

URBAN PLANNING
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Beyond the International Development Cooperation:

Criticalities and Potentialities of Development in Albania

Case study: “Atelier Albania” & “Albania Domani”

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ACRONYMS

Planning Authorities in Albania:

KM - Keshilli i Ministrave

Council of Ministries

KKT - Keshilli Kombetar i Territorit

National Council for the territory

AKPT - Agjencia Kombetare e Planifikimit Territorial

National Agency for Territorial Planning

AA - Atelier Albania Project

AD - Albania Domani Project

First Administrative Level: Central Government

Second Administrative Level: Regional Departments

Third Administrative Level: Municipalities and Qarku

European Instruments:

IPA - Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance

CBC - Cross Border Cooperation

International Actors in Development Cooperation:

GIZ - Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit.

ADC - Austrian Development Cooperation. Coordination Office.

SDC - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

SIDA - Swedish International Development Agency.

DGCS - Cooperazione Italiana allo Sviluppo

CESVI - Italian ONG

Celim - Italian ONG

Lvia - Italian ONG

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Albania is a small country in the southwest of the Balkans. Its population does not exceed 3.2 million inhabitants. Since June 2014 Albania is a “candidate” country for accession to the European Union.

The history of this process is the result of nearly 25 years of political openness to the Western countries, considering the totalitarian regime which ruled the country between 1945-1990. By gradually absorbing the “new” model of the free market, the Albanian economy is nowadays still facing the issues of informality and public transparency. Urban development is the best case to describe this ‘syndrome’. Although this process seems very fast and caotic, Albania shows a good case to study a series of events concentrated in a span of 25 years.

The first phase of this thesis will investigate on this processes, showing a major interest on four main internal events; demographics and cultural heritage, urban development and its environmental effects, the planning tools and finally the administrativ/territorial reform.

From the internal dynamics, it can be argued that in recent years a continuous work to stop uncontrolled development and informality is taking place in Albania. Beyond this process of “relief” a consistent group of policy maker wants to foster a competitive development in accordance with the guidelines of the European Union. For these reason the International Cooperation for Territorial Development should be considered as an important “actor” in the development processes.

The “Star” project for the Territorial and Administrative Reform, “Atelier Albania” from the Dutch cooperation, and “Albania Tomorrow” from the Italian cooperation are some examples involved on these territorial processes. On the survey of these projects it has been made a double line work; one through the research on the internet of Development Cooperation projects in Albania, and the other thanks to the interviews conducted in the field.

For the first part of investigation it has been very helpful the work I have done as an internship at the “Laboratory of International Cooperation”. During these intership I had the possibility to prepare a brief Report named: “Actors, Instruments and Programs of Internationa Development Cooperation in Albania”, which shows an overall view of the International Development in the administrative system and the territorial location. Once recognized these actors who works in Albania in the various sectors of development, the research took a new narrative approach, based on the interviews (chapter four).

As we can see on “particular thanks”, the interviews have been directed to seven actors; one to an university professor about Albanian development and cooperation, other two interviews to the actors in the public administration (central level), and other four to ONGs working in the Albanian territory - from the most rural areas from the north Albania to the south (Shkoder and Permet).

Once clustered the projects in categories and sectors of intervention to public administration the thesis focused on two macro categories of development and "Capacity Building": the "Ability Building" and "Skills Building", with their respective projects: "Atelier Albania" and "Albania Domani" (Chapter five)

In these research conditions the term "territorial development" will be regarded as an object of observation and criticism on the adaptability in urban and rural areas. (Graph on Chapter 5. "Albania Domani" and "Atelier Albania" in the Administrative System)

So international projects for the development will be studied to understand the problems of development in the Albanian territory in order to be able to direct the future development of Public Policies.

And this, for two reasons; a) the first is that the international projects appear very scattered around the territory and without a national strategy, and b) the other reason is because the territorial cooperation shows us that it is possible to obtain development results also there where the Public Administration for Spatial Planning can not arrive - considering the several different shortcomings and advantages of these forms of development.

In addition to the need for an extension of the Public sphere there is also a need to criticize the planning tools on each administrative level - acknowledging that Albania presents a particular case for the Western countries.

Finally, this thesis research critically sums up two possible scenarios to connect the territorial policies on development from the Public Administration to the Civil Society, and vice versa; the first one is based on the context of the Balkans countries and on the role that Civil Platforms (CivKos), or the National Agencies on Civil Empowerment, has in the public-private-civil society cooperation, while the other is focused on the process which is already taking place - such as the accession to the European Union.

Considering that the Administrative and Territorial Reform is even a Juridical and Political matter, and not only a development question, the structural funds, CBC programs and others related to the second scenario will have only a technical proposition on the planning tools by carrying out the criticalities of the development in the Albanian territory - chapter 5.

01 1.0 INTRODUCTION TO ALBANIA

CHAPTER

Albania is a small country situated in South East Europe, bordering to Montenegro and Kosovo in the North and North West, FYROM in the North-East and East, and Greece in the South. On the west the Adriatic and the Ionian Sea form the Albanian coast line and divide the country from Italy.

The country is geographically advantageously situated and has been regarded since the antiquity as a bridge between the west and the east for transport, trade and culture (Hall D, 1999).

Albania has a population of just under three million people spread over an area of 28,748 square kilometres, where the central western plain has the greatest density with the capital Tirana being the most populated city in the country (INSTAT, 2011).

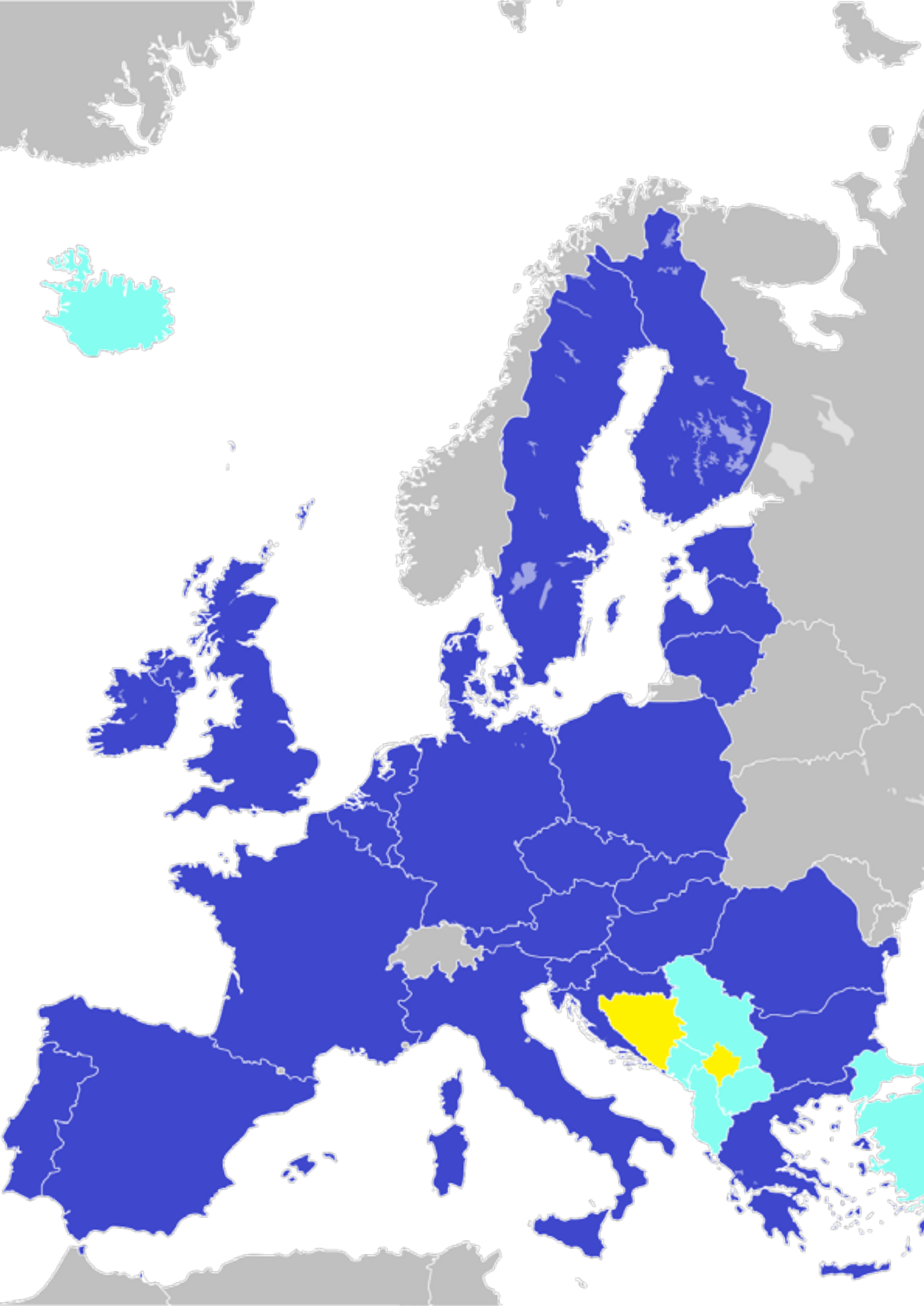
The country has a Mediterranean climate with warm summers and mild winters which offers good conditions for agriculture and tourism, especially the latter, as the fascinating landscape of the country offers opportunities for marine as well as mountainous activities.

Albania was ruled by the Ottoman Empire for almost five centuries, until 1912, which left the country severely underdeveloped and mostly focused on agriculture, bypassing the industrial revolution (Aliaj B. 2009). Following that the country went through numerous struggles to form a stable governing system, going through different phases from a republic to a self-proclaimed monarchy. However, Albania during this time remained still underdeveloped and mostly agricultural.

After the WWII the country went through one of the toughest communist dictatorships in the region. The fall of the communist regime in 1990 was followed by a transitional period associated with several problems. However, despite its many efforts Albania has not yet been able to accomplish one of its greatest aspirations, join the European Union, due to insufficient political stability, corruption, as well as a slow progress on the institutional adaptation to the European standards which has come as a consequence of the transition period and the path dependency from the communist era (Johnson A. M, 2010).

After many negotiations process to the United Europe, Albania finally from June of 2014 is official a 'candidate' country.

Although this historical moment, and the political rotation (new Governemnt Rama - Sett 2013), many challenges still remain frozen or slowed, and many reforms are waiting for a parliamentary consensus, such is the Territorial Reform and the Administrative capacity to use IPA instruments.



01

2.0 INTRODUCTION TO THE RESEARCH

CHAPTER

The research on this thesis starts from fall of the old communist regime until the present day. During these years, more than 10 governments have changed, including structural changes in the constitution. Instead, on the other hand, with slowest steps, spatial planning as a process, has recognized only three phases in the institutional renovation.

The last, and most inclusive of the other two, is the last reform of 2009 “On Territorial Planning” - which sees land use planning as a multidisciplinary dimensions on governmental policies.

All three phases:

- 1)** consolidation of democracy (ex: new administrative level),
- 2)** the institutional changes (ex: decentralization reforms), and
- 3)** the change of the “scientific” approach (ex: multidisciplinary interpretation on Territorial Planning), almost on all the public sectors (transport, health, etc.), have been accompanied by a greater external contributions and contributors to the Albanian country. Just to remember the role that remittances has played long the ‘90s and early 2000s.

International cooperation has played a crucial role in all three phases and continues to do so today. During these years, cooperation has taken different shapes and sizes so even changing the economic, political and social life in Albania. So to understand better the process of europeanization in Albania it would need to look at the various changes that cooperation has taken, starting with the critical adaption to the consolidation of political culture.

More specifically, this thesis will investigate the international cooperation, starting from the most classical approach- development cooperation, to the more recent forms of cooperation - decentralized cooperation.

The two case studies are “**Albania Domani**” and “**Atelier Albania**”, where personally I have had the possibility to work on during the internship at “Laboratory of International Cooperation” DASTU Department, Polyethnic University of Milan.

Finally, to point these processes on planning and policies related to territorial planning, it will be considered the role of the central government (AKPT - National Agency of Territorial Planning) as a possible key factor for a “pro-active” approach on policies in the europeanization process. So to conclude, this thesis is going to deal on the third phase of the International Cooperation, described as before, - the change of the “scientific approach”.

Reflections and Starting Point for the Research Questions.

On the heels of the horrors of the Balkan Wars at the beginning of the twentieth century Winston Churchill observed that »the Balkans have the tendency to produce more history than they can consume.«

While this might be true and the Balkan nations can be blamed for many of their own ills, Churchill's observation is only half the story. The other half is that the major international players have over the centuries exported to the Balkans more history than the local political market could absorb. This unstoppable importation of outside history makes the peoples of the Balkans mere objects rather than subjects of history and forces them in turn to complement that outsider generated history by their own mythology. Mythology is usually produced as a form of compensation by those who are unable to produce more history. In the end, it turns out that normal historic development becomes impossible because of the terror of mythology. Mythology rather than history captures politics, not to mention the present, the future, and even the past.

Understanding this contradiction between history and mythology in the Balkans is essential for all those trying to figure out the roots of balkanization, as well as difficulties connected with finding solutions to the multitude of Balkan crises. Without such an understanding, debalkanization of the Balkans is impossible.

*“Debalkanizing the Balkans.
A Strategy for a Sustainable Peace in Kosovo”
Grigor’ev, Severin
(2007)*

De-Balkanization and the Europeanization of Albania should not be seen as a separate process, but strongly related to the phenomena of recent years. If the last process has received a political consensus, the first process presents a serious lack of “present-building”, starting from Albania.

Research Question:

What's new on Territorial Planning in Albania?

(Second Chapter - Fourth Chapter)

How Europeanization process is evolving in Albania?

(Third Chapter - Fourth Chapter)

Which is the role of the International Development Cooperation in the Albanian Planning System? Criticalities

(Fifth Chapter)

Aims:

Beyond the domestic duties on the europeanization process, how can Albania play a proactive role in land use planning?

(Two Scenarios: Sixth Chapter)

Objectives:

Combining various experiences of International Cooperation for a propoitive approach to the europeanization process in Albania.

(Two Scenarios: Sixth Chapter)

01

4.0 SOCIETAL RELEVANCE

CHAPTER

The fall of the old regime, the civil war of 1997, the war in Kosovo, and finally the process of joining the European Union, have generated a strong dynamic of social, cultural and economic change ever seen so far, if we think about the Ottoman occupation or the Communist Regime.

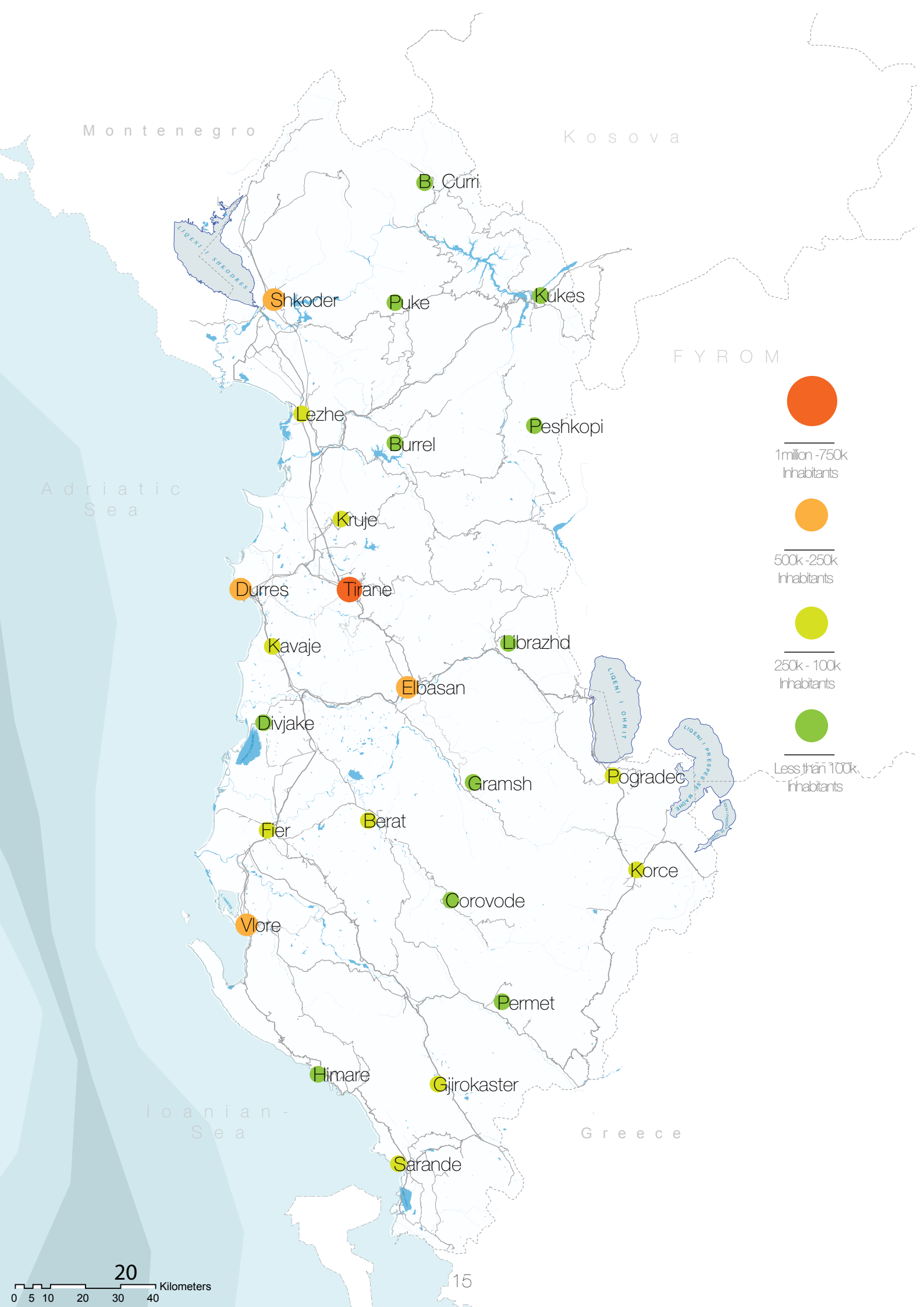
This fast political process, both internally and externally, has left little space for an academic reflection on social/territorial impact and has distorted the Political orientation.

But this argument will not go on the analysis of these processes, but rather would sees the positive signals generated within the country by international cooperation, seeking to establish a position that central/regional/local policies can taken within the Balcanic and European framework.

The Balkan Peninsula shows a very interesting case of development for the European Continent. The similar post-communist challenges that these countries encounter in their institutional development are gaining increasing attention from policy makers and academics (Mele, 2011). Likewise the planning systems of these countries are still under evolution and face some similar challenges in changing their planning systems (Shutina 2009), hence some of the lessons learned from Albania can also be relevant for the other countries in the Balkan region.

In addition, Albania is not a wellstudied case for most academics especially in planning, so this thesis can add some insights on this 'unknown' part of the European Continent.

The transition period has had some significant impacts on the Albanian built environment; due to the developments chaos in the early days of post communism, hence planning, should and can play a great role in facilitating a better development. The thesis analyses some of the challenges that the planning system faces, the development adaptation and possible changes in planning practices that are necessary to incorporate inside the 'acquis communautaire' in the different levels of governance.



Montenegro

Kosova

FYROM

Adriatic Sea

Ionian Sea

Greece



1 million - 750k
Inhabitants



500k - 250k
Inhabitants



250k - 100k
Inhabitants



Less than 100k
Inhabitants

20

Kilometers

0 5 10 20 30 40

15

01

CHAPTER

5.0 STRUCTURE OF THESIS

The Thesis starts with a general overview of the Albania today, describing step by step, from the '90, four phenomena 1) demography 2) urban development, 3) Infrastructure, and 4) economic situation. Cultural and historical heritage are listed as potential sites for the future, even if there's any kind of interest or attraction for the moment. The second part, and the last, of the **Second Chapter** will be focused on the new process happening in Albania. In this part we will have the possibility to 'recognize' the first contribution and contributors on the international cooperation in two of the Planning reforms: "For the Territorial Planning" - under continue change, and the Administrative and Decentralization Reform - to be approved from the Albanian Parliament.

The **Third Chapter** will answer to the 'research question' about the role of the IC in Albania, highlighting the Development Cooperation: actors and sectors. The Third Chapter will explore the role of the IC in Albania, IPA instrument and various national Development Agencies.

The **Fourth Chapter** will take on consideration the research on the Development Cooperation and its location in Albania territory and in the Administrative Level. The two cases are "Atelier Albania" and "Albania Domani".

On the first part of the **Fifth Chapter** it would be strongly criticized the location of the Development Cooperation in the Administrative system.

On the second part of this chapter the two main projects "AA" and "AD" will be used to understand not any more the international development cooperation, but rather the adaptability of the development in the civil society and the administrative planning tools.

Starting from these last review, the result is that there is a scattered administrative strategy on development, and there's a strong difference in planning tools by administrative level. Chapter number **six** is the last part of this thesis and it would try to open up two new possibilities for a continuous planning tools in the territorial development in all the administrative levels and civil society.

SECOND
CHAPTER

ALBANIA TODAY
a socio-economical and political framework

Albania Today	Demography, Urban Developments, Economical Sectors, Historic and Cultural Heritage.
What's new in Albania?	1. Territorial Planning Reform. 2. Administrative and Decentralization Reform

THIRD
CHAPTER

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION in ALBANIA
UE process & development cooperation

UE integration	Territorial Cohesion Policy. IPA II Instruments
Development Cooperation	1. Europeanization process. 2. UE members, National Development Agencies. (sheets)

FOURTH
CHAPTER

TWO CASE STUDIES ON COOPERATION
"Albania Domani" & "Atelier Albania"

"Albania Domani"	1. "Decentralized Cooperation" 2. Three years of Programs and Projects.
"Atelier Albania"	1. "Development Cooperation" 2. Projects on going

FIFTH
CHAPTER

DEVELOPMENT CRITICALITIES IN ALBANIA
(skills & abilities)

Criticalities to Inter. Development Coop.	1. Territorial Dispersion and Public Administration
Criticalities on Development	1. Skills development 2. Ability development

SIXTH
CHAPTER

POTENTIALITIES OF DELOPMENT FOR
THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Creating a continuity of Planning Tools by learning from the Territorial Dev. in Albania.	1. On Balkan Models 2. On European Guidelines
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Imag 01

"SHKODER BAZAR" - 1920

font: Web





Imag 02

“RECONSTRUCTION OF DURRES HARBOR DURING THE FASCIST OCCUPATION” - 1939

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Imag 03

“NATIONAL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP” - SARANDA CITY, 1950

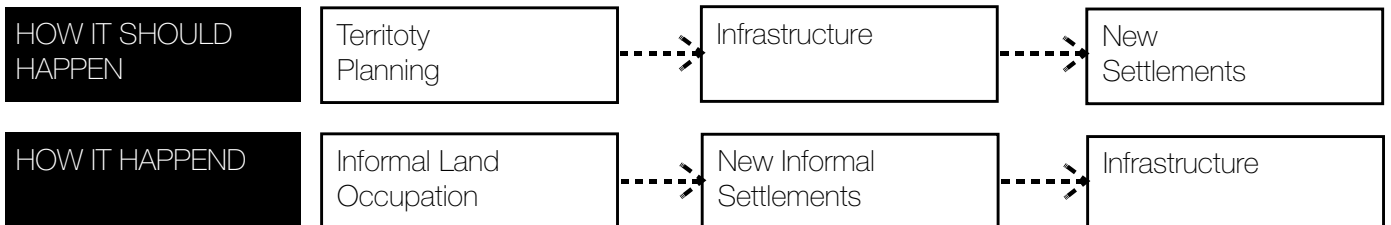
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In this first chapter we will analyze some social phenomena, urban, economic and institutional as well. What characterizes these processes is an intensive development up to this point to generate a strong need the one to the other. The changing system of government, beginning of the 90s, from a centralized state regime to free economic market has brought with it some irrepressible and uncontrollable phenomena by the public's administration.

The uncontrolled development of housing in areas adjacent to major cities such as Tirana and Durres or unsustainable development of entrepreneurial activities in the tourism sector along the coast of Albania are only the first phase of the processes analyzed in this chapter.

Other processes, and challenges for the new government (Rama, 2013), which are a consequence of these urban phenomena are i) the change of the new law on spatial planning (Law 10119, 2009) and ii) the reform of administrative decentralization.

After a quick reading of these phenomena, we can say that the process of urbanization, in its complexity, has followed an opposite path of 'how it should happen', or at least how it happened in countries where the free market economy has had more experience on the territory .



“We can say that the phenomenon that was characterized Albanian process of urbanization is in contrast with the Western Europe, or with the theories of planning and land development, and it is the opposite order of processes. Initially, the phenomenon of the urbanization, in the absence of the plan, has come as a result of needs of citizens for housing and from the public institutions incapacity to answer. Later, this phenomenon was extended to the territory, as resulted simple in implementation. So, citizens did not have to pass through the path of bureaucratic institutions, for a permit, but it was possible to build without it. Today, the consequences of this phenomenon, in territory are so complex as institutions still does not have the opportunities (financial and technical) to address them in a sustainable manner.”

*Ministry for the Territorial Development and Tourism.
Policy Paper for Territorial Planning and Development in
Albania. Tirane (2014).*

02

CHAPTER

1.0 MAIN DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES. INTERNAL MIGRATION

The migration process in Albania began with the fall of the old regime and at the beginning of the new democratic system and the early parliamentary elections. The process of immigration out from the country started before the internal migration, and it was also the economical instrument to boost to internal migration. About this economic support, which is very difficult to give an economic amount, speaks remittance which has driven families into the internal migration in the country.

Even if this process continues we can not say the same thing for the remittance that in recent years have faced a significant drop.

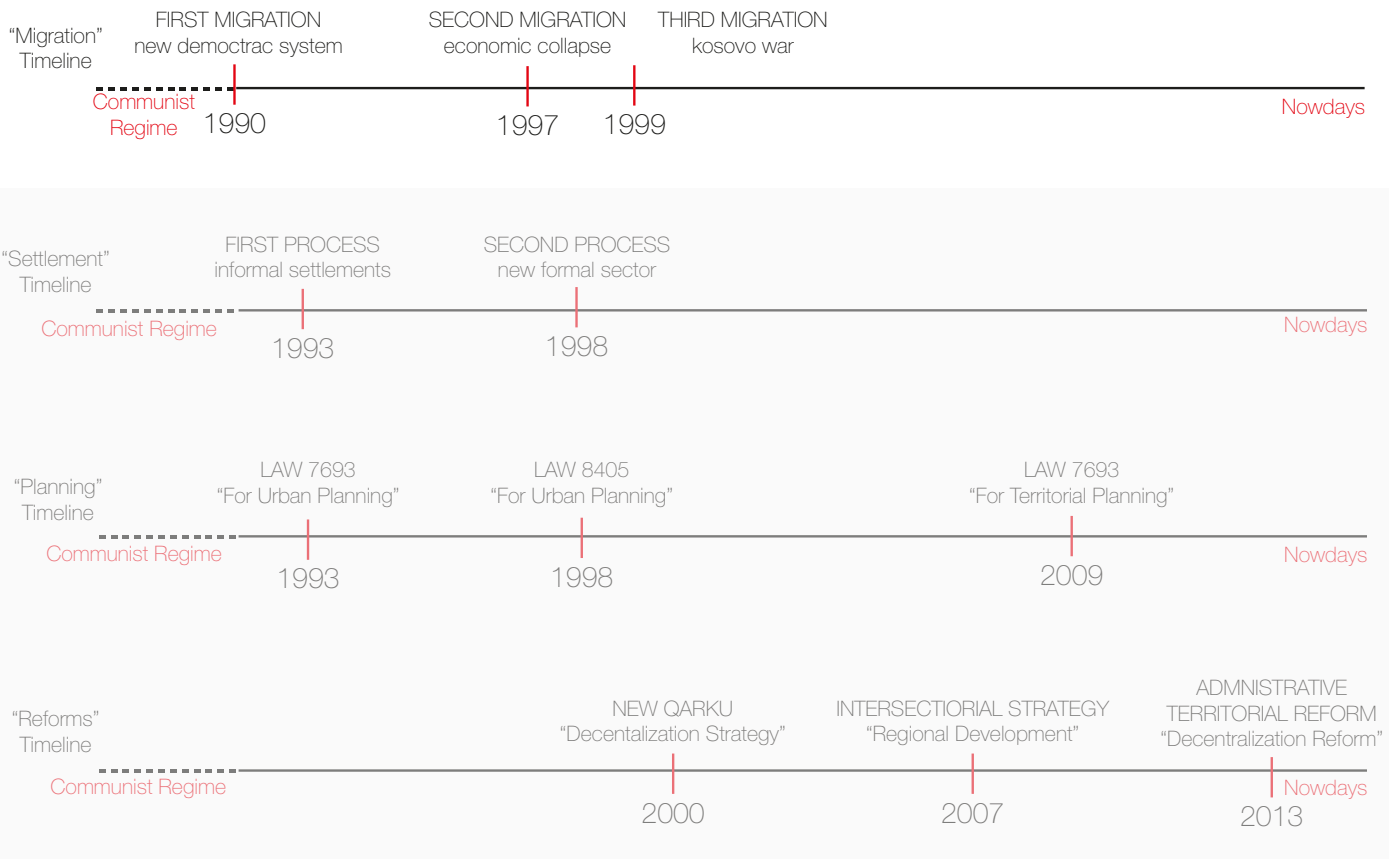
According to some authors, and not only Albanians, who have studied for a long time the phenomenon of Albanian migration, we can say that these process has been 'feed' by 3 important factors; i) the change of the regime, ii) economic collapse, and iii) the war in Kosovo.

The first followed the collapse of the regime and its centralized economic system in the early 1990s: as noted above, around 1 in 10 Albanians left the country in these years, the vast majority going to Greece and Italy. The mid-1990s were years of steady growth and economic stability, sustained largely by swelling inflows of remittances, which underpinned both the macro-economy and many families' livelihoods and emergence from poverty (De Soto 2002).

However, in the absence of an established formal banking sector, much of this remittance capital was invested in pyramid savings schemes, which offered increasingly spectacular but unsustainable rates of interest. These corrupt savings pyramids, which had reputedly links to the ruling elite, collapsed in late 1996 and early 1997, bankrupting perhaps half of the Albanian population. This sparked Albania's **second mass exodus**; in a reprise of the events of 1991, boats were commandeered and sailed to Italy, and hordes of people trudged the steep mountain paths into Greece.

The economy was just beginning to recover and stabilize again when the Kosova crisis propelled half a million refugees into northern Albania in 1999 (**third migration process**). A further rise in emigration from Albania ensued, including some from northern Albania who, passing as Kosovan refugees, sought asylum abroad, chiefly in the UK. The last 10 years have seen flows of emigrants stabilize and diminish; some return migration has taken place (Labrianidis and Hatziprokopiou 2005). At the same time the field of destination countries has spread, from Greece and Italy to other European countries, as well as to North America.

Following Barjaba and King (2005), we can sum up the essential characteristics of the Albanian migration as follows: it is recent and intense; it is largely economically driven by 'push factors'; it has a high degree of irregularity in the sense of migrants lacking documents to reside and work abroad; and it is dynamic and rapidly evolving.



Chapter 2. Migration - Settlements - Planning - Reforms

In this chapter, we focus on changes between 2001 and 2011, but where pertinent longer periods are considered, notably by reaching back to the census of 1989. Internal migrants are defined as persons who have changed the usual residence between 2001 and 2011.

In the analyses in this chapter, we consider any change of usual residence at the prefecture

and town or village level. This means that we do not consider movement at the smallest unit, since these do not involve a change of community.

Internal migration can be expressed in terms of two dimensions:

the spatial dimension, and the temporal dimension.

The spatial dimension refers to migration between two prefectures, two districts in the same prefecture or two towns or villages.

The temporal dimension describes whether this movement occurred at any point between 2001 and 2011, and the exact year of last movement before coming to the current place of residence. We mainly approach internal migration using flow data (movements), but at times also consider the change of population numbers.

Namely, differences between the population in 2001 and 2011, or differences between 1989 and 2011 can be considered reflections of migration, given that in Albania demographic changes in terms of fertility and mortality are of more limited importance for differences between

areas.

2.1.1 Geography of Internal Migration, Spatial Dimension

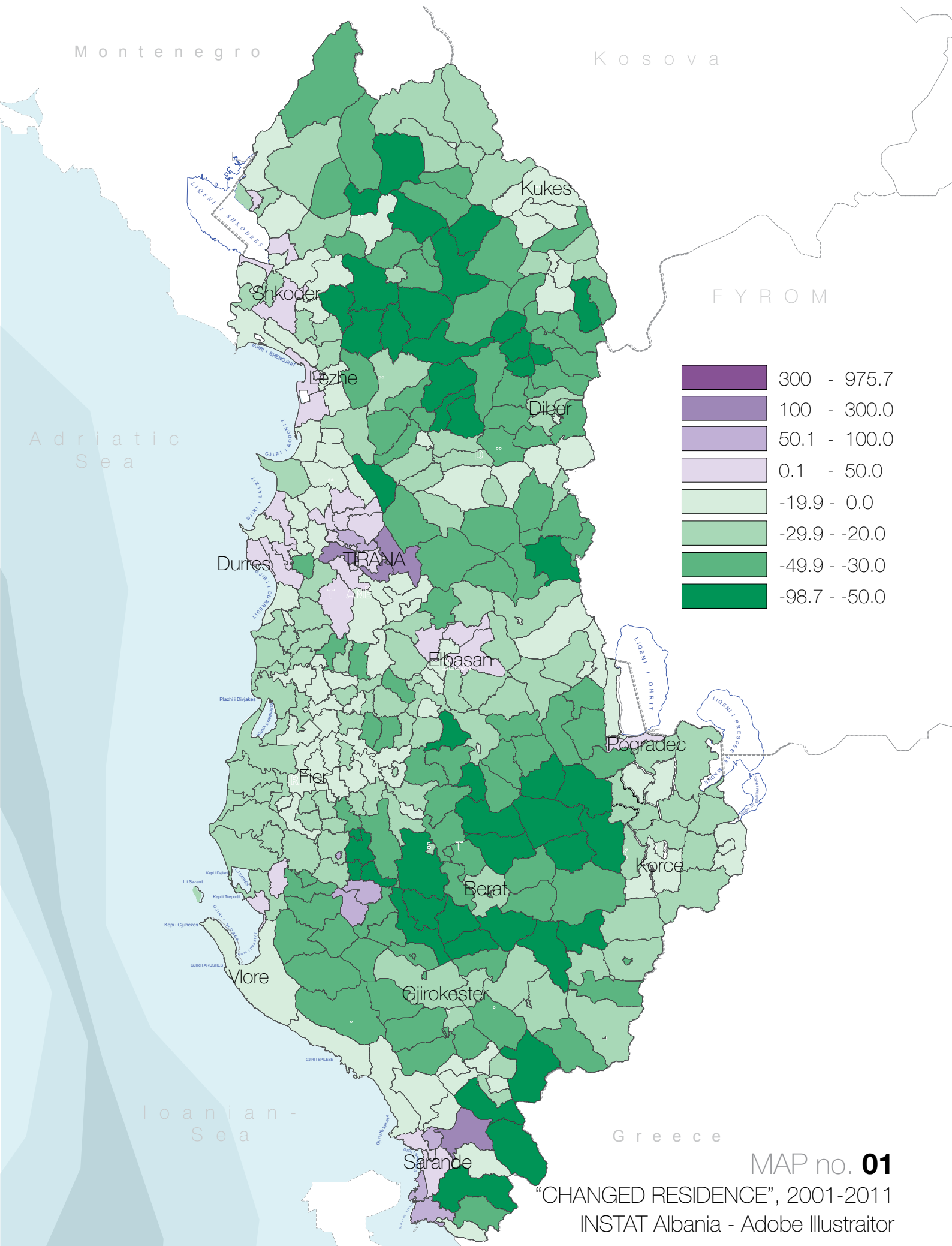
Between 2001 and 2011, 228,952 individuals living in Albania have changed their prefecture of usual residence: these migrants account for 8 percent of the resident population in 2011. For inter-town or village moves during the same period the recorded figure is 280,863 individuals. Nearly half of these internal migrants have relocated to the Tirana prefecture – more precisely sub-urban Tirana.

In total, over 112,000 individuals have settled in the Tirana prefecture between 2001 and 2011.

Of the 373 communes in the country, 48 communes have lost more than half of their population between 2001 and 2011. This is equivalent to 13 percent of the communes. Such large population decreases are only possible with large-scale out-migration; the decrease in fertility may contribute a small part to this development. These 48 communes are mainly situated in the centre of the northern and southern parts of the country, but prefectures or even districts do not form homogenous entities when it comes to migration flows. In fact, the majority of Albanian communes have experienced a significant population decrease. Prominent exceptions are the capital Tirana and sub-urban areas on its fringes, the region around Saranda, Xarrë and Ksamil in the south and some communes in the heart of Albania. However differences within the prefectures are also notable.

On the right map we can see the internal movements in Albania from 2001 to 2011, expressed as a percentage of the population on the move. Combining a number of factors and possibilities, people chose to migrate to areas in the vicinity of their favoured urban locations. Arguably, the growth of the suburban areas adjacent to important urban centres was the result of a fair degree of what Sjöberg (1992) calls 'unofficial' migration. For Sjöberg, what was occurring can be clearly explained by what he calls 'diverted migration' to urban areas. Following this view, we examine the case of Tirana, as the most desirable city, both at the time Sjöberg was writing as today. Tirana, being the capital of the country, has always been characterised by the great range of opportunities that it offers. Looking at the attraction of Tirana as a major industrial, administrative and cultural centre, migratory flows heading for a particular destination – in this case Tirana – are diverted to nearby destinations. In our example, the diversion is directed towards Tirana's surrounding areas, as the desired destination is very difficult to enter at the same time as being so attractive. These 'diverted in-migrants' in turn contributed to the formation of densely populated 'extra-urban settlements' (Sjöberg 1992:13).

Tirana has historically drawn the largest share of internal migrants. It combines economic development, the centre of social and cultural life and opportunities for better education. As a consequence, employment has always been concentrated in and around Tirana, largely determining the direction of internal migration. The map highlight that the communes surrounding Tirana have seen the largest population growth.



Montenegro

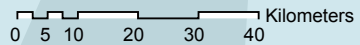
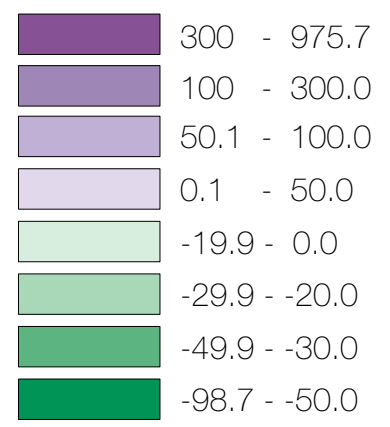
Kosova

FYROM

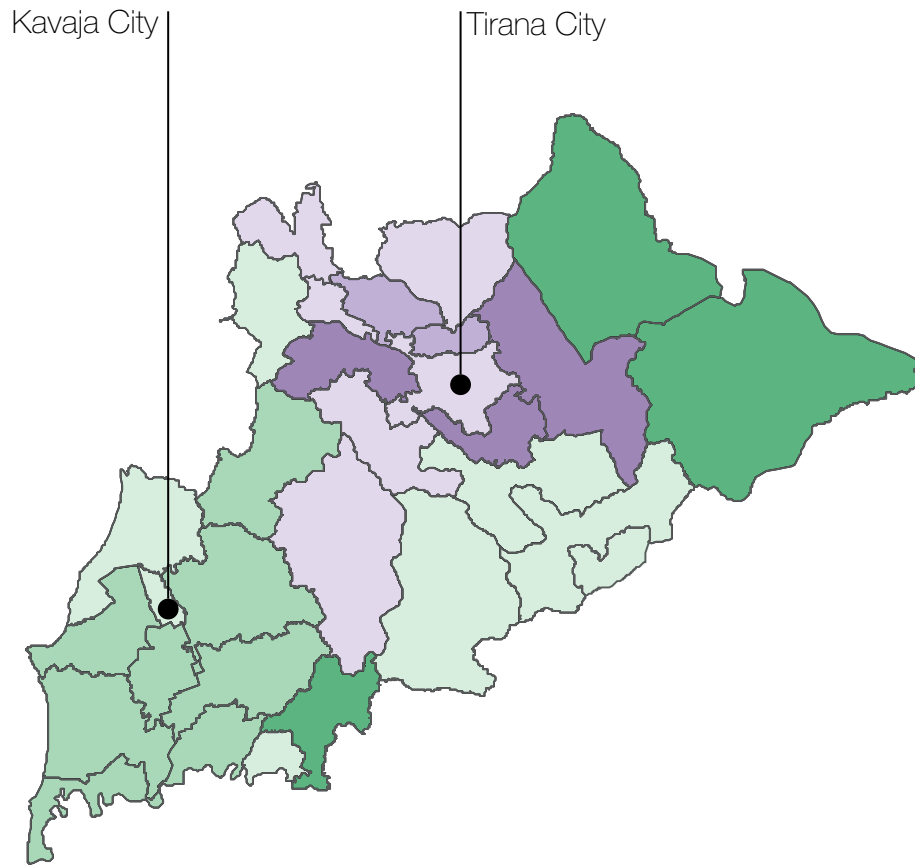
Adriatic Sea

Ionian Sea

Greece



MAP no. **01**
 "CHANGED RESIDENCE", 2001-2011
 INSTAT Albania - Adobe Illustrator



Chapter 2. "CHANGED RESIDENCE" 2001 - 2011 - Tirana Prefecture

2.1.2 Dynamics of Internal Migration, Temporal Dimension

The census data allow analysing the dynamics of internal movements, in the sense that we can examine whether internal migrants tend to move directly from origin to destination, or whether they move multiple times. The analysis in this section is based on district level movements between two different prefectures or within the same prefecture, as illustrated in the graph at the right. The figure shows the four cases analysed. The first case shows a direct move from one prefecture to another. The second and third case show instances when internal movers moved at least twice to reach their prefecture of destination. The fourth case shows internal moves where individuals changed the districts within the same prefecture. Considering the movements between different prefectures, we observe that direct moves (first case in Figure 4) are far more common than the other cases. This means that people who change prefecture normally move directly. Tirana prefecture has the highest rate of internal migrants who moved directly (97 percent); Dibër prefecture has the lowest rate with 91 percent. In fact, internal movements to Dibër are characterized by a higher rate of individuals who moved district at least twice compared to internal movements to other prefectures.

While the majority of internal migrants moved directly, there is noticeable

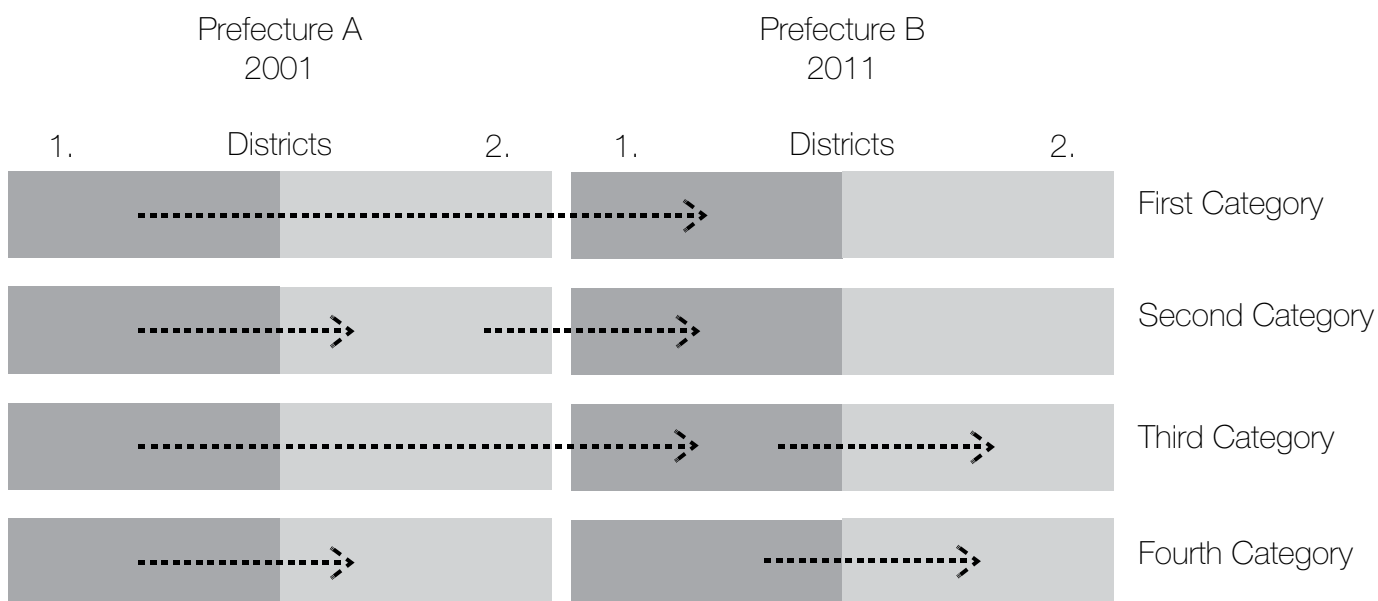
variation in the degree to which internal migrants moved multiple times. These are the second and third cases illustrated in graph, pointing to migrants who probably are unable to realize their migration project the first time they move. Moves include those from one district to another one in the same prefecture and then to another prefecture, or from one district to another in a different prefecture, and then to a different district in the same prefecture.

For instance, internal migrants may not find suitable accommodation near their new workplace, or as a consequence of their first move new opportunities arose that led to another move. In each of the prefectures, less than 10 percent of the internal migrants have moved multiple times. On the one hand this highlights the importance of direct moves in the medium term covered by the period between two censuses.

The fourth case in on the graph describes internal migrants who have changed their district at least once between 2001 and 2011, but have not changed their prefecture of usual residence. There is a sizeable number of internal migrants who only changed district, with significant variation across prefectures.

More than a half of internal migrants within the prefecture of Lezhë moved district at least once, followed by the prefectures of Berat, Fier and Durrës with more than 31 percent. These patterns of movement highlight the importance of urbanization even outside the general attraction of moving to Tirana.

An another important thing that the high number of migration from one prefecture to another shows, is the fact that this migration flow was not accompanied by any “stabilizer” process, as it could be employment or the urban quality and services.



According always to Census 2011 Albania has about **54% urban population**. Also, in the districts of Tirana and Durrës is living about 36% of the population in Albania, in Tirana respectively 26.7% and 9.4% in Durrës district.

Urban development in Albania, has passed in three main phases, where the first two are discussed below and belong to the period 1990-2009 and third phase begins after 2009. These three phases of urbanization are all characterized by a strong continuity of demand for a better condition of life.

The first phase is generally associated with urbanization towards the big cities like Tirana and Durrës, and long distance moving, from one district to another. The first phase is characterized by the informal sector of construction, starting from 1991. Internal migration to the western plain was one of the main phenomena in Albania after 1990. This fact is verified by the change in the percentage of population living in urban areas according to the Census 2011, INSTAT.

Under the new law 8405 "On Urban Planning", as we shall see in the next chapter, we have an increasing planning tools for municipalities and for the areas beyond the "yellow line" (administrative boundaries), and as a result we have a enormous growth in construction sector.

The last phase, even if it's been a little while since the law on urban planning, it represents a new phase of urbanization that seeks to integrate urban development with the ingetrazione social and economic on the territory. Regulatory Plan was a rigid instrument and was meant to show only the location of the buildings in the city and their use. This fact continued to promote informality in one way or another. One of the main issues of law and practice in planning has been the fact that often it has been neglected the context. So, even if there have been attempts to devise various regulations, they have been partly implemented, due to the lack of specific instruments. This phase reached its peak in the period 2004-2007, in which the number of informal settlements was exploded and governments took measures, policies and legal instruments to formalize this economy (although this practice has not yet fulfilled its mission.)

In the same time, there was an increase in the formal economy in the construction sector.

The third phase of urban development in Albania belongs to the year 2008-2009, period in which the government took measures to reform the legal system of territorial planning (Law 10119). This phase, which continues still now days is expected to give a qualitative achievement.

The last phase, even if it's been a little while since the law on urban planning, it represents a new phase of urbanization that seeks to integrate urban development with the social and economic integration on the territory.



2.2.1 Urban Development, Durana and the Coasts

Urban coastal cities are characterized by spontaneous constructions which accommodate random informal unorganized tourism, established on the basis of private initiatives. The lack of clear rules and standards for the development of these activities, and lack of creating public-private partnerships between local governments and private investors makes the situation to be still chaotic.

Stringent measures have been initiated to ban informality must be accompanied with the implementation of new planning instruments. It is clear that these cities need a new vision and an alternative approach to urban development issues. Attractiveness of the coast has brought an influx of requests for new investments as a result of accessibility to previously inaccessible areas.

Instead urban development for the area of Durana represents other forms of urban diffusion. Informality remains a constant problem, adding the population density and the lack of services in outlying areas to the cities.

Here some issues that affect this area:

- Lack of spatial plans and the failure of the legal base is considered to be the greatest obstacle to sustainable development. The preparation of these legal base has been too slow to prevent the practice of illegal constructions.

- The main routes Tirana - Milot (close to the airport) and Durres-Tirana are the main areas where the phenomenon of urban diffusion has been settled.

- The urban morphology of the area is characterized by buildings of the period before 1945 mainly in the form of villas, from residential buildings in block before the 1990 and later in apartment complexes, which are developed mainly after the 1990s. An interesting fact that comes as a result of the informal development is the so diffused "villa" tipology.

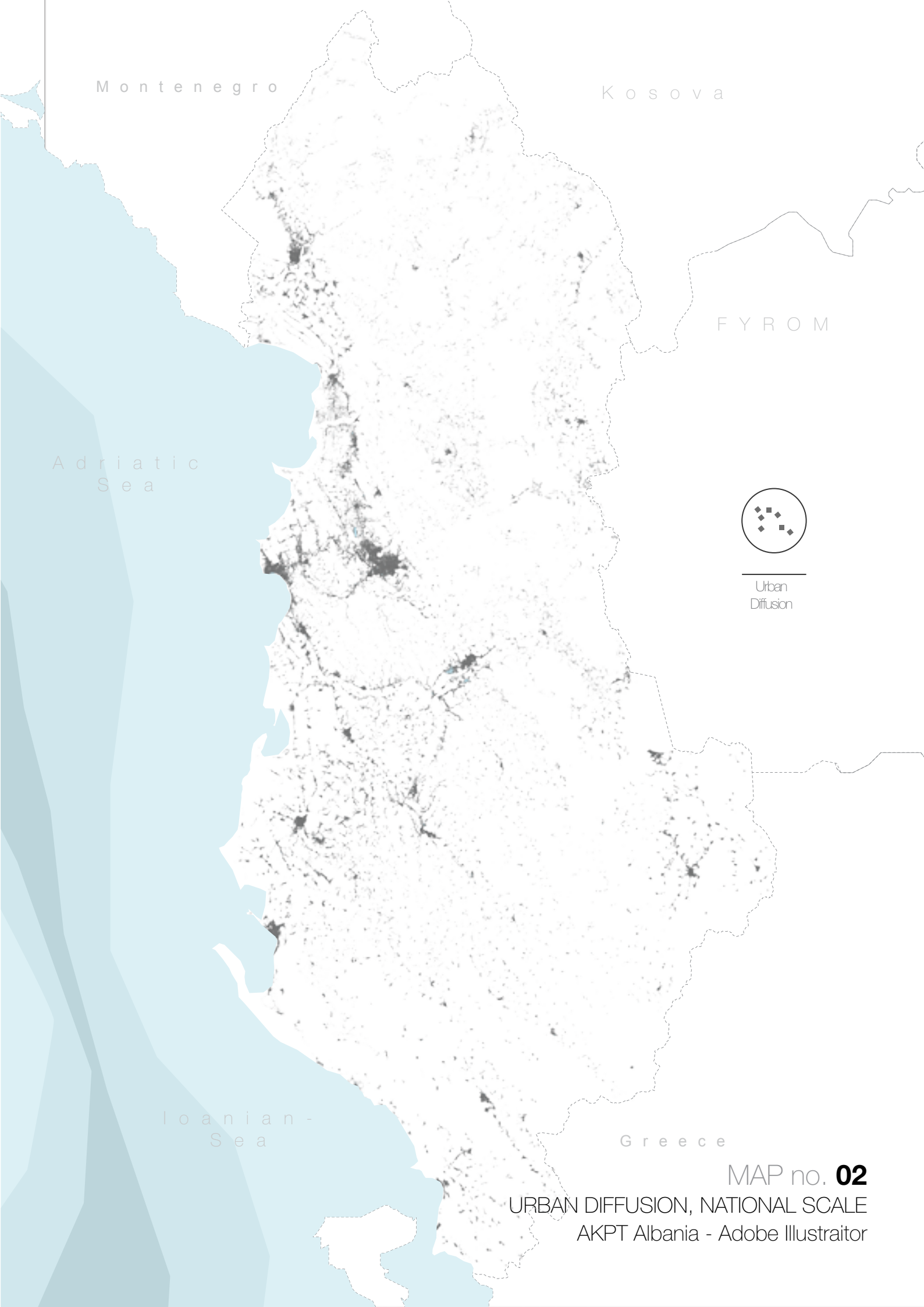
- Seasonal centers, mainly along the coastline, as Golem, and less Kryevidhi are over populated during the summer period but they don't rapresents the turistic area, they can be defined as seasonal residential areas.

- Increased density of the construction for the last decade in these two districts has caused a real problem about the public space and the distribution of public services.

- Demand to get closer to the city center has caused an unjustified land/property value, especially if we take in consider the lack of services and quality offered to the community and beyond.

- Urban Transport remains a deficiency of not being adapted to the rapid growth and flows. In these conditions appear a new problem in terms of growth of population such as the connectivity between services and employment.

- The rapid growth of urban flux and lack of spatial plan have led to an anaggravation situation and in particular the air quality in the urban areas.

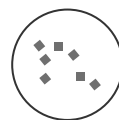


Montenegro

Kosova

FYROM

Adriatic
Sea



Urban
Diffusion

Ionian -
Sea

Greece

MAP no. **02**
URBAN DIFFUSION, NATIONAL SCALE
AKPT Albania - Adobe Illustrator

2.2.2 Environmental Impact

Environmental Profile long the Coasts: A technical description of the various profiles of natural hazards shows a rugged territory with rainfalls and a agricultural vegetation in destruction or abandonment, factors that stimulate processes of demolition and landslides. Furthermore, pollution from urban emissions due to the creation of informal urban areas and densification of existing areas made the rivers and coasts a real discharge of urban waste. Untreated solid and liquid discharge with industrial origin, such as the oil industry, has seriously harmed the water quality of rivers and to the sea. Inappropriate use of inert materials to the delta rivers and construction of new dams on rivers has led to a reduction of solid flow, intensifying erosion phenomenon by stimulating eutrophication of rivers and sea water. Low quality of water is a risk not only for human health but causes depletion of natural values, permanent damage to ecosystems and the devaluation of the touristic areas.

As a result of massive and uncontrolled movement of population to the two largest cities of Albania, Tirana-Durres area represents a overpopulated area. This high concentration of population is accompanied among others by the growth of urban and rural pollution and environmental degradation in the area. Major environmental problems are mainly relate to water quality, air in urban areas, waste management, etc..

Surface water: Due to its geomorphology, Tirana-Durres region, constitutes an area made of interrupted hills, and it is an important part of Western Lowlands near the Adriatic sea.

Tirana-Durres territory is characterized by two valleys into 'U-shaped' where pass river "Erzeni" and "Ishëm".

River Basin "Erzeni", stretches from the mountainous areas in the east and south of Tirana to the western hills between Tirana and Durres. Erzeni Delta River flows into the Adriatic Sea in the Gulf of Lalzi, near Durres.

Ishëm river is formed by the union of Tirana river and Terkuze canal. Before joining Terkuze waters, Tirana river, which is the main branch of the river waters Ishëm, takes Lana canal which passes throw the city of Tirana. Ishëm River Delta is located in Cape Rodon.

The main problem in the quality of these two rivers is the one who comes out from the discharge of the the urban wastewater, untreated.

Ishmi River being the union of water and Lana River Tirana represents the pollution of both water bodies that flow through the water discharged into the sea. Lana River segment of the curves joining Yrshek to Tirana river collects almost all liquid waste and discharges of industrial activities raised on both sides of the highway.

100 lakes: Due to multiple climate rainfall in two seasons, respectively autumn and winter, the need for water protection came in the form of 100 artificial lakes built by closing small valley on the edge of the surrounding hills. Natural water system is composed by natural water sources and rivers that has at the same time a dual role, collection and water distribution. The system has artificial components for the water catchment and they represent the major distributors for the surroundind agricultural lands.

Air Quality: Air quality in major urban areas appears to have improved in the recent years. Some of the key indicators of urban air quality (NO₂, SO₂, CO and Pb) measured in the cities of Tirana and Durres, are under the national and EU standards, while for PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} despite the rise tendency, remain on the standards seted by the EU.

The main factors affecting air pollution is the transport sector, which is the main source of urban air pollution. This refers to the very large increase in the number of vehicles, especially in the cities of Tirana and Durres.

Solid Waste & Management: Management of solid waste represents a the biggest problems in Albania. A waste policy should aim to improve waste management in order to reduce the risks to human and environmental health.

The National Strategy of Waste Management determines the direction of the Albanian Government policy for sustainable waste management, for 2025 , and it is divided into three operational phases, 5 years each.

The objectives of this draft strategy are:

- By 2015 aims recycling / composting 25% of municipal waste;
- 2020 aims to stop the growth of municipal waste produced; Recycling / composting 55% of municipal waste;
- By 2025: Reclamation of energy from 15% of municipal waste. Reduction in municipal waste "landfill" by 90% that is currently at about 30%.

The solid Landfill waste for the city of Tirana is Sharra. It is located in the south-western of Tirana in a distance of 7 km from its center and occupies an area of 24 ha. It remains alsow the city Landfill for; Dajti Municipality, Petrelë, Peza, Kashar Paskuqan and Vora Municipality.

Tirana waste area (Zone 1) includes Tirana district and Kavajë for about 1 million of inhabitants, of whom about 700,000 live in Tirana.

Durres Waste Zone (Zone 2) includes Durres and Kruja for about 400000 inhabitants. The city of Durres collects and transports waste through its two municipal enterprises. The city landfill is located at Porto Romano, which is opened in the early 90s and that is projected to have a lifespan of 25 years (2015). Problems encountered in the Tirana-Durres are the same as those that characterize solid waste management in all around Albania.





Imag 04

“INFORMALITY LONG THE COAST”, DURRES CITY

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Imag 05

“URBAN WATER WASTE”, GOLEM BEACH

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Imag 06
“HINTERLAND INFORMALITY”, DURANA AREA
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Over the last three decades, Albania has seen a significant transition from a centralized economy to an isolated and interconnected economy in the global system with a great speed. One of the regions with the highest growth in the country is Tirana-Durres region.

Referring to GDP there is a disparity in economic development districts or regions in Albania. According to NSTAT data, Tirana district is positioned in first place with 151.2% compared to the national average of 100% of GDP.

The GDP per Tirana is 480 euro/capita, while at the national level is 290 euro /capita. At the national level, following the publication of the Ministry of Economy, the largest number, 38.7% of the active enterprises are operating in the district of Tirana. Then comes the district of Durres with 11.8% of the enterprises, and in third place is Fier region where is located the 8.9% of the national enterprises.

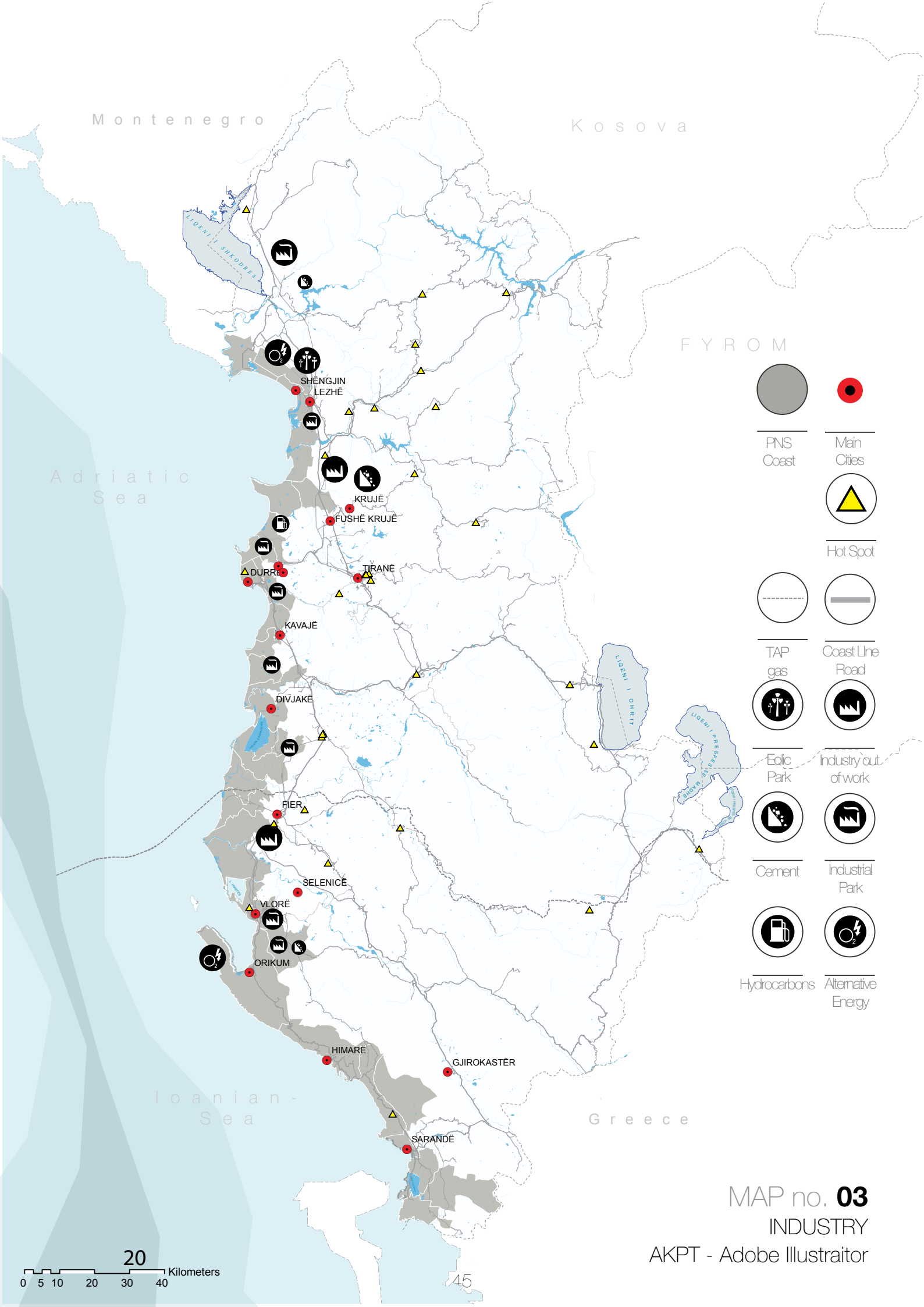
The main sectors of employment in Albania continue to be headed by agriculture and market-oriented services. While other sectors economy who have played a very important role in recent decades as the construction sector have declined significantly during 2008-2013.

From the below graphs, which show the percentage of active enterprises by sector for the six regions included in PINS Bregdeti (PINS Coasts) can be distinguished clearly the main features of the economy. Beyond the above sectors, an important part of the economy in the coastal zone and the sector is fishing.

Also, in this area, there is clearly a seasonal breakdown in productivity and employment, where during the summer a large number of employees are engaged in the field of services and tourism, while in winter it falls.

Coast region is relatively rich in mineral resources, oil, gas, Chrome and for these Albania continues to attract interest in the use of natural resources. Most of the oil deposits are in the central coastal region of Durres-Vlore. For this reason, the clear identification in the territory of these areas, the assessment of their impact on the local economy, to the region and for the country, constitutes one of the main objectives of PINS Coast.

It is important that the plan affect the standardization of the use of land for these purposes under well-defined criteria.



Montenegro

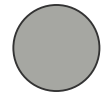
Kosova

FYROM

Adriatic Sea

Ionian Sea

Greece



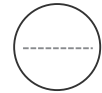
PNS Coast



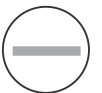
Main Cities



Hot Spot



TAP gas



Coast Line Road



Eolic Park



Industry out of work



Cement



Industrial Park



Hydrocarbons



Alternative Energy

20

0 5 10 20 30 40 Kilometers

2.3.1 Ecomical Sectors

Energy: The main source of energy supply in Albania remains hydropower. Thanks to the rich hydro resources, Albania is able to produce sufficient energy for its interior need. Another direction valuable beyond managing of water resources, which are not inexhaustible, is solar energy and the supporting of its infrastructure. Sunny days are from 220-240 days, where the average is goes to 3000 hours a year. For the coastal region the Ministry of Energy and Industry has several studies to exploit the potential for wind parks (Synej, Kryevidh) and photovoltaic parks (Finiq, Vlora). Currently studies in this direction come apart as a result of private initiative, and a more comprehensive study is expected to undertaken the Ministry of Energy and Industry in the implementation of sectoral strategy. Creating a link between the production of renewable energy to the development of the coastal region, with the support of other economic sectors in the region, is considered very important for the “Coastal Policy Document” in finding incentives plan for generating such communication.

Agriculture: Agriculture remains the main economic potential of the productive activity in our country, especially considering the favorable terrain and favorable climate of the coast region.

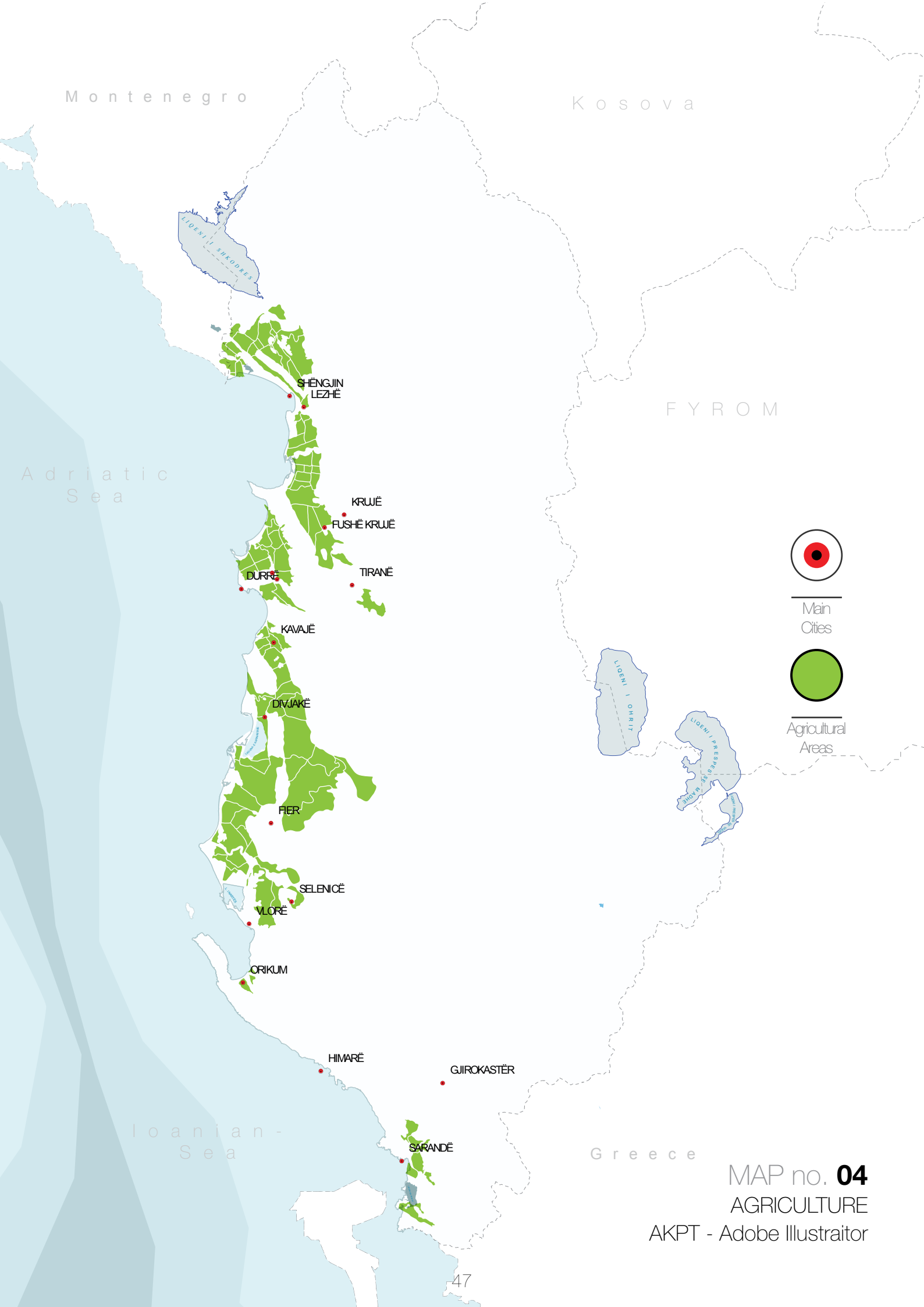
During the last decades has been observed damages to the agricultural land, reducing of its physical boundaries, such as informal constructions and damage to river beds from the gravel of the infomal settlements.

Fragmentation of agricultural land brings a number of difficulties for the production and to marketing of agricultural products, and the use in a large-scale of agricultural machinery is to difficult. Currently, export opportunities for agricultural products from Albania are very limited. This is mainly due to:

- Scarcity and the low level of agricultural production;
 - Lack of trade facilities (storage, processing, packaging products);
 - Low standards regarding food safety control;
 - Low level of competition in the domestic market of agricultural products due to the low quality and relatively high cost of these products.
- The importance of the export growth is seen not only to reduce the trade balance, but also to improve product quality and increase production capabilities, creating new jobs, increasing welfare and overall economic development of the country.

Increase the quality and quantity of the products will positively affect export growth and will increase the degree of substitution of imports to domestic products.

In PINS Coast area, due to morphological conditions, the relief field and high fertility of agricultural lands, are cultivated a variety of crops. Meanwhile, the coastal zone is rich in arboriculture products where there is a high production of olive and citrus trees, especially in the area of the Saranda district. However, agriculture still has untapped potential and uncultivated soils, which are found all along the western coasts.



Montenegro

Kosova

FYROM

Adriatic Sea

Ionian Sea

Greece



Main Cities



Agricultural Areas

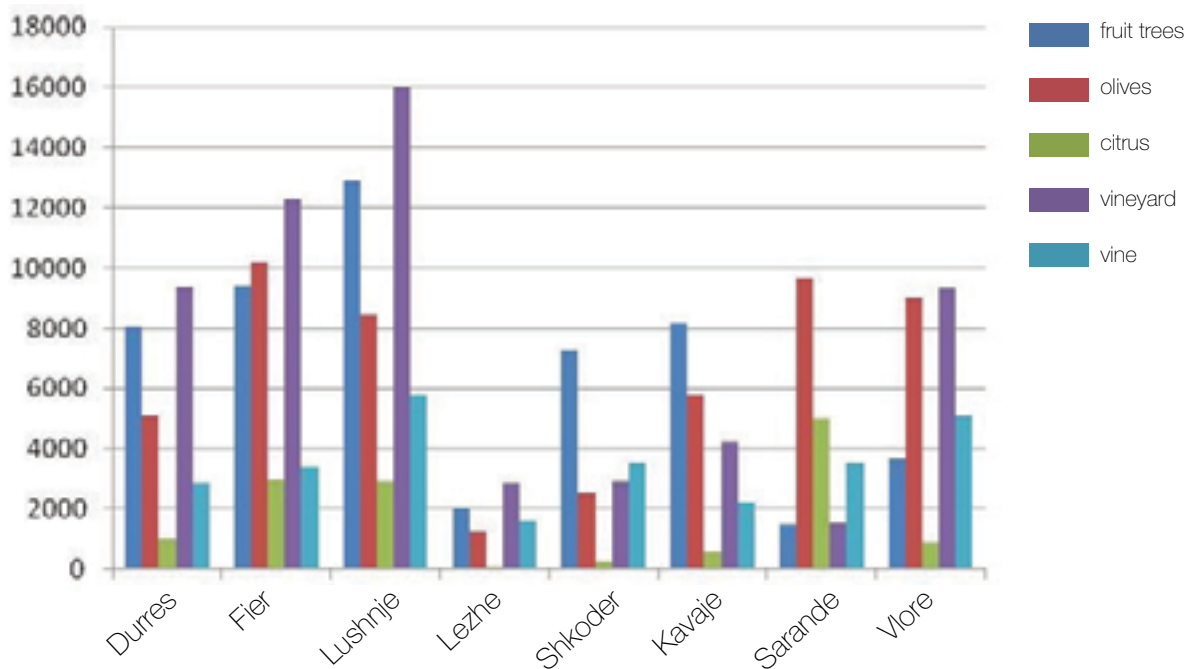
MAP no. **04**

AGRICULTURE

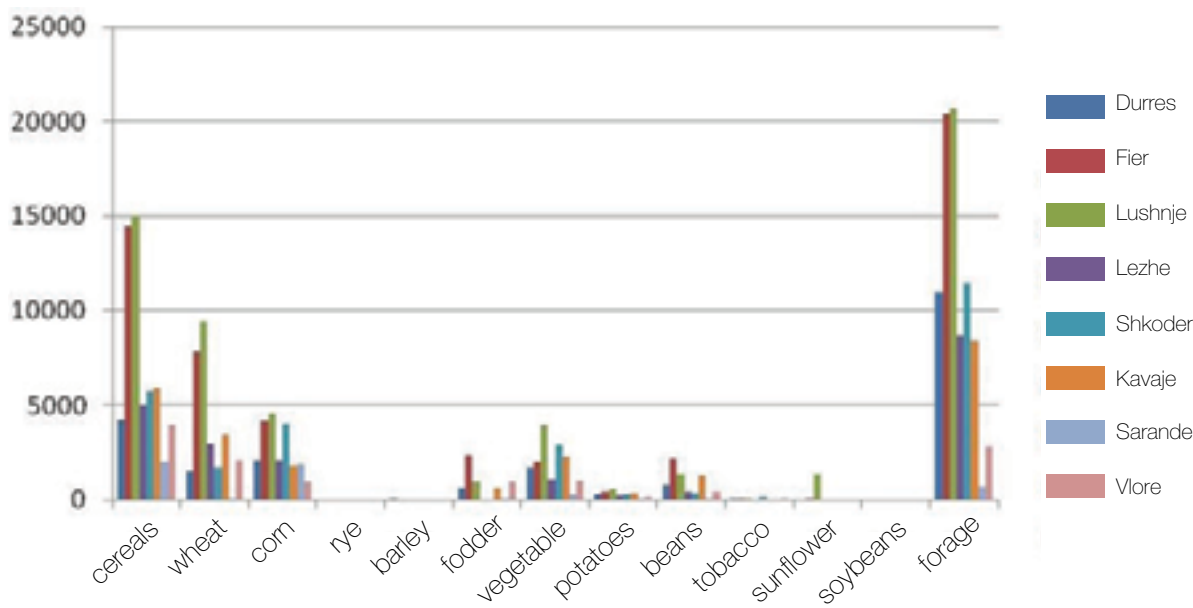
AKPT - Adobe Illustrator

Although agricultural lands on the periphery of cities have been under the pressure of urbanization during the last 20 years, few analysis of rural areas in the city borders are made in order to be included in local plans, or to be considered as part of the integrated urban areas. Agriculture is important as the livestock when we talking about production values. In agriculture the largest revenue comes from forages, vegetables, grains and fruit.

In relation to agriculture in the region lack adequate infrastructure for collection, storage, marketing and sale sholud be taken.



Chapter 2. Agricultural Production by sort



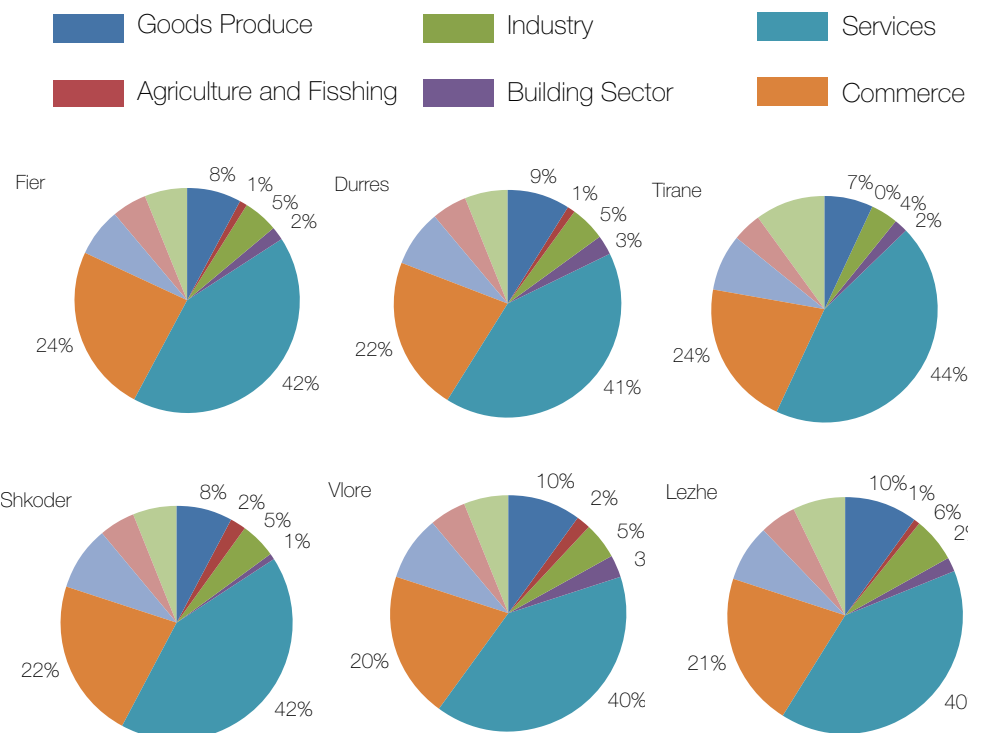
Chapter 2. Agricultural Production by Prefecture

Services Sector: Bars and restaurants are a strong point in the region, areas such as block, area “Coast Line in Durres” or the Tirana - Elbasan, offers a high concentration and a variety of places for relaxation. In terms of retail sales and stores we can say that is one of the sectors which is increasingly being consolidated in the region.

Education Sector: Tirana-Durres is the center of some of the biggest public universities as well as private. Also, major research centers and research institutions are located in the capital.

Construction sector: The region is the center of the construction sector in Albania. From the data INSTAT over 80% of the companies engaged in construction are located in this region. Also about 60% of the construction activity occurs exactly in this region, and mainly focus on housing construction. The construction industry was regarded as an engine of economic development by the year 2008. In 2008, the construction industry constituted about 14.9% of GDP (according to INSTAT) and had a growing trend.

Production Industry Sector: Using market size in Tirana but also better infrastructure in the region represented by the location of the port and airport region provides the necessary conditions for the marketing of products as well as to export. Axis Tirana-Durres accommodates a wide range of industries which focus on the food. An important role in this regard play the ‘meat machining’ companies, dairy products like milk, cheese, or processing of oils and products of alcoholic and drinks. Another sector of the economy is ‘recycling’, its a new sector, and currently is composed by over 20 companies which are operating in Durres-Tirana.



2.3.2 Transport

a) The Coast Line

Accessibility and Mobility: Albanian government has already planned a series of measures to meet its obligations as a member with full rights of the the Stabilisation and Association Process. In the transport sector the Government of Albania has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Core Network (SEETO). This network aims to facilitate the integration of primary Eastern Europe in line with the objectives of the Stabilisation and Association Process. Core Network includes segments alongside the Pan-European Corridors IV V VII X and Corridor VIII (Durrës-Varna through Tirana) for the ports of Durrës and Vlora and the airport. The network infrastructure provides a regional value up to the dimensions of an infrastructure corridor linking the Corridor VIII and X for Durrës-Kukës-Morinë-Nis-Pristina.

Road transport: Albanian coastal belt does not have a consolidated road interface. The current routes, even if they are renovated, are overlapping in an old road system that did not provide a paradigm shift in the planning of the coastal territory. The quality of these roads varies by segment from very bad (eg: Fier - Levan) up to the first category (eg: Levan - South).

According to the Albanian National Transport Plan (AKPT 2010) a multi-modal terminal should be established for the development of combined transport. The best place with this is a point along Corridor VIII preferably on the border with Macedonia.

Railway Transport: Network Rail is a key part of the initiative of the South East Europe Transport Observatory (SEETO) for Europe Union. Within the framework of SEETO, the focus is on improving the existing infrastructure in the region (Corridor X Corridor VIII linking Montenegro). This project is in line with the Albanian government for a long-term vision for rail transport which consists in the revitalization and restructuring into the albanian network. This requires a number of measures that will ensure the development transport , combining it with other forms of transport.

Montenegro

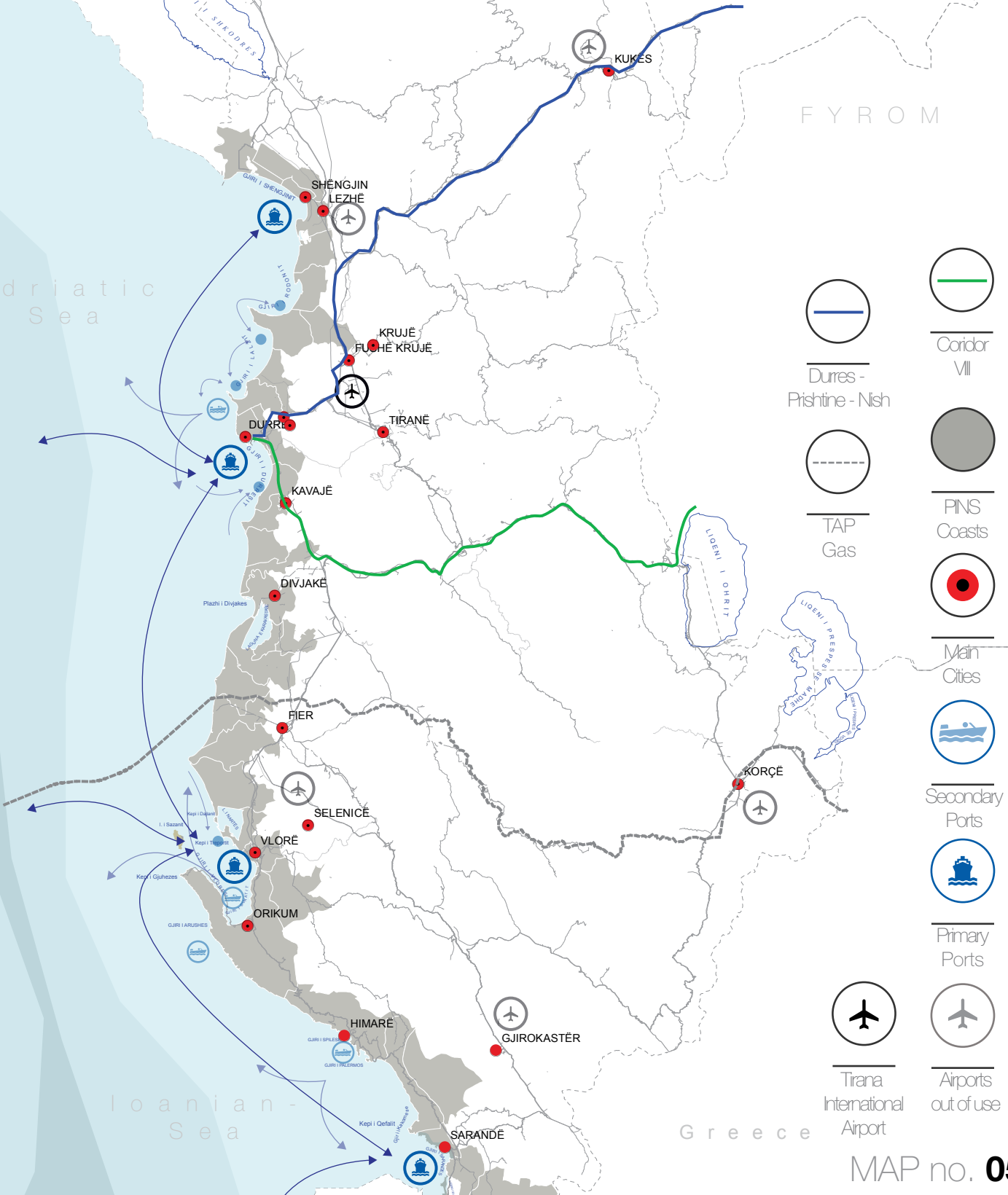
Kosova










FYROM

Adriatic Sea

Ionian Sea

Greece



-  Durres - Prishtine - Nish
-  Corridor VIII
-  TAP Gas
-  PINS Coasts
-  Main Cities
-  Secondary Ports
-  Primary Ports
-  Tirana International Airport
-  Airports out of use

0 5 10 20 30 40 Kilometers

MAP no. **05**
 TRANSPORT
 AKPT- Adobe Illustraitor

b) Durana

Infrastructure Network: The road system in Durana is composed by to main roads:

- Inter-urban road Tirana-Durres;
- Parallel Street in south Ndroq;

Other important roads:

- The way Vora to Fushe Kruje going through "Mother Teresa Airport" and continuing northward toward Montenegro.
- The streets from Tirana in the north to Kamëz, southeast of Elbasan, and east to Mount Dajt;
- The road from Durres to the south in the direction of Vlora, Saranda and ongoing in Greece.

Local roads have probably greater variability in quality and they are generally in a poor condition.

The most important arteries of the region Tirana - Durres are:

- Axis east - west Tirana - Vore - Durres
- South axis Tirana - Ndroq - Durres (the old highway)
- Northern axis Tirana - Vora - Northern Albania

Air Transport in Albania has known a great growth over the last years, especially in the last decade with very high levels of growth, mainly passengers, but also goods. This has affected transport road system that leads to the airport to a huge increase in traffic during this axis. In 2014 there are 13 airlines, including those "low-cost", which are operating to 17 destinations, (10 of which are directed to Italian cities), and 7 in European countries.

Maritime Transport: Port of Durres is the main seaport in Albania and is being re-designed to improve and expand the various tonnage options. This is a port of considerable size with different flows to international destinations. It also accommodates passenger vessels mainly around Italy. Freight transport in Albania is privately owned by individuals and logistics companies, and companies which operates with special vehicles. There are two ways for the freight transport, one directed to Kosovo and the other to Macedonia.

Railway Transport: Only railway infrastructure between Tirana and Durres has four stops, including the city of Vlora. In this segment there are no obstacles but open fields and new developments which conveyed from rails. Many people walk along or cross the rails. There are also a number of informal passages on the railway for the vehicles.

Quantity of the goods and passengers transported by rail has decreased since the 90s as a result of a decline in industrial activity and the closure of many factories in the state throughout the country.

Mobility: Given the fact that the highways is currently overloaded at peak hours throughout the year, there is an undeniable need for alternative transport, which should be carefully evaluated considering the long term implications in the region.

All these require a system of integrated multi-modal transport efficient and reliable. To ensure secure connections, with predictable travel times, the focus should shift from road transport to rail with a modern multi-modal distribution and urban spare nodes and private transport.

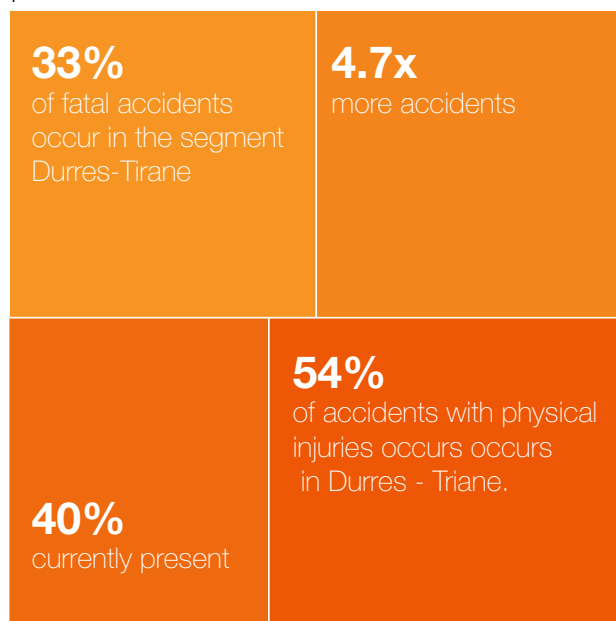
The document for the Albanian National Transport Plan (AKPT), shows that 39% of the long distance travelers use private cars, leaving 61% for

public transport, mainly micro vans. Tirana is the origin or destination for 79 inter-urban lines, 70% of them come from the south and there are no passenger terminal for these buses.

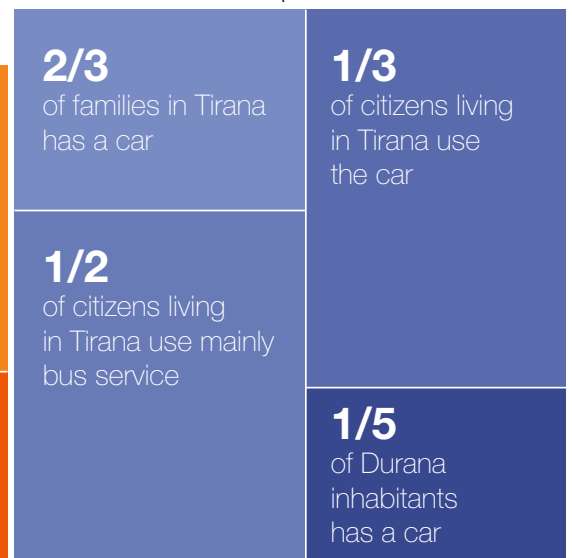
Passenger services on every main street has always been at a very basic level. Moreover, transit times are generally slow due to road conditions and in many cases these do not allow passengers from other cities to make an effective visit and return on the same day.

Tirana contains 25% of the Albanian population and 40% of private vehicles. Railway system already limited and outdated is a fairly marginal transport. Most people use informal vans to move from Tirana to Durres.

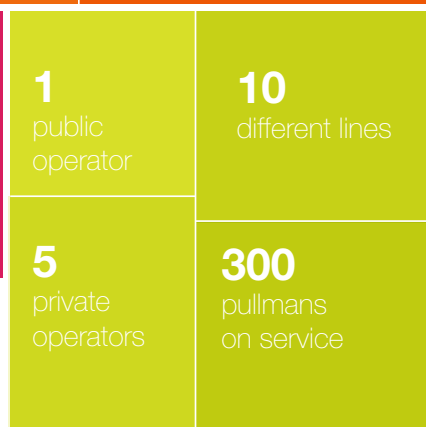
private vehicles in National Scale



Vehicle ownership versus their use



mini vans inside Tirana

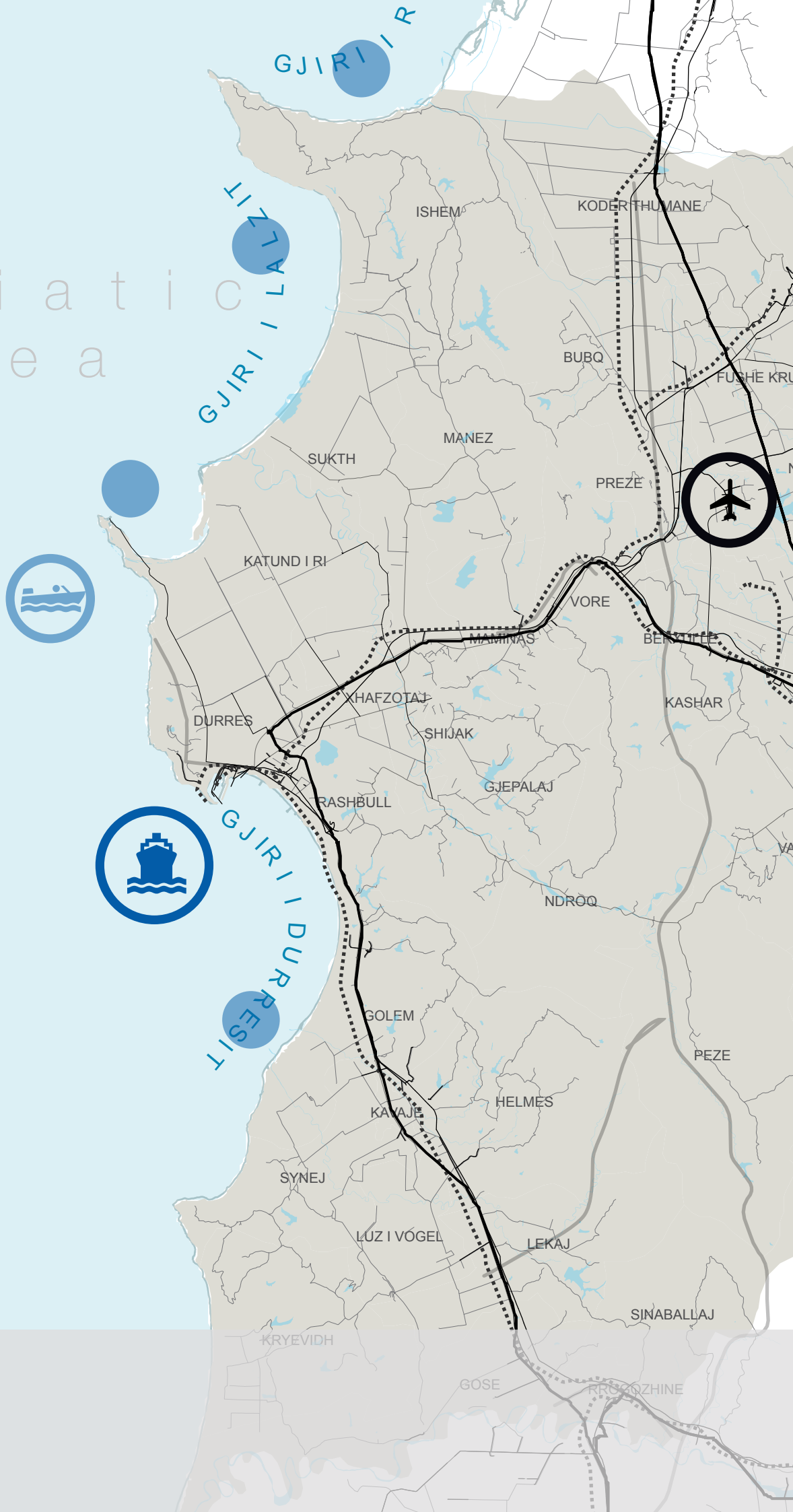


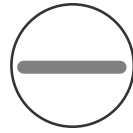
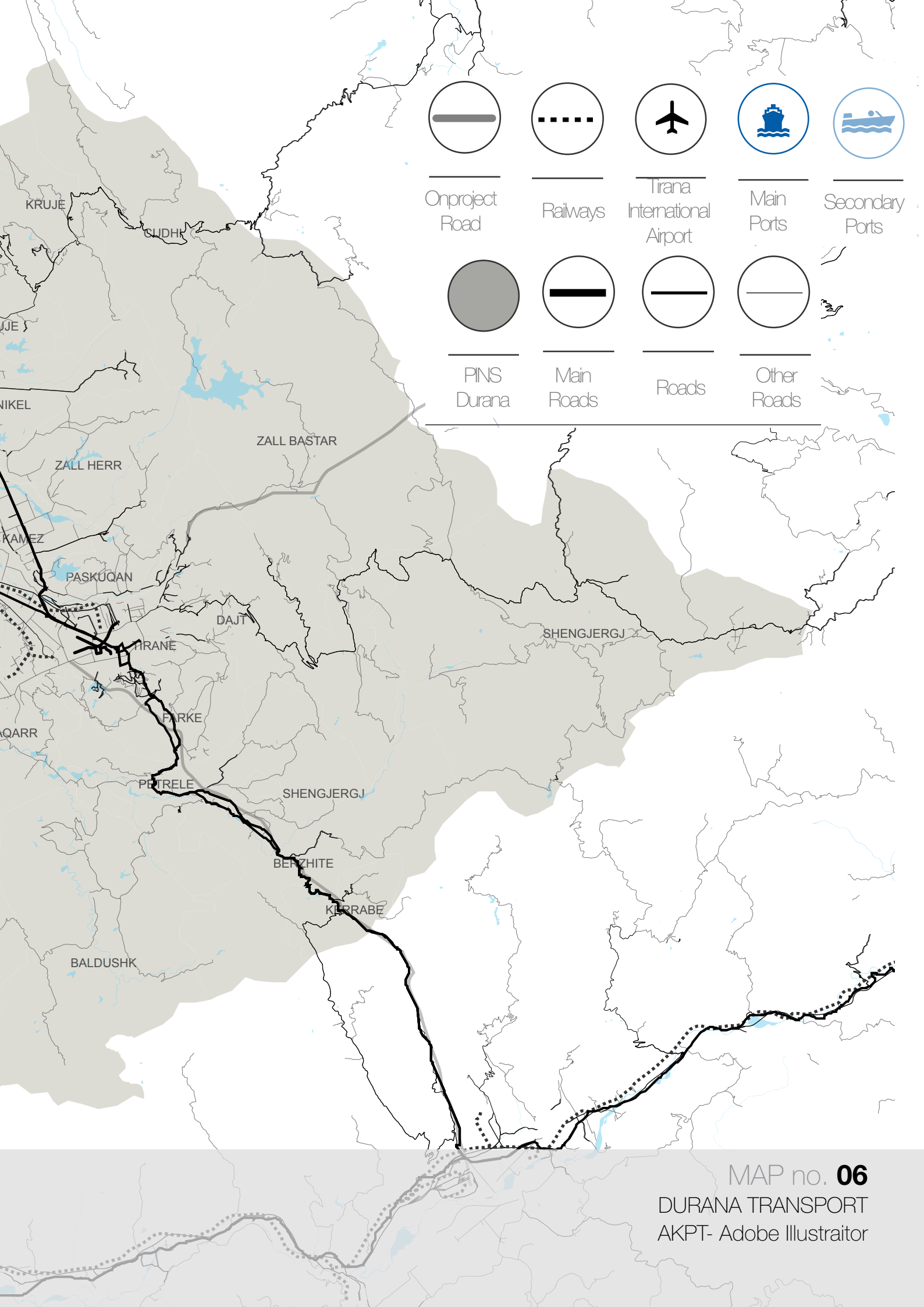
urban bus inside Tirana



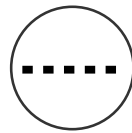
Train, Railway network

Adriatic Sea





Onproject Road



Railways



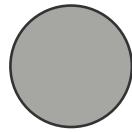
Tirana International Airport



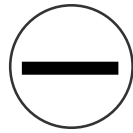
Main Ports



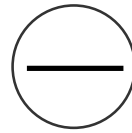
Secondary Ports



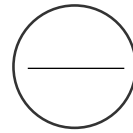
PINS Durana



Main Roads



Roads



Other Roads

MAP no. **06**

DURANA TRANSPORT
AKPT- Adobe Illustraitor





Imag 07

"RURAL MARKET", NORTH TIRANA

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Imag 08

FIERZA HYDROELECTRIC POWER STATION, NORTH ALBANIA

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Imag 09

ROAD UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AROUND AIRPORT AREA

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In this part of the chapter no.2 we are going to show not the history of the material and immaterial heritage, but we will list some potentially places and structures for the turistic sector and for the economic growth of rural ares.

a) The Coast Line

Tourism: The Albanian coastline is characterized from a diversity in terms of typology of coastline, there are rocky beaches and as well as woodland, traditional landscape and cultural features which relates to the characteristics of the different flora and fauna. Compared with regional and Mediterranean basin Albania has the opportunity to attract tourists of all categories. Long summer coastal areas become one of the largest host of touristic flows. It is also noted from increasing number of tourists in the country in recent years.

It is now clear that not only the international agencies but also the public sector has as objective the integration of sustainable tourism planning policies

The survey of TripAdvisor, 2012: 71% of tourists tend to choose tourist accommodation with less impact on the environment. 50% of respondents declare that are willing to pay more to stay in accommodation that does not harm the environment (eco-friendly) while 23% are willing to pay \$ 25 more per night to stay in such an accommodation.

Many international tour operators promote sustainable tourism with local support.

Cultural heritage: The cultural heritage of the area along the coast is very rich, both in types of cultural monuments and in chronological extent that they represent.

Archaeological parks:

National Archaeological Park of Butrint
National Park Archaeological Finiqi,
National Archaeological Park Orikumi,
National Archaeological Park of Apollonia.

Engineering constructions;

The ruins of the ancient bridge, Bashtova Kavaje,
Water ruins in the village Xarre, (Saranda),

Public buildings;

Lushnje - ancient settlement in the village Bishcukes, Divjakë,
Fier -Tower in the Seman river, ancient temple in Levan,
Prehistoric settlement in village town of Cakran, Necropolis,
Kryegjatë village, in the village of Levan Mosaic Libofshë,
Vlora - Legs bridge Ceries ancient castle, a monumental tomb of Ismail Kamal,
Tuma on the shore of the church, the village Tragjas,
Vreto Dhermiu Tower, built in the time of Ali Pasha.

Caves

Some of the caves that are part of the cultural monuments belonging to ancient Illyrian period are mainly located on the southern coast.

Cave in Mount St. Marenës

Cave of St. George, Dhivër,

Spile Cave, Himara

Velça cave, Brataj,

Cave Tragjas between the villages of Dukat,

Gramata rock inscriptions in Karaburun.

Some of the most important fortifications along the coast:

Castle Rodon, Bashtova Castle, Castle Kanina, Himara, Porto Palermo,

Lekurs Castle, Castle of Ali Pasha in Butrint, John Castle Bocari (Tragjas)

Religious buildings:

Religious buildings are an important element of cultural heritage. Along the coastal area, in different historical periods we find traces of the basilicas of late antiquity, the early medieval churches and religious facilities muslim, mainly under Ottoman influence.

Habitations:

Housing Fund is rich mainly in the southern Ionian coast, where the traditional dwellings receive important rural character. In its entirety, villages Dhermia, Himara, Qeparo, Borsht, etc., represent an ensemble with urban architectural value.

Cities as Durrës, Vlorë, Saranda has as well, and they are under the administration of various ministries.

Immaterial Heritage;

Rural communities along the coast represent a rich heritage of values, customs, traditions, folklore, which are transmitted from generation to generation and are strong element of local idenititetit. These intangible heritage values should be promoted and become the attraction element of family tourism, agro-tourism, etc.. To be mentioned is also the Albanian folk isopolyphony which is under protection of UNESCO since November 2005 with the motivation: Masterpiece of the oral heritage of humanity.

Hancraft heritage

The main problems in this context are:

- lack of supporting infrastructure,
- degraded condition of cultural monuments
- leaving them in limbo by the competent authorities,

b) Durana

History - Culture

Referring to data of the Institute of Cultural Monuments (November 2013), the number of Monuments in Tirana - Durres is 226.

Tirana district has a high number of monuments (154), compared to Durres (27), Kruja (28) and Kavajë (17).

Nearly 86% of fund Monuments in Tirana district are concentrated in the capital and only 14% of their surrounding suburbs, instead in the district of Kruja there is quiet a balanced distribution between Monuments (54%) inside the city (54%) and those in the surrounding suburbs (46%).

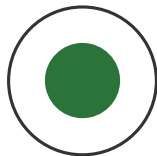
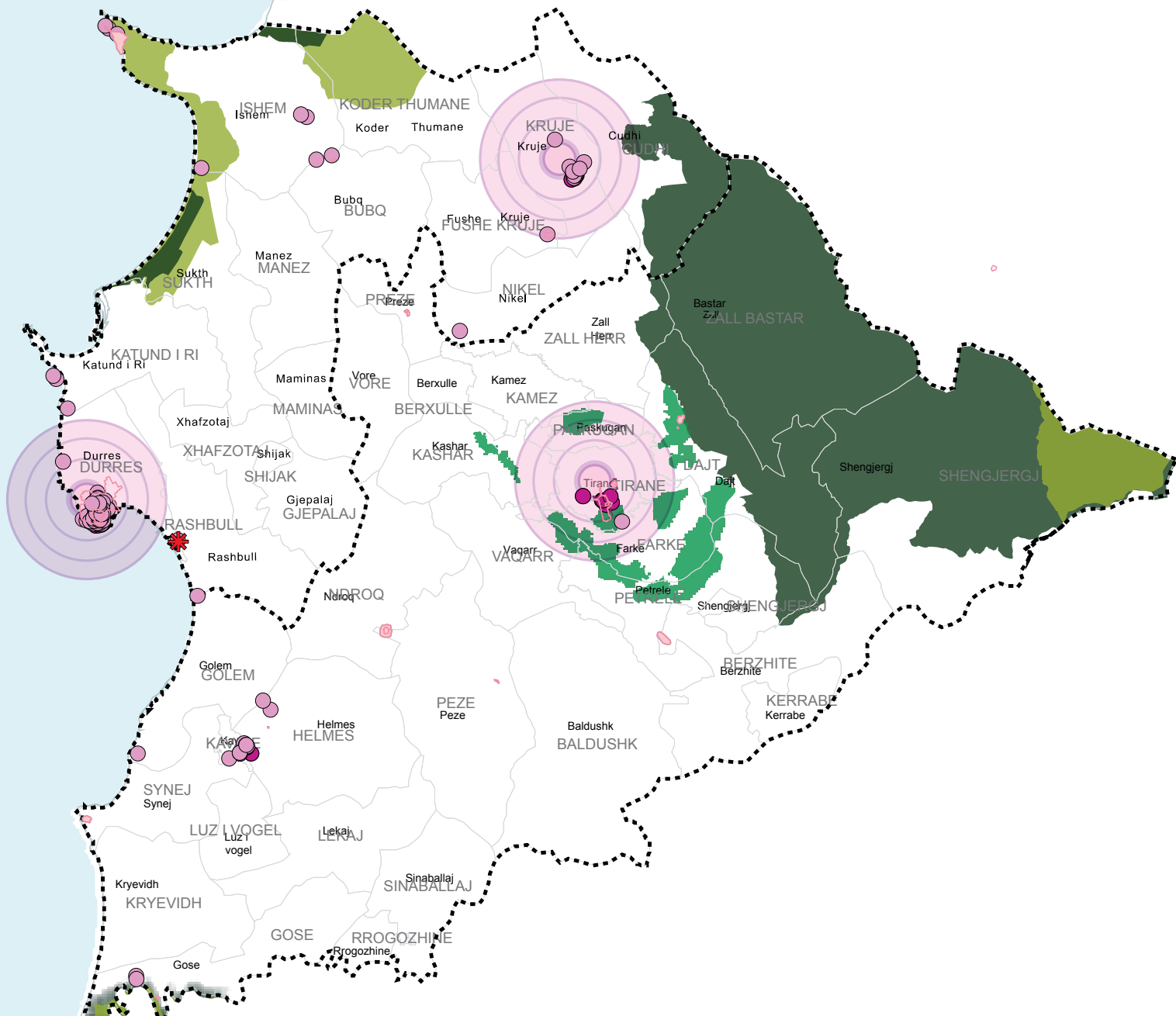
Distribution of Cultural Monuments

The early antiquity in Durana area is represented by Pellumbas Cave (Përzhita) in the southeastern part of Tirana. In this cave there are still traces of drawings on the walls that identifies the ancient Illyrian tribes. It is the earliest settlement in the whole Durana area and carries a significant archeological and identitary value. An important part of the heritage of antiquity belongs mainly to the second century, A.C.

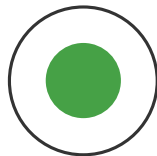
Infrastructure Cultural Heritage

According to DRKK-Durres remains problematic the Arapaj Basilica, Castle Persqopi and Bashtova castle. Infrastructure support is low, mainly concentrated near the main residential centers like Tirana, Durres and Kruja who is internationally known with its history.

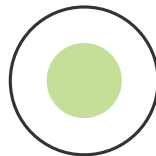
Lack of coordination between local government and central and uncertainty of the powers of two levels on the management such as the preservation or the accumulation of income from cultural tourism remains a problem.



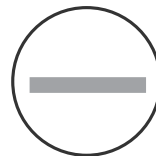
Protected Areas



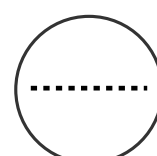
Green Belt



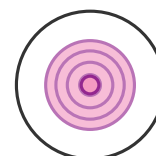
Emerald Network



Main Roads



PINS Durana



Cities with Monuments





Imag 10

ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE, 2ND CENTURY AD, DURRES CITY

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Imag 11

GJIROKASTER CASTLE, SOUTH ALBANIA

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Imag 12

“HANDCRAFT BAZAR”, KRUJE CITY

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In the early '90's, as many countries in Eastern and Central Europe even Albania changed its political regime, passing in a democratic system. Planning sector was faced with a great challenge, considering the formation of "planners", at the time, which was highly correlated with physical and urban planning developed in other conditions. Before the '90's, urban planning was a technical discipline, which had its focus on design plans for the expansion of cities such as roads, industry etc., but without any kind of pressure by the market economy to address the development. Plans was completely predictable in five-year plans during the communist regime.

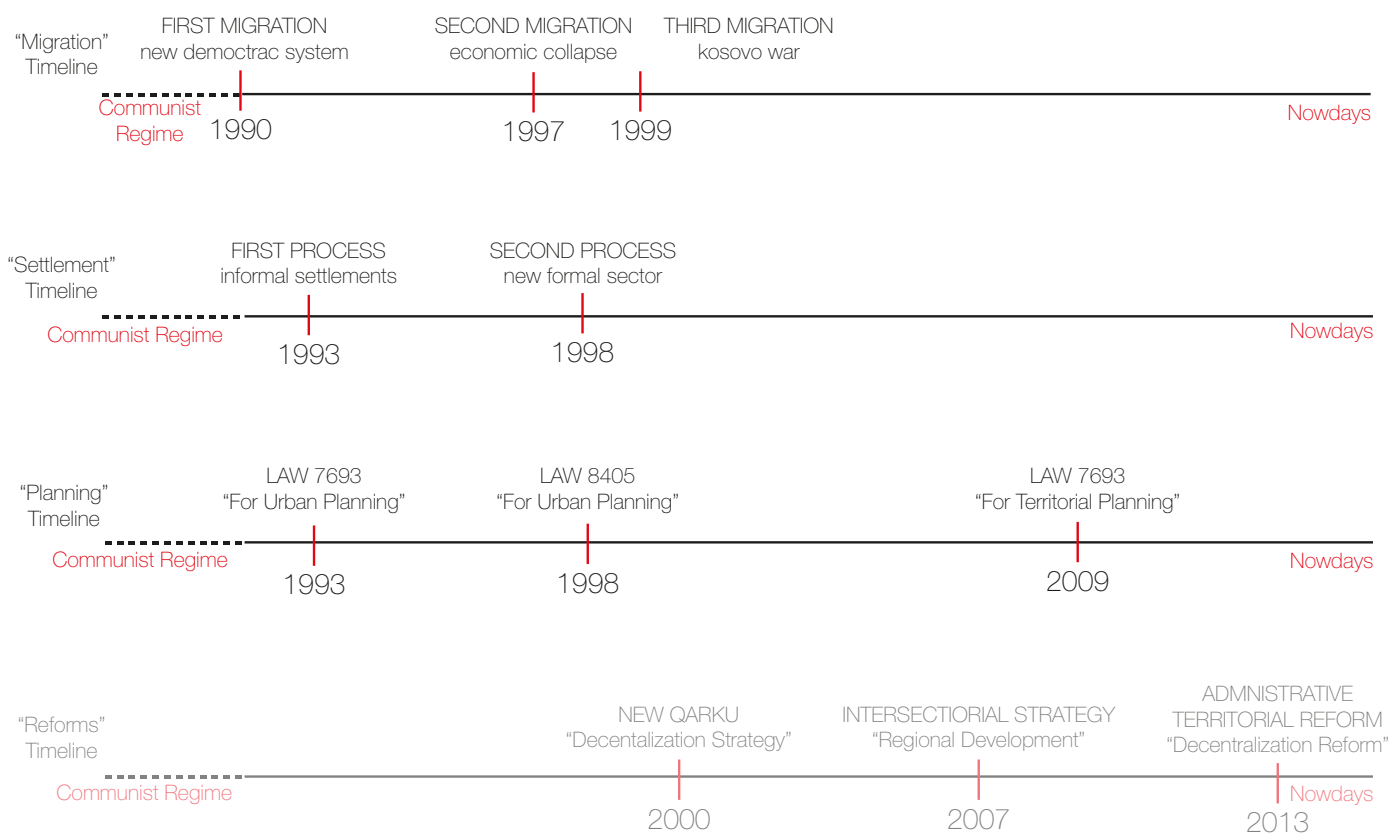
The period between 1990 and 1993, may be considered in the planning a "gray" period of urbanization. In these 3 years, as a result of comprehensive and expeditious changes, planning institutions (unable to manage the demographic change and those happening in the the territory), worked with the old planning legislation, inherited from the previous system. However, due to the new conditions and socio-economic changes, the country was forced to reform the planning system and passed into three main phases:

Law 7693, 1993 "For Urban Planning" (1993–1998);

Law 8405, 1998, "For Urban Planning", changed (1998–2011);

Law 10119, 2009, "For the Territorial Planning", changed (2011–on going).

These are the three main laws, which have driven or regulated the planning process transformation in Albania, but, obviously, can not be left aside many laws or reforms that have addressed in a direct way planning, particularly those of property, and those regarding the environment and legislations that emerged from decentralization reform after 2000.



Chapter 2. Migration - Settlements - Planning - Reforms

a) Law 7693 "For Urban Planning"

Law 7693, passed in 1993, is the first legislative document, which addressed the issues of urban planning under the new democratic system in Albania. However, it should be understood that in the period of changes, taking into account even the country's isolation, for about five decades, radical changes can not be expected in this regard. As a result, the new legislation brought no major changes in the system and in the planning process. This legislation was largely an adaptation of the previous law, based on experience gained during the period 1990-1993. "Urban Planning" or more precisely "Urbanism", in these context of this law, expressed general rules for the establishment of architecture and construction in Republic of Albania, except for the agricultural land (Council of Ministers 1993).

Cities and municipalities are defined as the first level of local government and by this legislation, urban municipalities with over 10,000 inhabitants, are instructed to prepare master plans, regulatory plans, general, and urban studies for their territory. In law, all these documents are defined as "Technical documents that define the legal relations in the field of urban planning". From this definition it can be understood that the focus of the plan itself, in this period had a strong character and technical approach without a role as a promoter for the territorial development. Meanwhile, regarding territories outside the "yellow line" (the urban boundary) and municipalities, there were 36 regions, who had the task of preparing the plans.

The law also created and Territorial Adjustment Council

(Keshilli i Rregullimit te Territorit), which has the main task of approval regulatory plans. While planning offices were formed, at all levels of government, they had more of a guiding task for the Council of Territory, rather than planning tasks. Instead Plans were drafted by the Institute of Urban Studies and Design, specialized institution for this purpose, and researched from municipalities, districts, or from the institute itself. This institute was under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Public Works, Territorial Adjustment and Tourism, as an institution with national planning tasks.

Meanwhile, regarding the central government, the Council of Ministers (Keshilli i Ministrave) was the highest institution, which task was the approval of various local government planning instruments for the “yellow line” for cities with over 10,000 inhabitants. Also, the institution defined the Territorial Adjustment Council of Albania, which also approved the studies, presented plans for approval to the Council and served as a “guide authority” to the Council of Ministers (Council of Ministers, 1993).

b. Law 8405 “For Urban Planning”

In 1998, the Law No. 8405 on “Urban Planning” was passed and it brought some changes in the legal system planning in Albania. However, improvements in 1998 were more quantitative than qualitative, compared with the previous contents of the law. Primarily, the law brought a clarification about the planning instruments, and aimed to resolve problems encountered before. Also, this version of the law overlaped and clarified some of the ambiguities of the previous law regarding the duties of various planning authorities.

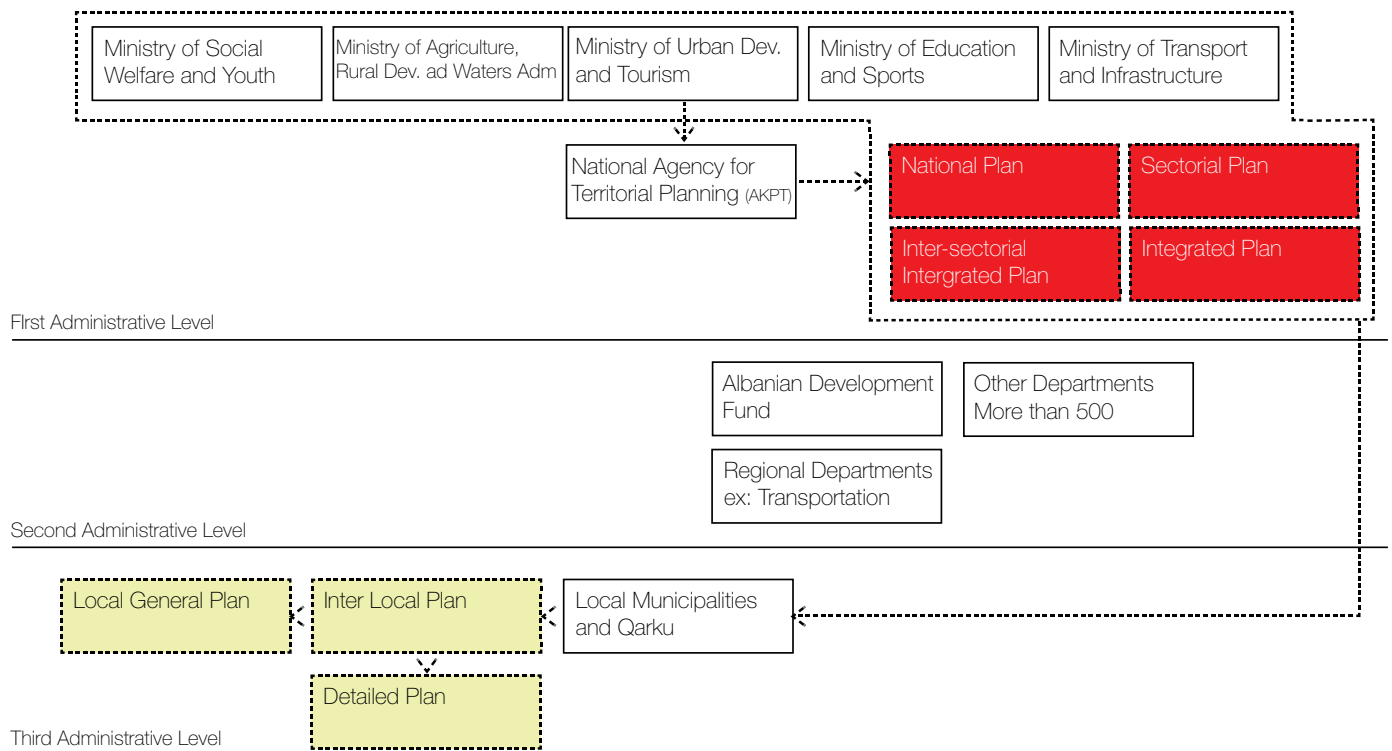
Meanwhile, regarding planning, as a profession, the law did not brought any substantial change. The concept of “yellow line” continued to be used and was the main point of debate between municipalities and the central government, while decision-making, in both laws, remained in collegial form. Both laws, in principle, intended to define general rules for land-use and architectural structures.

Territorial and institutional developments 1990 - 2009

Besides efforts to improve the legal framework, planning, during 1990-1998, and the application of these laws continue to be weak as a result of two main factors. The laws do not took into account two main phenomens that encountered Albania:

Firstly, the illegal constructions, prevalent in suburban areas of major cities. According **ALUIZNI** (a public agency who deals with the legalization process), there are **270 592 informal settlement registered in 2007 and other 22,570 added during 2007-2013**. According to the Ministry of Justice the informal settlements in all the national territory, in 2012, occupies **30,000ha**.

Secondly, the fact of ‘transition property’ procedures from state to private land has resulted ineffective due to the “new” old landowners before the communist regime. Even if the changes to the law no. 8405 in 2009 (about 10 times) tryed to give an answer to these problems they resulted a failure and inefficient to adress these two issues.



Chapter 2. Planning Instruments by Administrative Level (Central and Local)

c. Law 10119, year 2009, “For the Territorial Planning”, changed 2011– on going.

Various internal pressures such as: the need to consolidate the formal development, the need to link the development with planning, strengthening the decentralization process for a better coordination of investment, along with the challenge of European integration, led the initiative to draft a new law on territorial planning. This initiative saw the new law as a boost to complete change of the entire system of planning. One of the most important changes was the shift from centralized regulation plans to urban areas planning throughout the territory, so to think outside the “yellow line”, the city border.

In April 2009, the Parliament adopted the Law no.10119 “On Territorial Planning”, which had a consensus as rare times where 90% the Parliament voted in favor.

Nr.10119 Article 3 of the Law “On Territorial Planning”, defines planning as “a cross-disciplinary activity that aims to plan land uses and determine the necessary for the development of the territory and to the built structures where they lay“. Planning is intended to be viewed in its entirety multidimensional character and based on clear principles of good governance, development and control of its territory.

There happened even substantial changes in the public authorities involved in the planning process:

First, melt the National Institute of Studies and Urban Designs (ISPU) and it came the **National Planning Agency Territory (AKPT)**.

Different from ISPU, AKPT doesn't create planning processes, so it does

not create planning instruments. **AKPT has as main feature the support of the horizontal and vertical coordination between authorities of different levels and different sectors.** AKPT plays a supporting role in the development of plans and controls the compliance of legal procedures in their preparation. Finally, it serves as an advisory body to the Prime Minister and the secretariat for the National Council of the Territory. So basically, there is an authority, which doesn't perform planning in itself, but follows and supports planning processes.

National Council of Territory (KKT) replaced the Regulatory Council, while the role of the regulatory councils at the local level were replaced by **Local Councils**. In this way to eliminate collegial body at the local level, creating clarity in decision making and responsibility.

As seen from the diagram, for the first time is obligatory the drafting of General Plan for the National Territory, and all ministries take competence in planning, as long as it fits with the relevant field. At the local level, this diagram shows that the process of land development (permissions) can not happen, unless based on the General Plan of the Territory.

Albania's government is currently engaged in the realization of two important reforms related to governance closely with each other. These are: decentralization reform of governance and administrative-territorial reform. The second reform, the administrative division, has gripped the public interest and the heart of the political debate. However, the reforms to the administrative division is publicly discussed mainly in terms of the first level of government, while part of it is the second level. On of second level, is still talking less and the government is working to introduce "form" that will reform at this level. On the other hand, decentralization of governance reform, although finally it is accepted that is leading in an administrative division, is still at the technical level and not faced enough to the political debate.

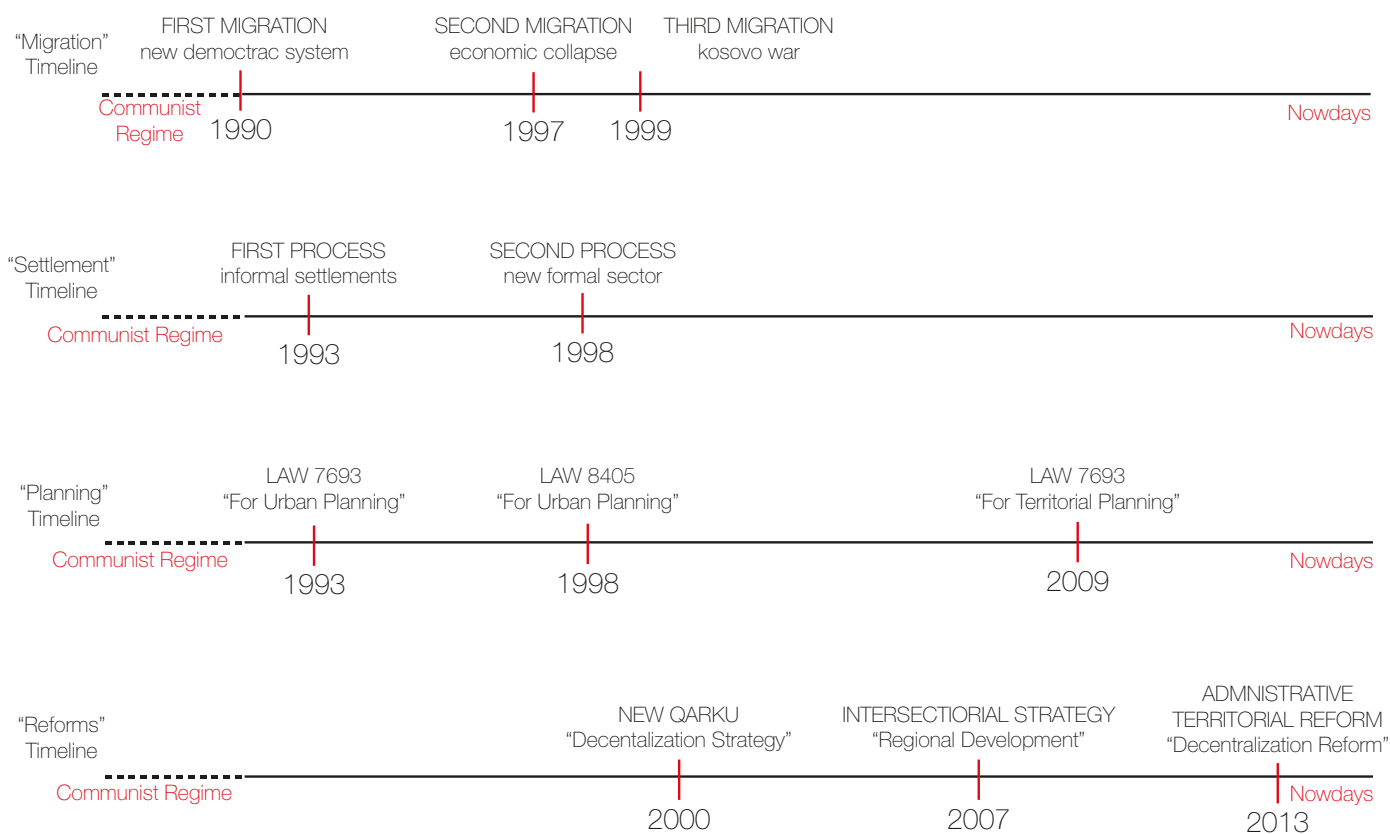
In 1998, Albania signed and then ratified (2000) the Charter of Council of Europe, Local autonomy - so local self-government. This historical fact, paved the way for a process made by many actors, institutional and political for a decentralization governance strategy.

On the basis of the Strategy Decentralization was adopted the Law on the Organization Functioning of Local Government (8652/2000), where the referred to the Constitution, determining the role and functions of the Qarku Council, as second level unit of local government.

In this historic moment it has been decided that the second level (Qarku) was to clarify better on its function later, after gaining the proper experience decentralization of the first level.

One of the main arguments was that the lack of time and the capacity resources were not enough to make decentralization on second level. Given that, since 2000, the role of the Qarku, unless delegated functions, Legally consisted in the coordination of development strategies at the regional level.

However, considerations with of second level governance had their peak just in 2000, and then all work performed in connection with an intermediate level of territorial government is focused on regional development issues. This work was carried out by governments in close cooperation and often driven by international donors.



Chapter 2. Migration - Settlements - Planning - Reforms

1999 & 2000: Decentralisation Strategy, born of Qarku (Region)

2003: Adoption of Resolution of the Millennium Development Goals by the Government;

2002-2005: 6 reports and 6 strategies for the Regional Development (Government UNDP);

2007-2008: Approval of Intersectorial Strategy on Regional Development

2009: Regional Development Fund was created, (Improvement in 2011 (ISD project of the EU / UNDP Government)

2010-2011: Political Concept & Strategy for the Regional Development (ISD project of the EU / UNDP)

2012: Review of the National Strategy with Development and Integration (NSDI), which includes Regional Development (RD) (by the government)

2012: Political Conceptual integration, regionalism - Regional Development (Regional Development Project RDP and funded by SDC ADA)

2013-2014: Start the administrative-territorial reform decentralization (Government Project STAR / UNDP, USAID, RDP).

So over 14 years, there were many developments in relation to what might happen in the second level, the nature of which can be described as follows:

- In 2000 Albania had a focused on governance, decentralization in of first level, the governance territorial reform, but without fully explaining the role of Qarku.

- For over 12 years Albania had a focused on regional development, but these initiatives never success in the final outcome.

Two key moments this period are (i) development of CSRD which was based largely on the Croatian experience (as the result of the experts involved), while Croats themselves quickly changed their approach to rural development, (ii) attempt ISD program (funded from EU UNDP and implemented by UNDP) related to domestic regional development. This effort was considered so serious by the government, because it was a preliminary step with the process of the UE candidate status. However, since Albania was not granted candidate status, as in 2010 also in 2011, the ISD work in this direction was not finalized;

- In 2012 Albania had an obvious effort (government, but induced Project donors through RDP) to connect regional development institutions government (Qarku) with other institutional actors.

These efforts continue, RDP project is still in effect. The progress of this project can be analyzed carefully to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the Qarku. A first conclusion shows that real institutional capacities at Qarku level are uncompleted;

- In 2013 the government presents its program of the "Regionalism Reform", as a dedicated chapter in its overall program.

A quick quote of this program is as follows:

- . "Creating regions and reconfiguration of Qarku according to European models Government regions.

- . A new direction with national policy regional development

- . Expanding the functions powers of government agencies at regional level

- . Increased financial resources assets for the regions;

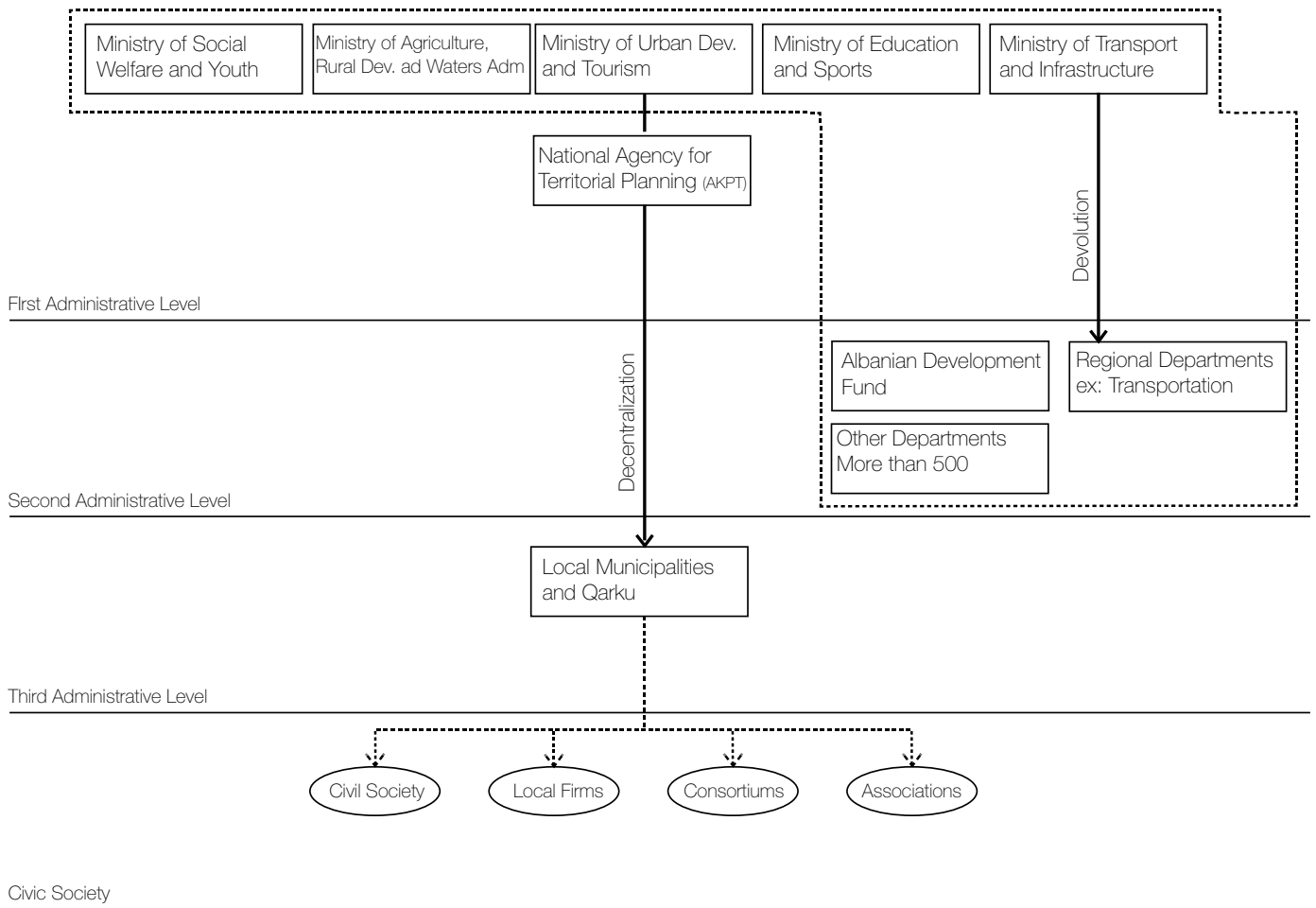
- . New Model & more efficient for local and national level

- . The necessary reform of Albania as a candidate in EU

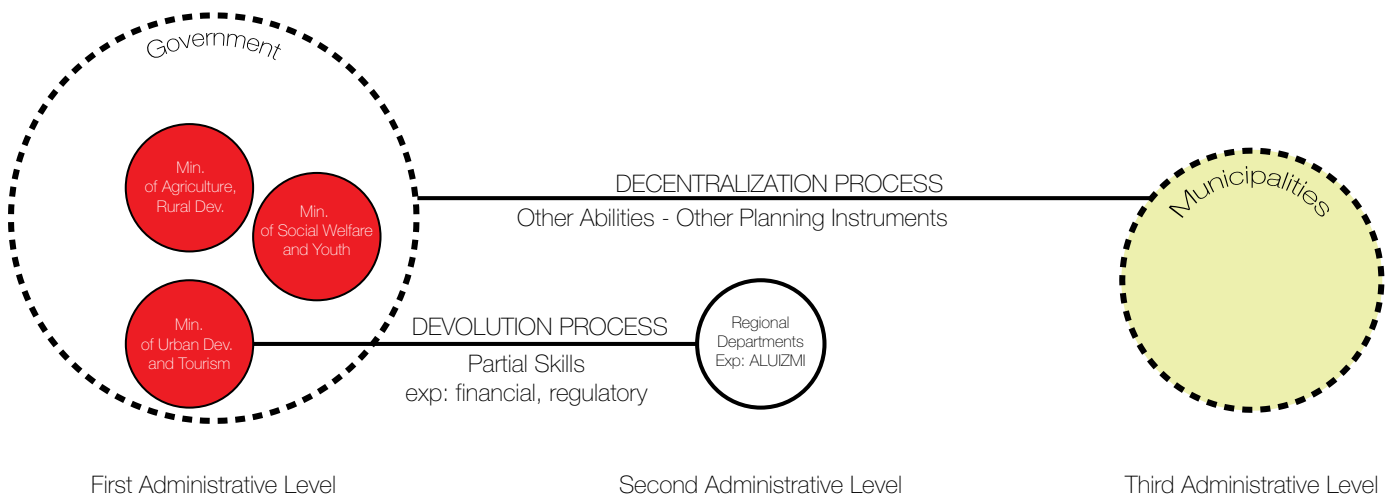
- . Opportunities that the regions benefit from technical assistance funding EU instruments.

The government program clearly leaves open the possibilities of the creation of regions with a certain autonomy under the principles of the European Charter; permits and even directs that areas to focus on regional development issues and therefore benefit not only from domestic sources but also from EU sources directly;

This part of the government program, dedicated to the "Regionalism Regional Reform", can be interpreted correctly only if is read in an integrated sectoral programs.



Chapter 2. Administrative Levels - Devolving and Deconcentration Process.



Chapter 2. Devolving vs. Deconcentration Process.

From the beginning we should clarify that we are not talking about a proposal on the second level of local government, but the level intermediate / regional government.

These two levels has fundamental conceptual differences.

The second level of local government, which “should / could have been” Qarku today, has the intend to provide those public services that directly affect the quality of life of citizens and does not create economies of scale on the first level. It is about services, basic urban transport, water supply, solid waste management, etc..

Intermediate level of government, or region, in principle, has not in focus (direct) these kind of essential services. The region on the core functions has the management of territory resources in order to increase economic development in order to protect natural resources.

As said above, in relation to the regional governance, of principles are the starting point of Helsinki Charter, which are accepted by Albania government since 1998, with the adoption of the European Charter for local autonomy.

Under these principles, the Regional Authorities are territorial authorities between central and local government. “[...] The regional legal powers should has the ability of regional authorities, within the constitutional limits, to regulate and manage public affairs under the responsibility of itself, in the interests of the population in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity (MCL-13, 2002) “.

The source of this paragraph is the card of regional self-government of the Council of Europe, which although it has not legally adopted by member states but is a guide document, followed by all member countries.

Further, studies conducted by the EU institutions show that the terms of region as a concept has not unique definition. Different countries use this concept in different ways, with territories of different sizes, and are materialize in institutions or relationships level. In general, everyone agrees that the region is an intermediate level of territorial governance, regardless of the territorial needs, such as: geography, economic cohesion, cultural identity, historic structures, administrative, popular identity, territorial political mobilization, etc.. (Keating 1998).

Starting form these, Albania must find its form of regionalization, which, in accordance with our context, will / can be different from other countries.

1. All countries in Europe have their own governmental institutions, covering regional issues, regional development for the intermediate level. Even those 5 states that do not declare any form of interim government (Kosovo, Macedonia, Iceland, Lithuania and Montenegro), have various institutions (development agencies, statistical or planning region, or metropolitan municipality) which covering the regional planning development issues.

2. All European models are different, as they are set by unique contexts and situations. Indeed, any analysis that we can do stock European, would provide findings results merely indicative. So if something does not operating in Europe, does not mean it will not work in Albania. This will mean that Albania can not and should copy a pattern (which can be most successful) even if it is developed in a state of “similar” neighboring the former Communist bloc. .





Imag 13

PUBLIC DEBATE ON TERRITORIAL REFORM WITH GREEC MINORITY, 2014

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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Cooperation Office Albania
Zyra e Bashkëpunimit Zviceran në Shqipëri



REPUBLIKA E SHqipëRI

MINISTRI PËR
VENDOSHTETËSINË

MBËSHTETJE PËR ADMINISTRATIVO-TERRITORIALE

Takim Konsultues



SHQIPËRIE
ÇËSHTJET
DRE



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

ËR REFORMËN TORIALE NË SHQIPËRI

s Projekti STAB



Imag 14

“ALBANIAN MINISTER FOR LOCAL ADMINISTRATION, ON TERRITORIAL REFORM, WITH INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS” - font: Web

If in the second chapter we have seen 'partially' some economical sectors and important social events, in this chapter (3) we will try to expand our view from 'the rural areas of Albania' to the microscale view of territorial cooperation around the major cities.

To do this this kind of analysis it has been chosen 'the international cooperation', in all the forms that it takes (as we will see also on chapter 4), as a magnifying glass to read economical, social and institutional changes, here some reasons:

(i) as we saw in the second chapter, the territorial and administrative reform is stucked do to a luck of a internal political consensus, from more than 15 years (more than 6 governments).

(ii) the infomality process has take more than 25 years to have a planning and institutional answer (the decentralization reform), as we see on the graph on the right, and many time it would take the regulation process.

(iii) the compesation of the former land owners before the totalitarian regime and the legalization process of infomal settlements after the '90, it would take many time alsow, and it is an technical and juridical issue. (According ALUIZNI there are more than 300,000 infomal settlements for a compessive area of 30,000ha in all around the Albania, 2012).

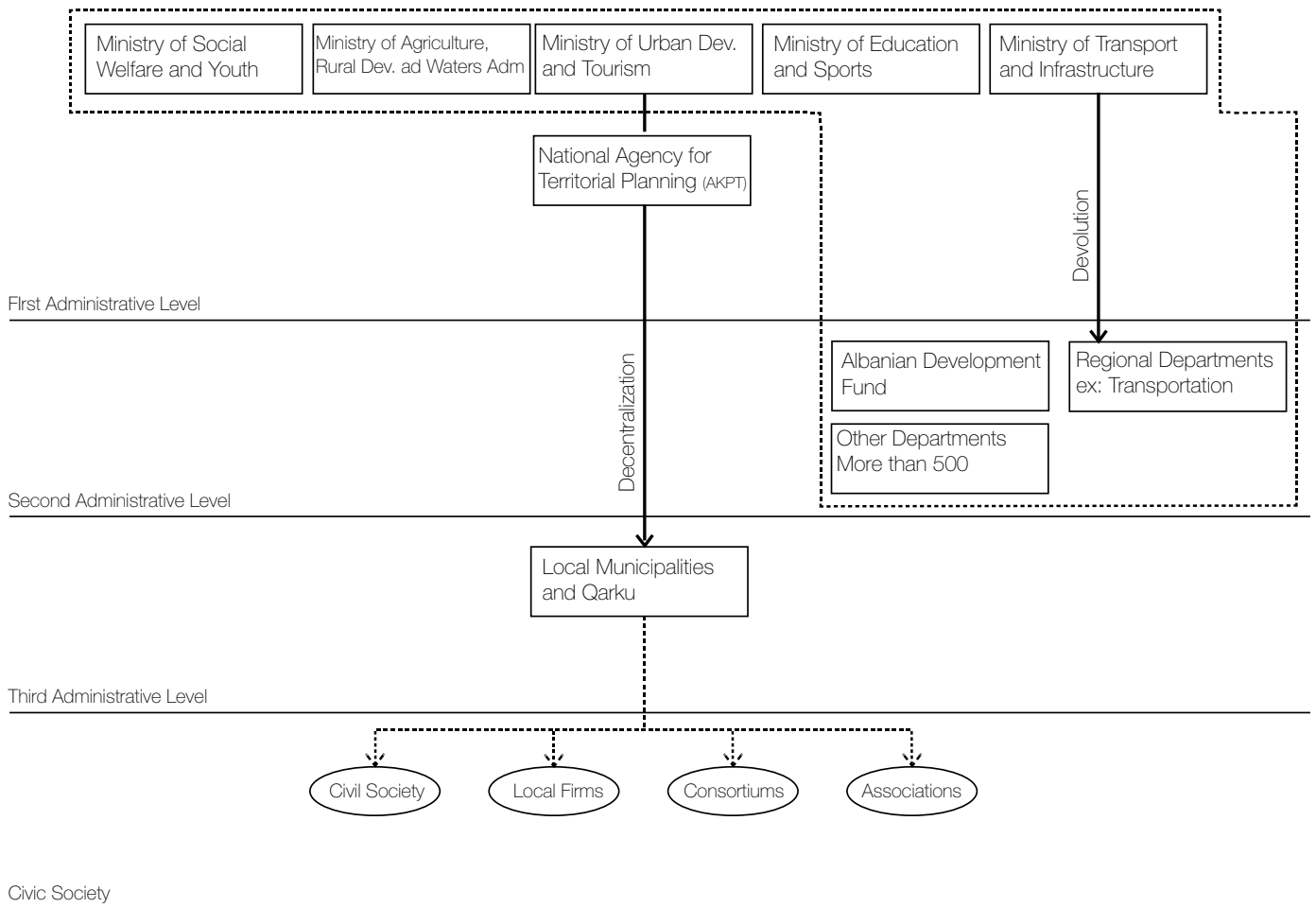
(iv.) the international cooperation, as it described in this chapter, shows a strong necessity of collaboration with all public administration and with the civil society giving new examples of private and public partnership.

(v.) another important reason on "why international cooperation" is the fact that cooperation on 'capacity building' for the public administration and VET sector regarding to citizens skills is already operating in Albania. The need for a new administrative and territorial division in Albania has been identified in a variety of analyses and reports by international organizations and domestic and international experts, including the 2012 Progress Report of the European Union Commission, the Research on Fiscal Decentralization by USAID in 2012, the Territorial Reform in Albania Study financed by SIDA for the Association of Communes in Albania, and the earlier reports of OSCE, UNDP (2005 – 2006) and of RDP/SDC and ADA (2011).

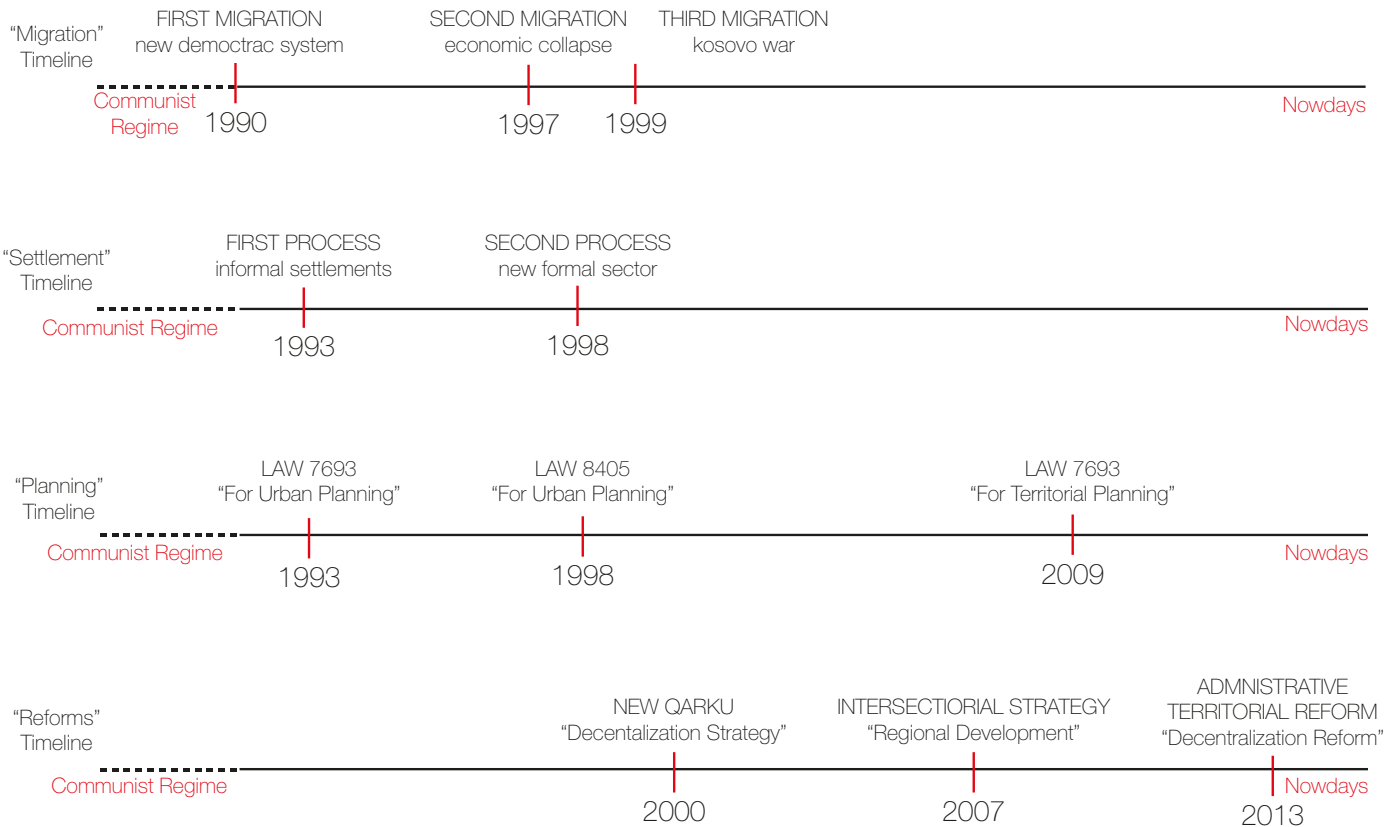
(vi.) and the last but not the least, is related to the 'medology of openness' to IPA instrument and to the Territorial Cohesion policy, from the international cooperation to a further public initiatives.

Considering the stong impact on the Albanian Europeanization process, it is important alsow to view how the European Spatial Planning is influencing the domestic policies through the international cooperation.

This chapter, as we will see below, will focus on the **Development Cooperation** as the most classical approach of International Cooperation. Criticalities of this form of cooperation (development) will be evaluated on Balkaninan scale within the European framework.



Chapter 2. Administrative Levels - Devolving and Deconcentration Process.



Chapter 2. Migration - Settlements - Planning - Reforms

a) Balkans and UE adesion

As we saw on Graph 1 (Cap 3) the European Union has a great influence on actions in the field of environment and planning. The European construction has another major influence on planning policies, it brings out cooperation as an important instrument to achieve European development objectives (Faludi, 2008). There is no EU competence for spatial planning, and despite numerous EU influences on planning systems, policies and practices in the member states, considerable diversity in how planning is conducted remains. Governments and planners have to invent it through the concrete problems they want to solve. The European Union invents specific tools for this kind of cooperation between several member states on common problems. Progressively, the European Union wants to improve the competitiveness of the territories and to narrow the development gap between them. Territorial cooperation is seen as the main means to achieve both. Progressively, territorial cooperation is leaving the programmes where it is explicitly the aim of the work to spread to all European policies. Territorial cooperation is so widely used that it can be considered as a specific approach developed in the European Union. Thus there is a European way of planning, a European model of society which results in mutual learning about differences and similarities.

“There is a strong international dimension to spatial planning. European integration strengthens interconnections, development and decision-making across national and regional borders. EU policies in areas such as environment, transport, agriculture or regional policy have far-reaching effects on spatial development patterns and planning procedures. Planners in the EU are now routinely engaged in cooperation across national borders to share and devise effective ways of intervening in the way our cities, towns and rural areas develop. In short, the EU has become an important framework for planning practice, research and teaching. Spatial planning in Europe is being ‘Europeanised’, with corresponding changes for the role of planners.”

*European Spatial Planning and Territorial Cooperatio
Dühr; Claire Colomb; Vincent Nadin (2011)*

Further more the Europeanization process, candidate countries of Western Balcans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYROM, Montenegro, and Kosovo) represent an european challenge to this process. So, the Europeanisation of South Eastern Europe can not clearly be seen either as an act of force or as a unilateral process. A virtuous relationship between the European Union and the Balkan enclave may be difficult to accomplished without launching an effort to transform the political culture and the state still prevalent in the Balkans. In particular, it becomes essential to “redefine” or “update” in the culture and political practice of

the countries in the region some political concepts that are the basis of international relations and the integration process itself, such as the concepts of “sovereignty” and “national interest”.

Essentially the ‘living space’ in Balkans has been inherited from the second half of the twentieth century and it is the minimum level of evolution, according to the exposure that the poor countries in the region have been in internationalization process, rather than helped to redefine and change the European and Western analogues political principles. In the Balkans and in the former communist countries in general, the culture of “control systems”, both in politics and in the economy, is still very strong, beyond the **formal aspects of democracy** and **participatory forms** and of the **free market** that can take in the region.

According to Stocchiero (2014) the process of re-definition of these categories of politics is longer and more complex than it was expected, because it has often prevailed an European narrative approach too **post-modern** in contrast with the Balkans approach deeply conservative and still struggling with an **“incomplete modernity”**. But for sure that this thesis is not going to start a debate on these particular issues, but what counts is the arrangement on the huge difference between the reality of political thought derived from the Balkan and that under the liberal internationalist vision of Western-style and the prevailing Anglo-Saxon derivation.

In these ‘extreme’ terms the ‘de-Balkanization’ of South Eastern Europe is more directed towards a clash of civilization and towards integration of the post-communist countries with the political union within the European-style, which should start from the fact that there can be so many different cultures and ways of being European and the social model of arrival is not necessarily pre-designed and unique.

Considering the diversities, highlighted by Stocchiero (2010), among Balkans and the prevalent Western UE approach, the UE ‘assembling’ process seems more as cultural issue, rather than a political matter.

a) Albanian Planning and the International Cooperation, a brief history.

On 24 June Albania managed to obtain the status of “candidate” for membership in the European Union and a question you can we can make is about the factors which has driven the Territorial planning instruments. Territorial Planning, as well as Aliaj (2013) argues, has faced with a institutional “vacuum” which for many years has been unable to provide immediate response to changes in the spatial composition, social and economic development in the country. The new reform on Territorial Decentralization is on the final stage and what we can understand is only a basic orientation about what could be the future of the ‘city’ or of the ‘region’ in Administrative role, and which of them would be capable create economies in the inter-urban scale.

What remains to be emphasized is the need of creating an Administrative window capable to dialogue with the three aforementioned dimensions, spatial / social and economic. Translated in other words; the territorial development through UE funds (ESF - social development) and (ERDF - developing ‘regional’). The basis of these funds are policies that promote competition and those which guides the ‘space’ that competition creates (sustainable development).

In the absence of an Administrative diversity for dialogue horizontally and vertically (the theory of subsidiarity) with different institutions and the inability to capture the needs that the Albanian Society produce today, made that only 35% of European funds be used for these purposes, 7-year-program 2007-2014.

“Structural Funds”, as described above, are social and “regional” investment funds and aims the development of varied sectors and depends from the public and civic absorption capacity of these funds.

One indicators of this absorptio capacity is the wide stretch of partnership s- to avoid territorial inequalities.

According to the Public Administration we can say that it has a ‘subsidiarity’ problem caused from the polarization governance and the lack of a second level, instead the civil society has more possibilities to establish partnership networks.

To understand in depth the “europeanization” of territorial planning let’s see again the directions that are influting the planning system in Albania.

With the Marshall Plan after World War II, InternacionaI Coopation took institutional form as a foreign policy for the different countries, and aimed to rebuild and develop countries involved in this war.

Over the years and with the global political polarization, “Cold War”, Cooperation was extended even in the infrastructure development and later on technology and industry.

Examples in Albania are the numerous Chinese factories of that time.

During the 80s, the climate mitigation of the “Cold War” and international crises on fuel, Koperimi Internazionale began to shed new base in interstate development approach.

The costs of exporting the “industrial capital” and “human capital/ professional” was one of the criticism that tried to look for a new approach.

A key role in the birth of a new form of Cooperation also played alsow by the numerous researchers and academics this area, sparing criticism of the classic role of cooperation in the “neo colonialism” approach.

But certainly in this thesis will not dwell on this term as it will necessary to have concrete examples of projects and concrete political agendas to understand if the traditional Cooperation included this criticism.

In these circumstances arises the term "Capacity Building".

So, in the late '80 came the need to pass the competences in the use of the technology imported, although the People's Republic of China solved this problem by bringing the human 'capital' in Albania.

Normally, in the Albania long the 80s, promotion of cooperation at these formative and educational terms IC could operate only to the vocational and technical training of workers (Civil Society), while in western democratic was raised as an issue of the formation of the Public Administration.

Today the term "capacity building" recognizes a series historical processes, eg: "Institutional building", "Institutional strengthening", "Development management" and "human resource Development", "New institutionalism" or later "Organizational Development", "Community Development", and "integrated Rural Development and Sustainable Development". (Cottino, 2009).

With the change of regime in Albania, in the early 90s, International Cooperation changed its methodology of formation to the Civil Society and took a direction to the AID Cooperation rather than to the formation of the workers, seen that industries were closed. Here we can mention the numerous NGO helping the civic society to be institutionalized to in the public sphere.

If we return to the formation of the Public Administration we can see that the IC has played a key role, and continues till today, in the implementation of Public Services for the interurban areas such as waste landfills, electrification. In these cases we can mention the various international actors such as World Bank or USAID.

In these conditions it would be excessive to say, but the International Cooperation took solidarity/emergency basis and the public administration directly on financial support.

It remains to understand how these two elements respond to each other, or; how these two elements (the emergence and finance) are suited for territorial development policies for the promotion of competition and sustainable development?

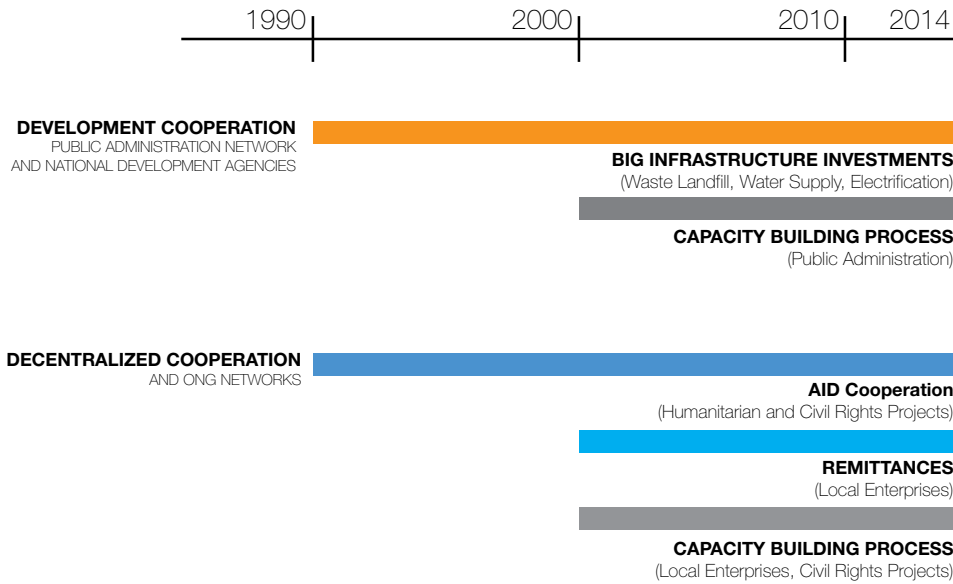
To find a positive response to competition and different from the general description of this binomial "the emergence and finance" we must go outside the traditional forms described before and see once more the meaning of "capacity building" for the civic society and for the public administration.

Currently the International Development Agencies of the EU member states are operating in essential reforms on Public Administration, such as the Territorial Reform, GIZ, SIDA and DGCS, and what it may concern us is the most important the capacities formation support rather than the economical support.

In these terms, we see an approach in "training capacities" in "institutional development", "organizational development" and "institutional strengthening".

A specific case of public administration is the project "Atelier Albania" (AKPT) that has recognized these capacities processes to accelerate and facilitate the process of development of the territory, and among the goals of this new "body" institutional is the promoting of tourism in Albania by inclusive design.

If we will refer to the formation of civil society's capacities, we can mention the projects realized thanks to the Italian decentrazied Cooperation; "Pro Permet" (local tourist guide), "RISE OP" (cultural handicrafts) and the creation of the Consortium of wine "Kallmet". These two cases are the two main International Cooperation took in consideration in this thesis on chapter four.



Chapter 3. International Development Cooperation and their Approach

Theoretically as a candidate country, Albania has a partial access on European structural funds, and practically no more than 35% of these funds has been used for the period 2007-2013.

Actually, for the European accession, Albania has to operate on IPA instruments, before to get full rights of a member state. In order to use these instruments Albania has to create national partnerships with these countries.

“The aim of the IPA is therefore to enhance the efficiency and coherence of aid by means of a single framework in order to strengthen institutional capacity, cross-border cooperation, economic and social development and rural development. Pre-accession assistance supports the stabilisation and association process of candidate countries and potential candidate countries”

Many programs / projects of international cooperation towards candidate countries to the European union, such as Albania, are essentially divided into 5 ‘components’:

- **Transition Assistance and Institution Building:** managed by the European Commission’s Directorate General for Enlargement Cross-Border Co-operation (with EU Member states and other countries eligible for IPA).

The intervention aim to promote the adoption of structural reforms to adjust the requirements of the enlargement process:

- (i) Political Criteria
- (ii) Economic Criteria
- (iii) Harmonization with the *acquis communautaire*

- **Border Cooperation:** This component supports cross-border, transnational and inregional cooperation among the recipients countries and between them and member states of the European Union.

- **Regional Development:** The initiatives are concentrated in order to prepare the candidate countries for the future management of the European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund. Here the main sectors:

- (i) providing support to transport,
- (ii) environment infrastructure,
- (iii) enhancing competitiveness,
- (iv) reducing regional disparities.

- **Human Resources Development** (strengthening human capital and combating exclusion) : managed by the European Commission’s Directorate General for Employment and Social Affairs.

The initiatives of this component face social exclusion, investing on education and vocational training, with a view to prepare the beneficiary country to the planning, implementation and management of the European Social Fund under the European Employment Strategy.

- **Rural Development:** managed by the European Commission's Directorate General for Agriculture.

This component provides support for the definition of policies for this sector to upgrade the legislation of the beneficiary country to the common agricultural policy and the institutions responsible for preparing the future management of its funds (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development).

IPA components III-V are designed to mirror closely structural, cohesion and rural development funds, in preparation for the management of such funds upon accession. It allows beneficiary countries to prepare themselves for successful participation in EU cohesion policy after accession.

According to IPA 2014-2020 for Albania, these two 'components' are designed as below:

On Agriculture and Rural Development: This includes to assisting the country in preparation for implementation of IPARD; extension and advisory services, technical bodies in charge of food safety and quality, agricultural policy formulation, agricultural statistics, information management systems, sustainable production and processing of fish and to improve the food safety standards, as well as fishery sector management.

IPARD program in Albania is not new, it has been implemented partially, during the '2007-2013 period', by the Agriculture Albanian Ministry as a form of 'microcredit' for the agricultural investments.

During 2011-12 these program has been supported form the public authority but even by the international cooperation, and respectively from the German National Cooperation Agency (GIZ).

For the period from 2014-2020 it has been granted a total of 92 million euro (font: Indicative strategy paper for albania. IPA 2014-2020).

Environment and Climate action policies: The development and implementation of the environment and climate action policies, as well as the approximation of the regulatory framework with the EU legislation, will be supported through technical assistance, provided via twinning, service contracts, TAIX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument) and international specialised agencies. The technical expertise aims also to strengthen the capacities of the central and local institutions to enforce the relevant regulatory measures for the protection of the environment. If needed, the support will also include specific equipment to monitor sector policy benchmarks. Support will also be provided for public awareness raising and meaningful integration of environment into other policy areas such as energy, transport, agriculture.

Type of financing: Sector budget support is the preferred type of financing in the environment sector, or respective sub-sectors such as water or waste management, if the conditions are met. Before the eligibility is established, service contracts, twinings and other 15 will be used to deliver the assistance. Regarding investments, a coordinated approach to blending of IFI loans with IPA grants is foreseen through the Western Balkan Investment Framework. The participation in relevant Union Programmes will be supported and details decided later at the time of programming. For the period from 2014-2020 it has been granted a

total of 68 million euro (font: Indicative strategy paper for albania. IPA 2014-2020).

Transport: In addition to the constraints mentioned above for the environment sector as regards large infrastructure, the transport sector (which has absorbed important investments in the last period) suffers from the limited availability of funds for maintenance. This is a reason of serious concern. It is therefore important that both resources and tools for public financial management, needed for ensuring long term commitments, should be a pre-condition for successful infrastructure investments. Institutional assessments, such as due diligence assessments, of implementing institutions should be included in future feasibility studies. It is essential that planning of transport infrastructure investments is done in line with the priorities identified in the government's strategic plans and the South East Europe Transport Observatory (SEETO) comprehensive network development plans. In addition, infrastructure maintenance should be carried out in line with already existing asset management tools and manuals. For the period from 2014-2020 it has been granted a total of 56 million euro (font: Indicative strategy paper for albania. IPA 2014-2020).

Territorial cooperation and regional cooperation: Albania will participate in three IPA II cross-border programmes with other IPA II beneficiaries, notably Montenegro, Kosovo and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

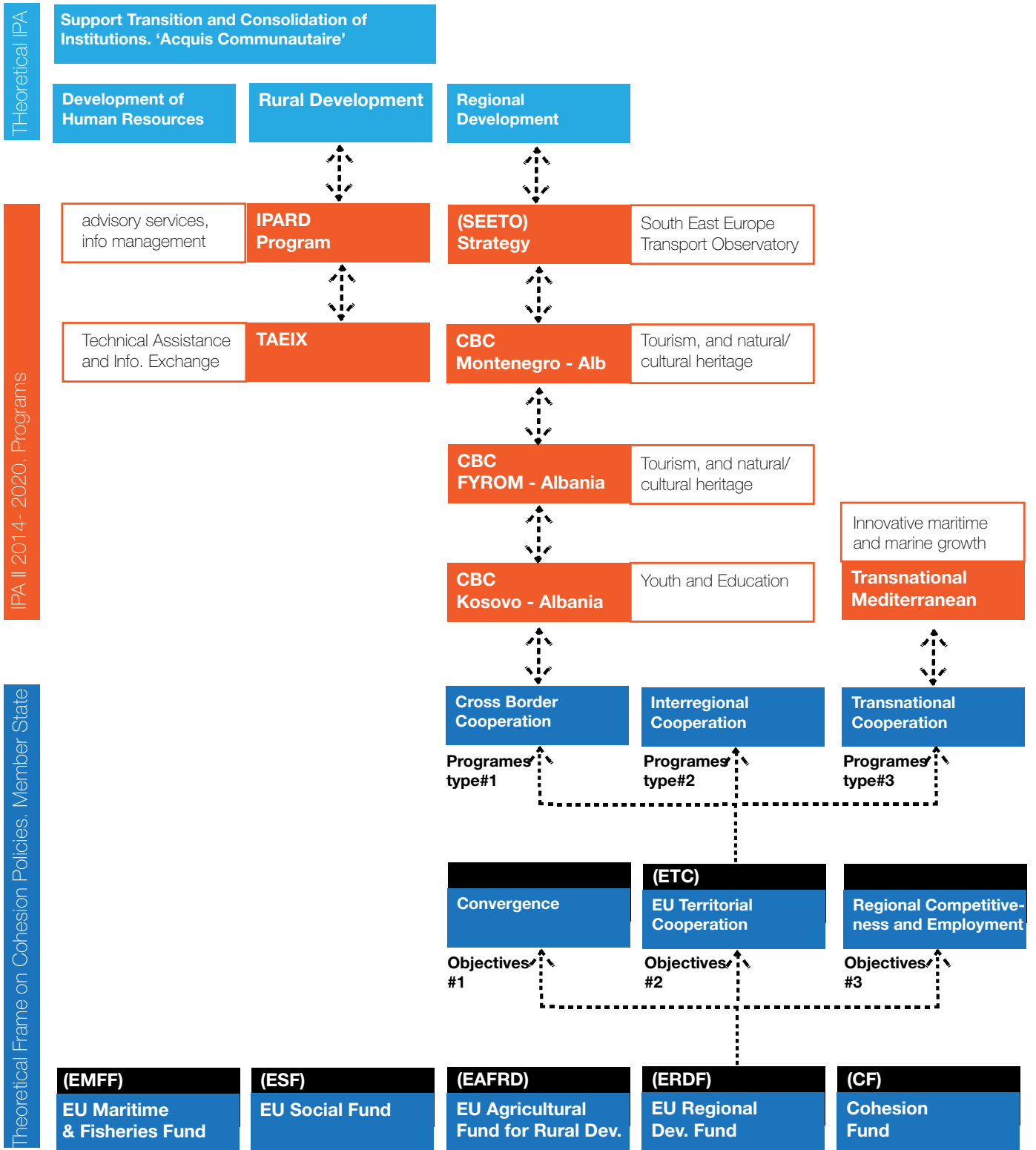
Each programme focuses on three thematic priorities. Environmental protection, climate change and risk prevention and tourism and cultural and natural heritage are common thematic priorities for the three programmes. The programme with Montenegro and the programme with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will also focus on competitiveness, business, trade and investment as third thematic priority while the programme with Kosovo will focus on youth and education.

During the period 2014-20, Albania will continue to participate in the Mediterranean transnational programme and will also join the new Adriatic-Ionian programme. Both programmes have a rather broad geographical outreach, including several countries, and cover the entire territory of Albania as eligible area for funding.

The Mediterranean programme is based on different thematic areas, notably i) dissemination of innovative technologies and know-how; ii) protection of natural resources and cultural heritage, as well as energy efficiency and renewable energies; iii) maritime safety and accessibility; iv) improvement of territorial governance systems.

The European Union is in the process to adopt a Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian region (EUSAIR). Therefore, during the period 2014-2020 the Commission has planned to launch a dedicated transnational programme for this macro region, which will feed the implementation of the strategy. Transnational co-operation projects will focus on the four thematic pillars of the EUSAIR action plan:

- i) innovative maritime and marine growth;
- ii) connection across the region;
- iii) preservation of the environment;
- iv) increase of regional attractiveness.



Considerations on IPA in Albania: Union does not force Albania to create regional authorities or government, as there nor obliges to write the final ruling, as long as Albania follows the principles of democracy the rule of law. However, the trajectory and momentum of European integration, accompanied by a serial duties, except the benefits. The experience of other countries of the former Eastern bloc has shown that if governments institutions are not prepared for a long time, "integration

costs” are larger than “the benefits of integration”. One of the expected benefits of the integration will be the impact of policy implementation, cohesion regional development, preceded by the implementation of instruments Pre-accession Assistance (IPA).

In Candidates countries Candidates or potential candidates, the pre-accession funds are a significant investment that helps the beneficiaries (including Albania) to implement the necessary reforms for the economic and political order. However, implementation of these policies instruments requires governance a capable structure (responsible with policies covering sectors above) at all levels. The existence of these capacities and their quality determines the ability of a country to use EU funds effectively and efficiently, therefore determines the absorption capacity / Albanian absorption.

Experiences of other countries (particularly the Eastern bloc) in connection with the absorption of EU funds are different and no direct links to the form and level of decentralization and regionalization of government. For example, how successful cases can mention Poland, Lithuania and Estonia (absorption capacity over 60%) as unsuccessful cases can mention two recent memberships - Bulgaria and Romania (with a capacity below 40%).

If we study five cases, we observe that: Estonia has not regional self-government, but has devolved regional agency; Lithuanian regions are statistical territorial units; in Poland, decentralization is inherently and works not only at the first level (municipalities) but also at regional level. The region has the executive authority power. In Bulgaria, the regions have administrative functions are decentralized; while in Romania, the second level is limited, relevant institution are deconcentrated, and there are 3 regional governing authorities.

Meanwhile, from various case studies, it is come to the conclusion that the effectiveness in the absorption of EU funds is a direct attribute of institutional capacity administration of a country. High efficiency absorption of structural funds is conditioned from the quality of governance in general and in particular from institutions of public administration. Effectiveness (funds capture) efficiency (proper use of them) are conditioned simultaneously from institutions that administer the funds (in the case of Albania institutions - the central administration) from institutions that will be using them through projects implementation (in the case of Albania - which local authorities interact in partnerships.)

“The Regionalization of Albania. The Administrative and the Territorial Reform that Albania should make at the regional level.”

*Dritan Shutina
2014, Co-Plan. Tirane*

ADC

Austrian Development Cooperation. Coordination Office.

Present in Albania: 1995

Actors:

ADC - Austrian Development Cooperation

MFA - Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs.

"Up to the completion of the Austrian engagement in water supply, vocational training and governance, the coordination office of Austrian Development Cooperation will remain in Albania so we can draw on its recognised expertise in the implementation of common EU programmes."

Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs (2013)
Three Year Programme.
Danube Region/Western Balkans. Wien. Coordination Office.

Closed Projects: VET sector

Partnership:

Public Institutions, local/regional/national level

ADC has been supporting the VET sector in Albania since 1995 with a focus on the professional education in the economic, agriculture and tourism schools, amounting up to EUR 3 million. In line with the Albanian VET strategy and the ADC country strategy these programs will enhance capacities of various VET actors at the central, regional and local level through the development and delivery of labor market relevant vocational education and training.

Projects ongoing: WASSP - The Technical Assistance to the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector.

Partnership:

Albanian Government, Ministry for Public Transport

WASSP The Ministry of Public Works and Transport and the Austrian Development Agency jointly launch a major national program (WASSP) on 17 April 2013 in Tirana. This programme is funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation and the European Union. The total cost of this programme is EUR 4.2 million.



SDC

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

Present in Albania: '90

Actors:

SDS - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

SECO - Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs.

The Swiss Cooperation brings to Albania Switzerland's comparative advantage and specific know-how in areas such as decentralisation, vocational educational training (due to its dual educational system), risk insurance and energy. Switzerland plays a leading role in the dialogue and cooperation between the Government of Albania and the international donor community and is recognized for its efforts to increase aid effectiveness.

Closed Projects: SCOPES - Regional Cooperation

Scientific Cooperation Between Eastern Europe and Switzerland.

Partnership:

Research institutions in the regional level, Universities in the region.

The SCOPES programme, which represents the 17 years of joint commitment by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), boosts scientific cooperation between research groups in Switzerland and Eastern Europe as well as supporting institutional partnerships with scientific establishments in the target regions.

Projects ongoing: Trade Facilitation Programme.

Partnership: Private sector in Albania, such as Foreign Investment Advisory Service (FIAS), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Investment Compact, International Finance Cooperation's (IFC) Private Enterprise Partnership and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (EBRD) .

SECO is focused on a greater availability and a more equal distribution of basis resources in both the power and water sectors. The intention is to establish the foundations for further economic development and to reduce poverty. The SDC has been working in different areas:

- government leadership
- employment and the stimulation of income

SIDA

Swedish International Development Agency.

Present in Albania: more than 15 years

Actors:

SIDA - Austrian Development Agency.

Swedish Tax Agency

Statistics Sweden

Swedish Public Employment Service.

The goal of the Swedish reform work in Albania is to assist with the reforms needed to achieve candidate status and eventually an EU membership. Sweden through Sida supports Albania with about 80 million per year and has provided aid for 15 years.

Recent years' development efforts have focused on two areas: Democratic Governance and Human Rights and Natural Resources and environment. Sweden supports reforms of the Albanian Taxation Office, the Bureau of Statistics and the Albanian employment service.

Closed Projects: WB PROFOR project.

Partnership:

Connecting Natural Values & People (CNVP).

The WB PROFOR financed study on Innovative Financing for Sustainable Forest Management in the Southwest Balkans completed in October 2013 continues the Albania case on the Ulza Watershed.

This case is focused on erosion monitoring and sedimentation in the Ulza reservoir which will continue till October 2014. The research is continuing the field measurements on erosion and runoff on different land use types. Based on the first results some adjustment is made on the erosion plots.

Projects ongoing: SENiOR-A

Partnership:

The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)
- Qendra Rajonale e Mjedisit

SENiOR-A Programme, which is implemented by REC, in mutual collaboration with most of the approximately 100 environmental CSOs in the country. Regular meetings are being held between the different actors, which is important for civil society to perceive REC not only as an implementing entity, but as a partner in achieving their own goals.

GIZ

Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit.

Present in Albania: 26 years

Actors:

GIZ - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

BMZ - German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

GIZ has been engaged in Albania on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) since development cooperation between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Albania began in 1988. GIZ opened an office in Tirana in 2008 and currently has 11 seconded staff, four CIM experts and 56 national personnel working in the country.

Closed Projects: Regional training for planning and monitoring energy efficiency measures in the building sector. 2011 - 2013

Partnership:

In Shkodra in Albania, the municipal administration has drawn up a municipal energy plan with project assistance. Other support measures are in preparation to improve cooperation between the various administrative units within the municipality and to involve the private sector.

Projects ongoing: Protection and use of biodiversity in rural areas. 2011 - 2015.

Partnership:

Development partnerships with the private sector are envisaged with companies in the area of processing natural and agricultural products. Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration as well as local municipalities in carrying out their tasks.

The project promotes the improvement of political, institutional and legal conditions at national level. Support is given to concepts for the sustainable management and preservation of biodiversity in the Albanian alpine region. The project targets all the actors who use and manage natural resources, particularly the mainly poor rural population.

The components of support are advisory services, training, limited supplies of materials and equipment and local grants to support environmental communication, PR, seminars and fact-finding trips.



Kingdom of the Netherlands

she
DEVELOPMENT

Dutch Embassy in Albania

Present in Albania: more than 20 years

Actors:

Policy Department, Dutch Embassy

The Embassy is responsible for presenting Dutch domestic and foreign policies to the Albanian public in order to raise awareness of these policies. It offers a broad selection of information to Albanians and creates greater understanding of the Netherlands through special events, conference, campaigns and through partnerships with non-profit organizations. Consequently, the Embassy functions as a mediator between professional organizations, the media, the Albanian government and Dutch equivalents to strengthen the relationship between both countries.

Projects ongoing: MATRA CoPROL - Cooperation with Pre-accession countries on Role of Law.

Partnership:

Ministries of Justice and Home Affairs, local authorities, police and training institutes for public administration of Albania.

Matra CoPROL finances cooperation between governmental organizations in the Netherlands and the Matra countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey). The aim is to strengthen the capacity of the governments in these countries. Also, the cooperation must be complementary to the activities of the European Commission in those countries.

Projects ongoing: Atelier Albania

Partnership:

The Embassy functions as a mediator between professional organizations, the media, the Albanian government and Dutch equivalents to strengthen the relationship between both countries.

This platform, proposed and developed by 51N4E and the IABR, is set up by the new Albanian government, in careful conjunction with all other policies they adopt to develop the country, under the aegis of the Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism. Atelier Albania deploys an unusual, i.e. a design based method to foster urban development as an incubator for national development. Ministries, local municipalities, foreign aid and development organizations and local and international experts are invited to adopt and reflect upon this method as a new common ground.

DGCS

Direzione Generale di Cooperazione allo Sviluppo

Present in Albania: 1991

Actors:

Italian Regions

Italian ONGs

Italian Universities

The DGCS is one of the oldest foreign departments operating in Albania. In fact, the support of the Italian Cooperation has played a crucial role in the first political transitional phase in Albania. In the first 10 years, as the history of Albania tells us, the support of the Italian cooperation was addressed only in emergency aid, such as immigration that characterized those years. Subsequently, this approach has been developed to the economic sectors and investment, tracking remittance and development in rural areas.

Closed Projects: SeeNet Program

Regional Social Policy Reform

Partnership:

Ue Commission

The programme itself was coherent with the main objective of IPA support to the social policy sector in preparing Albania for the implementation and management of the European Social Fund and in bringing Albania closer to EU policies.

Beside the evidence based on the activities carried out in the framework of the SeeNet Programme Objectives, the program focuses on future perspectives and the way forward for the Shkodra region in Social Policies.

Closed Projects: Albania Tomorrow, April 2011- March 2014

Partnership:

Local Municipalities, Italian ONGs

Here some main issues that A.T has worked on during these three years;

- Development of technologies renewable energies, automation and biomedical equipment, through vocational trainings activities and promotion of specialized enterprises
- Strengthening of the net between Albanian immigrants and the homeland with a particular regard for those coming back from Italy interested to create an enterprise in the mother country





Imag 15

"URBAN-WATER SHIELD REQUALIFICATION, BOVILLA RESERVOIR, TIRANE"

font: Web





Imag 16

“ITALIAN DGCS, NORTH ALBANIA”

font: Web





Imag 17

“CAPACITY BUILDING, SHKODER MUNICIPALITY”

font: Web

04

CHAPTER

Two case studies on International Cooperation

a) Development Cooperation - "Capacity Building"

As seen of the Chapter 3, the new phonema on International Agencies on Development in Albania is the "capacity building" approach.

The project "Atelier Albania", as below, is a result of a cooperation program between The Netherlands Embassy in Albania and the National Agency on Territorial Planning (AKPT). But before to get to this project, lets see what means 'Capacity Building' and when/where it begun to be used. According to Cottino (2009) 'capacity building' is one a new key concepts of thinking on development cooperation. The expression appeared for the first time in the late '80 and it came as a 'professional' language on the support of the international development, in the assessment conducted by the major donors on inherent limitations and failures achieved through the traditional mode of cooperation.

In the '90s, the debate about the implications of this new concept of innovation practice in cooperation has also involved a major part of the agencies and non-governmental organizations engaged in the field. So, the prospect of capacity building has gradually gained a central position in the wide and varied range of development.

(The term donors, refers to organizations and institutions engaged in various ways to finance development investment in developing countries, among the most important and best known are the World Bank and the United Nations.)

Today "capacity building" covers a varied landscape between different actors structured between them, such as: major Western organizations that coordinate and fund interventions in developing countries, many non-governmental organizations (especially the western ones as local ones), institutions to fund and promote integrated interventions for the regeneration of urban areas in crisis in the Western context, development agencies who manage these projects, and consulting companies that deal with innovation and the management of public administrations and enterprises (especially non-profit) in developed countries.

However, the term "capacity building" or "capacity development" is a very ambiguous meaning, for the simple reason that depends on subjects and issues on which they work. On these considerations it is important to highlight that "capacaty Building" is an approach pushed to get out of traditional forms of supporting the development. Indeed, CB now tends to argument that development can be seen from different points of view; "**institutional building**", "**institutional strenghtening**", "**development management**" and "**human resourse development**", "**new istitutionalism**" but also ideas and approaches, emerged in the recent years, on reflecting upon the development as a "**organizational development**", "**comunity development**", and "**integrated rural development and sustainable development**".

b) Decentralized Cooperation - Italian Case

Decentralized Cooperation comes as a sub-category of the Italian DGCS (Direzione Generale di Cooperazione allo Sviluppo) and is based on a greater number of local and private partnerships. Decentralized cooperation is a more complex approach than development cooperation in the traditional sense, it is based on direct contact between the two communities or two territories and from a living relationship of partnerships between civil society actors. It binds tightly to non-governmental cooperation, but it does not exclude collaborations with governments. It is preferentially directed to the civil society organizations and / or community basis, striving to strengthen the capacity of local organizations in the belief which are the main drivers of the development process. The priority objectives of decentralized cooperation are:

- Mobilize the people and take better account of their needs and priorities;
- Strengthen the role and place of civil society in development processes;
- Promote the economic and social development - sustainable and equitable - through participation.

Decentralized cooperation, providing for the direct participation of individuals from the donor countries and those of countries which benefits, recognize the existence of a multiplicity of subjects in the development and the need to expertise the various local entities (small and medium-sized enterprises, social enterprises, trade unions, universities ...) which represents the starting point for cooperation in exchange and growth process of all the territories involved.

History of decentralized cooperation: Decentralised cooperation has been introduced in the general provisions of the Lomé IV Convention (ACP-EU) in 1989 which affirms the principle of decentralized cooperation achieved through the contribution of active parts of the economic, social and cultural rights. Among these active parts are explicitly mentioned decentralized public authorities.

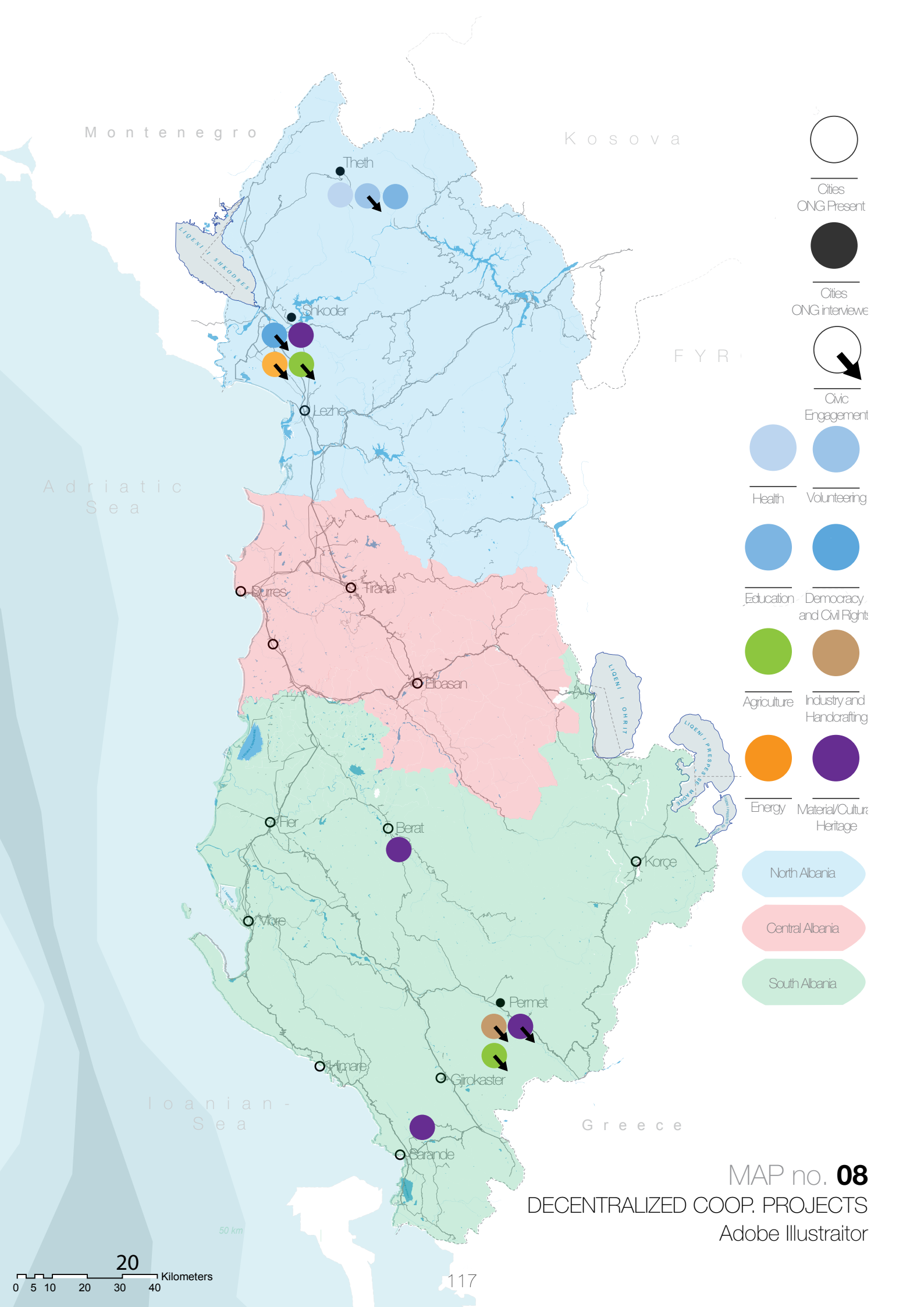
In the declaration adopted at the end of the Euro-Mediterranean Conference in Barcelona in 1995, the participating countries manifested the desire to strengthen the instruments of decentralized cooperation, deciding among other things, to “encourage contacts” to “regional authorities” and “local communities”.

The importance of decentralized cooperation was then reaffirmed in the Convention of Lomé IV bis of 1995, which were adopted specific provisions relating to decentralized cooperation. In such circumstances even the European Commission has decided to promote the programs coming from a wide range of local organizations and non-governmental organizations, giving the opportunity to promote decentralized cooperation projects with the following organizations or decentralized European countries in the developing world: local governments, non-governmental organizations, local associations, including trade unions and cooperatives, women’s associations and youth, research institutes, religious organizations and other organizations of a cultural nature.

The project “Albania Domani”, from which this case study is called, is funded by the Cariplo Foundation and sponsored by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project is carried out by a consortium of various NGOs and institutions (Celim, Oxfam Italy, CeSPI, ARCI, ACLI-IPSI, CGM, Municipality of Forlì, ISCOS, Psychologists for the Peoples of the World, LVIA, University Ca ‘Foscari of Venice, Politecnico di Milano), which for years have been active in co-operation projects in Albania. The NGOs participating in the project carried out a multi-dimensional action, covering different sectors: tourism, agricultural development, social entrepreneurship, the development of renewable energy, strengthening of local institutions.

The map on the right shows the distribution of the Italian NGOs in the North, Center and South of Albania. According to DGCS there are around 20 Italian NGOs inside the Albanian territory and a relevant number is operating in North Albania. In the map we can see the sectors that the NGOs are working and the category of the “scientific approach” of based on each project. One of the characteristics of decentralized cooperation is the ability to enable engagements of civil society. As we will see below in the specific projects, this characteristic of Decentralized Cooperation can be considered as an additional element of the classic development because it is able to generate a continuity in the development. The example of LVIA (Italian NGO) shows one of the best cases to describe how the creation of an “Agricultural Consortium” can create civic roots on development even if the project dedicated to its creation has finished. Another project based on the civic engagement and on TVET (technical and vocational education and training) sector is “Rise OP” and “Pro Permet” project - both in the South Albania. Other projects related to civic engagement are closely related to volunteering programs.

Health - are projects that rely on volunteers support to the medical care in particularly disadvantaged areas. **Volunteering** - projects that rely solely on volunteering and religious nature. **Education** - education projects refer to projects and support to education in particularly disadvantaged areas. **Democracy and Civil Rights** - projects on democracy rights has a political and religious character, concerning the areas ‘affected’ by undesirable social phenomena, such as the law “Kanun”. **Agriculture** - agriculture projects aims the whole community for the development of an entrepreneurial nature and vocational training for individuals involved in these projects. **Industry and Handcrafting** - aims an ‘entrepreneurial’ development through Vocational Training. **Energy** - projects related to energy are based on the different tools of technology insertion of renewable energy within the agricultural sector. **Material and Cultural Heritage** - projects on cultural/material heritage are related to the restoration for touristic attractions and other indirect effects related on local development.



Montenegro

Kosova

Theth

Shkoder

Lezhe

F Y R

Adriatic Sea

Durres

Tirana

Elbasan

Fier

Berat

Korce

Vlore

Ionian Sea

Permet

Himare

Gjrokaster

Greece

Sarande

MAP no. **08**

DECENTRALIZED COOP. PROJECTS

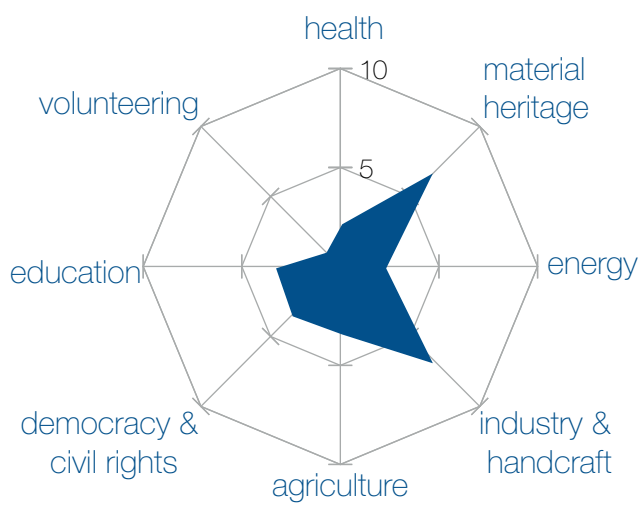
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50 km

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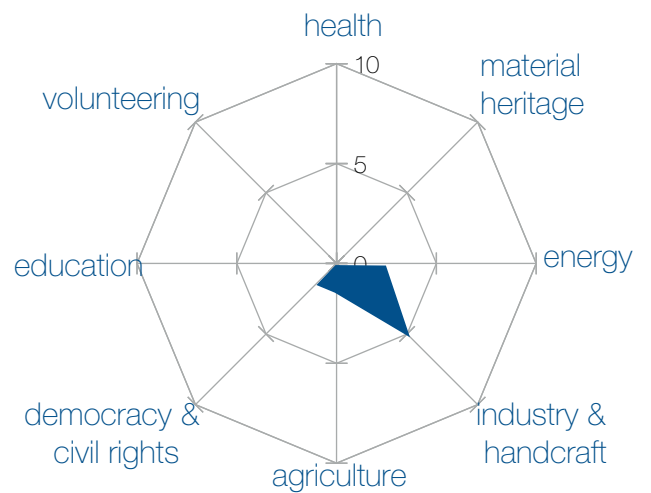
NORTH ALBANIA
Shkoder, Lezhe, Kukes



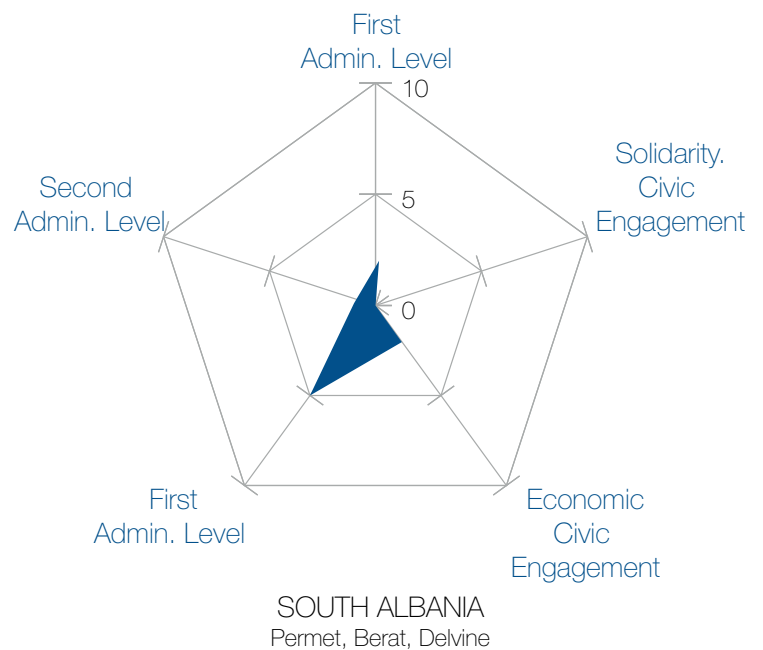
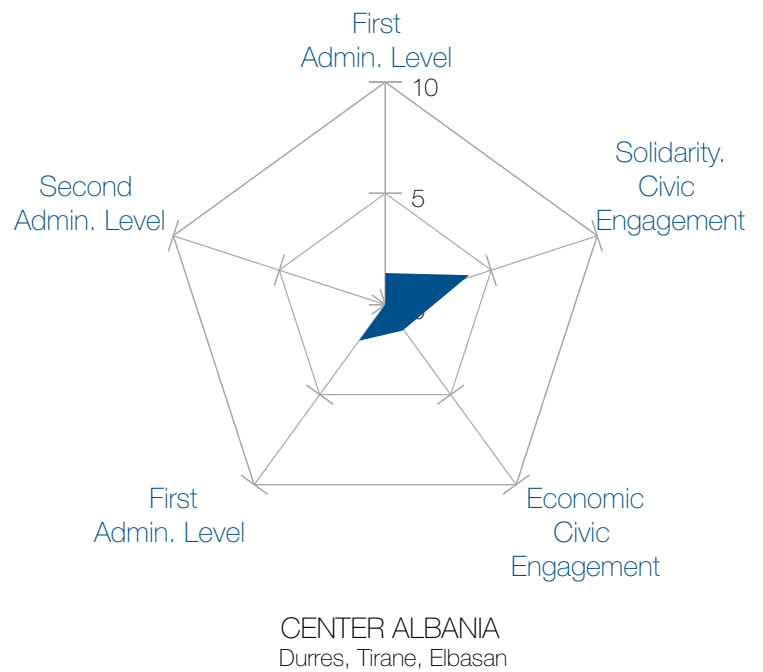
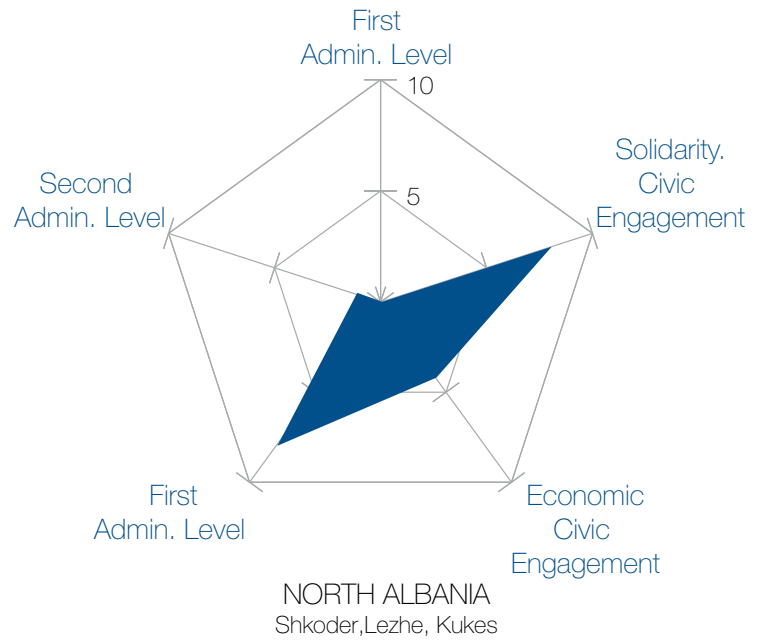
CENTER ALBANIA
Durrës, Tirane, Elbasan



SOUTH ALBANIA
Permet, Berat, Delvine



COUNTRY CROSS BORDER ALBANIA:
Kosova, FYROM



a) Cultural Heritage Projects, “Albania Tomorrow”

Hamam Restoration, Delvine/Shkoder/Berat City.

Results achieved in the first year and expectations:

The first year of the project took place in three specific areas of the Albanian territory: the district of Shkodra, Berat and to Delvina.

Located to the north, center and south of the country, the studied areas are different for physical and social dimension, as well as for the natural, architectural and historical issues.

These three projects has been realized thanks to the collaboration of Politecnico di Milano and IMK, the Albanian Institute of Cultural Monuments.

Shkoder, Berat, Delvina (the work done)

- collection of historical maps and current existing;
- survey and critical reading of the literature on cultural heritage;
- localization of the material heritage on recent cartography;
- interviews with representatives of local institutions;
- identification of the eco-themed itineraries, localization of the existing material heritage;
- studies for the surrounding areas;
- hypothesis for the construction of structures on the model of the multi hospitality.

Delvine: The site is composed by a great complexity and historical interest and it has been identified as a hub area to accommodate structures of underpinning the eco-museum.

The Hammam in the complexity has faced serious bed conditions for several years and the works consisted in cleaning and sorting the identified artifacts, as well as on works for commissioning security of the property.

The study activities carried out a prospect of promotion the site and has been leaded by a strong interest of the local institutions in cleaning and conservation and subsequently in the development phase. The expectations for the next two years are directed on the implementation of some new interventions who aims the structuring of networks for the eco-museum. The completion of the restoration of the ‘Hammam’, and the road sign to Xhemahallë, and the construction of the visitor center; aims to promote also the linguistic and anthropological heritage and to other intangible assets.

Shkoder: The project aims the realization of the map of the eco-museum routes and to study strategies and interventions for the purpose of exploitation tour of the castle overlooking the city.

Berat: The project aims in the constitution of the eco visitor center, recovering a building owned by the public authority. The project aims also the studying the arrangement and informational materials for the Kozare church and its frescoes as an important point for the eco-tours.

Multi Functional Center, CESVI - Permet City.

Another project related to cultural heritage, and as a result of tourism, it is the multifunctional center Permet. The property, which was the former headquarters of the old town hall of Permet has been signed as a multifunctional center. The center, financed by DGDC to the support of Italian NGOs, provides touristic information and a part of the structure is transformed in an eco-food museum of the local agricultural production. The center offers also a space for conferences and lectures for the ‘capacity building’ in TVET sector. One of this example is the social enterprise called “Pro Permet” which aims to enhance the environment

for tourism purposes, such as rafting on Viosa River.

b) Social Enterprises in Albania, “Albania Tomorrow”.

The accession of Albania to the European Union as a candidate country has opened up new possibilities for the country to cooperate with public and private actors in Europe for the development of new activities.

Thanks to the Project “Albania Tomorrow” we can examine on the increase interest of the Albanian institutions to form the albanian society and to enhance its social territory, though a new managing of the environmental landscape and productive system related to it.

The new government has showed a strong intention for a new law regarding the definition on social enterprise but till now it hasn't done nothing.

Despite several parts of emphasis on the growth of the albania society and its important way on economic transition to re-build the institutional and administrative systems and the market economy through the social welfare systems it has come out that the government and local policies remain till enable to manage these processes. Unemployment, social violence and social inequalities remains a continued problem.

One of the best examples that we would like to consider in this thesis is the case of italian ONG named LVIA situated in the North Albania.

The first case belongs to the agricultural sector and the creation of a agricultural cooperative.

Agricultural Cooperative, LVIA - Shkoder City.

the interviewee: Andrea

Considering the communist past of Albania and the cooperativist system on agricultural production, the creation of a consortium for the promotion of agricultural wine “Kallmet” was very difficult. “At the begining when we tried to explain to the farmers what it mean to join in a group due to promote the local production, the effect was that of an allergy from the past, but gradually the situation begun more clear...”. To face this condition LVIA-ONG created a manual explaining the meaning of the democratic step in the in collectiv decion making named “Cooperation, Instruments for the economic development in the rural areas”. According to Andrea the albanian legislation doesn't recognize any “ufficial status” regarding the consortiums, so they tried to write down for the first time, according to the albanian law, an ‘status quo’ able to recognize the rights of the farmers. According to the partnerships with the public administration, the first level has played a significat role in the realization of LVIA project.

The program of partnership between LVIA and the Municipality of Shkoder is part of a financial budged named “IADSA” and it is the acronym for the ‘conversion of the albanian debt’ and it is part of the decentralized cooperation. Instead the central government, how should play a significant role in supporting, does not offer the right infrastructure system to certify the agricultural goods produced in this area. “To take a national certificate regarding the earth we should go to Tirana, and regarding the laboratories for the condition of the plant we should wait for a specific period of the year because for the rest of the year the laboratories area closed”- explains Andrea. Thanks to LVIA archivements the wine “Kallmet” is among the few albanian wines that goes beyond national borders for export and even within the Italian market.

Rise Op, (CESVI) - Permet City.

“Rural Inclusive Social & Economic Opportunities” (RISE- OP)

The challenge of the project is to specially combat against emigration, create job opportunities and new entrepreneurship for unemployed rural women and youth without appropriate education and professional skills, without possibility to find a job. The project promotes and use potential local resources of the Përmet area (natural, cultural heritage and agricultural resources) in order to revitalize and valorise arts, crafts and agro-eco tourism, enhancing capacities and access of target groups in local economy within the District.

Celim, Permet - Social Report

Training: 3 lessons and 30 hours of training on techniques of 41 beekeepers. Training on organic farming techniques and techniques drip irrigation for 23 growers. Training on techniques for strengthening and enhancement of local cultivators (Kalmet and Skrapar), 15 growers.

Sensitization: Constitution of one eco-museum route in Berat and one pathway associated with renewable energy in agriculture between Lezhë and Puke open to high school students, professional and agrarian university students, workers in the sector and to tourists attracted by farming.

Special Events: Establishment of two ‘rotating funds’ by 30,000 (euro) to each agricultural cooperative, olive and wine growing.

Improvement of general living conditions of the people involved: Improved technical capacity of farmers and the strengthening of its supply chains in terms of volume income increases. The introduction of sustainable techniques in agriculture and renewable energy installations protecting the environment in which the farmers live and improves the health condition and hygiene.

Contribution to the cultural and business development: It has been introduced the systems culture of sustainable production in agricultural cooperatives.

Direct beneficiaries: 23 olive growers, 15 winemakers, 30 women, 60 farmers, 41 beekeepers.

Indirect beneficiaries: More than 600 farms, 695 members of the families of farmers, direct beneficiaries, 200 high school students; 70 students of the faculty agriculture, and more than 500 visitors.

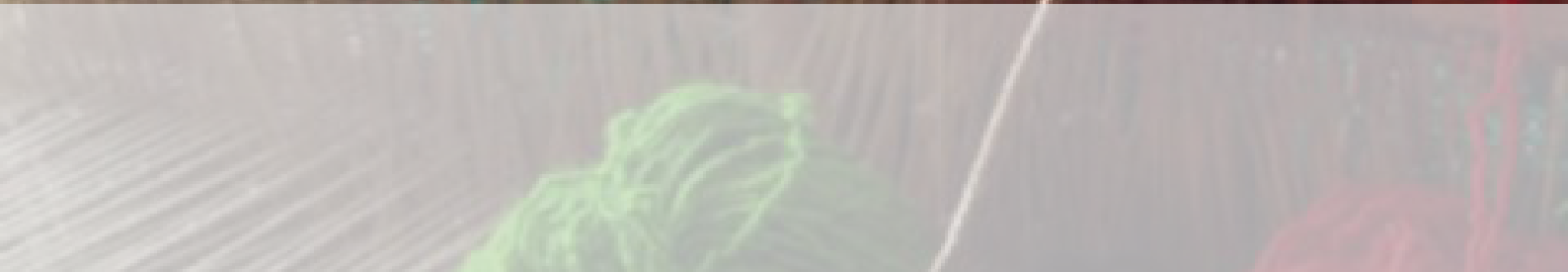




Imag 18

“HAMAM, DELVINE CITY”

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Imag 19

"RISE-OP, PERMET CITY"

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Imag 20

“RISE-OP, PERMET CITY”

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Atelier Albania is the second case of international cooperation that will treat this thesis, though not the most important. Atelier Albania has been founded in the beginning of the year January 2014, and is fruit of a collaboration between the National Agency for Territorial Planning and the Biennale of Rotterdam (IABR), and the Belgian design studio 51N4E.

It is important to study on Atelier Albania because it represents the first case where the 'territorial planning' has been open to new forms of development, in contrast with the traditional administrative systems - especially in a moment when the Administrative Reform is stopped, and this comes through the international cooperation.

"Not only law enforcement is need in function of the respect for the laws and regulations of a country. Is is also what is need if we want to involve those same actors (developers, constructors, touristic development, etc) in a new development vision. To do so, the government will open a complementary space and climate that will define the conditions and the process for possible new developments."

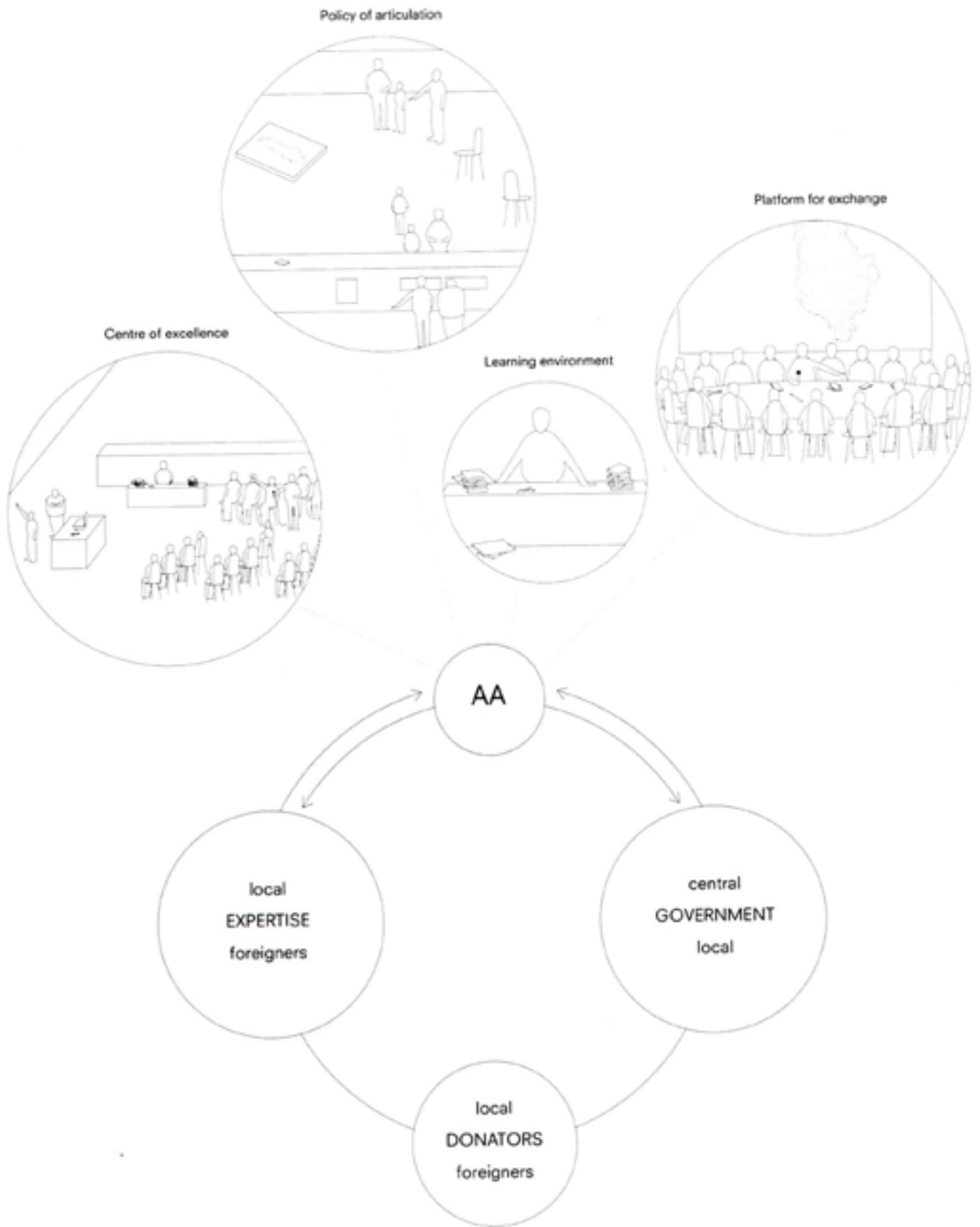
*Announcement on Atelier Albania
January 2014*

AA, in this administrative and participatory process should be considered as a positive step towards to the "consolidation of democracy" through the "changing of the scientific approach" - considering the 'introduction to the research'.

"Aterlier Albania aims to design the process for territorial and urban trasformation projects and so so in close collaboration with all ministries involved, with Albanian society and with all other public and private stakeholders in urban and territorial development. AA wil function as as a platform for permanent collaboration between local and international experts and stakeholders, it will build capacity on all levelsof society in terms of spatial, territorial and urban development in Albania. Atelier Albania will be a instrument to construct projects to link donators with real urgencies and the right local and foreign expertise."

The methodology underlying all of AA's actions and endeavours is based on "Research by Design". The working method is based by seven steps:

1. starts from internal dynamics in a community or in a society
2. advance a share problem definition and ambition
3. build capacity through exchange and collaboration
4. boost the process by exercising an integral approach (i.e connect planners and designers to engineers, ecologists, economists, etc.)
5. link short-term actions and projects to long-term strategies.
6. produce public performance and visibility (show design plans to stakeholders and general public)
7. implement



if in Chapter 2 we saw the different levels of Territorial Government, in this chapter it is important to understand the 'public position' that Atelier Albania holds and the various actors who participate on this project.

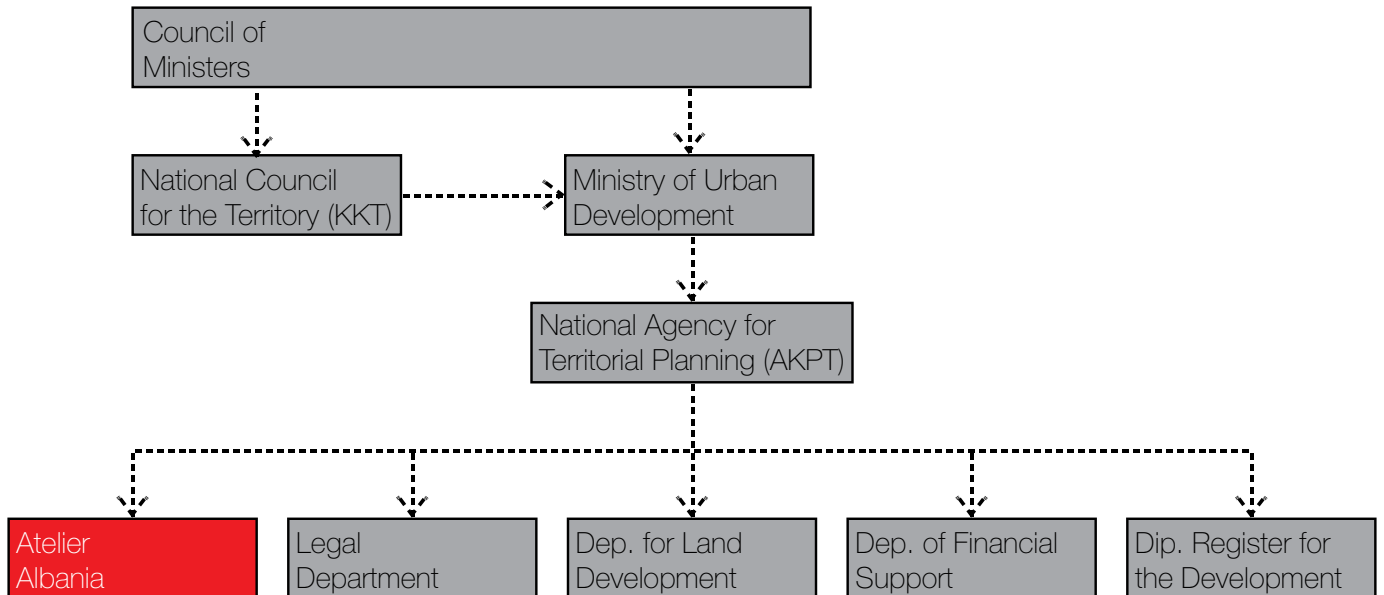
AKPT is a Public Institution under the Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism and as its task is the coordination and support for the planning of all the authorities at different scales, and to follow the process and the development of spatial planning instruments. In addition also examines the consistency of the application for development or under development with the mandatory provisions of the planning instruments, building regulations, environmental conditions, sustainability, protection of natural and cultural heritage and other special conditions required by the 'Territorial Planning' Law.

IABR and Ateliers In its Ateliers the IABR works on specific current challenges. It is committed to building alliances with (local, regional and/or national) governments and local stakeholders. Conditions stipulated by the IABR include (co) funding and the active participation of administrators, politicians and stakeholders. Together with the designers, the problem-owners themselves have to reformulate the challenge, actively participate in the ateliers (think differently), and commit themselves to the implementation of the design proposals produced by the Atelier (act differently). In other words: this method requires an active commitment from start to finish.

The core of the Atelier methodology is the timely and ongoing deployment of research by design. For approximately two years, Dutch and/or foreign design offices work on an urban challenge under the guidance of an Atelier Master appointed by the IABR, and in close collaboration with local stakeholders. The output of the Ateliers always consists of **(1)** an urban or regional strategic design vision, followed by **(2)** one or more well elaborated and feasible proposals for pilot projects, and **(3)** a toolbox for governance: policy instruments for the future. Output, therefore, that the authorities concerned can deploy immediately. While contributing to the Atelier, the municipal or regional organization gets acquainted with research by design as a means of content exploration, connection, and dialogue. Capacity building (4) thus occurs parallel to the development of content.

The **design** and the **research by design** are the ingredients for dialogue; the cultural platform provides the free space in which to conduct it. Public presentation and debate are an integral part of the process. In public, the existing content is tested and further developed and local alliances are strengthened. The public component –participating in the exhibition and the public discourse – challenges all parties to come up with new ways of communication and presentation. The results of the Ateliers anchor the program of each Biennale edition and are subsequently deployed in local challenges by the government in question. In other words: Ateliers provide sabbatical detours, productive trajectories during which research by design can come up with concrete proposals and solutions to existing local challenges, with the exhibition, the biennale proper, as an essential part of the work process.

Atelier



Chapter 4. National Agency of Territorial Planning (AKPT) and its structure

Atelier Albania is a research laboratory for the implementation of the priorities at the National Agency for Territorial Planning. The purpose of Atelier Albania is to provide a new planning model that challenges the traditional model of urban development plans. Using the experience of foreign consultants, cooperation with public institutions, and educational resources and techniques of local and foreign agency, Atelier Albania will seek to improve the static planning. Atelier Albania itself as a core, offers the enrichment of the 'Agency's activities through new non-conventional input regarding land use planning.

AA seeks both the organization and monitoring of pilot projects, international competitions in architecture and town planning, as well as public activities designed to inform and promote innovative practices in architecture and planning.

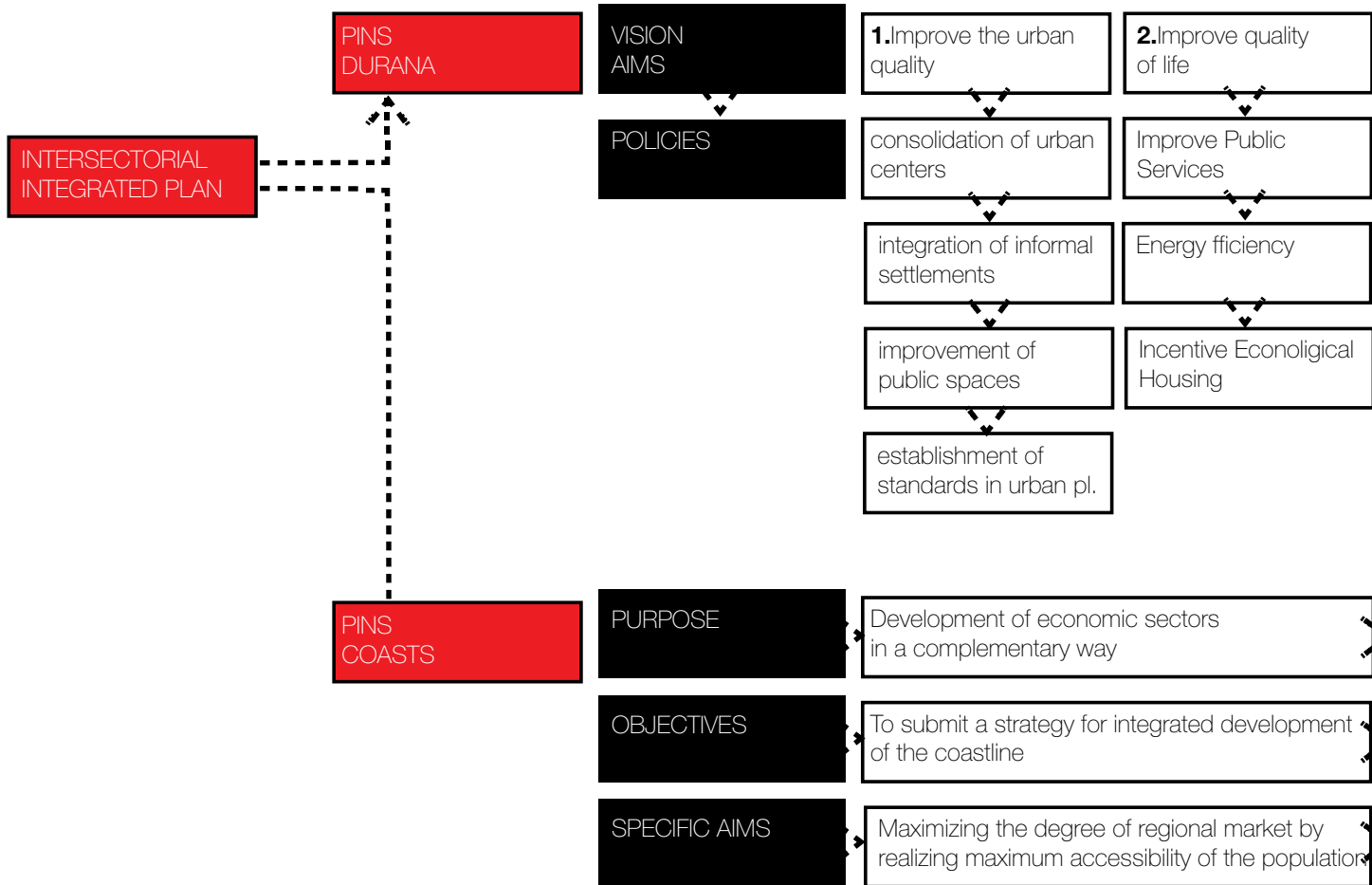
All of these activities will be carried out in close cooperation with stakeholders in the public and private institutions, civil society organizations, as well as a number of well-known partners of recognized competence in their professional fields. Atelier Albania essentially functions as a platform connecting the innovative and interesting projects with local and foreign experience that enables the creation.

"The purpose of Atelier Albania is not the definition of some important governmental projects, but the installation of appropriate private dynamics and with a specific sector to achieve public program."

Atelier Albania design the process for urban projects of territorial transformation in close cooperation with all relevant ministries, civil society, and all public and private stakeholders with a direct interest in the development of urban land.

The basic methodology that pervades every action of AA is the "research through design".

"The design will be used as a research tool to find the creative force required at all stages of each process - that is, the initial formulation of policies and strategies to the final."



a) PINS and its role in the Atelier Albania.

One of the tools that Atelier Albania raises for the implementation of policies is PINS, a new instrument in accordance with the law 10119, and is drawn up at the central administrative level and is set by analysis of the various ministries.

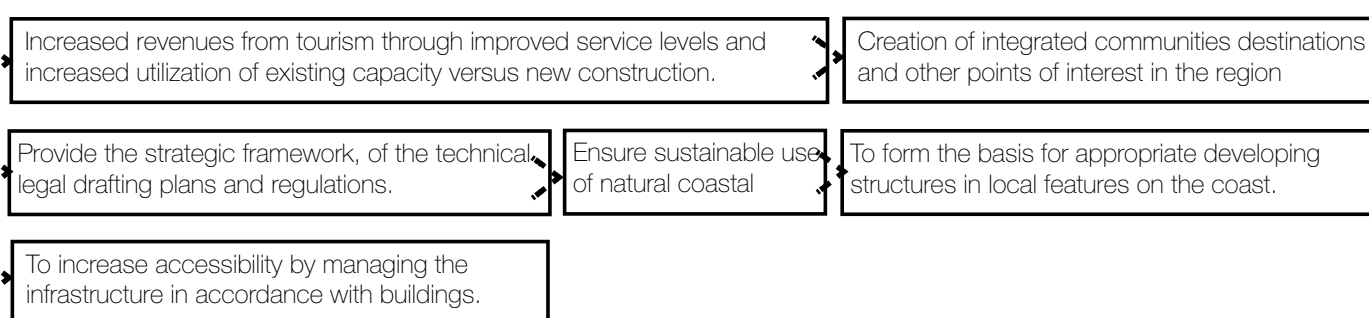
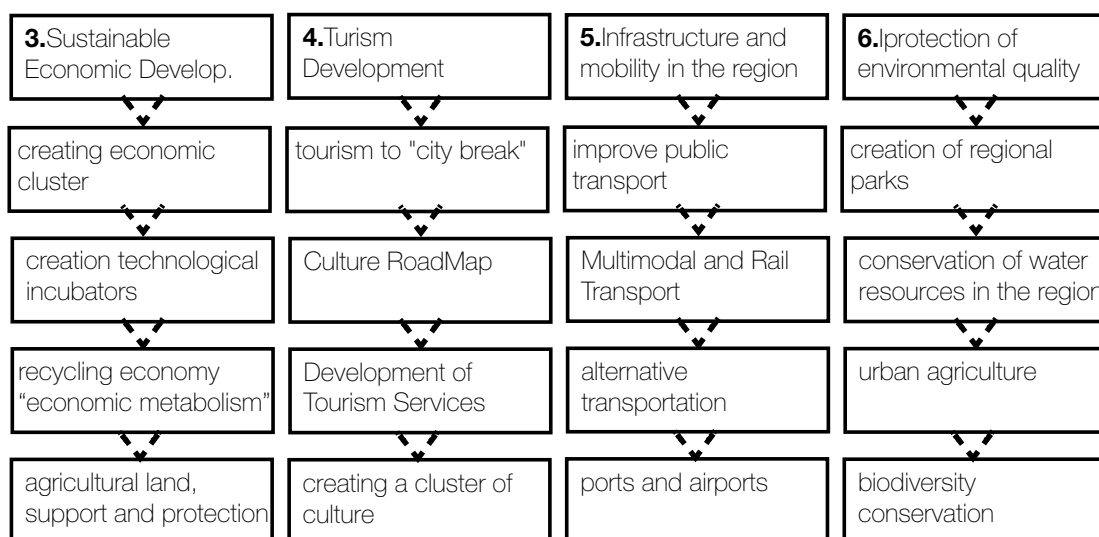
The initiative for the design of Integrated Inter Sectoral Plan (PINS) "Coast" is taken by the Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism (MZHUT) in cooperation with the National Agency for Territorial Planning (AKPT) the National Coastal Agency (AKB) and submitted for approval in National Council of Territory (KKT).

MZHUT, AKPT and AKB are the authorities responsible for starting, running up to end of national planning instrument, in this case Integrated Inter Sectoral Plan "Coast" and "Durana".

According to the Article 29 of Law no. 10119, dated 23.04.2009 "On Territorial Planning", as amended, "integrated planning instruments" determine the development of a balanced and integrated development between the local and national level by establishing objectives and importance of a common interest or many national authorities and local planning.

These instruments are used for coastal areas, cultural heritage, natural, environmental and landscape, as well as in other areas of common interest or importance.

Seeing in a broader context, integrated coastal management remains a challenge and national issues. As mentioned above, Albania together with the Western Balkan countries and Italy, are involved in one of the



Chapter 4. Intersectorial Integrated Plan (PINS) and "Durana" Policies, Coast Policies

main programs of the European Union for the development of integrated coastal and waterfront areas of the Adriatic Sea and the Ionian Sea. (Integrated Maritime Spatial Planning).

Actually, PINS "Coast" **Aims**;

- the development of economic sectors in a complementary way,
- to increase revenues from tourism through improved service levels and to increase the utilization of the existing capacity versus new constructions,
- and to create integrated communities destinations and other points of interest.

Specific details, How:

- maximizing the degree of the regional market by realizing maximum accessibility of the population.
- increasing the accessibility by managing the infrastructure in accordance with buildings.
- developing appropriate structures in the local features on the coast.
- providing a strategical framework of the technical-legal drafting plans and regulations.

About PINS Coast we can point out the important role that policies are focusing on connection, infrastructuring and regulatory strategies.

About PINS Durana we can point out the important role that policies are focusing on regulatory (urban sustainability), economic development and infrastructure (connections).

b) On going work. PINS Coast (South Albania Section)

After the concluded project on July 2014 on the seafront in Vlora, in close collaboration with the Municipality of this city and two other design studios, AKPT launches a international competition on urban design of the two PINS; Coast and Durana.

Each Pins was sub divided into three lots and was assigned to different work groups.

Through this open call, Atelier Albania, is aiming to reach out to teams of architects, landscape architects and designers. The aim is to generate original and visionary interventions concepts

for the coastal strip and for the related settlements. The aim is the design through learning and perusing the existing peculiarities of the area.

The competition for southern coastal strip and its close settlements stems from the need to improve the urban condition and the use of the touristic area along the strip, as well as the connections that link the coastal strip to the new and old settlements nearby. The coastal strip is a national asset serving to all local and international tourists. It cuts through many small

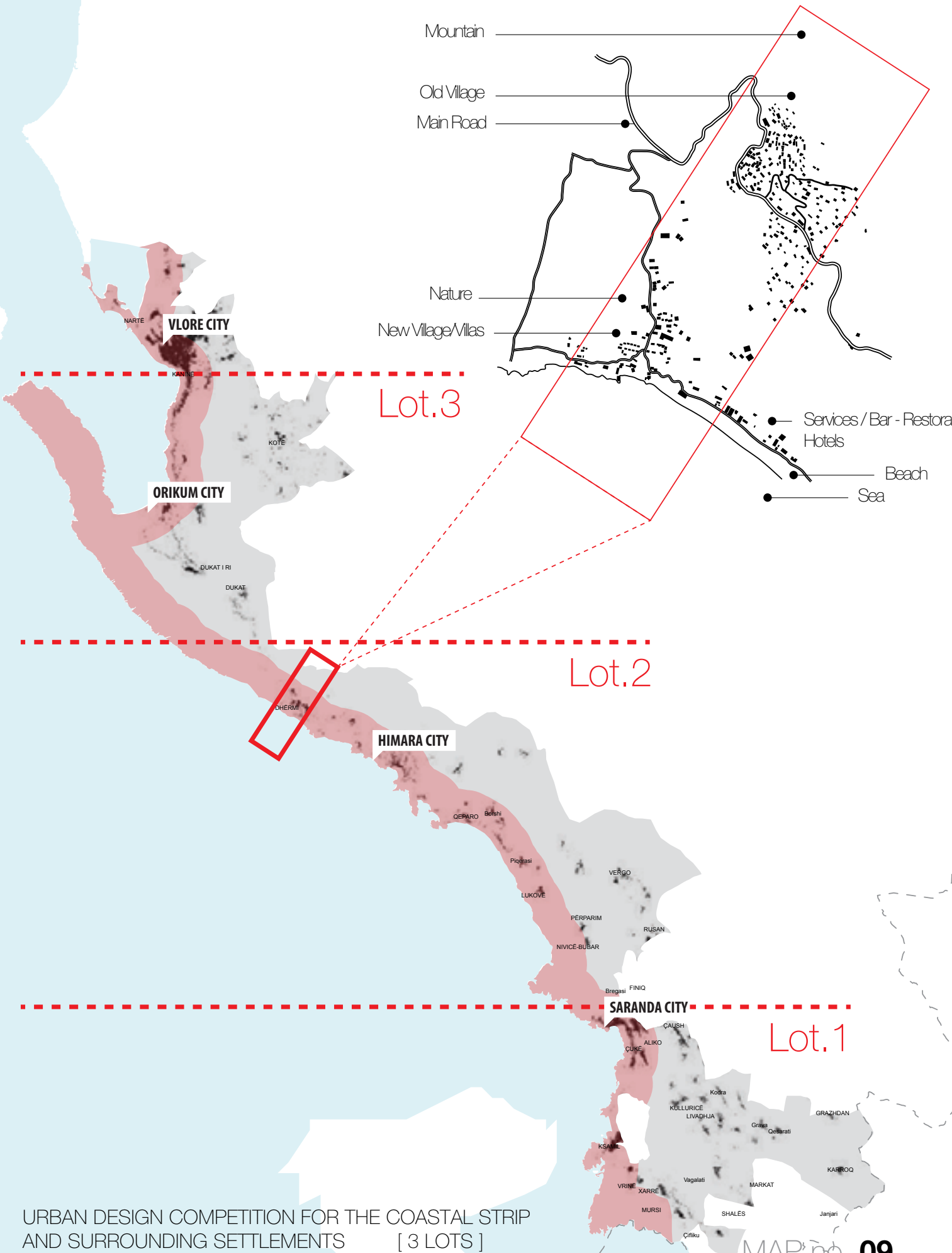
cities and in this perspective the whole country is the beneficiary, while the communities along the strip and the inhabitants of the old and new settlements will be direct beneficiaries. There is a need to extend the touristic season in order to generate a more sustainable income for the region.

The purpose of the competition is to generate ideas that will lead to urban improvement detailed projects as well as public and/or private interventions. These will help each area foster a better identity while at the same time improve the area's connection and interrelation with all of its surroundings.

The competition will result in the selection of three teams, composed of local and international professionals. Each of them will provide a concept design and a fully equipped team to be engaged in the after-competition process.

The winning teams will be engaged afterwards in designing the execution design for one of the three segments/ lots along the southern coastal strip.

The three designs – one from each winning team – will aim at improving the use and urban condition of the coastal strip and its connectors to the close urban settlements; at rehabilitating the beachscape and the connectors to the urbanized areas; at defining a set of urban furniture and related service-equipment for the furnishing of the coastal strip; at equipping the area with necessary signage for orientation and storytelling; at providing ways of exploring nature for touristic purposes; at exploring different ways to access the beach area from land and sea without impacting the nature; at coming up with a set of space-use regulations for appropriation of the beach, as well as building regulation for future construction on the seaside belt; at offering a vision and policies for a yearly touristic season.



URBAN DESIGN COMPETITION FOR THE COASTAL STRIP AND SURROUNDING SETTLEMENTS [3 LOTS]

MAP no. 09
 "PROJECTS ON GOING"
 AKPT

b) On going work. PINS Durana.

The operative work for PINS Durana it is not very different from the PINS Coast and it is part of the International Competition held by AKPT and Atelier Albania.

The competition for Tirana-Durres corridor stems from the need to improve the urban condition of the area along the corridor. It is one of main circulation axis of Albania that connects the two biggest cities in the country and again connects them both to the airport. It has become an economic corridor that brings large revenue to the country. It cuts through many small cities and in this perspective the whole country is the beneficiary, while the communities along the corridor will be direct beneficiaries.

From an organizational perspective the competition slices the Tirana - Durres corridor into three segments/ lots: the area which connects Tirana to the metropolitan highway, the area which connects Durres to the metropolitan highway, and the city of Vora which is split in half by the metropolitan highway (Durana Map: Lot 1, 2, 3).

Expected Outcomes

STAGE 1: in this short-listing phase, the candidates represent themselves by illustrating their capacities, methodology and visions towards the subject of the competition. Each submission will be carefully reviewed by jury members and the teams will be selected by the terms of selection and evaluation criteria mentioned Stage 1.

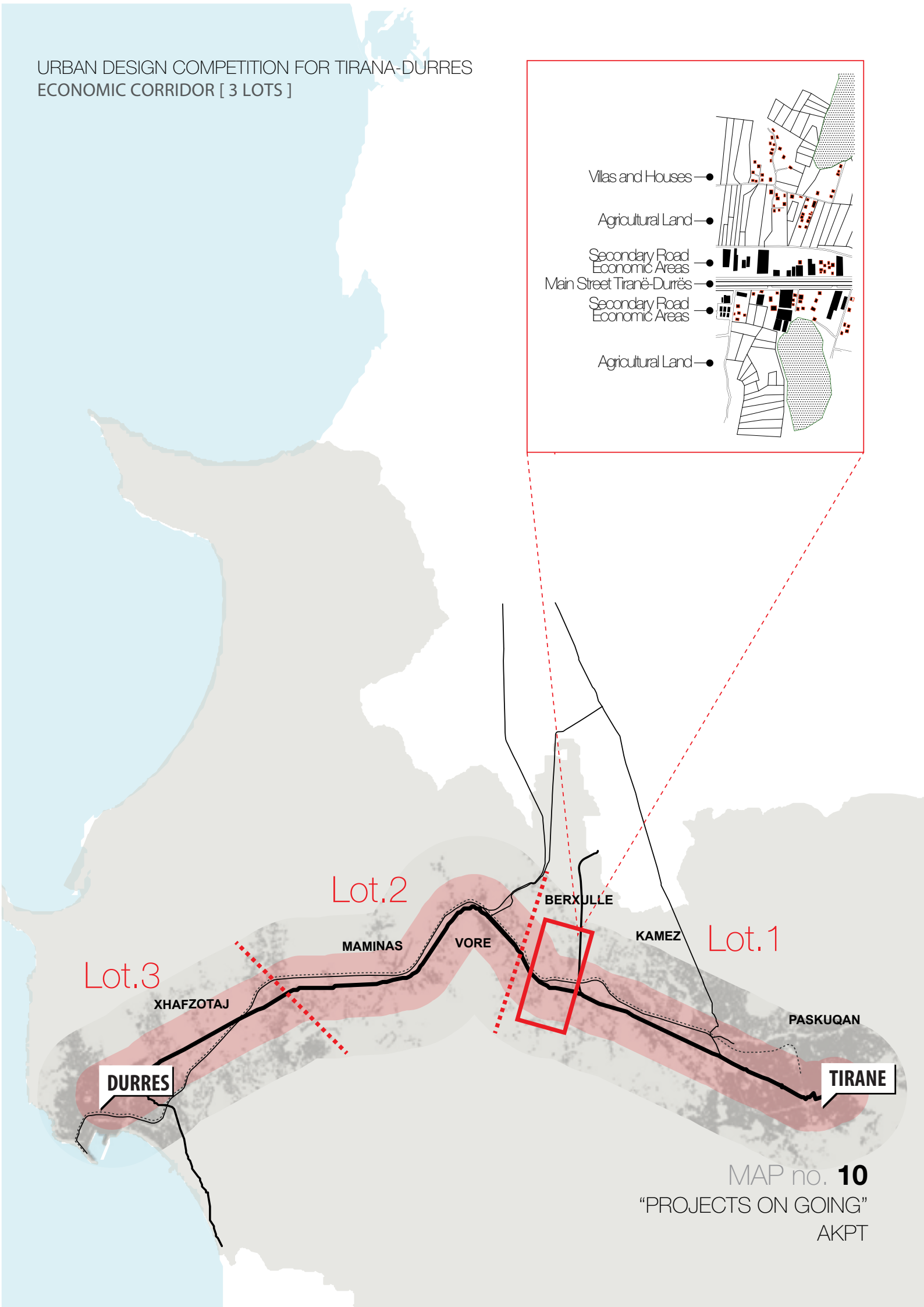
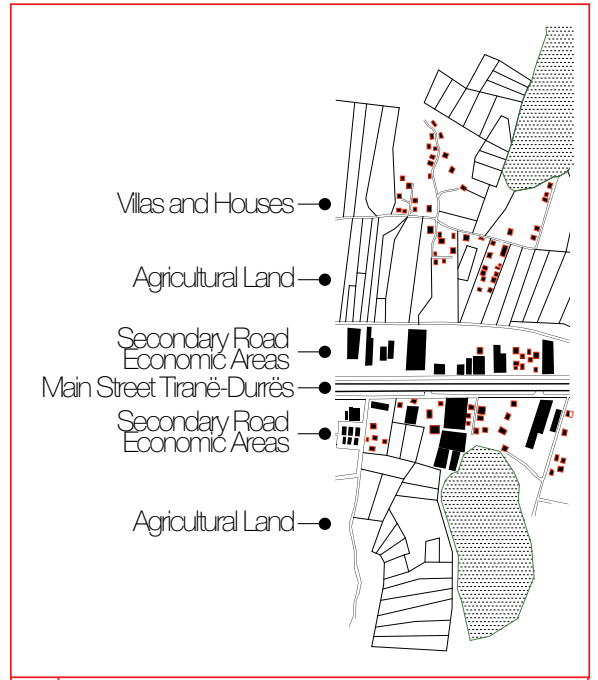
From the selected teams the Jury will short-list the two best ranked teams for each lot (according to the evaluation criteria). 6 teams in total will be called to work during a second stage on a concept for the urban improvement in one of the segment/ lots.

STAGE 2: in this Sketch Design phase, each set of concept-submissions will be carefully reviewed by jury members and one winning team for each of the three lots will be selected by the terms of the evaluation criteria Stage 2.

The Jury's duty however will not end with the selection of the three winning teams (one per each segment/ lot). Local members of the jury as well as international members with professional experience in Albania will collaborate in forming a continuous leading and mentoring body for the winning teams. Each team will have the chance to periodically meet with members of the jury to discuss their approach, solution and possible impact of the project. The teams will agree to keep an open mind towards adapting the project to possible contextual situations which they might have not been aware of beforehand. The Jury will therefore serve as a mentor to the winners but also as a partner to the client in order to help in achieving a better-rounded project which has the support of different actors and promises a fast and direct impact on the area intervened upon.

Atelier Albania and Albanian Development Fund
October 2014

URBAN DESIGN COMPETITION FOR TIRANA-DURRES
ECONOMIC CORRIDOR [3 LOTS]



MAP no. **10**
"PROJECTS ON GOING"
AKPT





Imag 21

INAUGURATION OF ATELIER ALBANIA

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Imag 22

“OPEN LECTURE” - ATELIER ALBANIA

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Imag 23

VLORA CITY WATERFRONT PROJECT - ATELIER ALBANIA

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a) Criticalities of Development Cooperation in Albanian Territory

As we have seen, in the last two decades, in the Albanian territory it has been placed almost all forms of international cooperation developed since '70, in a **concentrated timeline** and **dispersed in the territory**.

If the first dimension, in a concentrated timeline, can be useful to gain experiences "in loco", the second dimension presents a serious lack of central/local public administration to direct in a strategic way the development.

The traditional Cooperation, such as the one to the big infrastructure investments (in orange) gives only a fragmented vision of development and covers only a **small circle of partnerships**. These kind of investments, which proceed till nowadays, covers an inter-urban service and should be offered by the second administrative level (Qarku o Prefektrura). These projects represent the older form of development cooperation in Albania and are part of a professional culture inherited ever before the fall of the regime.

Capacity Building on Public Administration: Is the new frontier of Development Cooperation and presents the new approach on development. According to (Cottino 2000) on the definition on 'Capacity', these projects aims the skills and abilities of the public administrators operations.

On skills we can mention the work that its going on about the legalization of the informality by registering the land occupation. (ALUIZMI etc.)

And on abilities we can mention Atelier Albania, as seen on chapter four, and the strategic approach of working on the development of the country. Both of the projects are part of historical production and shows a **limited view for the future, as they have specific aims and final goals**.

AID Cooperation: Present the oldest approaches to the international development and permits to understand the various territorial injustices in the urban and rural areas. During the '90 these approach to the development has showed a flowing process of civic engagement on the society.

In these section we can recognize the work done by various Religious and Civil Rights ONGs support.

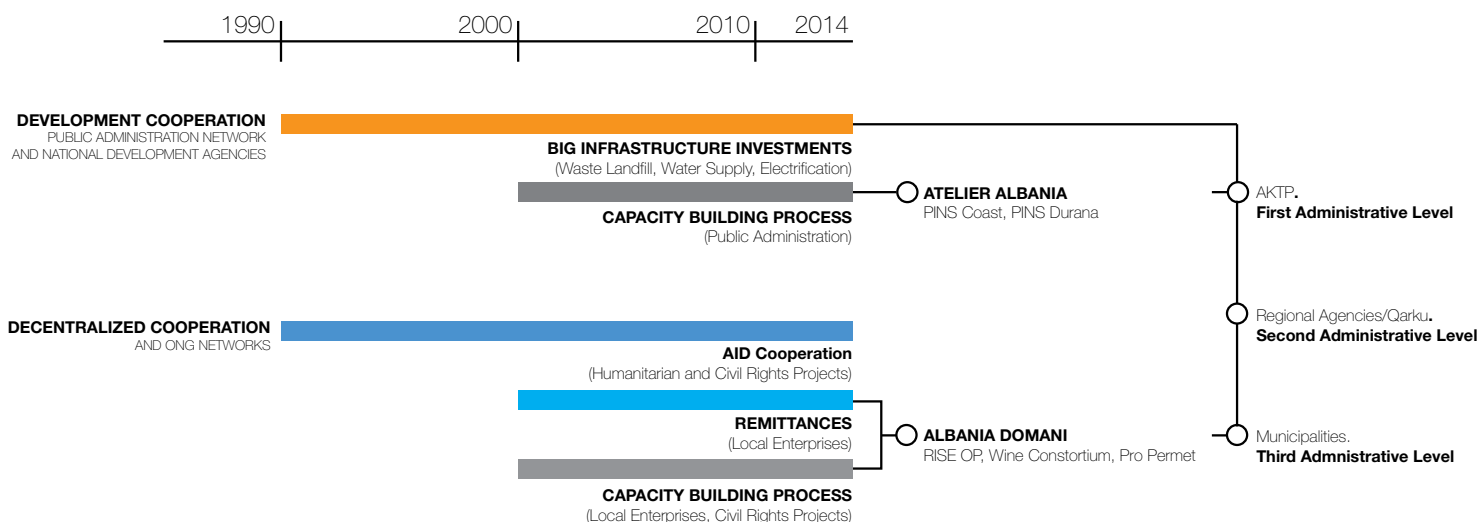
One of the problems concerning to this approach to the development is the **lack of vertical collaboration** by the public administration or with other International Organizations promoting the social aspect of the development, such as the structural funds of UE Commission.

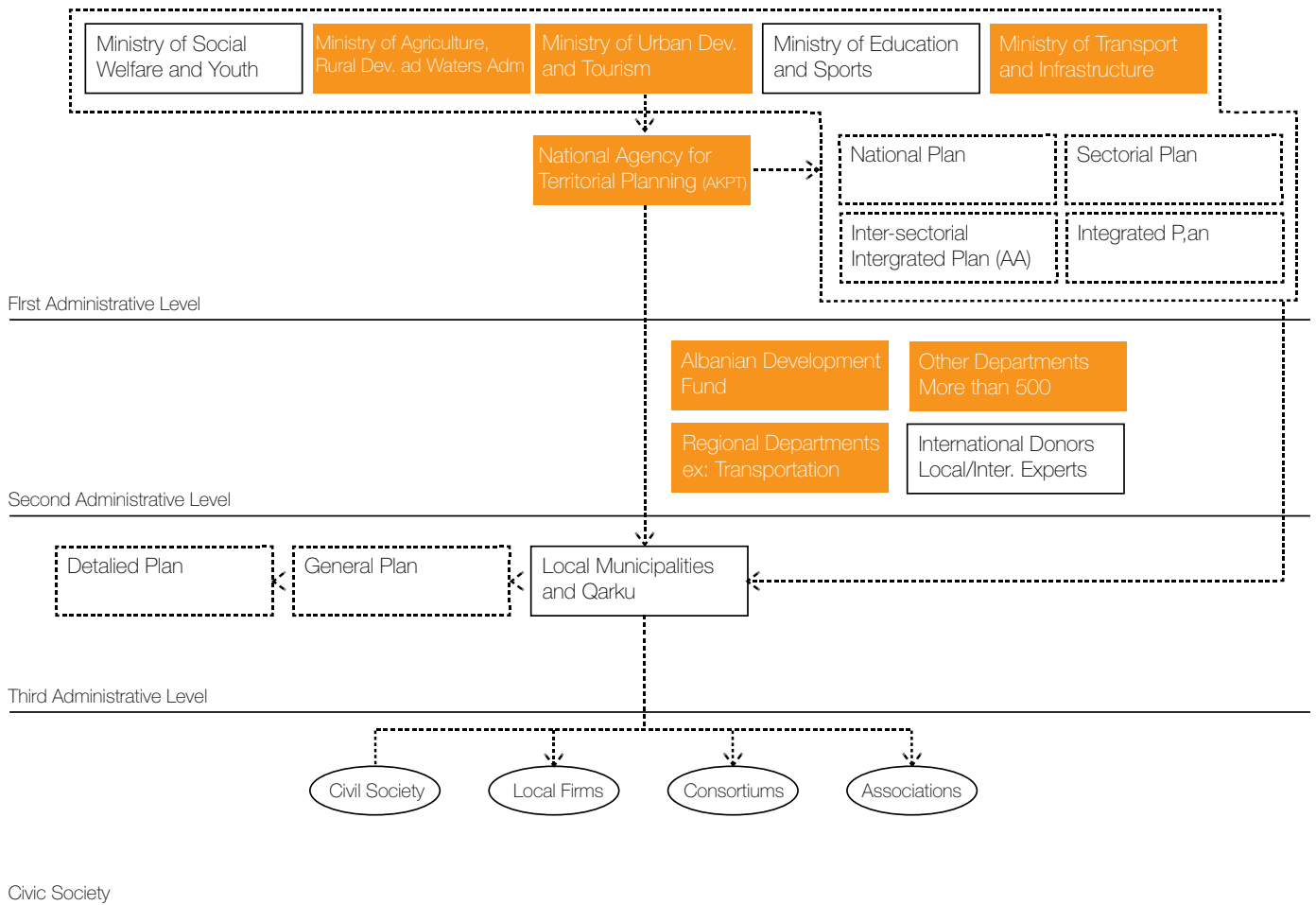
“Remittances Development” and the “Capacity Building” that these form of cooperation present is a new approach on rural and urban development. Historically the “remittances development” comes as key element to find new solutions for the investment on the international development, and as a strument uses the monetary flow from one country to an other.

These kind of development is only the last frontier of international cooperation and has a ‘collective’ approach on development.

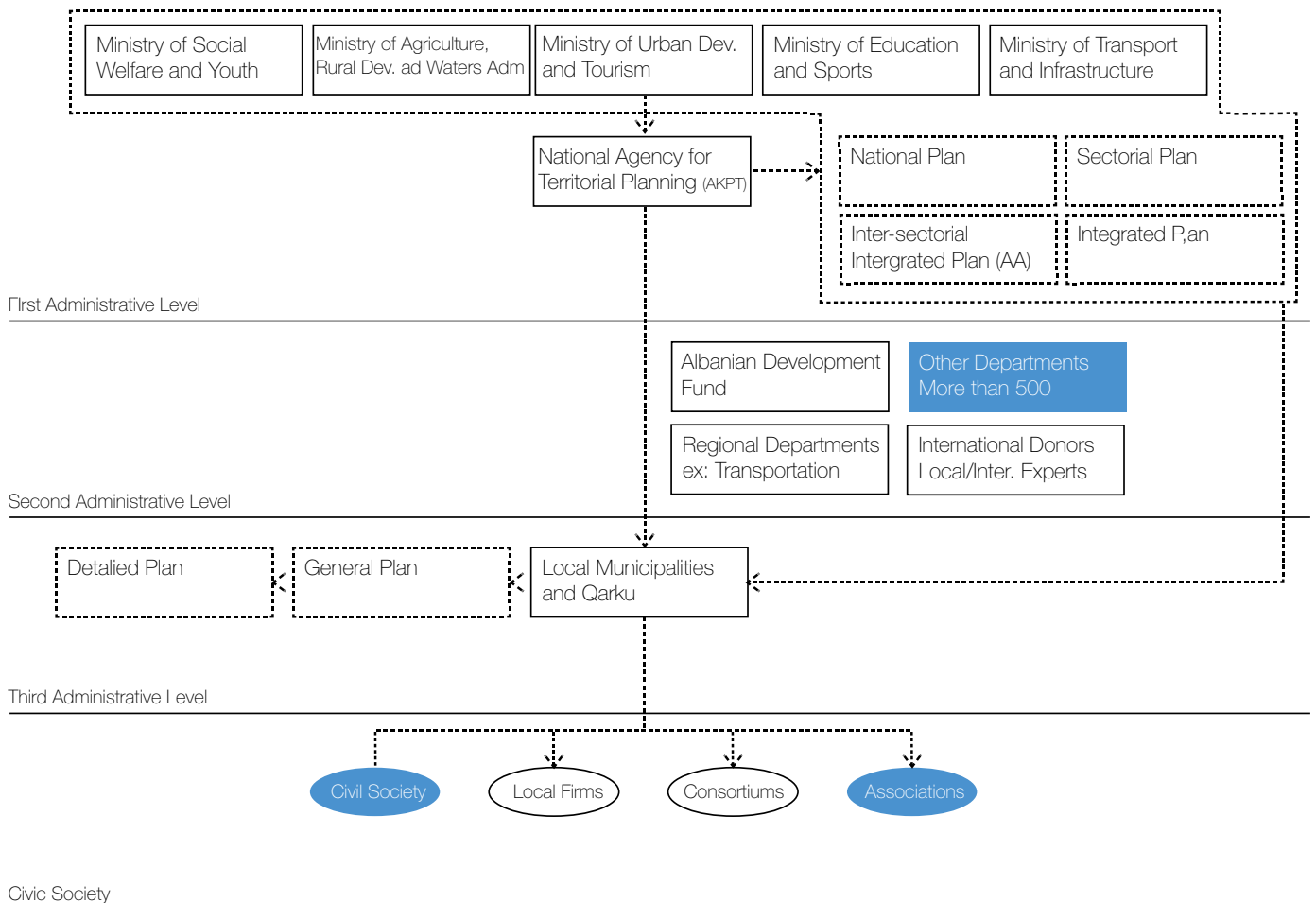
For more than two decades the Albanian emigration has give an significant role in the Albanian economy and for many years these cash flows has been managed in a informal investment. So, remittances has been seen from the Public Administration a weak point rather than strong point on development. The role of International Cooperation has give a positive signal on the management of these cash flows, giving a support to the remittances contributors (to the immigrants) to have a formal investment direction. In these conditions many villages in Albania has been a subject of development from the various international ONGs. The “formula” of the “remittances develoment” showed, is to apply the direct investment of the immigrants in the local area of the origin.

Considering the role of “remittances development” in the selection of the place/region to develope, the Decentralized Cooperation shows **a dispersed strategy in the territory**, if not, to **encourage a new wave of immigration**.

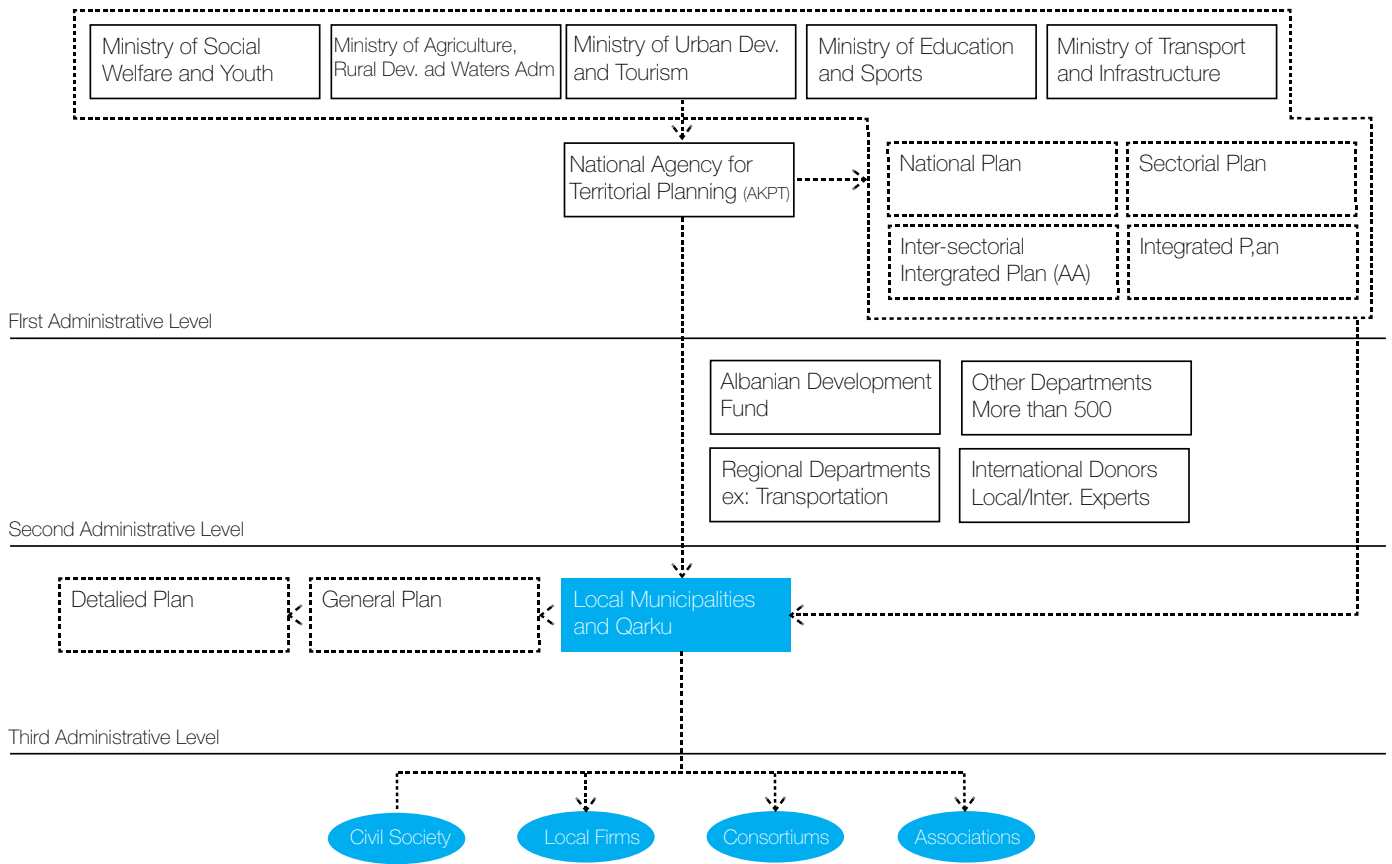




Chapter 5. "Big Infrastructure" Development



Chapter 5. "Aid" Development



Civic Society

a) Criticalities of Development, Capacity Building on Skills

As we saw on Chapter Four the Decentralized Cooperation is made up by various actions and actors aiming the development. On of the cases analysed in these thesis is “Albania Domani” and the numerous projects on the rural areas. To understand better the development which aims these projects lets see one of them: The wine Consortium.

As the interview to Andrea we understood that the creation of the consortium has faced various problems, starting from the **cultural barriers**.

So, the first step on the creation of the consortium has it has been the ‘organizational development’ as a key element to share objectives and resourses.

As we see on the graph, the first and the second step has been the most expansive process on the partnership network, including the support of other ONGs, the local Municipality and the international investors.

In the first two processes, as on graph, the Local Farmers are main actors of the development and the contribution of the other ONGs is based on the development of the skill in the farming work.

Regarding the third step of “administrative support” and on “financial support” we highlight the “non participation” of the Local Community in the development of the Wine Consortium and on the final production.

To understand better these step see on Chapter Four how the corresponding ONG worked on it.

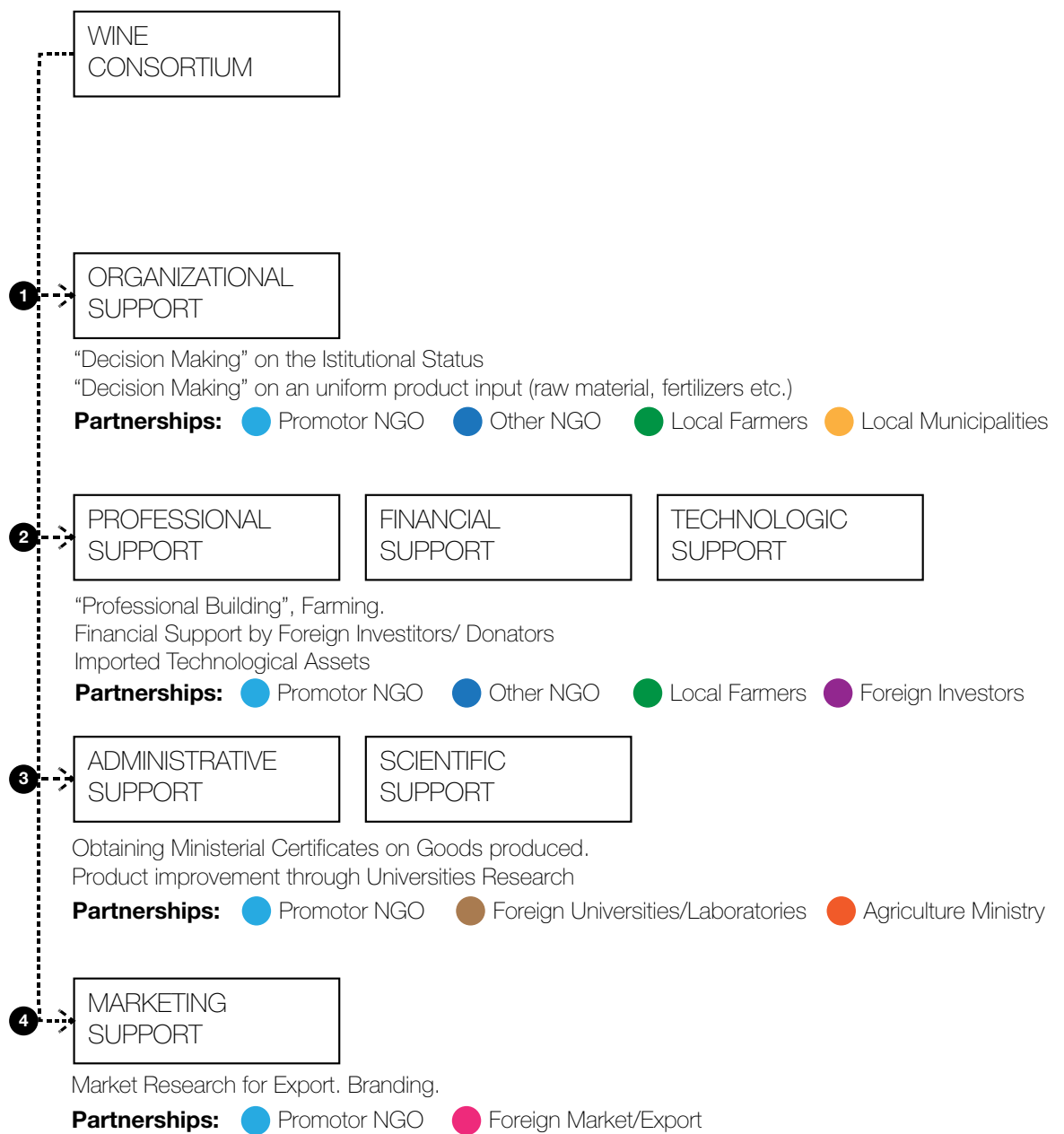
To undestand if the last step recognize the contibution of the Local Farmers we have to see the Decentralized Cooperation and specifically “Albania Domani” project. As we saw on Chpater Four “Albania Domani” comes out as a program of the International Cooperation to find out new possibilities of investment with the National support and is part of an integrated cooperation for the conversion of the Albanian dept to the Italian Nation.

Precisly the final outcome from the Local Farmers finishes on pre-selected markets and the price of the good remains a exclusivity of the ONG.

In these conditions we can assume that the development in these cases risks to have an **entrepreneurship approach**.

According to the Albanian historical past of the agricultural cooperatives and their failure as a system, causing internal migration, the “injecting” of a new system of development may show again the same effect in case of failure of this new system. This because the Local Communities has a **partial independence** on the future of the enterprise.

So, more than a process of inclusion to the work of the disadvantaged communities, the development should bee seen as a process on the boundaries able to find mechanisms that do not produce the same negative effects.



b) Criticalities of Development, Capacity Building on Abilities

According to "Atelier Albania", on Chapter Four, we can highlight the significant role of two elements: PINS as new Territorial Instrument and Dutch Planning culture.

On PINS

Regarding the Albanian Planning Instruments we can understand that the First/Central Administrative has higher potentialities to interpret the new Law on "Territorial Planning" 10119 as a multidisciplinary science. So PINS, and other four kind of 'National' Plans, comes out as a stument to open the territorial planning matter to policies that recognize in their process the civic society and the locals needs.

And one of the questions that we can answer is how do this "new actors" are involved in the territorial development processes.

Atelier Albania and the "National Agency for Territorial Planning", as part of these administrative level, are used to manage these new processes.

But, if we take on consideration the specific aims on "how to answer to these policies" we can point out the important role that the process is focusing on connections, infrastructuring and regulatory strategies. On these onsideration remains a critical issue the risk of PINS to **canalize the development as a Spatial issue.**

On Dutch Planning System and Aterlier Albania

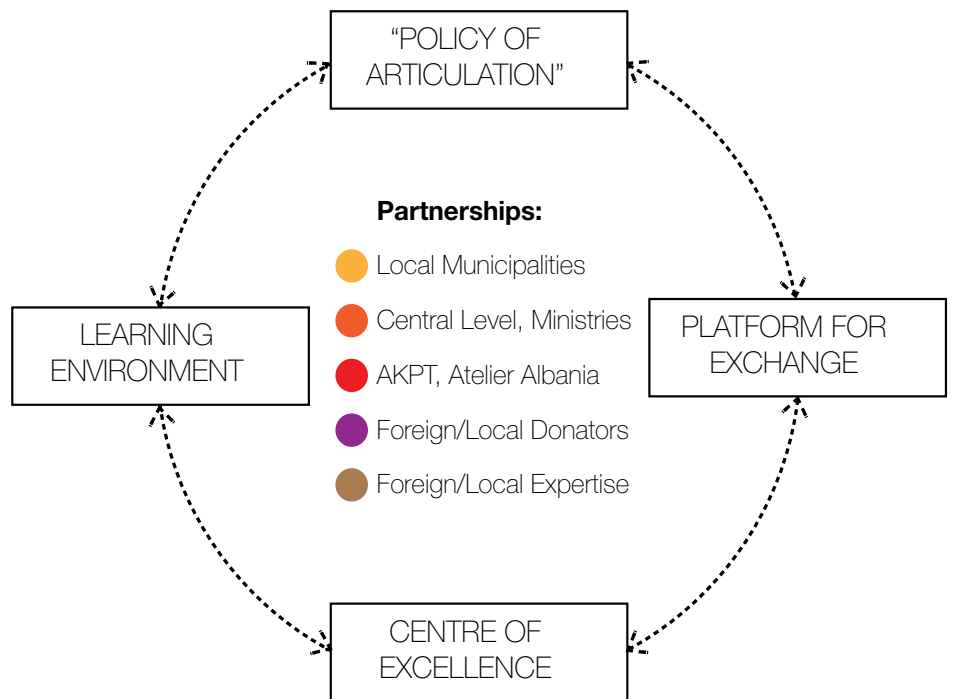
According to Faludi (1994), the Dutch have a special term describing public intervention in the environment: "spatial ordering" and there is a national Minister for Spatial Ordering; the equivalent British term is "physical planning"; the aim of spatial planning is to stand for the systematic preparation of policy measures, and to conceive of a set of actions according to a specific development scheme.

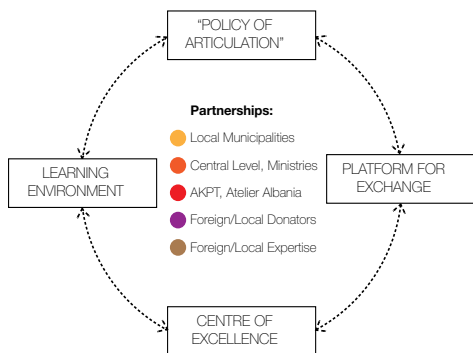
"The need to plan applies particularly to public works and to the exercise of public control. Such works and regulatory measures should fit into some overall scheme. Much of the justification of public intervention rest on this: this is even more true in a densely populated country, where the density of events makes the possibility of a natural balance through competition or through mutual adaptation more and more hopeless."

If we take on consideration the "spatial ordering" as a synonym of the work that Atelier Albania is doing, "the design as research," we can criticize its **partial effects on rural contexts**, where the population does not exceed 50,000 of inhabitants. example PINS Coast.

Another important element that characterizes and associates Atelier Albania with the Dutch Planning is the approach to develop Organizational Abilities for a horizontal and vertical cooperation with the Public Administration. The actors, that in these case are international/local experts and the Public Administration, are seen as actors able to bring to the conclusion and to the implementation the urban design project. To underline that actors involved in these processes are not seen as possible future actors to manage the project as it happens with the Italian Decentralized Cooperation.

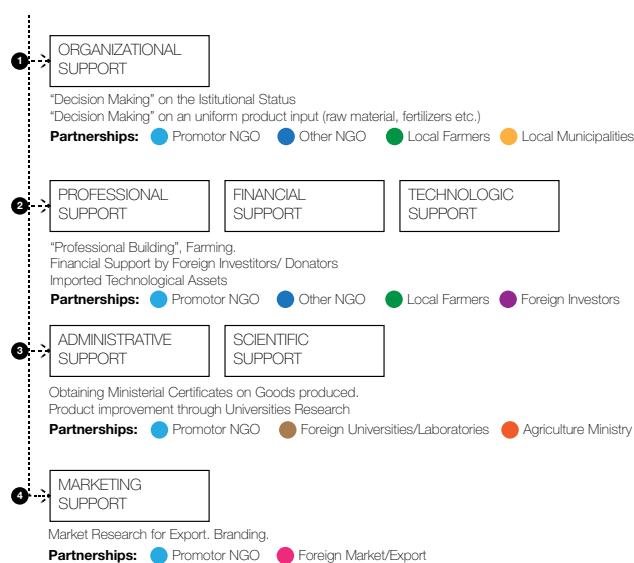
So, one of the risks for the organization abilities faces is tendency to **be limited to the “actors on content” by giving major attention to the ‘actors on process’**”.





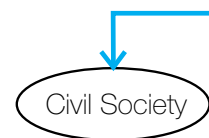
First Administrative Level

Chapter 5. "Atelier Albania" and Abilities Building



Second Administrative Level

Third Administrative Level



Civic Society

Chapter 5. "Albania Domani" and Skills Development

Development Cooperation.
Public Administration and National Agencies:

Strong point

(On Development)

Building Administrative Abilities

(on Atelier Albania):

Design on Densified Areas

Organizational Abilities - "Actors on Process"

Weak Point

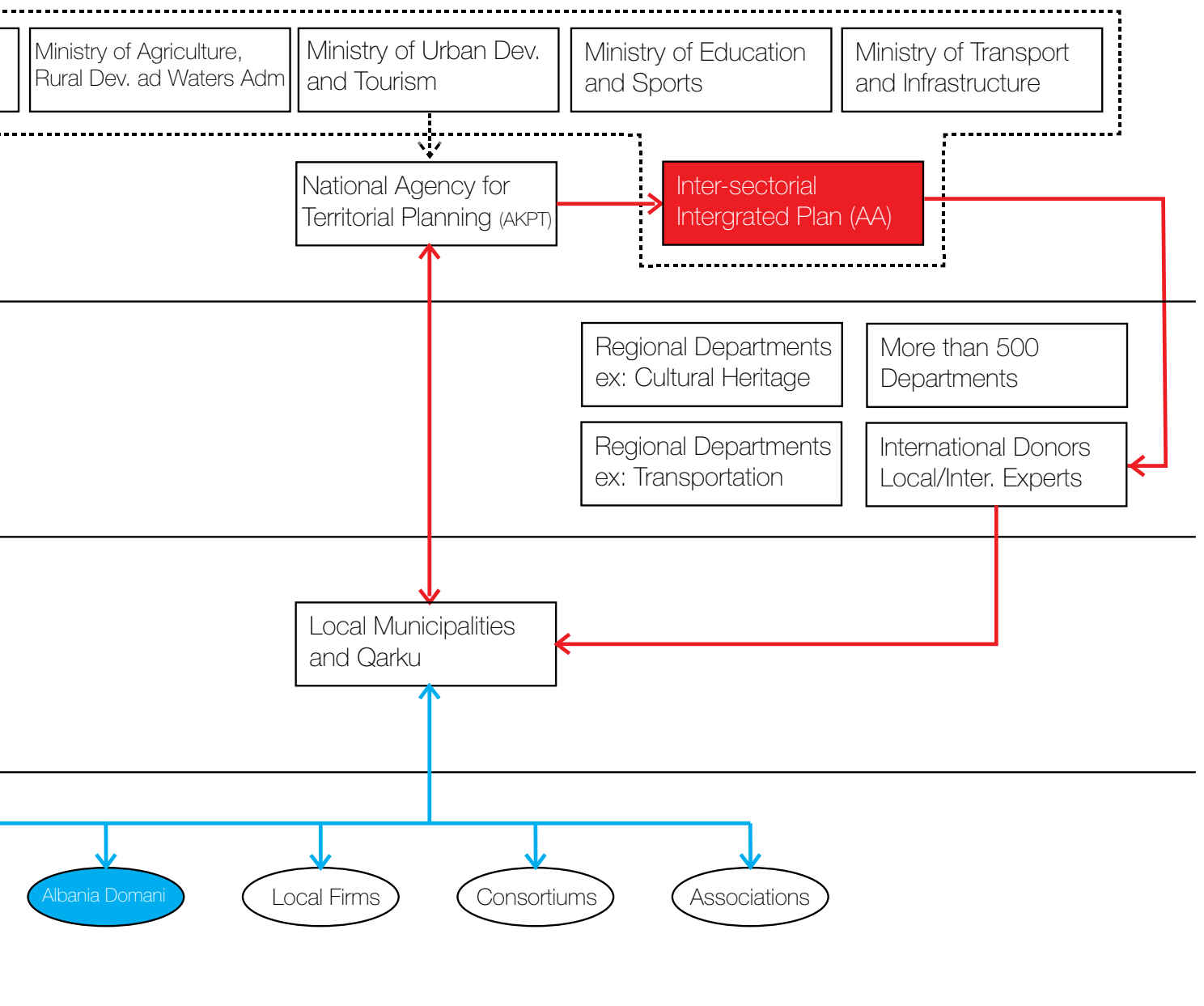
(On Development):

Limited view on the future do to the specific aims with final goals.

(On Atelier Albania):

Limited effects of Design on Rural Areas

Limited "Actors on Content"



Chapter 5. "Albania Domani" and "Atelier Albania " in the Administrative System

Decentralized Cooperation and ONG partnership networks:

Strong point

(On Development):

- Building institutional skills
- Attracts various sources of investment

(On Albania Domani):

- Building of Social Enterprises
- Civic Engagement

Weak Point

(On Development):

- Dispersed strategy in the territory
- Encourage a new wave of immigration.

(On Albania Domani):

- Partial Independence of the Local Communities





Imag 24

CRITICALITIES TO THE DEVELOPMENT - DETAILED PLAN IN THE RURAL AREA

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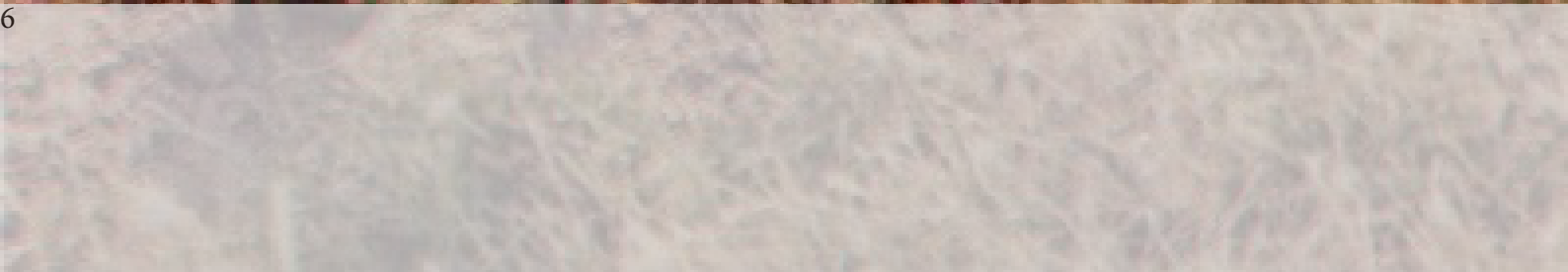




Imag 25

CRITICALITIES TO THE DEVELOPMENT - "VOLUNTARY" ACTION

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Imag 26

CRITICALITIES TO THE DEVELOPMENT - "VOLUNTARY" ACTION

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If looking at the division of the planning instruments from one scale to another, we can say that there is a clear division of tasks and abilities/skills. The same thing happens even with the two groups of networks, taken as a case study.

Looking at the last graph of Chapter Five we can understand that these two administrative models have not only different tasks but also “locked” partnership networks.

In a such context, where the central level have greater authority to include civil society as actors “in content”, in the processes of planning and territorial transformation, various local organizations seem to get more success.

The case of “Albania Tomorrow” showed us that in cooperation with local municipalities it has been able to develop a process with greater impact on civil society, to forms of “social entrepreneurship”. ex: Wine Consortium with the Vau Dejes Municipality and RISE OP Permet with the Municipality. On these criticalities on the administrative connection we can assume that there is a strong need for a greater vertical collaboration and cooperation.

So, one of the proposals that can be done is the need to have a public inter-level administrative continuity for the territorial development, that hands from the civic society to the first administrative level - and the opposite, considering as well the criticalities. (Chapter 5)

The first scenarios can be by adding on the process the various Balkans models for the engagement of the civic society on the public agenda 6.1

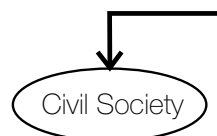
The second scenario can come through the Structural Funds and the New Administrative Reform 6.2



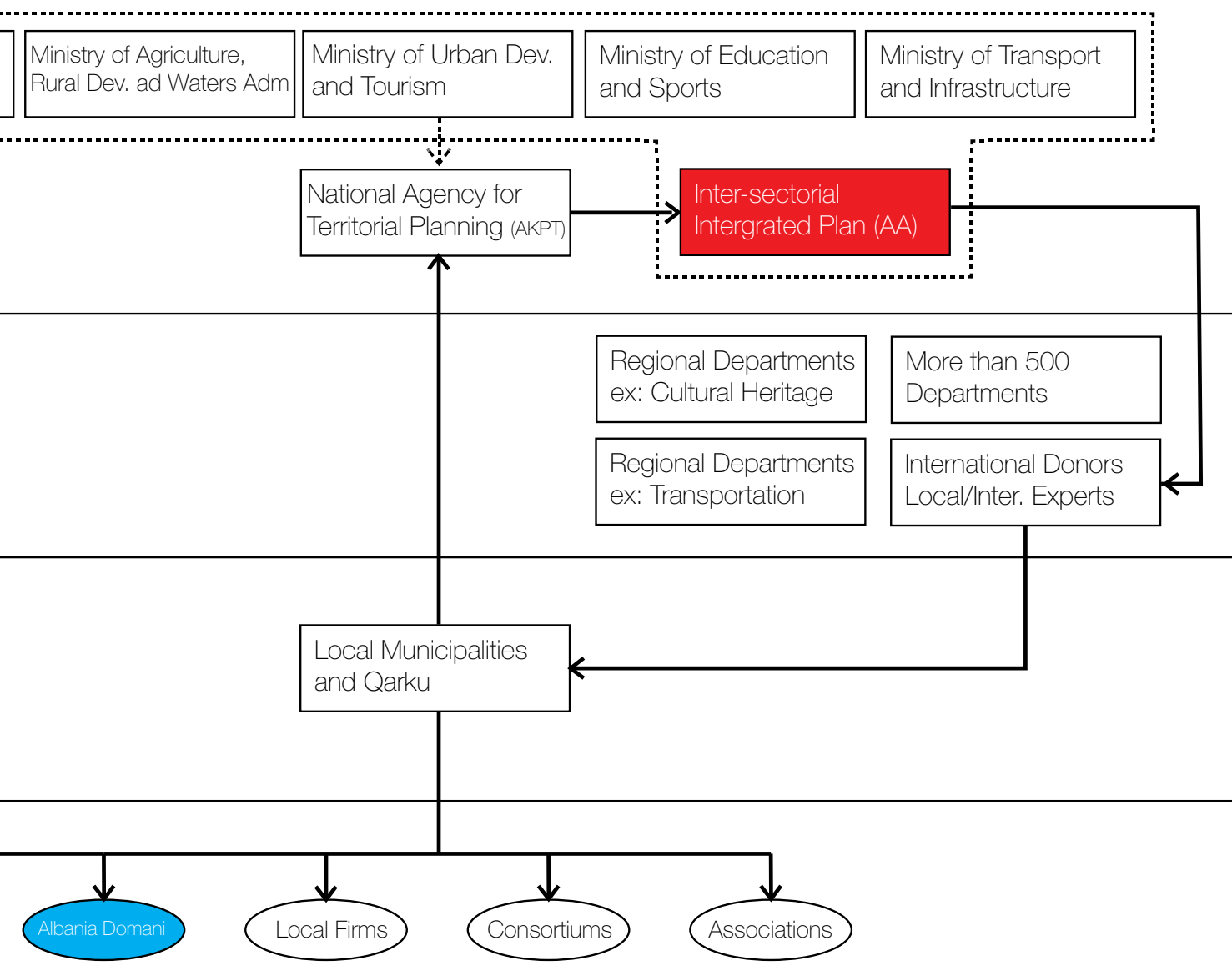
First Administrative Level

Second Administrative Level

Third Administrative Level



Civic Society



Different countries of the Balkans shows the presence of a specific organization or platform capable of integrating urban development policies with civil society in the context of a highly centralized government.

Different countries have chosen different administrative levels, but what remains valid is their objective: to create a culture of dialogue between civil society and public administration in the territorial management and planning process.

To begin the process of genuine cooperation, the two sectors should recognize joint values, to accept the responsibilities of certain common issues and share their financial resources and human resources in order to achieve common goals. This cooperation should cover the gaps of both sectors but without harming their point of strength.

In most countries of the region and Europe have already been established formal mechanisms that regulate the role of civil society as a genuine partner of the government. In many cases, the role of civil society in the development of internal democracy and European integration process has been essential. Sometimes this cooperation is led by a formal advisory body consisting of members from both sectors, such as e.g. Slovak Government Council for Cooperation with NGOs and the Council for Civil Society Development in Croatia, founded in 2002.

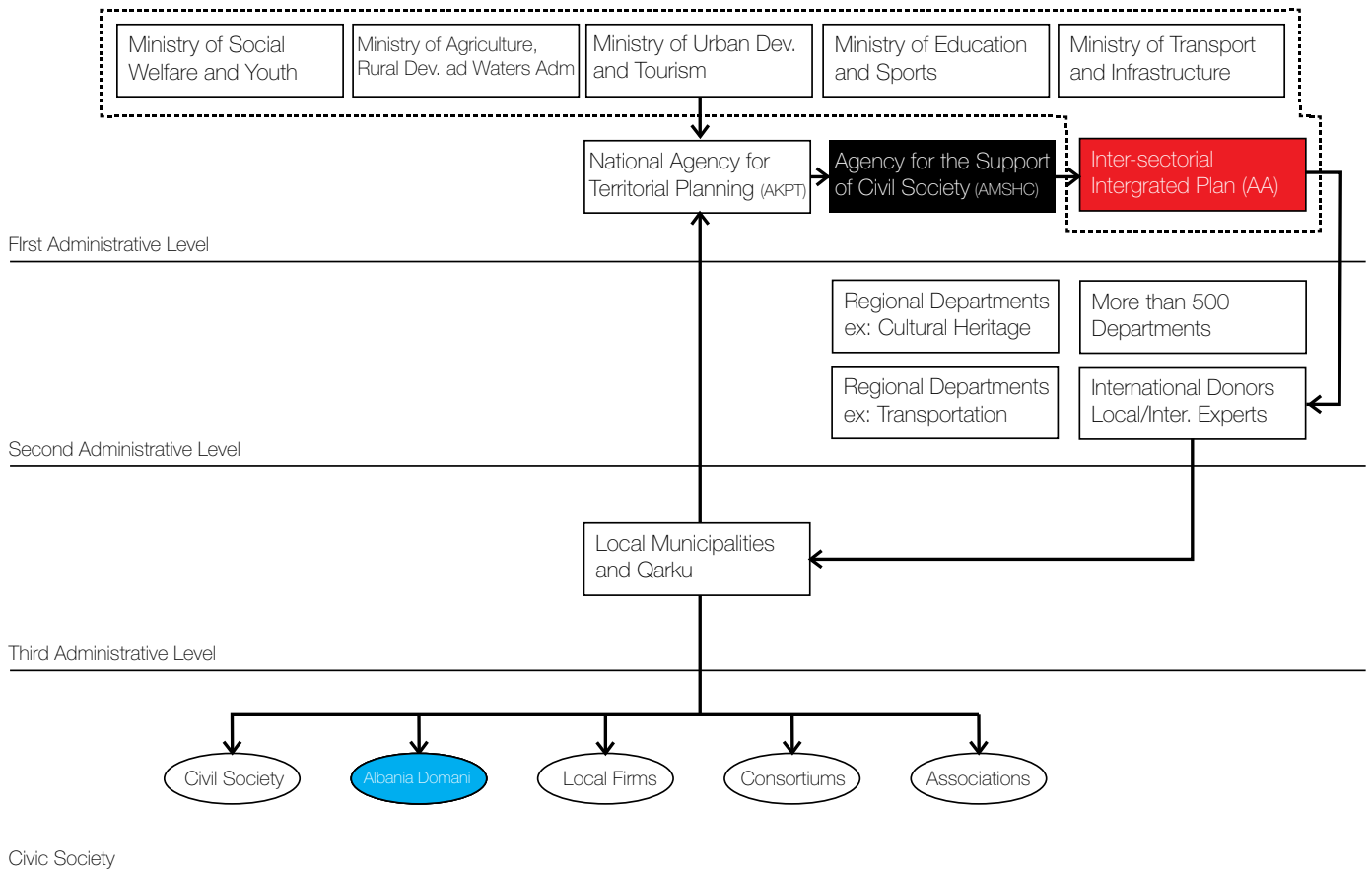
These Councils are usually characteristic for centralized forms of cooperation, such as cooperation agreements at governmental level, but may also be tasked with monitoring the implementation of specific cooperation agreements.

(scenario a): Adding the National Agency for the Support of the Civil Society, Albania AMSHC:

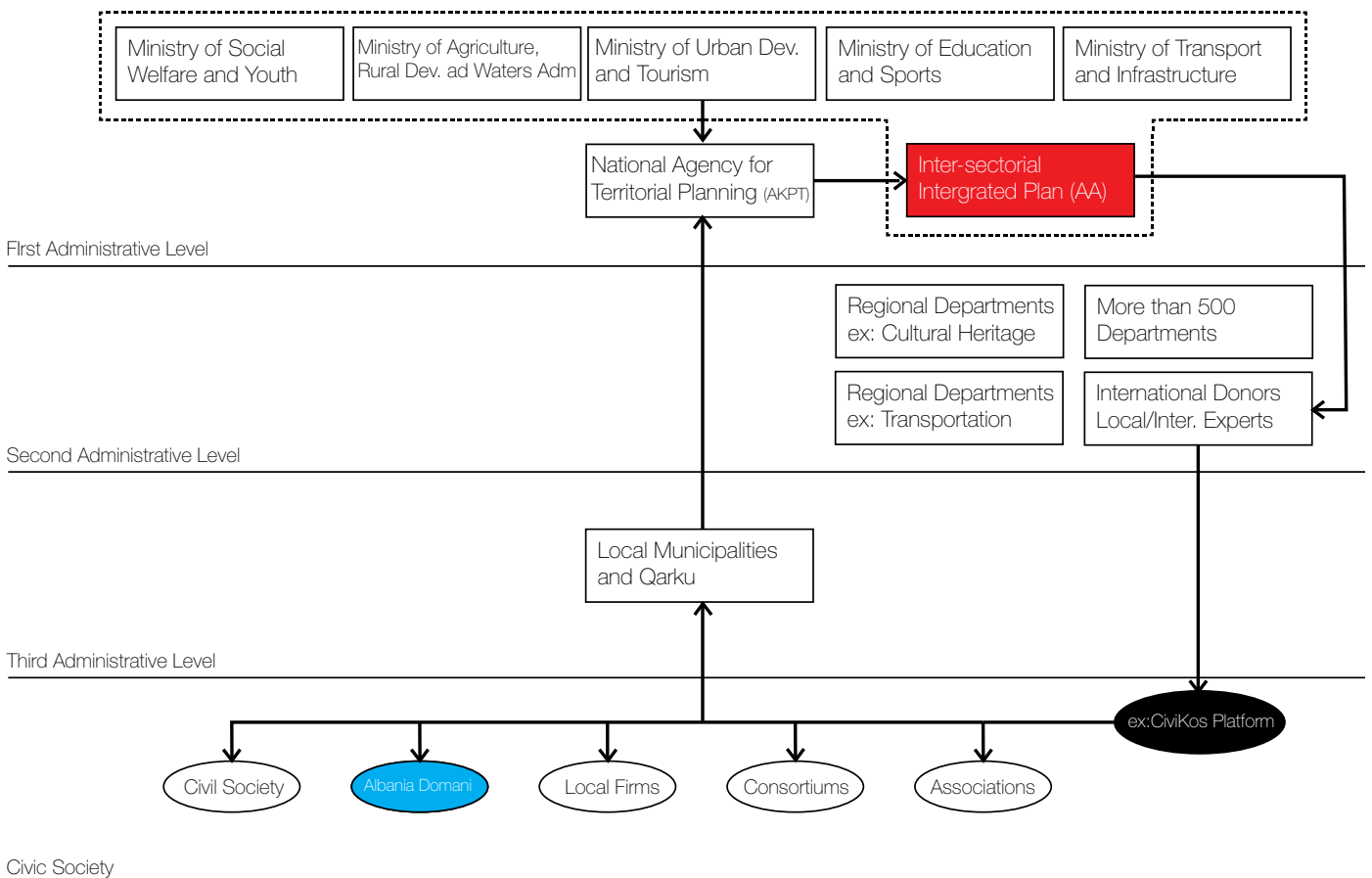
Currently, in Albania, this agency is born in 2014 and aims the approach of civil society engagement on the public agenda in the territorial development and tourism through the direct financing of projects.

(scenario b): Adding “CiviKos” Platform which is an initiative of civil society organizations in Kosovo started in early 2007 and officially registered on 2 September 2007, aimed at creating an enabling environment for formal cooperation between civil society sector and the Government .

CiviKos platform, after a long consultation process with the participation of over 130 civil society organizations, on 9 November 2007 signed a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Government and civil society (represented by Platform CiviKos). This memorandum represents the first formal document that provides for a mutual commitment and institutional cooperation in genuine partnership between the Government and civil society. Following this, the dialogue between CiviKos Platform and the Government of Kosovo, based on the Memorandum of Understanding of 2007, resulted in initiating the official process of drafting the Governmental Strategy for Cooperation with civil society.



Chapter 6. "how to create a continuity" a) AMSHC on Balkan Models



Chapter 6. "how to create a continuity" b) CIVKOS on Balkan Models

Another possibility for to have a public inter-level administrative continuity can be IPA funds and the EU Structural Funds, with particular attention to the criticalities on development on all the administrative levels. (Chap. 5)

What must be hold as valid solution in this case may be the different programs or projects that require the involvement of all public administrative levels and the cooperation with the civil society as a content element for the territorial development.

In a moment where the Public Administration is very selective on the planning instruments and quiet polarized on the competences, a new approach in spatial development in cooperation with the civil society can lead to a greater chance of the opening to these funds - if we take into account the importance that these funds gives to the extensive network of parterships.

It is important also to insist on the fact that international cooperation projects, as could be the IPA II or Structural Funds, must also find a continuity in the planning instruments, regardless of the administrative level.

For this reason it would be useful to highlight again the Integrated Cross-Sectoral Plans (PINS), which are a great tool for making converge the territorial development policies with the social development at the same time.

One of the reasons that it is important also to stress the intention for the creation of these administrative continuity of development is also closely linked with the challenges of Europeanisation that the country is facing. Authors from various European countries, as well as from Italy (Stocchiero 2014), believe that the process of accession of Albania is no longer a political challenge but rather a cultural and social challenge.

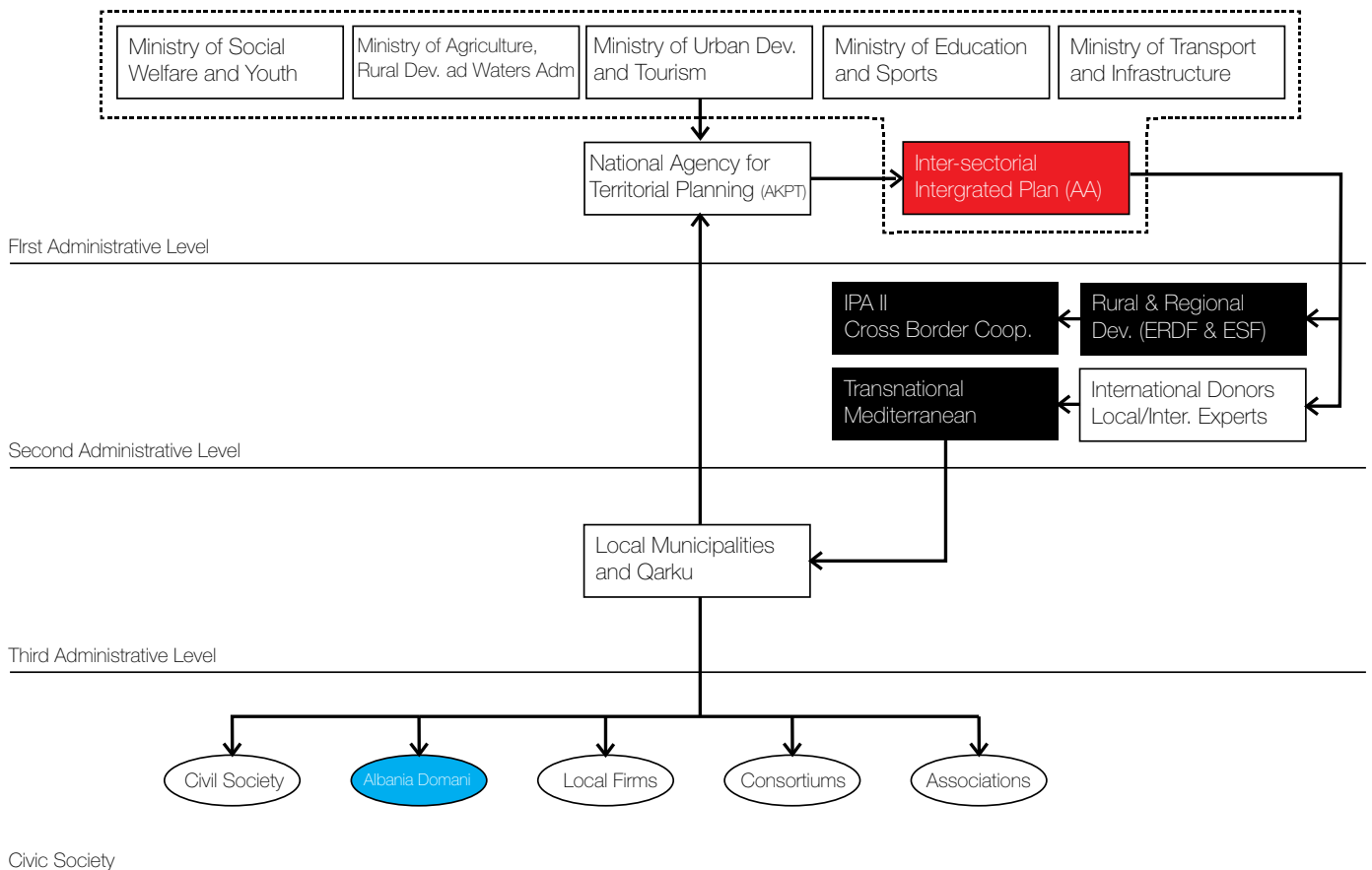
For a better understanding about the social development that should occur it would be important to be assisted by John Friedmann or Amartya Sen and his notion on capability.

John Friedmann argues that poverty should be seen not merely in material terms, but as social, political and psychological powerlessness. He presents the case for an alternative development committed to empowering the poor in their own communities, and to mobilizing them for political participation on a wider scale. In contrast to centralized development policies devised and implemented at the national and international level, alternative development restores the initiative to those in need, on the grounds that unless people have an active role in directing their own destinies long-term progress will not be achieved.

Instead, the capability approach is a theoretical framework that entails two core normative claims: first, the claim that the freedom to achieve well-being is of primary moral importance, and second, that freedom to achieve well-being is to be understood in terms of people's capabilities, that is, their real opportunities to do and be what they have reason to value. The approach has been developed in a variety of more specific normative theories, such as (partial) theories of social justice or accounts

of development ethics.

At the end, both models used on sub-chapter 6.1 and 6.2 are possibly interchangeable scenarios, and it is said that the one eliminates the other. What remains important is the fact that both scenarios offer a greater administrative continuity of territorial planning instruments designed in accordance with the new law 10119 "On Territorial Planning", (2009 - revised).



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