18 are private transformer stations of TS 10/04 KV (not owned by KEK, the national electricity provider).

While all settlements are connected to the electrical network, there appear to be significant problems with the electricity supply, with 31 of the 36 villages recording problems. 18 of the villages indicate specific problems with low voltage (50% of the settlements). Apart from Restelica/Restelicë, which does not appear to have any problems with electricity, the remainder of the settlements without issues are small secondary or tertiary centres.

Higher village populations combined with a lack of maintenance and upgrading over the years may mean that the existing electrical transmission and distribution systems are overloaded by increased settlement size and additional household construction, in addition to the normal technical losses associated with transmission. The difficult terrain and significant distances involved across the municipality to reach more rural villages also plays a role in the problems with electricity networks, including maintenance and losses. Non-technical losses are also a general feature across Kosovo, and account for 30% of overall losses in Dragash/Dragaš. This is caused by (i) theft of electricity from illegal connections to the distribution network and meter tampering; (ii) inaccurate metering and (in some cases) an absence of meters; and (iii) non-payment of bills by end-users.

**Thermal insulation**

Thermal insulation reduces energy loss from the fabric of buildings, thus retaining heat and reducing energy demands. This in turn reduces cost for the inhabitants, as well as reducing the emission of carbon dioxide in the production of energy, and other gases and particulates which may be harmful. Reducing energy consumption from firewood would also have a beneficial impact on the protection of natural forests.

The Law on Energy Efficiency was approved in June 2011 in Kosovo. This obliges the municipalities to develop an Energy Efficiency Action Plan (EEAP), which has to be approved by Municipality. The development of the EEAP within municipalities will be supervised and guided by the Kosovo Energy Efficiency Agency, which was established at the end of 2011 and commenced activities in May 2012. The implementation of the EEAP is to be funded by municipalities from their own budget.

Field surveys were conducted by UNDP to gain an overview of the use of thermal insulation in buildings in Dragash/Dragaš (glasswool or polystyrene insulation). In general, only about 12% of buildings are thermally insulated across the municipality, in public, commercial and residential buildings.

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190 UNDP Village Survey Results
Table 31: Public buildings in the Municipality, the existing situation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total municipal public buildings</th>
<th>192</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Floor area</td>
<td>30775 [m²]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thermal insulation</td>
<td>3,535.00 [m²]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No thermal insulation</td>
<td>27,240.00 [m²]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 32: Existing condition in individual (residential) buildings in the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data on individual buildings</th>
<th>193</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building floor area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal insulation</td>
<td>12 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No thermal insulation</td>
<td>88 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Public lighting**

According to the field surveys by UNDP, the Municipality of Dragash/Dragaš has installed around 230 lighting bodies in Dragash/Dragaš town and 9 villages.

Existing public lighting (street lights) use mercury incandescent light bulbs at a load of P = 125 [W], while the total energy consumed by public lighting annually is around 0.042 [GWh/y]. However, around a third of the lamps are out of working order; if all worked, the total energy used per year would be 0.126 [GWh/year]. Dragash/Dragaš town has installed 55 street lights in the main streets. A field evaluation in January 2012 records that 18 are in working condition, with 37 lamps being out of order. The municipality is responsible for the installation, maintenance and the payment of the electricity consumption for street lights. The street lights in 9 villages have been funded by contributions by the local residents.

According to surveys conducted for the “Energy Baseline for Dragash/Dragaš Municipality”, 72% of respondents felt that street lighting has direct impact to the increasing of security, while 28% felt it was a commodity.

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192 According to survey data obtained from MA Dragash staff members
Hydropower

The ample water resources of Dragash/Dragaš provide a huge potential for generation of hydro power. In addition to the proposed rehabilitation of the Dikanca hydropower station (capacity 2.6MW), two schemes are currently in pursuit to exploit the local hydropower potential:

a) The Zhur/Žur Hydropower Scheme: This is a peaking hydropower scheme with a total installed capacity of 305MW. The two plants will be located outside Dragash/Dragaš Municipality near the village of Zhur/Žur. Via a system of tunnels and canals, water will be transferred from the Black Stone River sub-basin, from Restelica and Brod River to a first, small reservoir in River Pllavë/Plava Valley, and from there to a bigger, second reservoir close to the village of Brezne/Brezna. A tunnel for the water will then lead down to the power plants, and from there lead to the two power plants, with an altitude difference of 643m and respectively 683.5m. The water flows of rivers Caljane, Restelica/Restelicë, Brod and Pllavë/Plava will be affected, as well as the carstic water flow from near Lake Brezna to “Gurra”. The Legal Decision for the construction of the Zhur/Žur Hydropower Plant was taken by the Assembly of the Repulic of Kosovo on July 24th, 2009.

b) Along the Brod and Restelica/Restelicë Rivers the construction of six SHPPs is planned by an international consortium. Neither the exact locations of outtakes and intakes, nor exact data on the planned amount of abstraction, were available at this time. For more information, see Volume 3 Assessment of the Sustainable Development Atlas.

3.11.5 Telecommunication networks

PTK (Post & Telecommunications of Kosovo) has a working unit in Dragash/Dragaš providing landline telephone and postal services. A post service or mobile post service is provided in 27 of Dragash/Dragaš’s 36 villages (75%). Those that are not covered are: Buçe/Buče, Krstec/Kërstec, Orčuša/Orçushë, Pllajnik/Plajnik, Radeša/Radeshë, and Vranište/Vranisht.

Landline phone networks however are only supplied to 5 villages: Bellobrad/Belobrad, Brod/Brod, Brrut/Brut, Globočica/Glloboçicë, and Kukuljane/Kukulanë.

All have mobile phone reception although the quality of this varies greatly across the municipality. 7 villages report problems: Blaç/Bljać, Buçe/Buče, Dragash/Dragaš, Kosavë/Kosavce, Orčuša/Orçushë and Radeša/Radeshë. These villages are located in the northern and central areas of the municipality. However, 3 villages report good reception: Krstec/Kërstec, Vranište/Vranisht and Zappluxhe/Zaplužje which is likely to relate to the altitudes of these villages on the eastern and western mountain slopes in relation to other villages located in valley areas. The villages of Orčuša/Orçushë and Radeša/Radeshë

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record the most problems in terms of general communication, with no postal or landline telephone service, and poor mobile phone reception.

All villages are connected to the internet, with 56% (20) of the villages having an internet café equally spread in villages across the municipality.

3.11.6 Challenges inherent in the existing situation of technical infrastructure

Public services (water, sewage, power supply, telecommunications, etc.) do not cover entire territory of the municipality; existing service infrastructure is partially old and not functioning well.

- How can these services be improved?
- How can a good working water system be installed which will ensure a high quality of drinking water and reduction in water losses?
- How can waste water management be developed in 36 dispersed villages?

Energy supply and consumption differs through the year because of voltage drops and temporarily inhabited houses.

- How can a stable power supply be ensured?
- What kind of renewable energy can be produced/used in Dragash/Dragaš?

Postal and phone networks are fragmented, but every village is connected to the internet.

- How can modern media help to overcome the obstacle of 36 dispersed villages in Dragash/Dragaš?

3.12 Investment capacity assessment

The Law on Local Governance Finance equalises the low, own-source revenue capacity of the smaller municipalities. From a total of the General Grant, each municipality receives a lump-sum amount of €140,000 per year less €1 for each member of the population, or €0 for municipalities with populations equal to or greater than 140,000. The municipal population is weighted at 89%; the size of their non-majority population is weighted at 3%; municipalities with a majority of their population composed of national non-majority groups at 2%; and the size of their physical area at 6%.

Dragash/Dragaš’s population is relatively small. According to the Kosovo Law on Local Government Finance the smallest municipalities by number of population are the newly established municipalities with a population ranging from 4000 to 10,000 inhabitants. Dragash/Dragaš, however, has an estimated number of at around 35,000 inhabitants.

The table below shows that Dragash/Dragaš is not benefiting from being an ethnically diverse society, with half the non-majority population and at the same time being eighth largest municipality in Kosovo.
The table shows that in comparison with Deçan/Dečane, Dragash/Dragaš is 130 km$^2$ larger in land area; compared to Fushë Kosova/Kosovo Polje, Dragash/Dragaš is five times larger although it has very similar population figures. However the municipal budget of Dragash/Dragaš is smaller and its own-source revenue collection is very low compared to Fushë Kosova/Kosovo Polje. The appropriateness of this financial formula should be assessed through serious analysis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Population$^{196}$</th>
<th>Minorities</th>
<th>Size$^{197}$</th>
<th>2012 Budget $^{198}$</th>
<th>Municipal own revenues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dragash/Dragaš</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>12,935</td>
<td>430 km</td>
<td>5,547,372</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deçan/Dečane</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>297 km</td>
<td>6,137,529</td>
<td>531,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fushë Kosova/Kosovo Polje</td>
<td>33,682</td>
<td>3,367</td>
<td>83 km</td>
<td>6,091,949</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below shows the budget of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality over the last 5 years, and the increase in line with the Kosovo national budget.

Table 33: Budget of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality 2007-2011$^{199}$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Salaries and DSA</th>
<th>Goods &amp; services</th>
<th>Municipal expenditures</th>
<th>Subsidies &amp; transfers</th>
<th>Capital investment</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>€3,333,880</td>
<td>€333,564</td>
<td>€100,500</td>
<td>€35,000</td>
<td>€1,744,427</td>
<td>€5,544,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>€3,169,880</td>
<td>€320,640</td>
<td>€96,240</td>
<td>€36,098</td>
<td>€1,958,901</td>
<td>€5,581,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>€2,325,122</td>
<td>€320,382</td>
<td>€94,500</td>
<td>€35,000</td>
<td>€1,505,961</td>
<td>€4,280,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>€2,153,446</td>
<td>€303,087</td>
<td>€91,500</td>
<td>€40,000</td>
<td>€1,137,247</td>
<td>€3,725,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>€1,837,827</td>
<td>€336,763</td>
<td>€88,500</td>
<td>€38,000</td>
<td>€388,009</td>
<td>€2,689,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>€1,764,187</td>
<td>€343,268</td>
<td>€80,500</td>
<td>€14,000</td>
<td>€297,971</td>
<td>€2,499,926</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^{196}$ Law No. 03/ L-049 ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
$^{197}$ Law No. 03/ L-049 ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
$^{198}$ http://www.assembly-kosova.org/common/docs/ligjet/Buxheti%202012.pdf
$^{199}$ Interview with Mr. Ahmet Batjari Director Economy, Finance and Development
4. SWOT ANALYSIS

SWOT Analysis is a strategic planning method used to evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses/Limitations, Opportunities, and Threats involved in a project or in a business venture. It involves specifying the objective of the business venture or project and identifying the internal and external factors that are favourable and unfavourable to achieve that objective. Setting the objective should be undertaken after the SWOT analysis has been performed. This would allow achievable goals or objectives to be set for the organisation.200

In the field of urban planning, the SWOT analysis is a frequently used tool to describe characteristics of the municipality. In case of the MDP for Dragash/Dragaš, the following definitions are used:

- **Strengths**: characteristics of the municipality that contribute to the development of livelihoods and possibly give it an advantage over others
- **Weaknesses (or Limitations)**: characteristics that constrain livelihoods and place the municipality at a disadvantage, relative to others
- **Opportunities**: chances to improve the municipal situation in the future
- **Threats**: elements that could cause problems for the future development of the municipality

In different studies and workshops existing strengths and weaknesses as well as opportunities and threats for the future of Dragash/Dragaš were defined by international experts and citizens of Dragash/Dragaš. The prominent issues are summarised below to give an overview of the main challenges to Dragash/Dragaš. The structure of the following list is based on the themes in Chapter 3 and in no order of priority.

4.1 Strengths

- **Settlements**
  - Settlements represent the long history and the rich cultural life of Dragash/Dragaš;
  - The settlement pattern has mostly preserved its origin with villages being embedded into the landscape in a characteristic way, with great beauty;
  - The position of the settlements offers access to natural resources and traditional land use. In many cases there are forests and pasturlands above the villages, with agricultural land below them. Springs offer clean drinking water;
  - There are a great number of new buildings in the settlements, so housing conditions have improved considerably.

- **Land Use**
  - Diverse natural resources are good quality, with nice landscapes providing a good basis for human land use;
  - The traditional way of land use has been well adapted to the natural situation.

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200 Wikipedia.org
• **Education**
  - There is a functioning system of central and satellite schools, offering access to primary school in almost every village;
  - Attendance of upper primary school (class 6-9 / 5-8) is significantly higher than some years ago; The illiteracy rate is only 1% (women and men);
  - The physical situation of schools has improved in the last years.

• **Health**
  - Dragash/Dragaš as a whole meets the healthcare standards of staff-patient ratio;
  - The graded system of healthcare units (Main Family Medical Centre, Family Medical Centres and Health Clinics provides an efficient medical supply.

• **Economy, Employment**
  - Business can benefit from proximity to the administrative centre and can build on natural products;
  - Society can build on a young and motivated population, and rich heritage;
  - Remittances from the diaspora and international funding offer an inflow of money that can be used to improve the local economy.

• **Agriculture, Forestry**
  - The rich natural resources and the position in the Sharr/Šar Mountains offer good conditions for the production of high quality products, which are well-respected in regional markets;
  - Dragash/Dragaš is the municipality containing the largest areas of pasture in Kosovo;
  - The municipality is not disadvantaged by any industry or other activity which is fundamentally detrimental to nature protection and high quality agriculture;
  - Large forest areas offer good conditions for generation of income using both wood- and non-wood-products.

• **Biodiversity, Nature Protection**
  - Dragash/Dragaš is one of the Balkan’s hotspots with regards to its exceptional biodiversity containing a considerable number of endemic and rare species;
  - Large parts of the municipal territory can be regarded as areas of high ecological value;
  - The mountain range of the Sharr/Šar Mountains and Mount Koritnik, above the natural timberline, represents almost natural alpine grass- and shrubland. This is the most prevalent type of landuse in Dragash/Dragaš;
  - Brown bears, lynx, wolves, chamois, a great number of birds, butterflies and other fauna groups have their habitats in Dragash/Dragaš and contribute to the high ecological value.

• **Tourism**
  - The citizens of Dragash/Dragaš are ready to welcome guests with hospitality;
  - There are at least some elements of a tourism infrastructure (hotel, restaurants, ...) working or under construction.

• **Culture**
  - There are important cultural heritage places and buildings;
  - Traditions have been preserved amongst the population;
  - Inter-community cooperation unites the two linguistic and cultural communities in one territory;
  - Albanian, Bosniak and Gorani people own a rich and long-preserved cultural heritage
• **Road Network, Transport**
  - The local road network has improved a lot in the last years through municipal investment. Almost every village has paved road access now;
  - Public transport, run by private companies, connects Dragash/Dragaš and the Opoja/Opolje region to Prizren, Prishtinë/Priština and Belgrade.

• **Technical Infrastructure**
  - All villages have local or central water supply systems;
  - All houses are connected to the electric grid; the frequency of blackouts has been reduced in recent years;
  - 21 villages are included in a waste collection service.

### 4.2 Weaknesses

• **Settlements**
  - Today’s requirements of mobility and connection to job markets create huge disadvantages to a dispersed settlement structure with remote villages;
  - Remote settlements have lost inhabitants by emigration to an extent that endangers their future existence;
  - Uncontrolled expansion and a non-functioning regulatory framework for construction in some settlements causes conflicts and sometimes risks of natural hazards;
  - The intensive construction activities have changed the appearance of the villages; historic buildings have been removed or are declining; the public space has been neglected.
  - The weakness of technical infrastructure (e.g. solid waste management, pollution of drinking water) constrains livelihoods in many villages.

• **Land Use**
  - Natural resources and their use suffer from mismanagement and degradation.

• **Education, Health**
  - The level of education is still low, compared to international standards;
  - Girls still have lower attendance in secondary education;
  - There is no facility for professional education in Dragash/Dragaš yet;
  - Society is negatively affected by weak educational opportunities; in particular, the lack of professional education leads to low quality of labour;
  - The existing “parallel-system” is complicating an effective organisation of educational facilities and resources;
  - The specific settlement structure of Dragash/Dragaš with its 36 small and dispersed villages is hampering the supply of social infrastructure as long as the financial resources are limited. There is, for example, a lack of doctors in many villages, even when the total number of medical staff meets the national standards;
  - The qualification of educational and medical staff is not sufficient in many cases.

• **Economy, Employment**
  - Unemployment is at a very high level;
  - Business and the local economy suffer from incapability of and weak collaboration with the local authorities, from weak infrastructure and weak vocational education.

• **Agriculture, Forestry**
  - Agricultural labour has lost its attractiveness in the modern economy;
The breakdown of socialism, particularly the end of the former SOE Sharrprodhimi/Šarproizvod, has meant a reduction of agricultural production and marketing that has still not been overcome. For example, the number of livestock has decreased dramatically. There is still a lack of organisation and cooperation in the field of agriculture; Agriculture is actually not a profitable activity because of limited equipment and knowledge, insufficient quantity and quality of local production and the lack of economic possibilities (markets); The value creation of agricultural products is low when raw material is sold without processing.

- **Tourism**
  - Lack of accommodation opportunities, touristic information centres, path identification (marking) as well as the weak regional road infrastructure restrain touristic development;

- **Culture**
  - Lack of available funds means that cultural and historic monuments are not maintained and in danger of simply disappearing; the same is true for traditional houses and other buildings;
  - There is no written history of cultural heritage for this region, nor proper documentation;

- **Road Network, Transport**
  - Dragash/Dragaš is only accessible from the rest of Kosovo through a single and difficult road;
  - Cross-border connections to Albania and FYR Macedonia are interrupted, which increases the remoteness of Dragash/Dragaš enormously;
  - Maintenance of local roads is lacking; this endangers the economic sustainability of investments;
  - Public transport, provided by private enterprises, suffers from low frequency, a lack of coordination of routes and timetables and does not service the Gora/Gorë region.

- **Technical Infrastructure**
  - The drinking water supply suffers from weak existing waterpipe networks, a lack of maintenance, and lack of control over water quality. High losses of water and insufficient water quality in a number of villages result;
  - The electrical grid still encounters problems with stability as its capacities are not sufficient;
  - Energy efficiency is poor in many cases, due to the lack of insulation in houses or on equipment. Sources of renewable energy are not yet in use;
  - Existing sewage systems are often technically weak; in all cases they discharge their load into the rivers;
  - Inappropriate methods of waste disposal (burning, dumping at illegal landfills or into the rivers) endangers human health and the environment. 16 villages still have no access to waste collection (all in the Gora/Gorë region);
  - The willingness to pay fees for water, electricity or waste collection is low in many cases; this endangers the improvement of technical infrastructure;
  - Private companies who are responsible for technical infrastructure are often reported to be unreliable and lacking in capacities.
4.3 Opportunities

- **Settlements**
  - Almost all villages offer opportunities for further development in safe and highly suitable settlement areas;
  - Regulation of private construction activities can lead to sustainable development of settlements, can preserve the identity of the villages, and can allow the proper reinforcement of technical infrastructure;
  - Improvement in the design of public space, maintenance of historic buildings and protection of green spaces can contribute to the attractiveness of the villages.

- **Land Use**
  - There are numerous opportunities to make better use of natural resources and improve their management in a sustainable manner;

- **Education, Health**
  - Further improvement of personal, infrastructural and technical equipment will offer better chances for education and healthcare in the future;
  - The opening of the new secondary/vocational school will offer a great opportunity for improvements in the educational standard, especially in the field of professional education.

- **Economy, Employment**
  - Female emancipation and participation in the economy and decision-making processes, and the improvement of perspectives for youth, are the most important opportunities for society.
  - Members of the diaspora can act as trend scouts, ambassadors, networkers and investors;
  - The flow of money coming from the diaspora and from international funding offers chances to strengthen the local economy, if the money is spent usefully;
  - Natural resources and tourism provide various opportunities to develop new businesses;
  - The enlargement of the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park as a catalyst for tourism offers chances for the economic development of Dragash/Dragaš;

- **Agriculture, Forestry**
  - Because of its diversified territory and (relatively) clean environment that is suitable for a wide range of cultures of specific value and high quality, Dragash/Dragaš can benefit from the growing (global) demand for diversified and high quality/healthy products.
  - Creating a regional or municipal brand for agricultural products (e.g., “Sharri cheese” or “Dragash/Dragaš cheese”) would offer opportunities to sell products with high quality at a high price.
  - Improvement of value chains could lead to the generation of higher income from agricultural products.

- **Biodiversity, Natural Protection**
  - The extension of the Sharr/Šar National Park to the Mountains of Dragash/Dragaš presents a unique chance to protect biodiversity.
  - Following an integrated development strategy can enhance biodiversity by supporting sustainable land use and reducing conflicts with human activities.
- Improvement of waste water treatment, the extention of solid waste collection and measures for energy efficiency can reduce human impact on the environment.

**Tourism**
- The natural environment and the cultural diversity of the population are great assets of Dragash/Dragaš and reinforce the development of nature-based mountain tourism;
- The relief means that there is significant potential for a full range of summer and winter mountain tourism activities;
- Eco-tourism is one of the greatest potentials for development of the municipality;
- The diaspora members, returning to Dragash/Dragaš during the summer holidays, are a huge group of potential customers for touristic infrastructure;
- The extention of the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park provides a unique chance to promote tourism in Dragash/Dragaš.

**Culture**
- Establishing a museum for both ethnicities in Dragash/Dragaš could represent the municipality both internally and externally;
- To protect cultural heritage (buildings, landscape, traditions, etc.) maintains and reinforces identity;

**Road Network, Transport**
- The re-opening of trans-border connections create new possibilities for trade and regional tourism;
- Improved and new internal connections give clients and tourists access to suppliers and to tourist attractions;

**Technical Infrastructure**
- Waste management in Dragash/Dragaš can be integrated into larger policies of recycling and river basin management. An ambitious and pragmatic waste management policy could act as a pilot case study for rural Kosovo.

### 4.4 Threats

**Settlements**
- The future situation of migration will be essential for most aspects of the development of the municipality. Ongoing emigration would endanger the existence of remote settlements.
- The large difference between the sizes of summer and winter population causes serious problems for urban planning and for the development of technical infrastructure (water, waste water treatment...)
- Uncontrolled expansion of the settlements enlarges the infrastructural problems and may destroy agricultural land of high quality and the environment.
- Further negligence of infrastructure is a major threat for the settlements;

**Land Use**
- As a consequence of the lack of investment in agriculture, the spontaneously growing resources (principally aromatic herbs) risk over-harvesting to the point of threatening their regeneration, while agricultural land is under-used and subject to natural reforestation and/or erosion;
➢ Inadequate land use such as over-grazing or over-logging maximises erosion and disaster risks such as avalanches

- **Education**
  ➢ Limited opportunities of education at a higher level results in unemployment, migration and restrains development;
  ➢ Low education or no higher education for women hinders gender equality and options for social and economic development.

- **Health**
  ➢ Under-supply of basic health services restrains the ability of the population to actively participate in all fields: social, political and economic;

- **Economy, Employment**
  ➢ In the business sector, the loss of intellectual potential and workforce due to continued emigration and an increase of the informal sector are the major threats;

- **Agriculture, Forestry**
  ➢ Tendencies to transfer small farming economies into medium and large commercial farms with intensive growth conditions and with a genetic basis of high productivity might reshape traditional land use (losing traditions of farming) and endanger the environment through high rates of fertilizers;
  ➢ Lack of investments in agricultural infrastructure, technology and knowledge causes people to abandon farming;

- **Biodiversity, Natural Protection**
  ➢ Further loss of natural resources and biodiversity may result from continued mismanagement, degradation, weak technical infrastructure and lack of awareness;
  ➢ The demand for intact landscapes and biodiversity competes with demands for increased exploitation of specific assets such as ski slopes, fast road connections and (at a larger scale) hydro-power; planning of infrastructure projects without respect to the environment could severely harm nature.

- **Tourism**
  ➢ Uncoordinated development might destroy the natural resources as a basis for tourism.

- **Culture**
  ➢ Continued emigration and loss of cultural heritage are threatening society in Dragash/Dragaš;

- **Road Network, Transport**
  ➢ Underfunding or overfunding of road projects may lead to inefficient or ineffective investments (cheap roads need more maintenance, expensive roads in the wrong place or without follow-up measures may not yield any development impulse);

- **Technical Infrastructure**
  ➢ Lack of waste management is threatening public health and poses an obstacle for tourism development, creating uncontrolled pollution in rivers and within settlements;
  ➢ Investment into technical infrastructure without sufficient labour quality and sufficient maintenance would dissipate financial resources without long-lasting effects.
  ➢ Lack of public awareness and willingness to pay fees endangers the installation of working technical infrastructure.
4.5 Summary

Analysing the current situation of Dragash/Dragaš, as shown in Chapter 3 and 4.1 to 4.2, there are areas in which the municipality is strong or very strong. There are, however, also some essential weaknesses to be tackled. The following scheme illustrates these issues, which are described in detail in the Chapters above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weakness</th>
<th>Strength</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Settlements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Use</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economy, Employment</td>
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<td>Agriculture, Forestry</td>
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<td>Biodiversity</td>
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<td>Road Network, Transport</td>
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<td>Technical Infrastructure</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There are opportunities and threats for further development in every aspect, as shown in the chapters above. Analysing the current situation, there are some trends which appear to create the highest risks for the municipality. On the other hand, there are also some very great opportunities. In the following table these threats and opportunities are highlighted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Threats for Dragash / Dragaš</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abandonment of agriculture</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If agricultural activities remain a field with low economic results for hard work, young people would be particularly keen to abandon agriculture and seek jobs in other economic sectors. A decline of land use would in the long term dramatically change the physical characteristics of the landscape and the
character of the municipality.

**Depopulation as a result of weak economy**

If the macro-economic situation of Kosovo as a whole and the local economy of Dragash/Dragaš remain weak for a long time and offer no jobs, no income and no perspectives (particularly for the young generation), it must be suspected that the process of emigration will continue in future. This might lead to depopulation especially of remote villages and constrain the development of the municipality.

**Degradation of biodiversity**

If awareness about the environment, the situation of technical infrastructure and appreciation for environmental matters in infrastructural planning remain weak, actual trends could cause severe degradation to the biodiversity of the municipality. Such trends include uncontrolled discharge of waste, lack of waste water treatment, and uncontrolled expansion of settlements, as well as future impacts by projects for roads, hydropower plants, etc... This could destroy the treasure of Dragash/Dragaš: its rich natural resources.

**Main Opportunities for Dragash / Dragaš**

**Protection of biodiversity**

The rich natural resources include a great diversity of plants and animals and must be regarded as the greatest strength of the Municipality. Thus, sustainable land use and protection of biodiversity - mainly the extension of the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park - offer the chance to preserve this treasure for the future, which will be a great value both for humans and nature.

**Development of Tourism**

The beauty of nature and the rich cultural heritage offer the chance to develop nature-based tourism that can provide income and jobs and thus strengthen the local economy. The great number of people from the diaspora spending the summer time in Dragash/Dragaš is one positive factor in this; the extension of the Sharr/Šar Mountain National Park offers another great chance for promoting Dragash/Dragaš as an area for tourism.

**Adjustment of agriculture and development of local economy**

Improvement of agricultural production, cooperation and marketing offer the potential to lead to an increase in quantity and quality of products and improve value creation. This may stabilise agriculture and land use as the basis for the economic development of Dragash/Dragaš. Additional development of the secondary and especially of the tertiary economic sector (e.g. by improvement of professional education) may offer jobs and income, strengthening the local economy. The inflow of money from international funding and from the diaspora offer chances to achieve this. Therefore this money needs to be spent on strategic projects of common interest.