



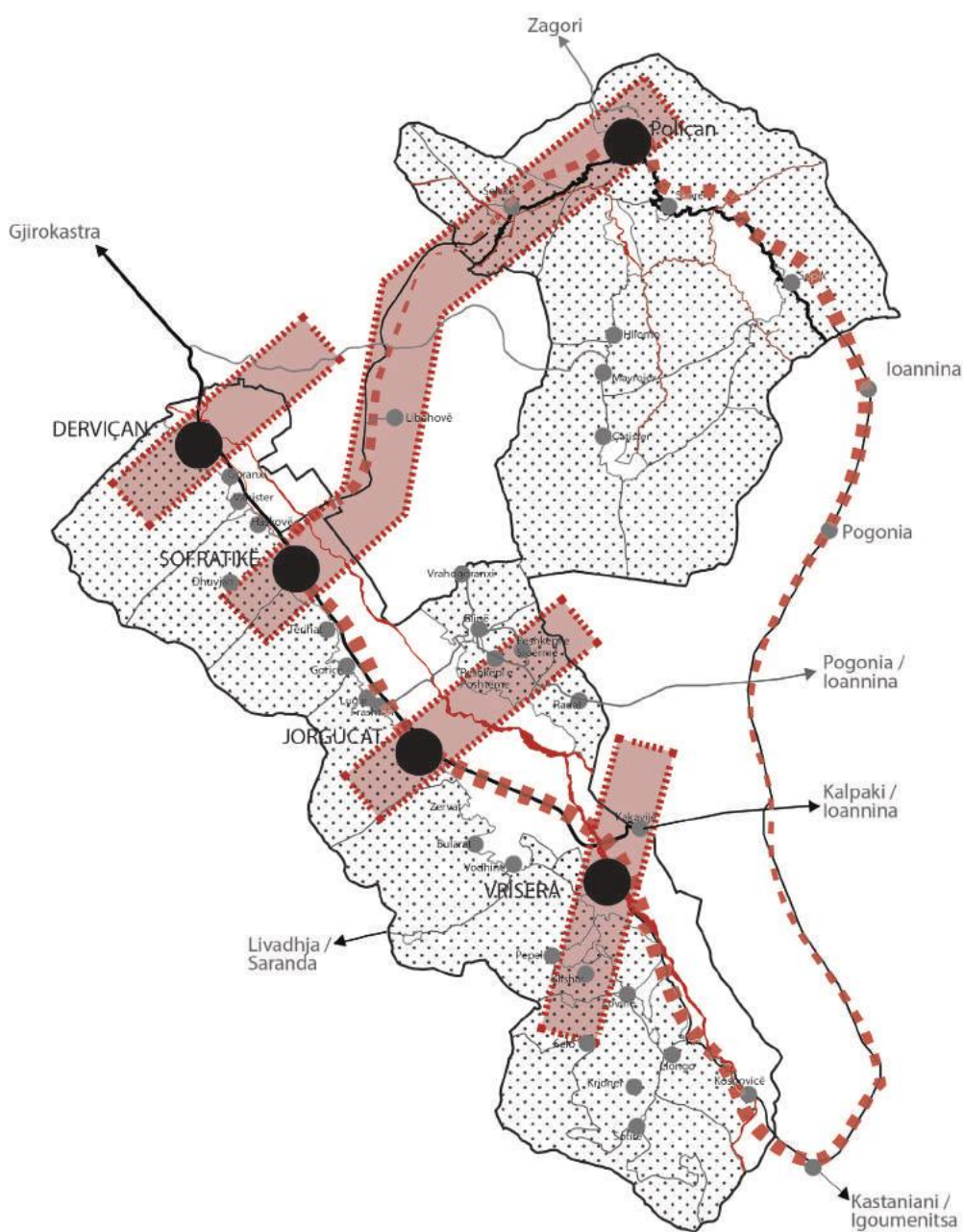
Observatory of the Mediterranean Basin
UNECE / U_POLIS / Center of excellence

Rurban Sequences

Inquiries on Dropull's states of Liminality

A Project of the
Joint International PhD Program IDAUP

POLIS University Albania / University of Ferrara Italy





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Besnik Aliaj, Loris Rossi and Sotir Dhamo are the scientific responsible of the PhD Program workshop organized in the frame of the IDAUP - International Doctorate Program in Architecture and Urban Planning - between POLIS University of Tirana Albania, and the Department of Architecture of Ferrara University, Italy. The publication collects practical and theoretical experiences elaborated within the context of the "Scientific Research Department" and "Applied Research Department", and the research unit "Observatory of the Mediterranean Basin" (OMB). In this publication Besnik Aliaj, Loris Rossi and Sotir Dhamo have also contributed in terms of contents and introduction, including interventions in some chapters, conclusions and in the elaboration of the index structure.

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RURBAN SEQUENCES

Inquiries on Dropull's states of Liminality

A project developed in the framework of the
International Doctorate in Architecture and Urban Planning IDAUP
POLIS University, Albania / University of Ferrara, Italy

I personally know Polis University and their philosophy of work. For years we have been collaborating at bilateral and European level, including our joint membership at AESOP, the Association of European Schools of Planning. POLIS is a pioneering institution that developed a unique Albanian educational and research institution. Their joint International PhD Program with UNIFE Ferrara University Italy is an original scientific program. With its own Planning Institute Co-PLAN, POLIS University has been developing a national vision and a methodology of spatial planning translated into two remarkable documents: "Albania 2030 Manifesto" and "Regionalization of Albania". Since then, POLIS and UNIFE are further elaborating "regional puzzles". One can understand more about this by simply visiting: <https://ombresearchseries.org/>.

This publication is one of the elaborated "regional puzzles". It documents very well an alternative territorial planning process. It shows that a university, besides being a teaching and research institution can also exhibit a clear "social responsibility". A team of city scientists, researchers, professors, and students of POLIS have been mobilized during the last years, aiming to assist a bottom-up process of municipal envisioning and territorial planning at the Municipality of Dropull Albania, bordering with North-western Greece. Dropull is a cross-border area where Greeks and Albanians have been living together for centuries. The experience shown here demonstrates how municipal and regional planning cannot be treated simply as a developmental and governance instrument, by 'simply obeying' to the existing standard legislation, but it can also be transformed creatively into a smart tool for a local "developmental leap"; and promote further regional coordination, cohesion and peaceful coexistence between EU member states, neighbouring nations and aspirant member countries.

Prof. Pantoleon Skayanis
University of Thessaly, GREECE

This is about a robust venture into what seems to be an entire world, woven into geography, place, history and culture. This publication is addressing an impressive variety of issues, including established techniques and methodologies, when it comes to the reading of space and place. At the same time, it is opening up the spectrum of possibilities provided by all available advances in mapping and documenting regional realities and investigating cross-regional potential.

Top down, centrally imposed planning schemes have long now shown their limitations and essential limited ends. It is a very systematic, rich body of scholar, scientific work, leading to a direction of articulating infrastructures that surpass the built environment and all obvious structural connotations. It is a promising initiative work investing in systems and collaborative networks, that bind the area to policies of cohabitation and sustainable choices, allow bottom up, grassroots approach to bloom and secure a resilient, inclusive vision for the area than in short term, low-capacity assignments.

Prof. Anastasios Tellios
University of Thessaloniki, GREECE



Preface

Right after the local elections of 2015 in Albania, I (Besnik Aliqj) was invited in a meeting and training event with the newly elected municipal councilors and administrators of the Region of Gjirokastra, Albania, organized by the German foundation Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung. During the meeting I was drawn by the remarks of Mr. Mihal Mano, the recently appointed deputy mayor of the Municipality of Dropull, a newly established municipal entity and a direct result of the latest administrative-territorial reform in Albania at that time. Mano stated that the new "municipality" (the larger territorial entity) was established through the unification of three smaller entities (of rural character), locally known here as 'communes.'

The deputy mayor of Dropull was genuinely concerned about the new municipality's lack of territorial data and infrastructural visions for the future. The central government was not so forthcoming in addressing such concerns, that had emerged as a result of the territorial reform that the government itself had initiated. As a result Dropull's minority community was feeling neglected and marginalized. Historically, Dropull is one of the areas where the Greek minority in Albania is concentrated the most. This is indeed a cross-border area where Albanians and Greeks have lived and co-existed together, with strong roots in the ancient Epirus and throughout the Ottoman Empire' times. Nowadays this is a relaxed border-area between EU and an aspiring member country like Albania. There are still, however, huge challenges of urban and rural development as result of the differences in policies applied over the territory in both countries.

Mr. Mano directly asked me, as the Rector of Polis University, whether POLIS could assist local authorities in the framework of the social responsibility, given the specificity of the circumstances, and the fact that it was the only municipality not yet supported financially for this purpose. I couldn't say no to such sincere call and public appeal. I promised to come back with a team of colleagues and students to assist in starting a bottom up process of municipal envisioning and territorial planning. This initiative triggered a unique professional and intellectual experience, and a learning process of and for the local people and communities. It fueled a creative process of grassroots planning and an innovative way of making the process sustainable and feasible. It was all about the people and social responsibility.

Today we can say that this is a plan made with and for people! We are proud of the work of our colleagues and the team at Polis University, which included: Dr. Sotir Dhamo and Dr.



Source/ Dropull Municipality

Dritan Shutina (co-leaders of the initiative), Dr. Eranda Janku (responsible for the planning component), Prof. Sherif Lushaj (responsible for the environmental component), Dr. Godiva Rembeci (statistics expert), Dr. Amanda Terpo (GIS expert), and Dr. Ledian Bregasi, among many other Polis staff and students involved. We thank the municipal staff and community representatives of Dropull municipality, and the regional/neighborhood authorities of Gjirokastra for their generous assistance. From us 'champions' of this planning initiative we kindly acknowledge POLIS University, Co-Plan Institute and Dropull Municipality. We thank Mr. Spiro Ksera - a former MP and Minister of social affairs in Albania, 2009-2013, and former Prefect of Gjirokastra Region and resident of this community, who gently asked and convinced U-Polis and Co-Plan to help the Municipality of Dropull with their local and territorial needs and visions. Special thanks go to Mrs. Adelina Greca, Director of the National Territorial Planning Agency, for understanding and supporting this creative planning initiative; Mr. Arqile Decka, the Mayor of Dropull at that time, for his hospitality and his work that continues now by the actual mayor Mr. Dhimitraq Toli; and the Prefect of Ioannina Region, Greece, Mr. Alexandros Kachrimanis and his team, for coordinating their own regional vision with our vision, according to the EU, Greek and Albanian legal requirements. The plan is now confirmed by the local, regional and central authorities.

In addition to this challenging and inspiring project that was developed over a span of 3 years, a joint research team of Polis University and Ferrara University in Italy, led by Prof. Besnik Aliaj, Dr. Loris Rossi, Dr. Laura Pedata, Dr. Sotir Dhamo and Dr. Lllazar Kumaraku, worked for another additional year to produce this conclusive publication, under the framework of the Joint International PhD Program in Architecture and City Planning. The publication is distributed locally and internationally and documented by the Library of Congress in the United States. This will hopefully further help the local and international dissemination of an experience that reshapes the planning traditions in a country that "hates" planning because of a past of harsh dictatorship and extreme centralized economy.

Prof. Ph.D. Besnik Aliaj
Rector of POLIS University, Tirana

Mr. Mihal Mano
Deputy Mayor of Dropull, Albania, 2015-2019

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Besnik Aliaj / Sotir Dhamo

POLIS University / Tirana

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1.1

*Besnik Aliaj
Sotir Dhamo
POLIS University
Tirana Albania*

1

introduction

Introduction

Prof.Dr. Besnik Aliaj

Doc.Dr. Sotir Dhamo

Polis University / Tirana, Albania

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POLIS University (www.universitetipolis.edu.al) and its origin Co-PLAN Institute (www.co-plan.org) are pioneering institutions that 'reinvented' planning practices and legislations in Albania after the collapse of centralized economy. Moving slowly over 25 years from initiating 'grassroots' based projects toward assisting local and national authorities, they created a body of experience that is now replicated and disseminated via scientific research, pedagogy, practice, and consultancy.

The project - *Rurban Sequences: Inquiries on Dropull's States of Liminality*, part of the Observatory of the Mediterranean Basin (OMB) Series, emerges from the annual International Workshop organized in the framework of the Joint International PhD Program between POLIS University and UNIFE Ferrara University (Department of Architecture). A year long project, builds upon the work done over a span of 3-years by the staff and students of POLIS University and the staff of Dropull Municipality, at South Albania, for the drafting and approval of the territorial municipal plan, otherwise known as PPV Plani i Pergjithshem Vendor (GLP General Local Plan).

POLIS University and Co-PLAN Institute have innovatively developed over the years a methodology and vision for the national spatial development plan of Albania, materialized by two main documents: i) Albania 2030 Manifesto; and ii) Regionalization of Albania. Since then, together with UNIFE, U-POLIS and

Co-PLAN are detailing such national development vision with research visions and territorial development plans at the regional and local scale. In this way a collection of projects/publications are prepared, and thus figuring out each piece of the puzzle, by demystifying the planning and development agenda in Albania (see: <https://ombresearchseries.org/>). These projects hopefully serve not simply as a planning instrument for the Albanian authorities, but they might also help as a marketing tool for Albania and its regions in the context of international relations. This experience is also very useful for the professionals, students and researchers of the spatial/territorial planning sciences.

So far, in addition to the national vision, specific publications and detailed development plans are also prepared for the Durana region, Riviera region, Semani region, Shkodra region, and Gjirokastra region (in Albania), Prishtina region (in Kosovo), and Tetovo region (in Macedonia). The Dropull one is currently the last in the series of projects and publication. In this way, throughout the years we have developed together creative metropolitan, capital, inner land, urban-rural, and cross-border planning practices, as well as watershed, river, lake, coastal and valley planning practices. These form the base of a unique territorial/spatial planning publication series that benefits both Albania and the neighboring region.

Rurban Sequences: Inquiries on Dropull's states of Liminality is a scientific, intellectual and professional speculation

lead by a team of scholars of U-POLIS and UNIFE, based on: i) the GLP General Local Plan - drafted by Prof. Besnik Aliaj, Dr. Sotir Dharmo, Dr. Eranda Janku, Prof. Sherif Lushaj, Dr. Godiva Rembeci, Dr. Amanda Terpo, Dr. Ledian Bregasi and Dr. Dritan Shutina; ii) the International PhD Workshop - directed by Prof. Besnik Aliaj, Dr. Loris Rossi, Dr. Laura Pedata, Dr. Llazar Kumaraku, and Dr. Sotir Dharmo. The International Workshop consists of 2 weeks of site visits and field work in Dropull and Tirana, and one year of independent research and publication work.

The GLP Plan offers professional, legal and administrative procedures developed over the span of 3 years, involving also local population, and local/regional/national authorities. This project also includes research work developed in the context of PhD research that relates to the theoretical and interdisciplinary basis underpinning this research, as well as accounts of U-POLIS's involvement with '100 villages' project initiated by the Albanian government to develop methodologies for acupunctural interventions and local economic development.





2.1

Rurality, landscaping, tourism and sustainable development

Alessandra Battisti

2.2

Liminality Articulations in Territorial Development: A Research On Biopolitics And Property Right Theories.

Artan Kacani

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Navigating Dropull through liminal spaces and thresholds

Laura Pedata

Eranda Janku

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Dropull - Liminal Cultures / Mapping Identities

Saimir Kristo,

Joana Dhiamandi

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interdisciplinary exchanges

Rurality, landscaping, tourism and sustainable development

*Prof. Arch. Alessandra Battisti, PhD
Faculty of Architecture La Sapienza / Roma, Italy*

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The "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" identifies 17 Objectives SDGs (UN 2015) that implicitly formulate a *j'accuse* of the current model of world growth and evolution from an environmental, economic and social point of view, overcoming the idea that sustainability is only an environmental issue. The 169 goals that the signatory countries have committed themselves to achieve by 2030 constitute an integrated vision of the different dimensions of development (UN 2017).

Furthermore, according to some recent researches and opinions, we must look to the past of the spontaneous rural pre-industrial villages to write a future in which some of the signs and values present in them as perennial and lasting heritage could be used to regulate the management of the economy and territories (Berti et al. 2010). A legacy that emerges in a deeply diversified way in landscape and in the territory (Schlögel, 2009) in which the plurimillennial time of biophysical processes has produced differences in exposure to the sun, winds, humidity, temperature, vegetation, species, and where the secular time of anthropic processes produced stratification of signs, senses, cultures, "an attraction for the permanent settlement of the most varied ethnic groups and a conservation and regeneration of their cultures, the diversity of languages, attitudes, food, music and gestures" (Barca, 2018).

To get to the time of the "narrated history", according to the definition given by the historian Le Goff, dominated by the "infinitely human" (Le Goff, 1982), whose

experience leaves its traces in unofficial sources. In this history, time and culture are not idealistic and disenchanted Geist of an era, but they translate into storytelling, myth, story, and the architecture and the built environment contain dreams and hopes produced by the encounter-clash between the individual and collectivity, between subordinate and dominant classes.

To recover the "teaching of time" of rural realities, their material surfaces, images and contexts, a first step is to ask how the issue can be implemented in public heritage policies today with reference to issues of climate change, land use, environmental risks and slow tourism (Dax et al., 2017). What criteria can influence these policies: the search for temporary constraints with a short-term return? Or the definition of long-term organic strategies? Or should we instead delineate a culture of redevelopment and enhancement that foresees forms of an organisation centred on models of "collective intelligence" (Lévy, 1996)?

Spontaneous intelligence that definitively exorcises every sterile reduction of the complex problems to which we are called to respond, and which becomes the background of resilience strategies based on anthropic interventions that pay attention to the built environment (Garrod et al., 2006), but also to processes of degradation and induced transformations over time and deliver us in the form of narratives and inventions of a landscape, territorial and local heritage type. In these situations, the relationship between

"innovation-experimentation" on the one hand and "protection-conservation" on the other is equally problematic. It is clear that considering this heritage of values divided by the technological one and by experimentation is inconceivable: culture always places the roots of its possible development in knowledge (European Commission, 2017).

In this context, two dimensions overlap the large scale of the "protection" objectives and the precise scale of the "transformation" needs; the supra-temporal dimension of the diachronic continuity of meanings and places, and the meticulous one of needs and functional needs which are confronted with a succession of events in which "the chronicle produces history in its permanent evolution".

A regeneration process that must, therefore, be configured as an internal concentration of history and evolution of inhabitants and settlements, understood as places of knowledge, presence, value, the result of human and intangible resources that this history has contributed to writing; what emerges in this condition is that it is no longer enough to recover individual buildings within areas that are becoming depopulated, but it is necessary to intervene on the landscape, on widespread hamlets and hubs, on public and private goods to engage in new landscape-architectural semiotics, connected with other sectoral policies (Marzano, 2012).

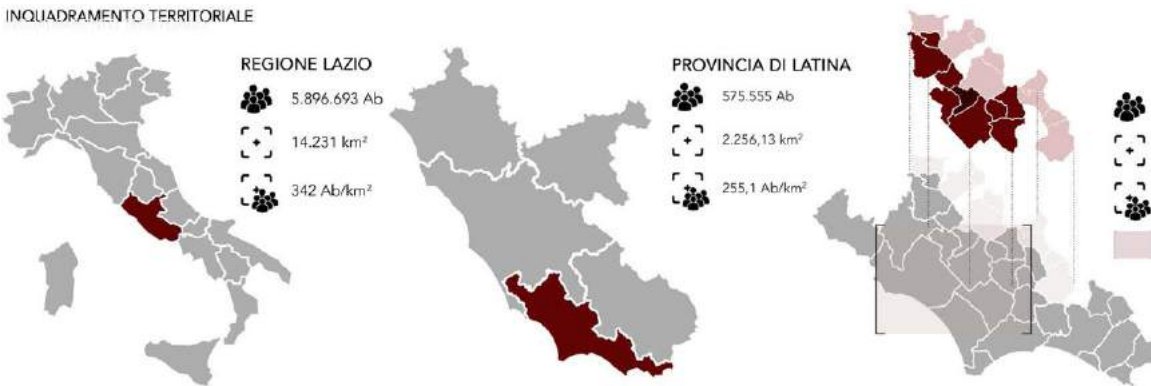
Rurality and Landscaping

At present, in fact, about 28% of the EU

population lives in mainly inner peripheries and rural area, 31.6% lives in small cities and suburban areas (intermediate areas), and the remaining 40.4 % are concentrated in larger cities (Eurostat, 2017). Across the world, the trend towards urbanization seems unstoppable; forecasts indicate that by 2050 city dwellers will increase by 24.1 million, while the population of mainly rural areas will decrease by 7.9 million (OECD, 2016). In the next decades, depopulation will affect the internal European areas of Spain, France, Germany, Poland, Slovenia Romania, Czech Republic, Greece and Italy (Verburg, 2010), following two different modalities: the first caused by the emigration of a class demographic in working-age towards the big cities, the second connected with the progressive ageing of the population of the places, a phenomenon which is generally accompanied by a low birth rate (Golino et al., 2000).

Despite being considered a symptom and not a cause of the rural decline, often due also and above all to poor accessibility and lack of economic opportunities, depopulation represents one of the main factors introducing the need to address and manage the complexity of the change in the inner peripheries - which has produced the emergence of new political visions – such areas, at least in the declarations of principle, have gradually been configured less and less as "agricultural" and increasingly as "rural development", "tourism" policies, "landscaping". In a much more incisive way than other forms of design, the one that pertains to the

INQUADRAMENTO TERRITORIALE



LETTURA TERRITORIALE

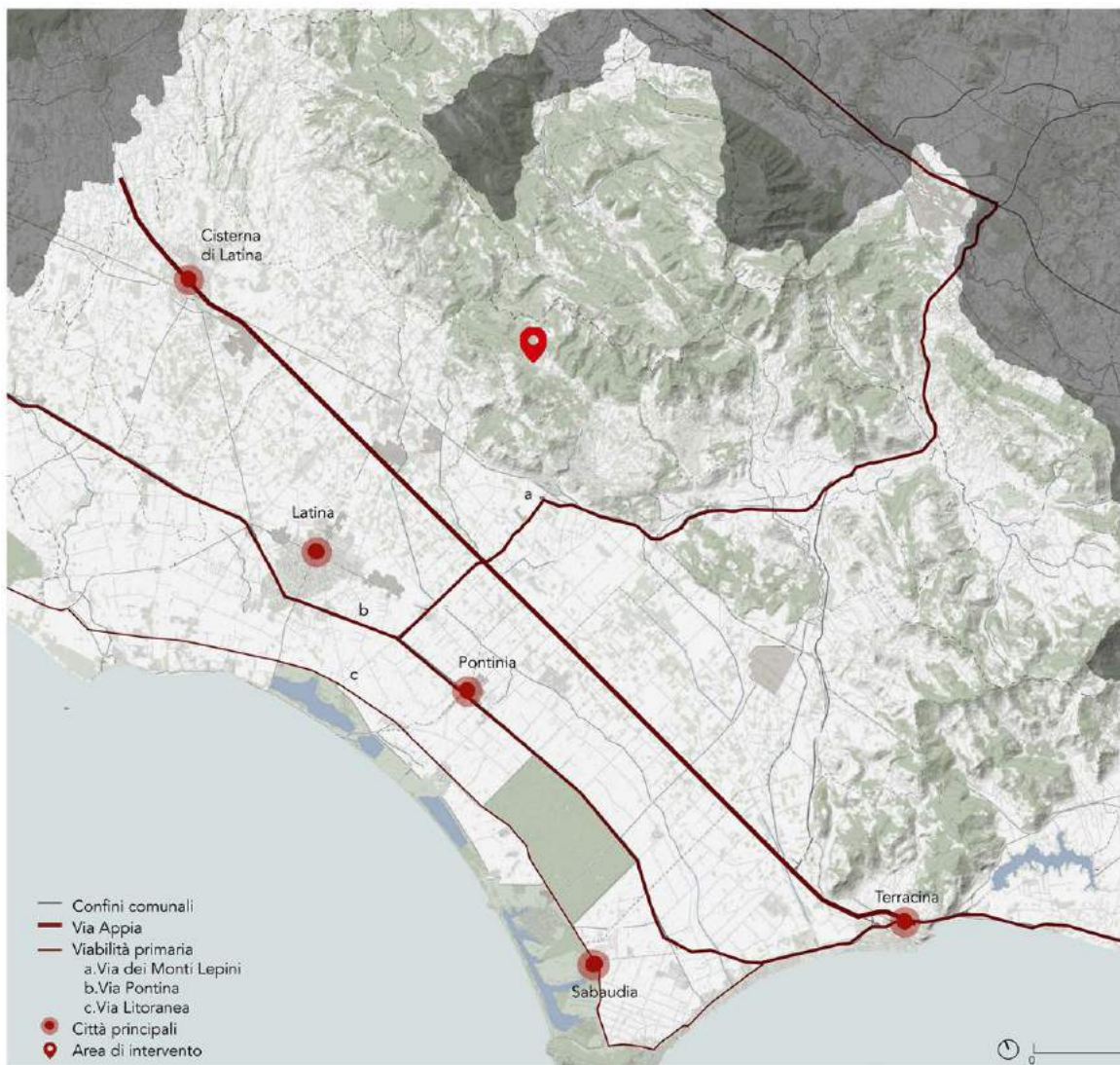


Fig. 1 / Research on the "Gal dei Monti Lepini" carried out by Prof. Arch. A. Battisti with F. Bernardi, F. Bocchini, S. Bocchini

inner peripheries tends to present itself as a general approach to changes in society and the framework of life, capable of reading its diversities, proposing places "to size" of the community that resides there (Dax et al., 2017). These places, where the dimension of the past seems to concern everyone according to a strong anti-urban emphasis, allow the approach to the analysis of the coevolutionary lines of the relationship between city and technology of local redevelopment, within the thesis of a growing realization of collective

intelligence. With the redevelopment and local reuse, and the spread of decentralized and widespread production of renewable energy, the Gemeinschaft - Gesellschaft polar couple seems to resume their share. When the German sociologist Ferdinand Tönnies in 1887 identified the two concepts he then translated them into two different notions in spatial terms, which allowed him to illustrate the contrast between village and city, what is more secluded and collected is also more socializing, images of people that touch

GAL MONTI LEPINI

116.531 Ab
 838 km²
 127,2 Ab/km²
 Ambito di lettura territoriale

Il Gruppo di Azione Locale dei Monti Lepini si è costituito in risposta al bando asse IV Leader della Regione Lazio al fine di costruire, un Piano di Sviluppo. Il Gal, comprende più comuni di diverse province che si trovano sui Monti Lepini stessi.

Amaseno (FR)	Norma (LT)
Artena (RM)	Patrica (FR)
Bassiano (LT)	Priverno (LT)
Carpinetto Romano (RM)	Rocca Massima (LT)
Cori (LT)	Roccagorga (LT)
Gavignano (RM)	Segni (RM)
Giuliano di Roma (FR)	Sermoneta (LT)
Gorga (RM)	Sezze (LT)
Maenza (LT)	Villa Santo Stefano (FR)



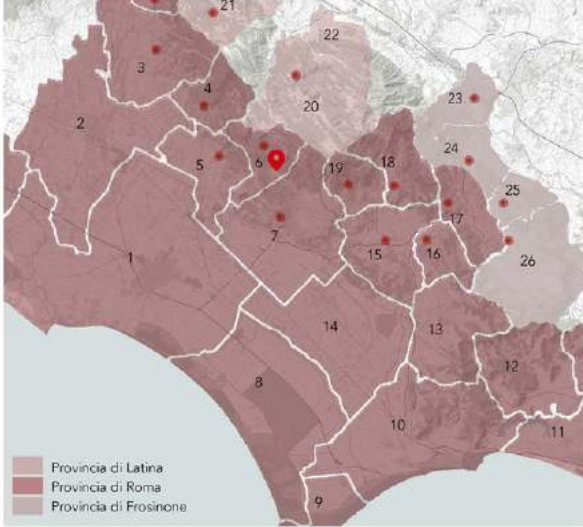
1.530 Ab
 32,4 km²
 47,2 Ab/km²
 Area di intervento

COMUNE DI BASSIANO

Il comune di Bassiano si trova nell'area dei monti Lepini, con un'altitudine di 852 m.s.l.m., è il comune più alto della provincia di Latina dopo Rocca Massima e Campodimale.

Altitudine	852 mslm
Zona climatica	Zona E
Temperatura media	192,9 °C
Piovosità annua	891 mm
Gradi Giorno	2108°

CITTA' E COMUNI



L'area di intervento, che si trova nel comune di Bassiano, geograficamente risulta ubicata in una zona pedemontana, all'interno di una sistema più ampio, delle dorsali mari-monti.

Proprio per questo per una prima analisi preliminare ci è sembrato opportuno prendere in considerazione una vasta porzione di territorio che si estendesse longitudinalmente per 50 km, dalla costa di Sabaudia e Circeo fino alle vette più alte dei Monti Lepini.

All'interno di questo inquadramento sono comprese e ben identificate quattro fasce parallele di un paesaggio omogeneo, quattro iconemi ben distinti, che però risultano legati da forti relazioni l'uno all'altro.

Proprio per questo la scelta così legata alla natura del territorio e del paesaggio, ovviamente non ricade entro i limiti amministrativi della sola provincia di Latina, bensì comprende anche qualche comune di Roma e di Frosinone. Comuni oltresi già legati dal Gruppo di Azione locale dei Monti Lepini.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1_Latina | 14_Pontinia |
| 2_Cisterna di Latina | 15_Priverno |
| 3_Cori | 16_Roccasecca dei Volsci |
| 4_Norma | 17_Proseedi |
| 5_Sermoneta | 18_Maenza |
| 6_Bassiano | 19_Roccagorga |
| 7_Sezze | 20_Carpinetto romano |
| 8_Sabaudia | 21_Artena |
| 9_San Felice Circeo | 22_Segni |
| 10_Terracina | 23_Patrica |
| 11_Fondi | 24_Giuliano di Roma |
| 12_Monte San Biagio | 25_Villa Santo Stefano |
| 13_Sonnino | 26_Amaseno |

FASCE ALTIMETRICHE



Orograficamente il territorio si estende dal mare, quindi dalla quota 0 mslm fino a raggiungere i 1500 mslm.

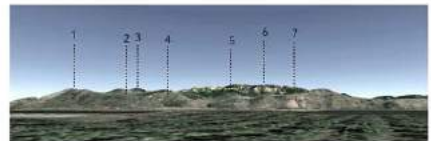
La varietà della morfologia determina lo sviluppo di paesaggi differenti, che presentano una struttura sia naturale che antropica molto varia.

Nella zona più pianeggiante, fino alla parte pedemontana si sviluppano la maggior parte delle attività: agricole, industriali con le città maggiori.

Invece, man mano che la morfologia si struttura diminuiscono le grandi attività per dar spazio a piccoli insediamenti, borghi storici e attività agricole tradizionali.

Nella zona montana sono presenti due catene montuose, occidentali del il gruppo del Monte Semprevisa e del Monte Lupone con andamento nord-ovest e orientale con il gruppo del Monte Gemma, Monte Melania, Monte San Marino e Monte Alto orientati a sud-est. Le due catene montuose risultano separate dal Fosso di Montalucco-Montelanico.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Vette dei Monti Lepini | 4_Monte Belvedere 1258 mslm |
| 1_Monte Lupone 1378 mslm | 5_Monte Erdigheta 1336 mslm |
| 2_Monte Parentile 1022 mslm | 6_Monte Melania 1480 mslm |
| 3_Monte Semprevisa 1536 mslm | 7_Monte Gemma 1457 mslm |



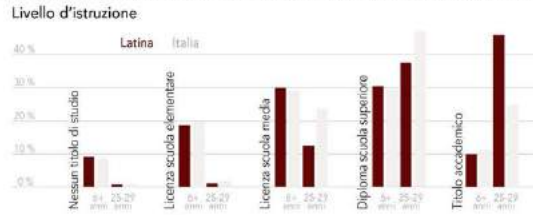
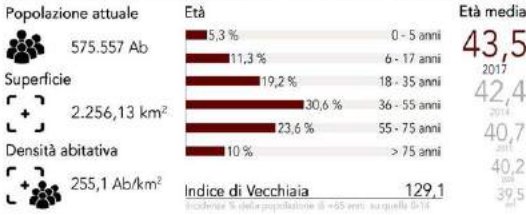
and speak, scenes of subjective life finally recognized and brought to light (Tönnies, 1887). Gemeinschaft, could literally be translated as "sharing what is inside me". The local redevelopment is configured more often than not as an internal concentration of history and evolution of the settlement and its inhabitants, places of culture understood as the presence/value of the built environment and as a result of the human and immaterial resources that this history contributed to writing; situations where it clearly

emerges that it is not enough to recover single buildings within areas that are gradually becoming depopulated, but it is necessary to intervene on fractions and widespread hubs on the public and private assets to engage connections with other sector policies such as tourism, agriculture and handicraft (Ricci 2012).

The Europe report Inner peripheries (ESPON 2017) identifies three main concepts of inner peripherality, each characterised by its own drivers and impacts and, therefore, by its own

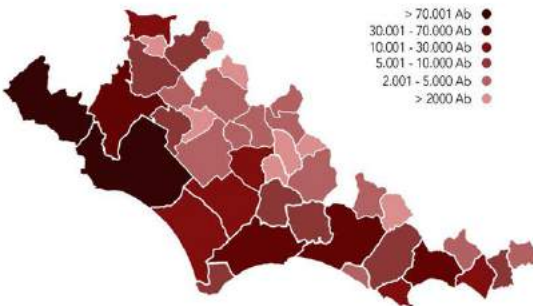
ANALISI SOCIO-DEMOGRAFICA

PROVINCIA DI LATINA

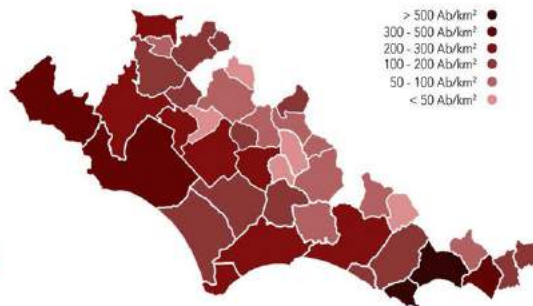


PROVINCIA DI LATINA E GAL MONTI LEPINI

Distribuzione della popolazione

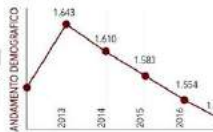


Distribuzione della densità abitativa

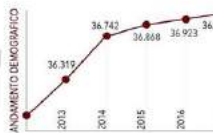


GAL MONTI LEPINI

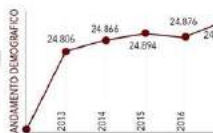
Comune di Bassiano



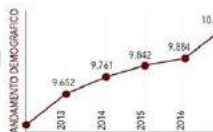
Comune di Cisterna di Latina



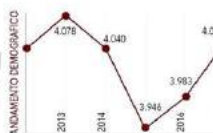
Comune di Sezze



Comune di Sermoneta



Comune di Norma

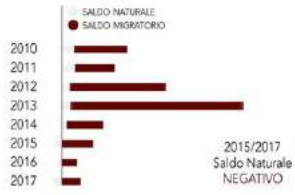


Comune di Cori



Fig. 2 / Research on the "Gal dei Monti Lepini" carried out by Prof. Arch. A. Battisti with F. Bernardi, F. Bocchini, S. Bocchini

Crescita della popolazione

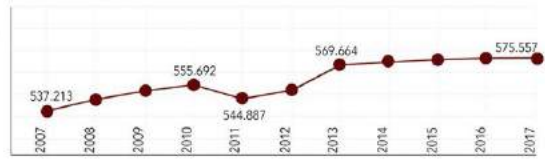


Saldo naturale	Flusso migratorio	Saldo totale
805	3670	4475
832	2838	3670
451	6752	7203
528	17046	17574
265	2543	2808
-435	2189	1754
-337	1002	665
-582	1268	686

Indicatori demografici 2017



Crescita della popolazione

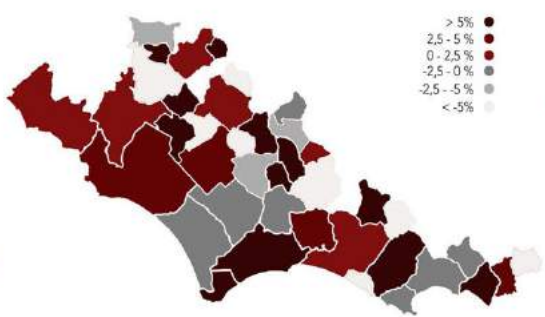


Osservazioni

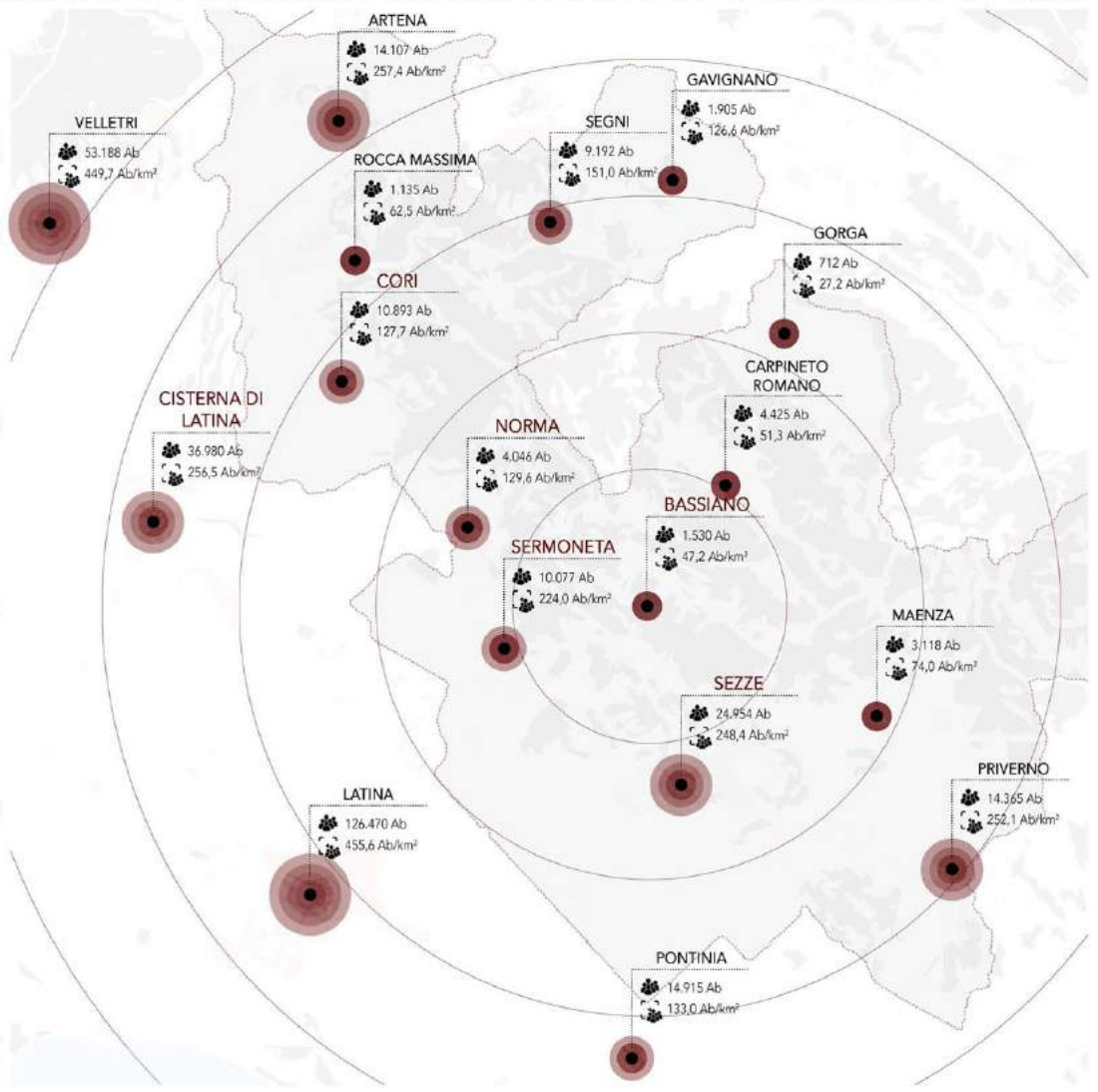
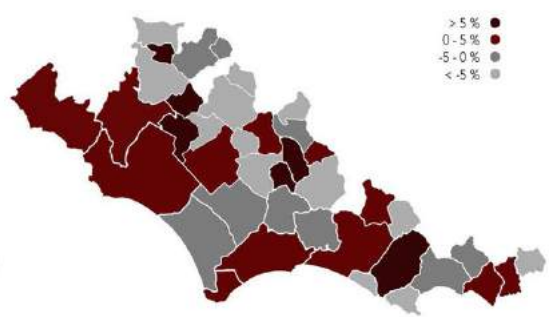
Dall'analisi demografica del territorio della provincia di Latina emerge il quadro di un territorio che, contrariamente all'andamento demografico nazionale, mantiene una **crescita demografica**, seppur in calo, attiva. Il bilancio positivo deriva dai flussi migratori verso la provincia, che colmano il trend negativo della **crescita naturale**, in negativo da **3 anni**.

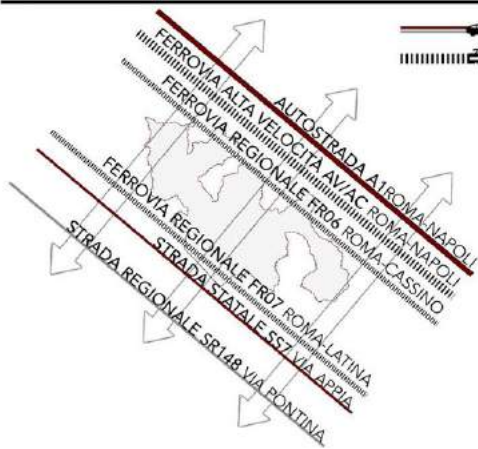
Per quanto concerne la popolazione della provincia di Latina, si evidenzia un'età media inferiore alla media nazionale come anche un indice di anzianità minore. Il livello di istruzione è invece in linea con le medie nazionali ma focalizzando l'attenzione sull'istruzione giovanile si nota un'incidenza dei laureati nettamente maggiore rispetto alla media italiana.

Distribuzione del tasso migratorio

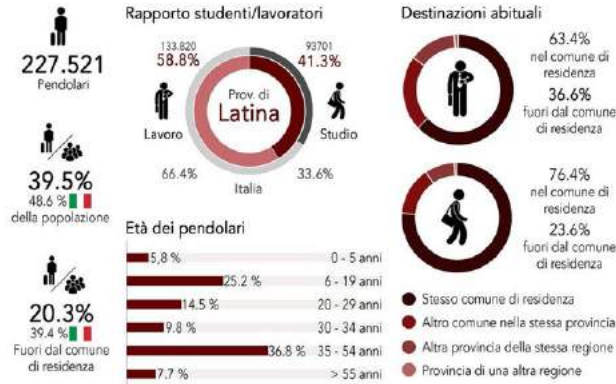


Distribuzione del tasso di crescita

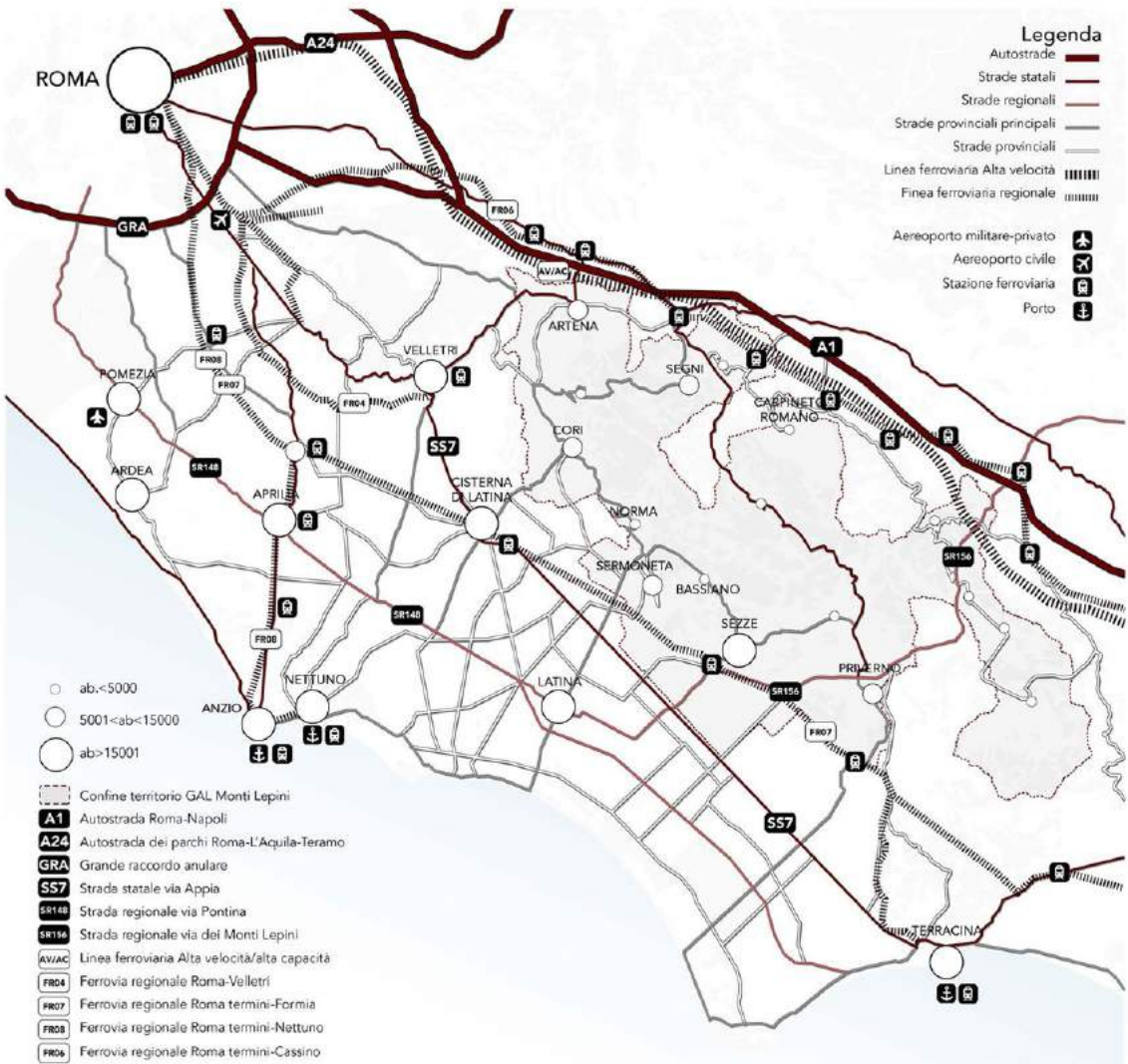




Fonte dati: Istat 2014 - Regione Lazio - Aci 2017 - Legambiente rapporto pendolari 2017



CARTA DELLE INFRASTRUTTURE



ANALISI DEI SERVIZI

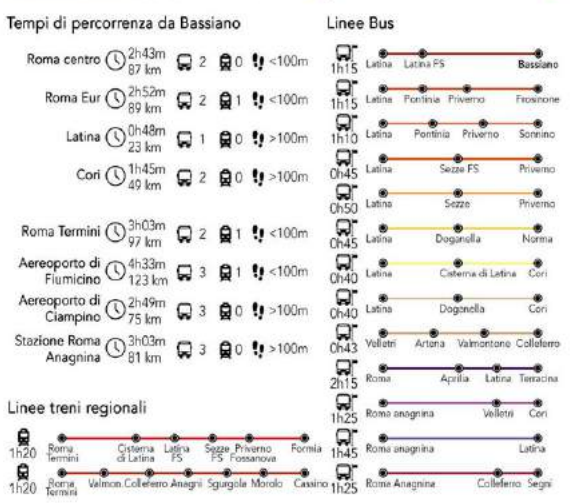
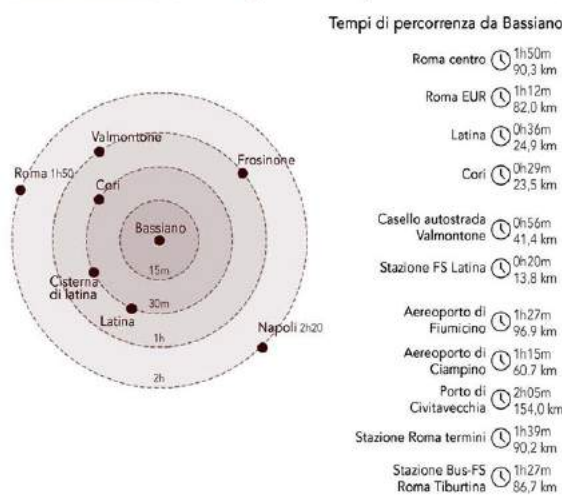
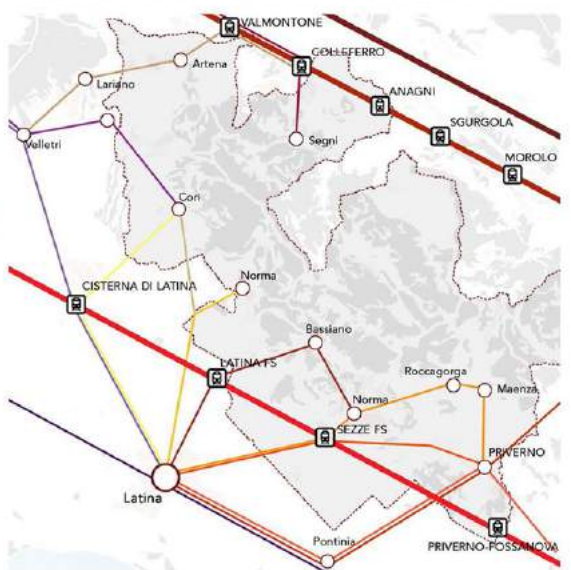
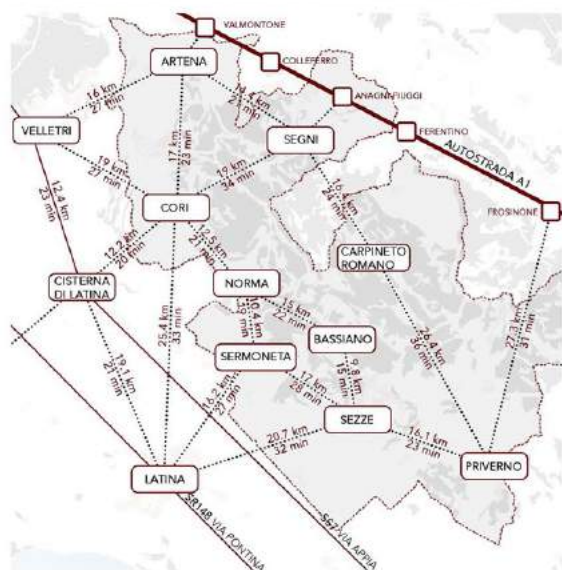
Fig. 3 / Research on the "Gal dei Monti Lepini" carried out by Prof. Arch. A. Battisti with F. Bernardi, F. Bocchini, S. Bocchini

intervention possibilities. In enclaves of low economic potential (IP1) the connectivity gap is the long travel time to centres of economic activity, leading to low "economic potential". Responses need to consider improving connections to main transport networks through conventional infrastructure improvements, logistics systems or travel cost reductions. In areas with poor access to services of general interest (IP2) the emphasis is on

intra-regional service delivery/access, perhaps incorporating novel IT-based solutions. Restructuring administrative areas in search of scale economies may cause or worsen this type of IP. In areas lacking relational proximity (IP3) the emphasis is on non-spatial factors and processes leading to low levels of socio-economic performance. Interventions suggest strengthening interaction among local actors (Mantino et al. 2017).



Fonte dati: Google MOBILITÀ PRIVATA / Fonte dati: Ferrovie dello stato - Cotral s.p.a. - Moovit MOBILITÀ PUBBLICA



Tourism and Sustainable development

The first operation consists in asking how the question of legacy cultural heritage is implemented in public policies, in particular under the pressure of issues such as those related to soil consumption and urban regeneration factors. Which criteria most influence public decisions: the search for partial, temporary, or mere constraints, but capable of ensuring an immediate political return? Or the definition of organic

strategies? In these new visions, the rural spaces are no longer associated purely with agricultural commodity production but are seen as locations for the stimulation of innovative socio-economic activity (Corral-Verdugo et al., 2011). Some strategies and pilot projects related to the rural landscape and slow tourism can be identified in some EU Member States, combined with the characteristics of intelligent villages that aim to combat



INSTALLAZIONE SEGNALETICA INFORMATIVA DEL PERCORSO TEMATICO



INSTALLAZIONE SEGNALETICA INFORMATIVA DEL PERCORSO TEMATICO



TRAMITE LEPINI APP CONOSCERE ANCHE I PUNTI DEGUSTATIVI DEI PRODOTTI TIPICI LOCALI PRODOTTI DALLE AZIENDE LOCALI



Il micro eolico produce energia elettrica da fonte eolica realizzata con l'utilizzo di aerogeneratori di altezza inferiore a 30 metri con un impatto basso sul paesaggio



SEGUIRE LA PRO



PROGETTAZIONE I PIÙ PICCOLI, CO



DAI RESIDUI ORG ARRIVA IL BIOGAS



INSTALLAZIONE D SENZA ALTERARE

Fig. 4 / Research on the "Gal dei Monti Lepini" carried out by Prof. Arch. A. Battisti with F. Bernardi, F. Bocchini, S. Bocchini



PRODUZIONE DELL' OLIO FINO ALLA MACINATURA



NEL TERRITORIO DI UNA FATTORIA DIDATTICA, PER CONOSCERE COSA MANGIAMO E COME VIENE PRODOTTO



BIOGAS PRODOTTI DA RESIDUI ANIMALI O VEGETALI
IN VARI TIPI DI GAS COMPOSTI PRINCIPALMENTE DA METANO



IMPIANTI MICRO EOLICI, PER DARE ENERGIA AL TERRITORIO

the main problems of inland areas. In this sense, the wide range of multidisciplinary contributions present in ongoing research in Europe has proven to be valuable, capable of evaluating and analyzing, using tools borrowed from the experience of different professionals (MIBACT, 2017).

The first challenge concerns, in essence, the possibility of 'reading' this intertwining of social, economic, engineering, and design dynamics, within a unitary framework that identifies rural depopulation and the strategies that allow combating demographic bleeding and the loss of young people in rural areas. In this sense, the integrated national strategy for internal areas in Italy dedicated to socio-economic development has been developed, affecting about 13 million people who live rather far from larger urban centres with a rich offer of services. In particular, the pilot strategies focus on activities to support the innovation of local services. This strategy is also found in the policies for services in peripheral and rural areas developed by Sweden, which present a series of strategies in support of actions aimed at promoting accessibility to private and public services. In analogy with these policies, the Law for sustainable rural development was issued in Spain. Through an integrated approach, such Law aims at the economic development of internal areas through the enhancement of services generally in areas such as education, mobility, employment, health, and energy. In light of the need to read the interweaving of multidimensional dynamics that animate the context of the internal areas within a single framework, another important challenge concerns the promotion of the digital transformation of rural areas. These strategies aim in particular at creating broadband infrastructures and improving the exploitation of digital opportunities through rural digital hubs, co-working centres, and training courses for both citizens and entrepreneurs. Some of the most promising strategies support pilot digital innovations regarding specific services.

Conclusions

Following this direction, the topic of cooperation among the subjects of the supply chain looms up, constituting an interesting and, at the same time, an urgent reference scenario (Copus et al. 2015). In other words, a culture of the internal areas' environmental redevelopment is outlined, allowing us to envisage forms of an economic, social, and spatial organization centred on collective intelligence and the

enhancement of the human in its variety. An intelligence distributed everywhere, continuously enhanced, coordinated in real-time, which leads to a profound mobilization of resources, definitively exorcising every sterile reduction of the complex problems to which we are called to give answers, and which becomes the background, the fertile substratum of the resilient city based on the listening cycle that pays attention not only to one's own surrounding environment but also to oneself and one's own internal truth: a listening that consists in bringing out the numerous ideas, myths, facts, evaluations, inventions, and relationships that weave the social, the social complex, of its most obscure depth.

Equally problematic is the relationship between the promotion of the development of culture and research and that of the protection of the natural, historical, and artistic heritage. It is quite clear that cultural development split from a contextual development of scientific and technological research is inconceivable. It is equally evident that culture sets the roots of its possible development in knowledge and, therefore, in the enhancement and protection of entire environmental, historical and artistic heritage, which represents the true "cultural essence", rooted for centuries, of the Nation. In this logical framework, two dimensions overlap: the vast scale defined by the basic needs, by the objectives of protection and transformation, by the geographical and territorial dimension and the punctual scale given by the use and functional spatialized needs that lead to a profound transformation of the lived and of territorial management inherited from the past. Objectively, the first intervention strategies that insist on the processes of a geographic organization are undeniably ascribable to the second, the strategies that put the accent on the measure, on the aims, on the uses.

Faced with such a scenario, the renewal of governance tools becomes a priority action to consolidate regeneration practices and trigger circular economy dynamics, as well as dialogue and consultation processes, within which technical skills can also contribute to the construction social transformation of the territory.

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Liminality Articulations in Territorial Development: a Research on Biopolitics and Property Right Theories

PhD. Artan Kacani
Polis University / Tirana, Albania

Abstract

Liminality has two main definitions. The first definition is related to the position between consciousness and the supraliminal on the one hand, and un-consciousness and the subliminal on the other. The second definition is related to the dimensions in-between. Starting from this last definition, the paper investigates the structural articulations of the dimensions in-between and its similarities with territorial development. Indeed, territorial development happens with a level of human consciousness, and it includes all the dimensions in-between the liminality: time, space and subjects in it; from individuals, groups, society, and state.

The paper's aim is to investigate on a probabilistic way the articulations of liminality dimensions, and consequently the results of the territorial development and its similarities with the property rights theories. The limits of the research are defined by the liminality dimensions, number of articulations, and the level of consciousness. The higher the number of articulations is, the higher would the consciousness of territorial development be. Fewer articulations there are, the more authoritarian would territorial development be. The probabilistic results with two articulations give 16 models of interactions. Each model is correlated to property rights theories and various definitions of biopolitics.

The research represents a first attempt to catalogue forms of territorial sovereignty, values, land, and models. Researchers are invited to reflect and contribute to the exploration of a broader number of articulations in order to produce new models of territorial development.

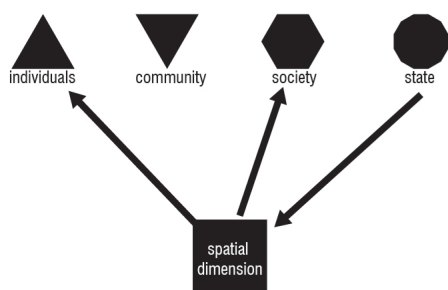
Intro to the liminality of territorial development.

Territorial development has many definitions. From the local scale to the wider one. From the accumulation of capitals and inhabitants to culture and politics. To not fall into a biased description of models, this research considers the territorial development as an act between subjects and territory. Only the nature of the action can determine the model of how individuals, communities, society, and state carries out the territorial development. The number of actions is also determinant in understanding the degree of consciousness in territorial development. The higher the number of interactions is, the higher would the degree of consciousness be.

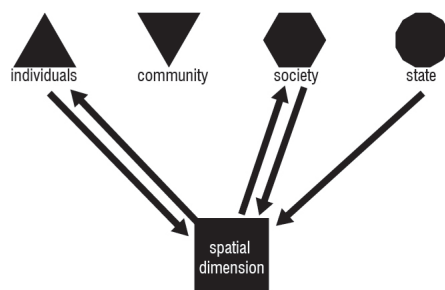
Liminality has both spatial and temporal dimensions, and can be applied to a variety

of subjects: individuals, larger groups (cohorts or villages), whole societies, and possibly even entire civilizations. (Thomassen, 2009). For decades, different development theories have argued about the highest level of consciousness to carry out territorial development.

Many defended the idea that the government has the highest level of consciousness to carry urban development because it represents the majority of political will. In the same manner argue the public officers, investors, and other urban actors when they draw rationally the plans to allocate people and investments. See the first example of figure 1. While it might be true with regard to the high degree of consciousness, it represents only a part of the diversity that might have come if all subjects were to act on the same dimension of time. Not taking



**First* example
of territorial development**



**Second* example
of territorial development**

Fig. 1 / Example of interactions in a given time between subjects and territory. Source / the author

into consideration all the possible actions may change the final results of the plans and extend the time dimension. See the second example of Fig.1.

Liminality definition is important to emphasize all the possible subjects that carry out a process of territorial development, without forgetting the dimensions of time and space.

This explains why some models of territorial development are outdated over time. Fig.1 shows two models of territorial development, based on the interaction among three possible actors and the spatial dimension, but with a different number of articulations. The first model is limited to three articulations.

The state defines the destination of use of the spatial dimension. The impact of it would influence the decisions of society and individuals. In the field of urban planning, this means delivering a plan

of investment and/or a policy interest. Development Plans in particular, which express the development indicators, the size, dimension, and cost, are a good example to study the level of consciousness, decision making and dependence.

Without feedback from the three other actors - the individuals, community, society, the state would be limited to the cognitive capacities to define the spatial dimension. The typical case is when no public affordability requirements for future housing developments, are taken into consideration.

The risk is to fall into biased and stereotyped answers to given situations, as in the case of the decision to address the public housing into assembled big blocks in the periphery.

As Michel Foucault contextualized these processes¹, which have been driven by discriminatory, racist, or colonialist forces,

¹ / (Foucault, 2003)

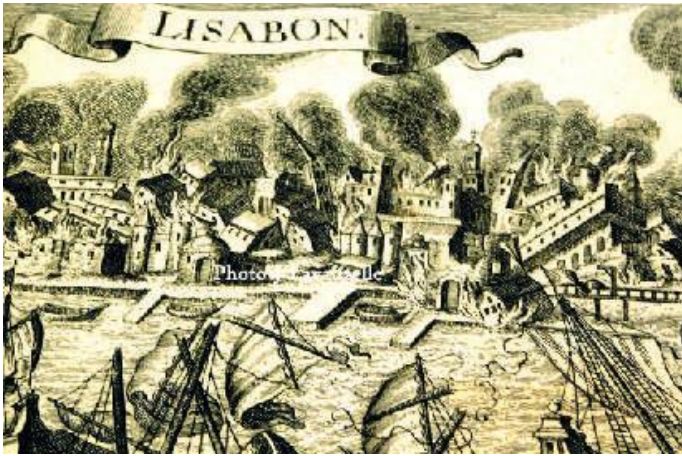


Fig.2 / Historical moments of the first model. 'State Model. Source / Find it in bibliography.

he gave birth to the concept of biopower². This is a concept deeply rooted since the Ancient Regime, and defines the property rights as a process that comes from top-down. Along with the line of ethical and political definition, this example is not necessarily left or right, but it certainly expresses a lack of consciousness to carry a broader territorial development. The second example has the same number of actors but a higher number of articulations. Differently from the previous example the individuals and society play an active role in the city, increasing its consciousness and the varieties of territorial development. The more exclusive the impact from the state to the spatial dimension is, the more intense would the answer by the excluded actors be. The best case to describe the intensity between the first and the second model is the 'battle for the city'³ by Robert Moses and Jane Jacobs. The new city incomers⁴, workers⁵, and tenants, have historically shown that other territorial developments are possible. In Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri⁶, the concept of biopower⁷ takes a broader definition, more connected to human practice as an insurrection tool. They call it biopolitics, and it works in the opposite direction to the impact of the state decisions to the spatial dimension. Of course, the difference between the first and the second example is not always so antagonistic. What is important to note is

the fact that the more actors operate in spatial dimension, the higher would the probability to have different models of territorial development be. The differences between models might depend also on the nature of co-existence. In the first example of the 'state model', the state can cooperate with diverse territorial developments, assisting with plans, management, financing, etc. At the same time, opposite theories⁸ assume that the territorial development is driven only and with the state. Individuals, communities, and even society are ousted from the territorial development processes. Seeing that the difference between the first and the second example lies in the number of articulations and linkages, the rest of the research will proceed in two directions; 1) exploring the degree of consciousness in the territorial development with different number of articulations, and 2) exploring the difference between territorial development and property rights theories, with a fixed degree of articulations - respectively with two and four articulations or the first and second grade in fig. 4.

Actors and articulations as indicators of consciousness to carry out the territorial development.

The second definition of liminality raises the question of consciousness in the process of territorial development. Full

² / It relates to the practice of modern nation states and their regulation of their subjects through "an explosion of numerous and diverse techniques for achieving the subjugations of bodies and the control of populations".

³ / (Jacobs, 1992)

⁴ / An estimated 25% of the world's urban population live in informal settlements, with 213 million informal settlement residents added to the global population since 1990, (Habitat III, 2016).⁵ / Autonomia Operaia was a movement of workers based on an anti-authoritarian left-wing political theories.

⁶ / (Negri & Hardt, 2000)

⁷ / (Foucault, 2003)

⁸ / In modern urbanism, (Harvey, 2013) points out, space is continually restructured. The process is determined by where large firms choose to place their factories, research and development centers and so forth, by the controls asserted by governments over both land and industrial production and by the activities of private investors, buying and selling houses and land. Business firms, for example, are constantly weighing up the relative advantages of new locations against existing ones. As production becomes cheaper in one area than in another, or as the firm moves from one product to another, offices and factories will be closed down in one place and opened up elsewhere.



consciousness results when all the territorial interactions become part of a network. Partial consciousness has created different, sometime antagonist, theories on property theory, as we saw in the examples above. Now the question that arises is: "how conscious are the different actors operating in the spatial dimension?" and "is there a level at which we can rank their consciousness?". Figure 4 illustrates the four probabilities of the actors' interactions, with 2, 4, 6 and 8 connections. And, every probability is related to a level or grade of consciousness. The first grade of consciousness is the lowest degree of interaction between the actors or subjects of liminality with the territorial dimension. These patterns of development represent unique cases in their kind but also widespread in the territory. An example is an area, where the private property is the only model of territorial development. Here, the other actors, - state, society, and community don't play a role. Different varieties result when the actors act with the spatial dimension one by one. The community reclaims its local rights, the society its general interests and the state its political utilities. The second grade of consciousness is the medium-low degree of interaction between the actors - the subjects of liminality - with the territorial dimension. These patterns of territorial development, are very common in our reality. For further exploration of this degree of articulations, see fig. 5 and the next chapter. The third grade of consciousness is the medium-high degree of interaction between the actors - the subjects of liminality - with the territorial dimension. These patterns of territorial development, are complex and scattered in the territory. Examples are schools, transportation services, housing with social responsibility, art, recreational sites, and firms with environmental and social responsibility.

The fourth grade of consciousness is the medium-high degree of interaction between the actors - the subjects of liminality - with the territorial dimension. These patterns of territorial development fulfil the full consciousness which can be acted on a spatial dimension. It may be a consequence of the third-rate incremental approach. Examples are when schools also play a community role in the place where they are located, or public transport is sensitive to spatial and socio-economic injustice for the individuals, communities, and society at once.

The nature of the articulations as an indicator of territorial development models, theories and ideologies.

A property right theory tends to create its model of development. This is true because behind the property theories stands a philosophical state of mind, which imposes its model of the spatial dimension to the subjects involved in it. For centuries, philosophers and politicians have seen from different angles the subject interacting with the spatial dimension. Karl Marks developed his dialectic, named the historical materialism, which involves the intervention of the state to all spatial dimensions, including the ruling class and the proletariat. In fig. 5, sixteen models are listed as a result of the probabilistic abilities of one actor to interact with the other subjects through the spatial dimension. Each line has four models, and in total, there are four lines. Lines are related to property theories creating four similar models of development.

- The first line sees the four probabilities of the individual to interact with the other actors through the spatial dimension. This category emphasizes the role of the individual in the community, society, and the state. The results are four models of territorial development. And, the four models see the development with the



Fig.3 / Historical moments of the second model. (Society and Individuals into 'State Model').
Source / Find it in bibliography.

individual as a primary actor. Indeed for Locke and Hegel, the property is an extension of the person⁹. It may produce a territorial development with the community (Model 2), with the society (Model 3), or with the state (Model 4).

- The second line has four models of territorial development and they all share a connection with the communities. The property rights theory is supported by philosophers since the late Middle Ages, but also contemporary philosophy develops theories of territorial development through communities similar with those of Thomas Aquinas¹⁰. The first model of interaction (Model 6), is similar to Model 2. Moreover, it is connected with the individuals through the territorial dimension. The next model, (Model 7), is a classic condition of territorial development made by many scattered communities; the best example are the gated communities. The next stage is the state (Model 8). The collaboration of a specific community with the state may be under a communist ideology or other similar forms.

- The third line has four models of territorial development and they all share a connection with society. For the Kantian theory on the property right¹¹ territorial development comes through acquired rights, private rights, and public rights. In the case of acquired rights, we should intend the ability to gain it. (Model 10, 11, and 12).

- The fourth line in Figura 5, sees the four probabilities of the state to interact with other actors through the spatial dimension. This category emphasizes the role of the state as the primary actor, whose action

is on state's interest and utility. (Model 13). Utilitarian property theory¹² tends to be comprehensive to a variety of benefits, economic an/or welfarist. (Model 16). In this prism, the political decision it is more important than personal morality. And the political decision is biopower. For example¹³, Hans Reiter used it in a 1934 speech to refer to their biologically based concept of nation and state and ultimately their racial policy. (Model 14). Communist regimes used the concept of dictating the proletariat, based on a community concept of the ruling class. (Model 15). The last model, 16, which has the same concepts of the Kantian theory combined with a utilitarian approach, is an example of a technocracy ruled by elites of the society. The social contract is the base concept to develop a doctrine of the property right. The 16 models shown in Figure 5 are realities of different territorial development. And, the theories of property rights are one way to read the different territorial varieties. These theories relate to different subjects that operate with the spatial dimension. The number of articulations is of second grade and consequently, the level of liminality is medium, neither in full consciousness nor in embryonic stages. Some of the models are already outdated, even though in some countries, or territorial realities, there may still be a threat. Here we refer to high-level models of biopolitical pressure, such as fascism, and communist models. Each of these models represent an ideology, closely linked to the way different actors develop the territory. As the number of inhabitants of urban areas increases both globally

⁹ / see (Peczyński, 1984), and (Kramer, 2004)

¹⁰ / "Every man is more careful to procure what is for himself alone than that which is common to many or to all: since each one will shirk the labor and leave to another that which concerns the community" Thomas Arquinas in (Hallebeek, 1987).

¹¹ / see (Byrd & Hruschka, 2010)

¹² / see (Mill, 2017), and (Alexande & Peñalver, 2012)

¹³ / see (Schmitt, 2014)

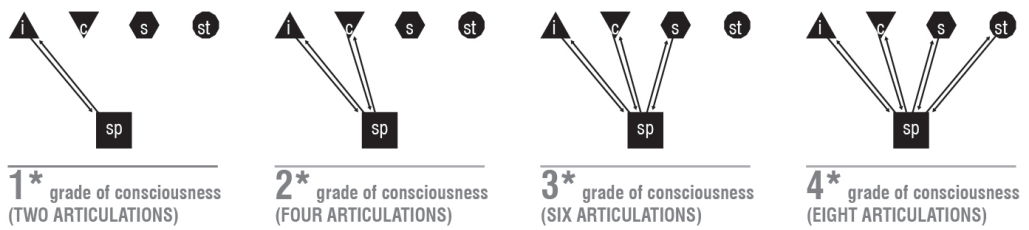


Fig.4 / Degrees of liminality consciousness by the number of interaction between subjects and territory. Source / the author

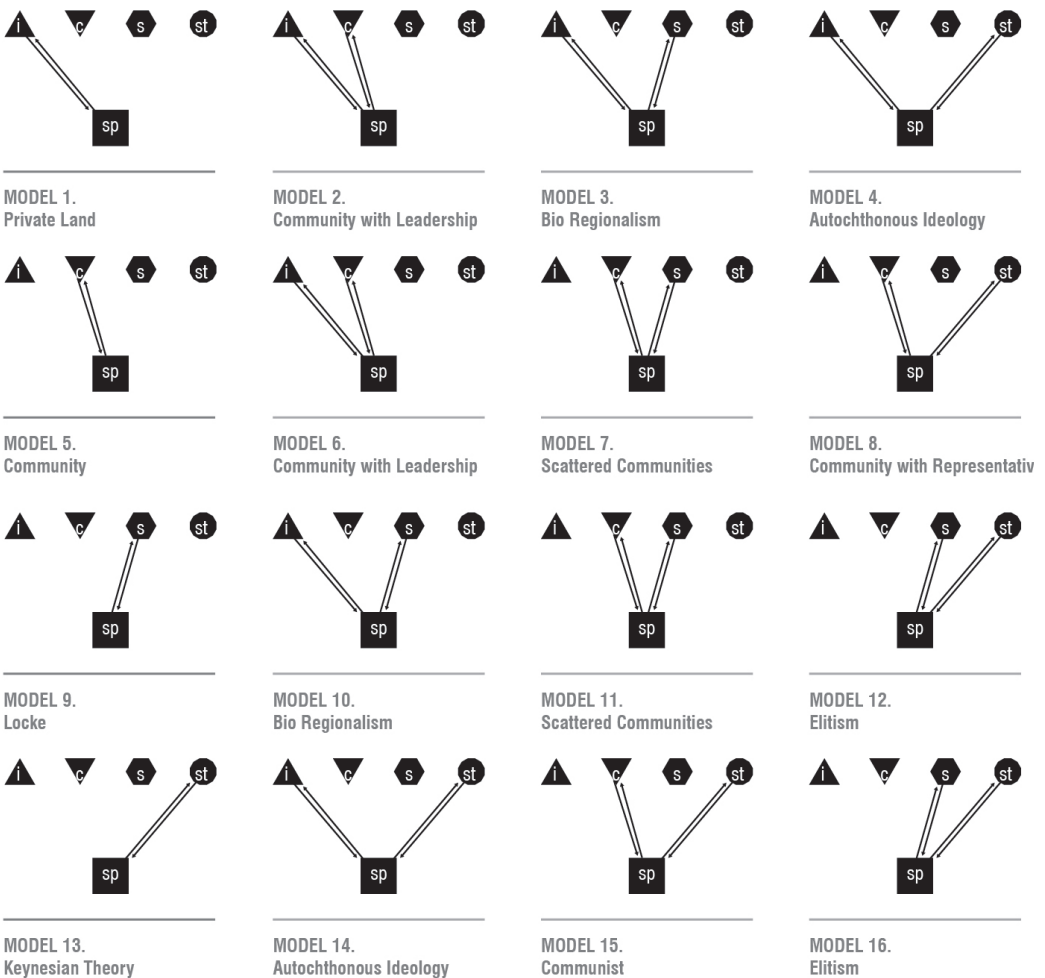


Fig.5 / Matrix of the second grade of liminality. Models, theories and ideologies. Source / the author

and nationally for different states, so does the number of subjects that interact with the spatial dimension. So it is always important to ask in a philosophical and

probabilistic way about which models we are adopting? And, is it possible to develop the territory with full and comprehensive awareness and sensitivity?

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Images sources

Figure 2.

Source 1 / Élie Bertrand, Le Tremblement De Terre Du 1er novembre 1755 entre 50 000 et 80 000 victimes. <http://artgitato.com/tremblement-de-terre-lisbonne->

de-1755-lisboa-terremoto-de-1-de-novembre-de-1755/

Source 2 / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (1972) The second, widely televised demolition of a Pruitt-Igoe building that followed the March 16 demolition. *Public Domain.*

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pruitt%E2%80%93Igoe#/media/File:Pruitt-igoe_collapse-series.jpg

Source 3 / Michael Powell (2007) A Tale of Two Cities. A model of the 1964 World's Fair, one of Robert Moses's final projects. *Credit...The New York Times.*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/06/nyregion/thecity/06hist.html>

Figure 3.

Source 1 / Urbanização nos países subdesenvolvidos.

<https://www.casadicas.com.br/moradia/diferenca-entre-a-urbanizacao-dos-paises-desenvolvidos-e-subdesenvolvidos.html>

Source 2 / Alberto Pantaloni (2018) Quando l'operaiamo si fece progetto politico: la storia di Potere Operaio. <http://effimera.org/loperaiamo-si-fece-progetto-politico-la-storia-potere-operaio-alberto-pantaloni/>

Source 3 / Bob Feldman, Patch Contributor (2019) Column: The Hidden History Of Rent Control. Hidden history of rent control shows why Massachusetts should bring back rent control in Cambridge, Boston and Brookline in 2019.

<https://patch.com/massachusetts/cambridge/hidden-history-rent-control>

Navigating Dropull through liminal spaces and thresholds

PhD. Laura Pedata

PhD. Eranda Janku

Polis University / Tirana, Albania

38

Dropull – a case of “territory in between”

The condition in Dropull as an excuse for the study of concepts such as liminality and threshold.

Located at the heart of a cross-border macro-region, between Albania and Greece, the area of Dropull represents a space of various potentials, a territory in-between, and a rural threshold, which is constantly challenged.

Dropull is a profoundly rural area, located in the threshold between Drinos River valley and the mountain chains of Nëmërçka and Bureto, thus in a very dynamic territory of various landscape features, which tie together a macro-region between Albania and Greece.

It is also located along a very important economic corridor that goes in parallel with the river, and in between Gjirokastra and Ioannina, two regional centers of a cross-border macro-region between the two countries. Over years, this very strategic positioning has conditioned a very welcoming climate for businesses and industries as well, giving Dropull yet another potential to explore and make use of, in terms of development of the economy.

Nevertheless, albeit its rural character and the potentials that are tied to it, and the welcoming atmosphere that its geographical positioning offers to businesses and industries, Dropull is part of one of the peripheral regions of the country, which over years has suffered

the lack of policies to properly address the development of local economy, consequently followed by a critical abandonment and shrinkage, due to very active out-migration flows, manifested in seasonal fluctuations as well.

Further on, represented by a total of 41 settlements of rural character (namely villages), and with no urban center, due to the Territorial Reform of 2015, Dropull changed status, from being a commune (of only rural character), to being a municipality (of mixed urban and rural areas), albeit the fact that with the new additions in its administrative area, Dropull still remains profoundly rural. Considering all these features, and for planning purposes, the General Local Plan of the Municipality of Dropull envisions Dropull to develop as a ‘rurban’ area, namely ‘a linear city’ with 5 main centers, each developed around a main bigger village, and considered as an energizer for the development of surrounding areas.

Considering these “in-between” features and its “threshold character”, in order to understand both, setbacks and potentials of the area of Dropull, it’s necessary to consider it in its bigger picture, in the cross-border macro-region, and within all the liminal processes and conditions, which rise from the “in-betweenness” of this very particular territory. Located at the threshold between two countries, and between two regional centers, Dropull has always been a transition area, from one country to another, or from one destination to another. On this framework,

various criteria, especially of locational character, consider Dropull to be a very important node within the region, yet, lack of development, in particular, lack of capacities to guide development, have often made Dropull act as a discontinues patch, albeit its potentials to enhance stronger connections and continuity within the region it belongs to.

Liminality as twofold, a process of social change and a process of spatial production

- Liminality as a conceptual tool

The use and meaning of liminality, and liminality under political and cultural changes.

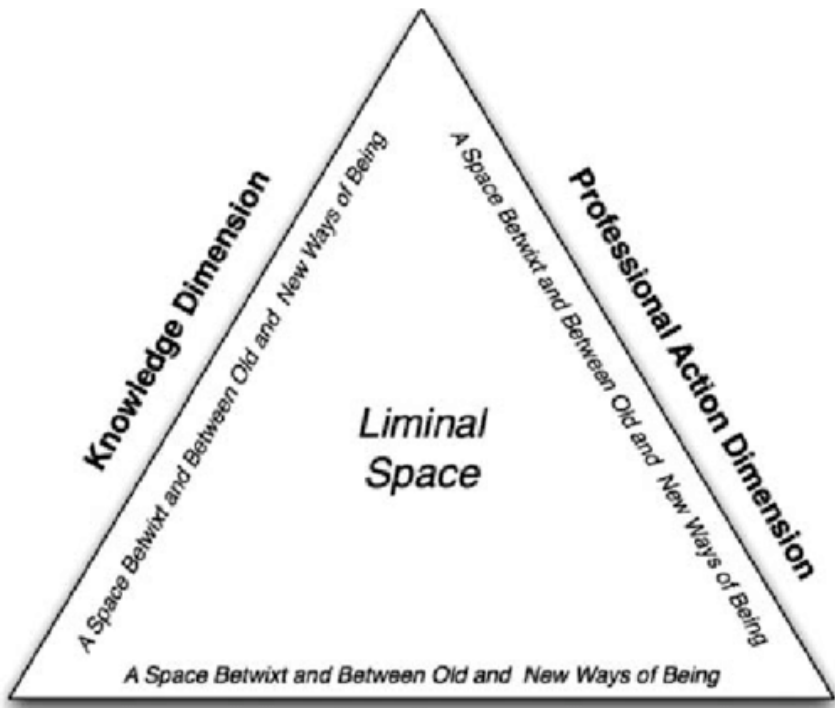
In anthropology, as of Turner, liminality (deriving from the Latin word *limen*, which means 'a threshold')¹, is the quality of ambiguity or disorientation that occurs in the middle stage of a rite of passage, when participants no longer hold their pre-ritual status but have not yet begun the transition to the status they will hold when the rite is complete (Turner, 1974). During the liminal stage of the rite, participants "stand at the threshold between their former way of structuring their identity, time, or community, and the new way, which completing the rite establishes" (Overland, et al., 2014: 194).

The French Folklorist Arnold Van Gennep, was indeed the first one to coin the term 'liminality' in the early 20th century, in his book *Rites de Passage*, while exploring the

rites of small-scale societies. According to Van Gennep there are two different types of rites, "those that result in a change of status for an individual or social group, and those which signify transitions in the passage of time" (Gennep, 1909: 21). According to Szokolczai such rites share a specific three-fold sequential structure, which is made-up by the following stages: "(1) pre-liminal rites, or rites of separation, which consist of leaving a former behavior, and breaking with former practices and routines; (2) liminal rites, or the transition rites which represent the passage through the threshold that marks the boundary between two phases; (3) post-liminal rites, or the rites or re-aggregation, which celebrate the successful completion and overpassing of the transition" (Szokolczai, 2009: 141).

On these terms, "'liminal periods' (hereafter also considered as 'liminal times') are considered both deconstructive and constructive, given that they represent the act of passing from one state, or position to another, through re-integration rituals" (Thomassen, 2006: 322). While leaving old, established, integrated and standardized positions, "the liminal rite is characterized by uncertainty, imprecision, lack of a defined framework, and a general absence of identity, which can often be dangerous" (Fourney, 2013: 7). Nevertheless, considering also that 'liminal thinking' is a form of the art of finding, creating and using transitions and

¹ / Oxford English Dictionary. Ed. J. A. Simpson and E. S. C. Weiner. 2nd ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1989. OED Online Oxford 23, 2007;



Identity Dimension

Fig. 1 / The problem as a provoker of a liminal space. Source / Barrett 2008, pp.131

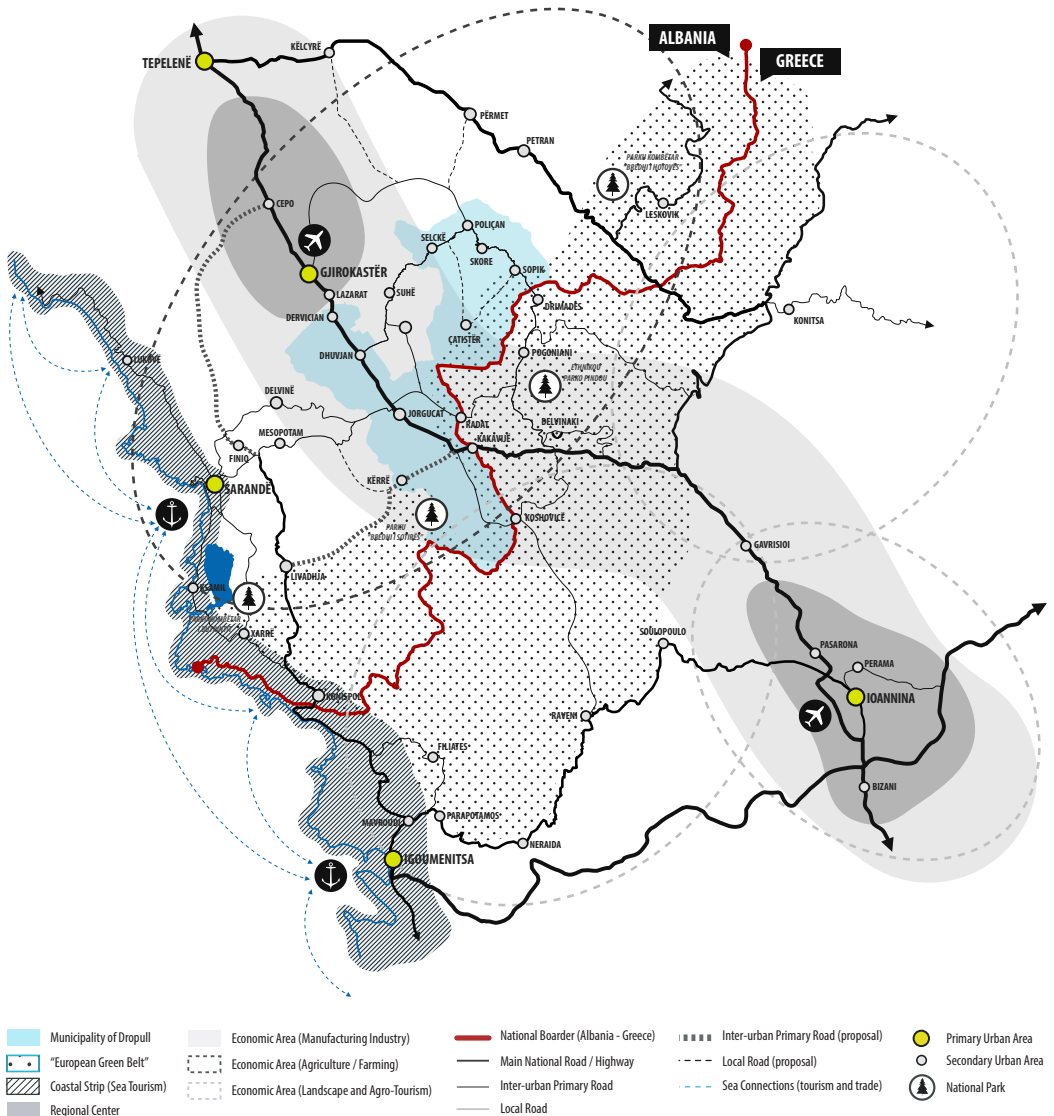


Fig. 2 / Dropull in the Cross-Border Macro-Region: Spatial Analysis and Vision. Source / POLIS University, 2019 / Janku, E.

thresholds to create change, it represents a kind of mindfulness that enables creating positive change (Gray, 2016), "in a complex interplay of power, place, and social and spatial forms" (Fourney, 2013: 12-13).

Later on, Victor Turner (2008) continued researching on the same topic of liminality, emphasizing that liminality can serve not only for identifying the importance of in-between periods, but also to understand human reactions to liminal experiences, so to say, "the way in which liminality shapes human personality, the sudden foregrounding of agency, and the sometimes-dramatic tying together of thought and experience" (Thomassen, 2009: 14). Thus, Turner was aware that liminal situations carried some aspect of imitation, emphasizing that the ritual's middle phase represented a "mimetic enactment of a crisis" (Szokolczai, 2009: 154).

Considering that many of the challenges we face within our society, either of political, economic, or environmental inheritance, usually come around two very important notions: 'transition' and 'crisis', understanding how 'liminality' not only provokes crisis and transitional situations, but also makes use of them to produce positive change, becomes quite crucial.

So, "in time 'liminality' has broadened to describe not only rites, but also political and cultural changes" (Thomassen, 2009: 51). While on liminal periods of time, it is common to experience reversed social hierarchies, altered traditions, and doubting future outcomes (Horvath et al., 2009). Consequently, "the dissolution of order during liminality creates a fluid situation, which enables new institutions and customs to become established" (Szokolczai, 2009: 141). This takes even brighter nuances when considering that, "liminality is not only cumulative over time, but also additive at the point of emergence, so situations that are liminal in more than one way (for instance the coexistence of both, individual and social liminality – major socio-political events), can produce particularly strong and lasting effects" (Szokolczai, 2009: 159). Recalling modern European politics from 1914 to 1918, although on a period considered as the century of progress, science and democracy, the world still experienced a protracted warfare of unprecedented proportions; "which soon after led to the emergence of a new type of political system: Communism, Fascism, Bolshevism, Nazism – followed by an amount and kind of suffering that was never before experienced in human

history" (Szokolczai, 2009: 164-165).

The spatial production of liminality: liminal spaces (thresholds and transitory spaces produced by the changing boundaries of fixed constants, and overlap of different uses).

In geography, a 'liminal space' is defined "as a space resulting from passage and transition, an area of uncertainty, often also a mobile border, where the concept of liminality facilitates the understanding of the dynamics between the spatial form of the border and the border function of space" (Fourney, 2013: 2). Given the complexity of 'liminality' as a phenomenon, the 'in-betweenness' it represents, and the wide fields it applies on, it's almost impossible to detach the understanding of the 'spatial production of liminality', from its anthropological interpretation.

Starting from its anthropological construction, as 'an intermediate state between otherness and norms', "a liminal space is that particular area where the relationship in a social structure is managed, and where the social status of this relationship is determined; being interpreted also as the state that facilitates managing and controlling the transformation of social statuses and ensuring compliance with social norms" (Fourney, 2013: 2-3). But departing from this very classical anthropological meaning, more recent interpretations consider as a strategic value, the capacity of 'liminality' to subvert the norms, due to the very particular relationship it shares with them. Therefore, considering 'liminality' to represent a state, which enables self-construction and the rise of new categories, through processes like hybridization and mixing, and the rejection of the imposed norms (Bhabha, 1994). On these terms "'liminality' seems to have already departed from being a mean for managing otherness at the service of the norm, being instead, a state during which a process takes place, and in this process, otherness is not placed in a relationship with a social, or political institution, but rather in the production of its own reference system" (Fourney, 2013: 3). From this point of view, the spatial production of 'liminality' can also result in spatial typologies, which within their character as 'transition spaces', are able to produce and alter particular thresholds that have a character of their own.

Indeed, there is a variety of geographical objects and spatial dimensions which can



Fig. 3 / Landscape and the natural ensemble in Dropull. / Source: Janku, E..

be considered as liminal spaces. Ranging from "very specific places, to bigger areas, or to entire countries and larger regions; from edges, borders and frontiers, to disputed territories, wastelands, or no-man's lands, margins, peripheries and crossroads or airports, and even other spaces on which people pass through, but don't live in" (Thomassen, 2009: 16), these 'liminal spaces' reveal a "dialectic process between already known normative categories of identification, and the recognition of a state that does not belong to any of these categories" (Fourney, 2013: 7-8).

Geopolitically, territories can be considered as the result effect of their own relationships, and epistemologically we can consider the geographical categories as norms resulting from political and planning actions (Debarbieux and Fourny, 2004). According to Fourney, looking at liminality from this perspective, and considering 'liminality' as a useful mean for examining the relationship between 'space' and 'norm', could help in perceiving it as part of the geography of mobile space, because it gives weight to the joint movement of meanings and reference systems that define places, and it considers the threshold as a space in constant change, and constantly re-defined (Fourney, 2013).

Transition features can make experiencing of liminal space, discontinuous, and can emphasize the everchanging aspect of the threshold among the series of fixed constants and distinct spaces (for instance, what we commonly accept

as urban and rural). Therefore, using 'liminality' as a conceptual tool to explore the "rurbanity" of Dropull and the territorial dynamics that are manifested within it, can help in identifying those key moments in time (liminal times), and those series of repetitive thresholds (liminal spaces) between the established urban and rural, which are indeed spatial interpretations of the transitions between these spaces, giving rise to a very particular hybrid space.

Dropull's states of liminality

Dropull as a constant state of liminality due to geographical, economic and political conditions.

As previously mentioned, the case of Dropull, delves into a series of types of liminality, which condition its urban-rural relationships, and its rurbanity. Located at the very heart of a cross-border macro-region, between Albania and Greece, and at a smaller scale between two very important regional centers, Gjirokastra and Ioannina, Dropull portrays a very dynamic space of many potentials, a territory in between, and a rural threshold, which is in constant change and continuously challenged. Recalling liminality as twofold, a process of social change (from which tackling in particular the time component), and a process of spatial production (the spatial component), it's possible to address social patterns in time, as well as the physical space, on which these social patterns get materialized. And on these terms, while the physical liminality remains a constant for Dropull, the temporal liminality oscillates depending on the jobs and the seasons.



Fig. 4 / Landscape and the natural ensemble in Dropull. / Source: Janku, E..

From a physical territorial perspective, located between two main regional centers, Gjirokastra within Albania, and Ioannina in Greece, Dropull is right in the middle of a cross-border region, of great touristic, industrial, agricultural and administrative importance, where both, Gjirokastra and Ioannina act as main hubs of all these features. The main national road coming from Tirana to Gjirokastra, continues through Dropull, towards Ioannina. Therefore, this road has been quite important in terms of its economic impact, given that twelve of the main and biggest businesses/companies of industrial character in the country are located along this road within the territory of Dropull, acting as main economic motors for the whole cross-border region, and boosting agglomeration of economic units, especially within Dropull, which despite its very rural character, rich in agricultural, farming and natural potentials, nurtures the development of industry as well, given its very strategic location and geographic features.

From a territorial governance perspective, due to the 2015 Territorial Reform Dropull changed status, from being a commune (of only rural character), to being a municipality (of mixed urban and rural areas), albeit the fact that with the new additions in its administrative area (from 2 Administrative Units: Upper Dropull and Lower Dropull, to 3 Administrative Units: Upper Dropull, Lower Dropull and Pogon, a very remote and mountainous area), Dropull still remains profoundly rural. There is no such thing as an urban center within Dropull, there are instead 41 settlements of rural

character (namely villages) dispersed in its valleys and mountainous territory, mainly spatially organized one after the other, along the main national road crossing in the middle of Lower and Upper Dropull. Making use of this very specific context and its new roles as due to the reform, the General Local Plan of the Municipality of Dropull considers the whole area as a "rurban" territory, and envisions Dropull as a 'linear city' of 41 dispersed settlement areas with 5 main centers, each developed around a main bigger village: Dervician, Sofratikë, Jorgucat, Vrisera and Poliçan. Each of these centers (namely "centralities") has the potential to act as an energizer for the development of their surrounding territories, specializing in specific economic activities and offering key administrative services.

From a social perspective, being a cross-border area has made Dropull experience a constant crisis, especially regarding its population number. For years, the area has been rather modest in terms of scale of development and typology of economic sectors, despite the great potentials that it can unlock. The vicinity with the other neighboring Greek territory as well has always played a major role, especially regarding migration of population and employment. While part of the population has permanently left the country, a major part of migrants comes back during the three months of summer.

Some others return at their homes for the weekend, and for those inhabitants living in the villages located exactly by the cross border, daily employment is located in the

nearby Greek villages and towns, while at night they return at their homes in Dropull. These very dynamic changes of population have made different processes, either for statistical, or planning purposes, very challenging. Hence, there is a gap of nearly 20,000 inhabitants between the numbers that both, the Census of Population and Housing by INSTAT (3,301 inhabitants), and the Local Registry of Population (23,131 inhabitants), provide².

This uncertainty becomes then an issue, especially when it comes down to transference of funding and finances from the national government, to the lower tie of the municipality.

From a landscape perspective, located at the threshold between Drinos river valley, and the mountain ranges of Nëmërçka and Bureto, Dropull is part of a greater natural ensemble, with similar features and landscapes throughout the macro-area, from Tepelena, Gjirokastra, Libohova, Përmet, Këlcyra, and Memaliaj, to the region of Ioannina, across the Greek border. Drinos river valley, the series of nationally protected areas (e.g., the Natural Monument of 'Bredhi i Sotirës' in Dropull, the Pindous National Park in the region of Ioannina), and part of the European Green Belt that crosses throughout the Albanian cross-border from North-East to East and South-East, emphasize even more Dropull's strategic location and its importance as a nodal rural and natural

area, in connecting all these environments together.

Agriculture on the other hand, covers nearly 18% of the territory of Dropull, located mainly along the Drinos river valley, but contributes only a total of 22% of local employment. Especially as a consequence of massive migration from the area, agriculture, which has historically been an economic activity of local inhabitants, has been massively abandoned, and most of the productive agricultural land is not in use today. High production costs and lack of incentives for supporting local farmers, has also made local produce be vulnerable in the competition against less expensive imported products, which have expansively penetrated local and regional markets.

Criteria and conditions that produce liminality and thresholds – “thresholds have thickness and reside between different conditions throughout various scales”

The various states of liminality within Dropull, can easily guide us to identify liminal spaces, limits between different conditions and types of spaces, and thresholds rising by the clash of different uses and conditions. The longitudinal system can be read in parallel lines composed by natural elements such as rivers, mountain chains, valleys etc., and as thick lines, rich with biodiversity, if we

² / For planning purposes, the team working on the GLP for the Municipality of Dropull developed a series of analyses to understand the real number of inhabitants in the area (including organizing a dedicated Census of Population and Housing for the territory of the Municipality). Therefore, considering various sources of information, and through cross-cut analysis, local population of the area was estimated with a total of 7,128 inhabitants. See table attached on text for further information.

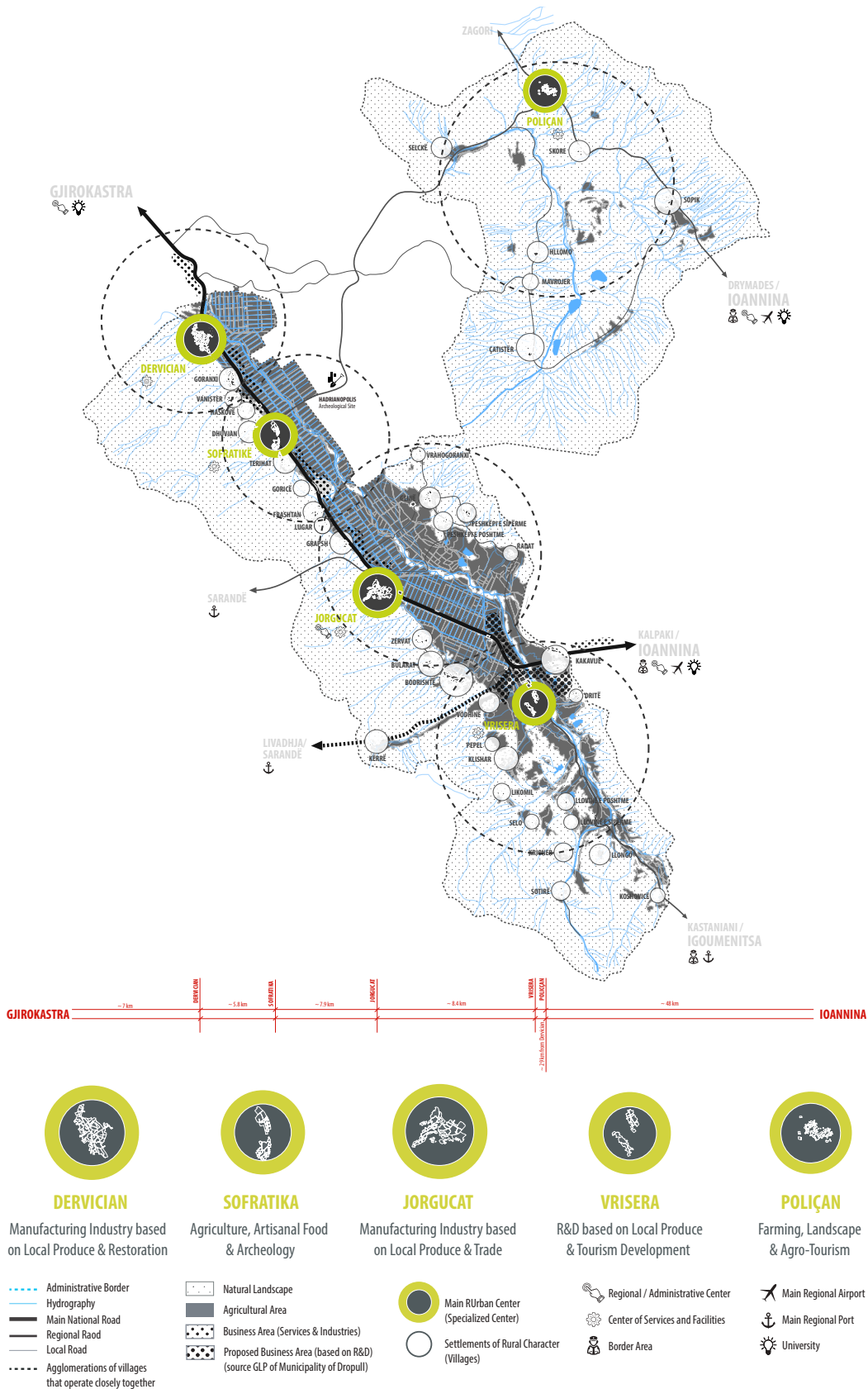


Fig. 5 / The three-fold system of linearities: the continuous system of villages and the 5 RUrban centers, the economic areas along the main national road, and, the agricultural strip along the river valley, all connecting Dropull with the rest of the cross-border macro-region / Source: Janku, E.

look at the threshold between different conditions, where there are more than linear systems. This is an exercise, which can be applied throughout various scales. What appears as a macro condition in the border between two countries, revealing overall economic and political dynamics, can further reveal micro dynamics if we

look at it closely through a zooming sub-exercise. In the overall, the potentialities that characterize the area of Dropull, build and can build even further on its rural features, in order for it to thrive in the macro-regional context, part of which it is. While the natural habitat, morphology of the area, road

infrastructure system, and agglomeration of non-agricultural economic activities, make evident that Dropull is indeed a quite integrated area in the macro-region, emphasizing its strategic role in providing additional space, services and functions that the nearby dense urban centers can't host, the analysis over other topics like local economy and agriculture, social services, and enhancement of natural potentials, show that the area is rather lagging behind, and represents a disruption on the continuity of the macro-regional urban-rural interconnections and interdependences, a topic much relevant for the whole macro-region.

Critically evaluating Dropull's states of liminality, among the main criteria that determine functional urban-rural relationships, thus giving rise to liminal spaces and thresholds among different uses and conditions, include:

- **The geographic terrain**, which is one of the main determinants of how sprawling, isolation, or diffusion of development, has taken place. Typically, where the terrain is flat and open, sprawling and leapfrogging of settlements and economic areas has been produced (along the main national road and the river valley), and where more remotely and wilder landscapes and terrains, development has been rather concentrated on key areas, or has been sparsely dispersed on a series of locations, which form more complex units that work together as one (the highlands of Dropull).

- **Road Infrastructure**, plays a major role in guiding and agglomerating either

settlements, or economic activities. This typically spatially takes place in the hinterland of two main cities (for instance between Gjirokastra and Ioannina, over Dropull's territory), populating the in-between territory that is permeated through a main national road, and other local roads branching out.

- **High fragmentation of agricultural land**, has boosted the formation of dispersed models, causing territorial diffusion of settlements and economic areas throughout the territory, especially over natural and agricultural land. Land owners have independently either urbanized plots of productive land, or have over time further fragmented their land into smaller plots, encouraging the process of urbanization of productive land, to the point where whole agricultural areas have been replaced with urbanization (commonly those areas nearby the biggest villages and close to the main national road). Following the channels of the irrigation system, agricultural plots on the process of being urbanized, have produced mainly regular *cardo-decumanus* patterns (typically found on flat areas), or more organic patterns, which follow the morphology of the terrain apart from the irrigation system.

- **Vicinity to economic areas**, conditions sprawling and agglomeration of development as well. Typically, having both, households and economic areas close to one another, has been a two-direction process. When the main occupation has been of rural character,

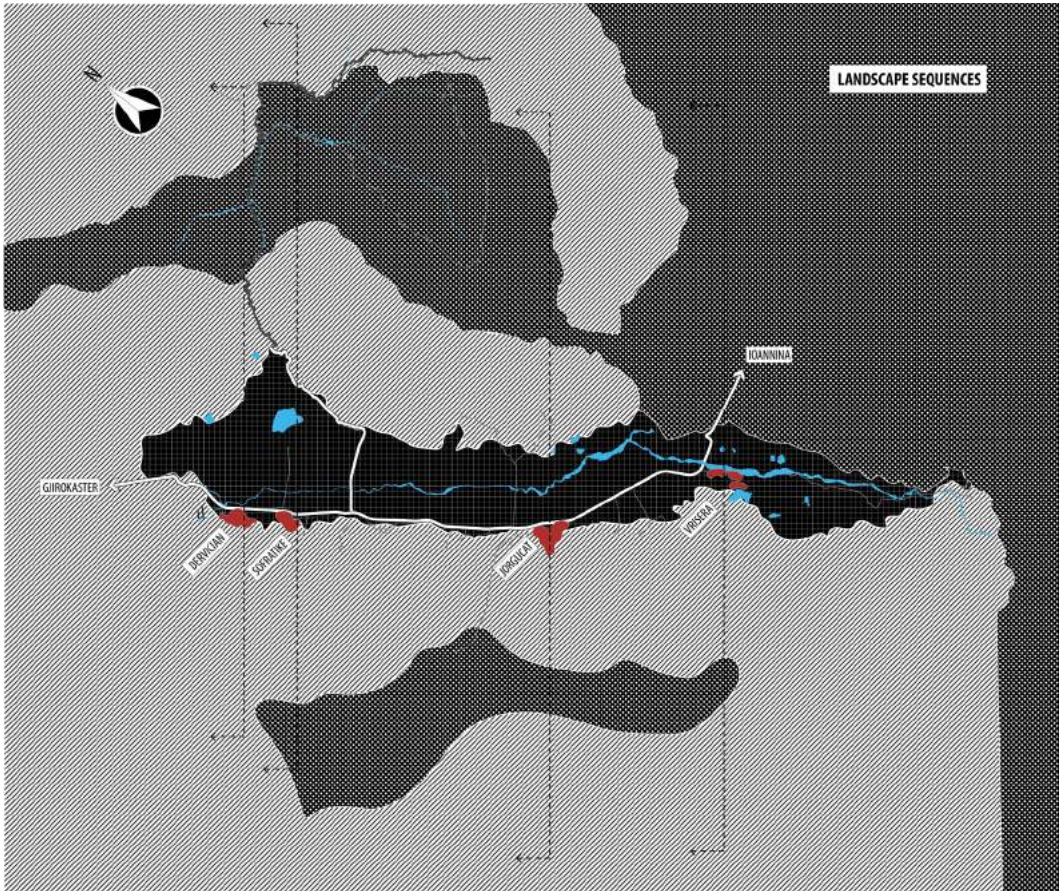


Fig. 6 / Identification of liminal spaces in the form of landscape sequences, produced over the territory of Dropull (municipal scale). Source / Pedata, L.

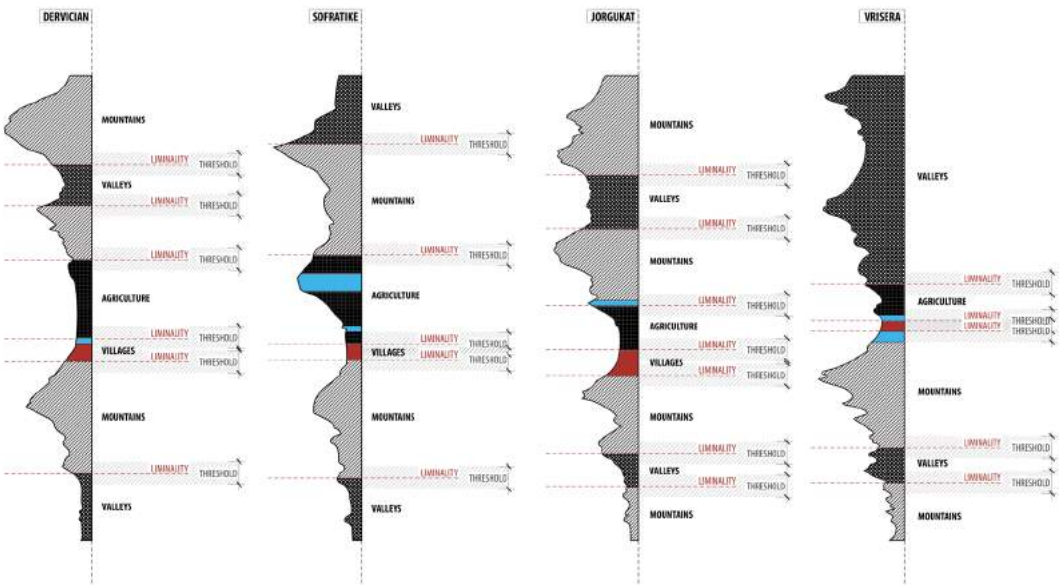


Fig. 7 / An analysis of liminal spaces: identifying thresholds produced at local level by the overlap and clash of different uses and various types of landscapes, along each of the centralities of Dropull / Source: Pedata, L.

agriculture or farming, economic activities that are based on the production of these two main sources, has slowly emerged in their vicinity, either closer to local roads for faster access, or creating economic areas, typically for trading purposes, which then later have attracted further agglomeration of similar activities. On the other hand, extracting and manufacturing industries, following locations that are nearby their main resources, have given rise to economic areas, which over time

have attracted agglomeration of other economic units and households as well.

- **Provision of day to day services and commuting patterns** condition the high frequency of urban to rural, and vice versa mobility patterns. Typically, main administrative services are located on main urban centers (like Gjirokastra and Ioannina), therefore agglomeration of people and mobility trajectories become denser from more distinct rural areas,

towards urban centers. Over time, larger product and service-based industries, have been migrating towards the rural realm of Dropull (because of the need for more space, and then after due to agglomeration purposes), typically located along the main national road, or nearby main natural potentials (water sources, forests, agricultural sites, etc.). This not only has produced denser commuting patterns, from cities to rural areas, but has also slowly transformed the rural character of parts of Dropull, into small industrialized areas that build on the natural potentials of the local rural Dropull.

- Change of cultural traits and social patterns, concerns the fact that due to all these dynamic exchanges and transformations (liminal periods of time and liminal conditions), the rural population, of Dropull has been constantly experiencing and exposed to a slow change of cultural traits, through migration of information and technologies, and education. This is then reflected back on a myriad of physical features as well, among which diversification and change of patterns of the local economy, and change of ways of building households, either through diversifying local materials, or introducing new implanted housing styles.

All these criteria have given rise to a series of liminal spaces, which are manifested throughout various scales, in the form of sequential thresholds that reside between different conditions. The thickness of each of these thresholds then, defines the number of uses and types of landscape overlapping, in order to make a liminal space functional in all its spatiality. Through a zooming sub-exercise, a series of thresholds have been identified, considering all the overlaps and liminal spaces produced around 4 out of the 5 main centralities of Dropull: Dervician, Sofratike, Jorgucat, and Vrisera.

Conclusions

Dropull represents a case of many liminal situations clashing over the same territory. By considering its rural and natural character, acknowledging the attempts for creating some main urban features as well, and making use of the potential that the two macro-regional centers of Gjirokastra and Ioannina offer, Dropull's states of liminality and rurbanity, develop along a three-fold system of linearities: the main national road, Drinos river valley and the agricultural strip along this valley; as well as through a series of transversals, which integrate different types of landscapes and territorial morphologies

throughout the territory of Dropull. Within each of these liminal spaces, thresholds are constantly produced by the clash and overlap of different uses and conditions.

The level to which each threshold produced, is identified and further addressed, can unlock the potential to make room for an integrated territorial development, where (1) both urban and rural features are manifested, without undermining one another, and where (2) the overlap of various types of landscapes preserves the characteristics of each, allowing their co-existence.

Translating these into actual outcomes from the case of Dropull, putting to use its local rural features (natural resources, agriculture and farming potentials) Dropull would play an important integrative role in the region, by (1) providing space not only for production (development of agriculture and farming), but also for (2) processing of local produce (support and expansion of services-and-industry-based economic areas that make use of local produce and contribute to the circular economy), (3) trade and promotion of local produce in the region and abroad (improvement of infrastructure, facilities, and development of a regional market, connected to 5 smaller markets, each on one of the 5 main centers of Dropull – Dervician, Sofratika, Jorgucat, Vrisera and Pogon), (4) development of R&D area of cross-border importance (which would provide quality assessment services, product based research, experimentation with new innovative products, professional courses fit for the local economy etc.).

Activating all these potentials and the capacity that Dropull has, would then provide arguments for it to host back the migrated population, but even host new population in the area. This would make possible to (1) equilibrate the sprawling and expansion of other neighboring urban areas in the region, into natural and agricultural realms, in order to contribute to a more balanced territorial performance on all, social, economic and environmental terms; (2) manage Dropull's state of rurbanity and the many states of liminality by which it is characterized, (3) as well as manage and regulate the production of thresholds within this rurban territory, preserving main natural and landscape features.

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Dropull - Liminal Cultures / Mapping Identities

PhD. Saimir Kristo,

PhD. Joana Dhiamandi

Polis University / Tirana, Albania

Introduction

This article investigates cultural flows between Southern Albania and Northern Greece, in the liminal territory of Epirus. In contrast to remittances, cultural flows reflect temporality, activating interaction between migrants and those who stayed behind, providing a window into the destination countries' social, cultural, and economic characteristics. Nevertheless, this article does not focus on the role and meaning of those flows in migration processes and border crossings. Due to the particular characteristics of Epirus's territory, this cultural flow does not transgress political borders and social boundaries. Still, it reflects on the liminal character of the landscape of Epirus and the region of Dropull. Such a flow does not de-construct existing relationships but de-materializes physical boundaries through a continuous reaffirmation of its liminal culture—a sensory threshold of characteristics resulting from a palimpsest of elements through time.

An ambiguity of definitions that enhance the quality of all culturally embodied relationships, in this case, the inhabitants of Dropull are part of a new territory between and beyond two existing politically defined territories.

This intermediate state, phase, and condition creates an in-between dimension reflected in the rich, deeply rooted culture, common language(s), and religion. All the above elements are territorially not only in terms of the natural environment and heterogeneous landscape but also in the built environment's vernacular character. The colors, materials, techniques, and

morphology depicting the inhabited areas of Dropull are susceptible to the territory. A conglomerate of elements respects the natural environment even though they had to adapt and respond proactively to conditional, contextual, and historical factors.

Such a characteristic relationship results in balanced reciprocity of social interactions, making these cultural flows entailed in reciprocal exchanges and function as a shared social denominator, enhancing the sense of shared trust and ownership.

In anthropology, liminality (from the Latin word *limen*, meaning "a threshold") is the quality of ambiguity or disorientation that occurs in the middle stage of a rite of passage, when participants no longer hold their pre-ritual status but have not yet begun the transition to the position they will hold when the ritual is ...

MERRIAM-WEBSTER

Definition of liminality: of, relating to, or situated at a sensory threshold: barely perceptible or capable of eliciting a response liminal visual stimuli: of, relating to, or being an intermediate state, phase, or condition:

IN-BETWEEN, TRANSITIONAL

... in the liminal state between life and death.

- Deborah Jowitt

Background

Geographical Position

Dropull (Albanian: Dropulli; Dhropoli or Dheropoli) is a municipality and a predominantly Greek-inhabited region in



Fig. 1 / Hadrianopolis view towards mount Bureto. Source / the authors



Fig. 2 / View towards the villages of Dropull. Source / the authors

Gjirokaštër County, in southern Albania. The region stretches from south of the city of Gjirokaštër to the Greek–Albanian border, along the Drino River. The region's villages are part of the Greek "minority zone" recognized by the Albanian government, in which live majorities of ethnic Greeks¹.

The municipality Dropull was created in 2015 by the merger of the former municipalities Dropull i Poshtëm, Dropull i Sipërm, and Pogon. The seat of the municipality is the village Sofratikë. According to the 2011 census, the total population is 3,503, while according to the civil registry of that year it is 23,247. The municipality covers an area of 448.45 km².

History

During the Middle Helladic period (2100–1550 BC), a double tumulus was dug out in Vodhinë, with strong similarities to the grave circles at Mycenae, showing a common ancestral link with the Myceneans of southern Greece. In classical antiquity, the area was inhabited by the Greek tribe of the Chaonians³.

From the Roman period, there was a settlement named Hadrianopolis (of Epirus) in the region, one of several named after the great Roman emperor Hadrian. The settlement was built on a strategic spot in the valley of the river Drino near the modern village of Sofratikë, 11 kilometers south of Gjirokaštër.

The foundations of Hadrianopolis were first discovered in 1984 when upper sections of the amphitheater were noticed by local farmers. Italian and Albanian archaeologists subsequently excavated much of the site, revealing a full amphitheater, Roman baths, and changing rooms. The site of the agora (forum) has been detected using ground radar, and excavation is expected in the period 2018 onwards. In the amphitheater, there are post holes for iron railings on first-row seats. Also some "changing rooms" - originally for actors - were converted to holding pens for wild animals. This was a site where Romans fed enemies of the state to wild animals.

During the 6th century the Byzantine emperor Justinian I, as part of his fortification plans against barbarian invasions, moved the settlement 4 kilometers southeast in the modern

village of Peshkëpi, to gain a more secure position. The city is also referred to in Byzantine sources as Ioustinianoupolis (or Justinianopolis, after him). Today, the ruins of the fortifications are still visible, as are the aqueduct and a medieval Orthodox Christian church.

During the 11th century, the city was named Dryinoupolis, a name possibly deriving from its former name or the nearby river. It was also, from the 5th century, the see of a bishopric (initially part of the Diocese of Nicopolis, Naupactus, and then Ioannina).

All the villages inhabited by the Greek minority population are situated to the west of the National Road leading south to the Greek border at Kakavia. The road to the border is only 31 kilometers long and passes the well-known village of Lazarat, which hosts the 18th-century Tekke (lodge) of Father Zenel, a well-known Bektashi Dervish.

Driving south, on your right you will see the villages of Derviçan, Goranxi, and Sofratikë, all perched, like Gjirokastra, on the side of the valley. Derviçan is situated 1 kilometer west of the national road. The recently restored 18th-century church, St Anna, is the main church in the village. Used as a warehouse in communist times, it is located above the modern settlement on a plateau of higher ground which was the site of the original 15th-century village. The Church of Burimi Jetëdhënës (Life-giving Spring), not far from the Church of St. Anna, was built in the same period. Another important piece of the local architectural heritage is the 17th-century house of Zaharo Sterjo built entirely of stone using a special technique characterized by "covers" laid out on top of one another, without mortar. It is related in style to the Gjirokastra dwelling houses.

Two kilometers further south is the village of Goranxi. The principal church is Saint Mary of Ravenjë, a building dating to around the year 1600. Worth visiting is Goranxi gorge, just to the north of the village. This dramatically cuts into the mountainside. A small late Byzantine church with frescoes lies on a rise near the mouth of the gorge. Further along, on the northern side, is one of the most

¹ / "Second Report Submitted by Albania Pursuant to Article 25, Paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities" (PDF). Archived from the original (PDF) on March 19, 2009.

² / "Correspondence table LAU – NUTS 2016, EU-28 and EFTA / available Candidate Countries" (XLS). Eurostat. Retrieved 2019-09-25.

³ / Komita, Nuobo (1982). "The Grave Cicles at Mycenae and the Early Indo-Europeans" (PDF). Research Reports of Ikutoku Tech. Univ. (A-7): 59–70.[permanent dead link]

remarkable prehistoric archaeological sites of the region. Several rock shelters cut into the side of the gorge were used for the fashioning of flint implements in the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Periods (c. 25,000-7,000 BC). Many thousands of these small flint flakes have been discovered and the quarries themselves are visible cutting into the northern gorge wall. Amongst the debris of these ancient industries are stone-built dwellings of the Hellenistic and Roman periods.

Another village adjacent to the national road is Sofratikë. The village partly covers the site of the necropolis of the Roman city of Hadrianopolis, constructed by Emperor Hadrian in the 2nd-century AD. It is suggested that Hadrianopolis was created to provide an administrative or military focal point for the scattered communities of the valley, which had been without a regional focus since the destruction of "Antigoneia" 400 years previously. It is thought that the settlement was inhabited until the 6th century AD. To reach the center of the city and the only exposed archaeological remains, leave the main road at the Sofratikë turn and immediately left the turn that runs parallel to the main road. After a few hundred meters there is a tunnel leading east under the National Road and out into the floodplain of the Drinos. From the village turn, the walk will take around 10 minutes. The site is located near a series of isolated oak trees. The principal feature is a small Roman theatre, with a caveat, orchestra, and scene frons; nearby are some excavated houses and other buildings.

Continuing south, the next village of Jergucat is located at the junction of the main road with the road to Saranda; The tall Church of St. Kozma will be visible. By the eastern side of the main highway, before the Saranda turn, are the remains of a large monumental tomb in the 'Macedonian' style of the 3rd century BC discovered when the road was built. The main tomb chamber survives as does the stairway. The doors, which were carved out of solid stone, survive in fragments. The entire tomb would have been covered by an earthen tumulus. The village of Zervat, which hosts a 10th-century church, is a few kilometers further along the main road.

A 16th-century monastery found in the village of Dhuvjan, on the road leading up to Kakavijë, is also an attractive site for visitors. Close to the border at Lower Peshkëpi lies the 10th-century church of Panaja, an ancient center of the Bishop of Drinopull. It is encircled by a high wall of cypresses and is one of the oldest and most interesting churches in the area.

Further south along a side road from the main highway just before Kakavijë lies the village of Sotirë, a Greek minority settlement. This settlement is almost as far south as one can go in modern Albania and the mountains of the frontier are visible through the ancient oak and plane woods. The village is delightful with a 13th-century monastery in the center.

Participatory Mapping

Participatory mapping is well established as a tool of development intervention. The mapping elements of Participatory Rural Appraisal, for example, have gained increasing prominence since the late 1980s. They have allowed for improved information exchange between community members and outsiders⁴ (e.g. researchers, NGOs, government) in the design and implementation of development projects. Today, however, community-based mapping approaches have also become important tools for many land stakeholders. They are no longer confined to exchanges of information for project design and implementation⁵.

Mapping can be a powerful tool for communities and for the civil society groups that collaborate with them. Mapping processes can be used to help secure access to land and natural resources, to facilitate the management of these resources, and support community advocacy on land-related issues. In other words, mapping is increasingly playing a role in the empowerment of people and communities. This paper seeks to give an overview of the different roles participatory and community mapping can play in helping communities improve their control over their land and natural resources⁶. In particular, it reviews the lessons learned by combining participatory mapping and spatial information technologies to improve secure land access and control for poor men and women. This overview does not seek to cover the full range of the

⁴ / *Participatory Mapping as a Tool for Empowerment: Experiences and Lessons Learned from the ILC Network*, Di Gessa, Stefano, ILC 'Knowledge for Change' Series, 2008

⁵ / Lundy, Brandon D. 2013/12/31 *Negotiating Development: Valuation of a Guesthouse Project in Southern Guinea-Bissau* 1

⁶ / Gessa, Stefano, 2008/01/01, *Participatory Mapping as a Tool for Empowerment: Experiences and Lessons Learned from the ILC Network*

mapping toolbox; rather, it seeks to frame how technology-assisted community mapping is related to the broader goal of empowering rural people.

This paper seeks to show how mapping can facilitate community empowerment, but also how it must be employed with care, being mindful of the risks for communities that such activities can entail. As well as giving this overview, this paper will present three case studies, each demonstrating the use of a different community-mapping strategy in a different country and context. Both the overview and case studies are presented to share the innovations, experiences, and lessons learned. These are experiences arising from the building of alternatives for rural areas through the empowerment of local stakeholders, especially rural communities. Such innovative tools or practices are developed and carried out in collaboration with communities facing land-related problems. They are an attempt to offer concrete opportunities to disadvantaged groups to enhance their capacity to advocate for, gain and secure their access to land.

Methodology of mapping

Participatory community network mapping can support collaborative sense making within and across communities and their surrounding stakeholder networks⁷. We introduce the Community Sensor methodology under construction. After summarizing earlier work, we show how the methodology uses a cyclical approach by adopting a Community Network Development Cycle that embeds a Community Network Sensemaking Cycle. We list some observations from practice about using community network mapping for making inter-communal sense⁸. We discuss how extending the methodology with a pattern-driven approach benefits the building of bridges across networked communities, as well as the sharing of generalized lessons learned. For this purpose, a community collaboration pattern language is essential. We show initial work in developing and using such a language by examining the cross-case evolution of core community network interaction patterns⁹.

To create a process map, one must capture the content of the process, and then transcribe that content onto a process mapping system. The process mapping methodology are the 6 main process mapping techniques? Main Methods to Create Process Maps¹⁰.

The Potential of Mapping

Mapping initiatives are undertaken with at least five key purposes in mind: (1) providing community cohesion and leverage for collective action, (2) identifying, adjudicating, and registering land rights, (3) improving land-use planning and management, (4) supporting land dispute or conflict resolution, and (5) forming a basis for territorial planning and socioeconomic integration¹¹.

Mapping for Community Cohesion and Advocacy Mapping often contributes to building community cohesion and, especially in the form of 3-D modeling, can be used as a tool to pass historical knowledge down through generations, thus nurturing cultural identity (as has been the experience of, for example, UNORCAC-Ecuador and CPI/AC-Brazil). This may be particularly significant for indigenous communities for whom cultural rights can be closely linked to territorial rights. For them, mapping can be used to buttress their vision of the many interrelations between people and the surrounding environment, as well as between land and territory. In cultural mapping, information is not necessarily geo-referenced. Sketch mapping and ethno-mapping can be combined with geographical information systems when the knowledge generated in the mapping process is also aimed at land rights registration (PAFIDThe Philippines, JKPP-Indonesia). Community mapping of local and indigenous knowledge, moreover, has the potential to facilitate local governance as a channel through which to defend or advocate for the rights of indigenous peoples to their ancestral lands (CEDETI-Bolivia).

Mapping for Land Rights Identification, Adjudication, and Registration Geo-referenced community mapping can

⁷ / Atangana, Alain, Khasa, Damase, Chang, Scott, Degrande, Ann, 2014/10/01 243 - 257, *Diagnosis and Design (D & D) Approach and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)*.

⁸ / de Moor, A. (2017). *CommunitySensor: towards a participatory community network mapping methodology*. *The Journal of Community Informatics*, 13(2), 35—58.

⁹ / Fisher, Karen Unruh, Kenton Durrance, Joan, 2005/10/01, 298-305, *Information communities: Characteristics gleaned from studies of three online networks*, 40, 10.1002/meet.1450400137, *Proceedings of The Asist Annual Meeting - P ASIST ANNU MEET*.

¹⁰ / <https://blog.triaster.co.uk/blog/process-mapping-techniques-methods-to-create-process-maps>

¹¹ / <http://www.fao.org/land-water/land/land-governance/land-resources-planning-toolbox/category/details/en/c/1236456/>



Fig. 3 / Female from costume from Dropull, Albania Shqipëria, mozaiku i veshjes.
Source / Dhimitër Mborja, 2008



Fig. 4 / The dance of Dropull, Albania. Source / <https://talking-about-albanians.tumblr.com/post/185130859546/the-dance-of-dropull-albania>

help rural communities have their land claims recognized by state institutions, particularly where the existing legal framework is receptive to such claims. There are examples of this on both the individual and family levels, as well as of land rights claimed and subsequently registered by communities (PAFID-the Philippines, APLR-Georgia).

Geo-referencing community spatial knowledge (e.g., PGIS, PPGIS, GPS, orthophoto mapping, participatory 3-D modeling, satellite imaging) provides the accuracy needed in community-led processes for state authorities to recognize the results (FTierra-Bolivia, HARDI-Madagascar). Although the higher level of accuracy required (especially for individual titling of small plots) can make the processing time consuming, mapping for land registration enables information to be transferred and digitized into GIS. While land title deeds or certificates of occupation do not capture the overall complexity of land insecurity, a reliable and regularly-updated cadastral system can enhance land security for the rural poor, particularly when maintained at the local level. Community-level organizations advocate for decentralized land administration systems that have been created and monitored in a participatory manner. These are often perceived as more equitable and able to empower community-level land institutions because they make information available where it is generated and better reflect community-level land systems, such as customary use rights (NACFP-Albania, HARDI-Madagascar, Tierra-Bolivia, Tierra-Nicaragua). However, title deeds or certificates of occupation alone will not secure land rights for poor men and women unless enforcement is guaranteed and the process of identifying and issuing them is unbiased by vested interests. Indeed, the mapping process may bring out latent conflicts. The process must also be affordable and its methods understandable by communities that use them (AFRA-South Africa).

Mapping for Land Use Planning and Natural Resource Management Planning and managing land use is intimately linked to tenure security. Moreover, land planning goes beyond the determination of primary rights (ownership rights) to include secondary use rights (access to grazing land, water resources, fruit trees, and forest). These are fundamental in defining the livelihood strategies of the communities' poorest members

and partially define the comparative advantage of a communal tenure system as an alternative or complementary to an individual ownership/tenure system. Experience in this area is often linked to broader strategies of land demarcation and/or territorial planning, as in shifting cultivation management or pasture management (NACFP-Albania, APLR-Georgia), or land and water use optimization (ACH/Grupo Tierra-Nicaragua, UNORCAC-Ecuador). When past, present, and future patterns of natural resource use are taken into account, the mapping process can also help to create a learning environment in which landscape-nested institutions, and their strengths and weaknesses, appear more clearly to community members (ACH/CODER-Nicaragua). When community institutions or water users' committees are empowered as full partners in action research – rather than treated as mere subjects for data collection – mapping land and water use plans can become instrumental in negotiating better conditions for farmers (CEPES-Peru).

Mapping for Land Dispute or Conflict Resolution Land conflicts, particularly in rural and remote areas, are multidimensional and complex. Often the financial concerns of national and local governments generate policies that attract outside investment to areas in which disputes or conflicts already exist and where laws and policies related to land and territorial rights – particularly those concerning indigenous peoples' rights – are not in place or not enforced. A blend of statutory, customary, and hybrid (formal or informal) institutions and regulations may co-exist in the same territory, all having a de jure or de facto authority over land rights. In such contexts, mapping can be a powerful mechanism to transform and possibly resolve disputes or conflicts, if it is accompanied by appropriate institution building and a broader effort to empower people and communities. Community-initiated and collaborative mapping can assist the negotiation process in extractive exploitation (APAGuyana, YTM-Indonesia). Furthermore, mapping can help manage conflict through the identification and strengthening of conflict management capacity both within the community (ACH/Grupo Tierra-Nicaragua) and among neighboring communities (PAFID-The Philippines, NACPF-Albania).

Mapping for Territorial Planning and Spatial Integration Decentralization processes are underway in many countries. With varying degrees of effectiveness, these



*Fig. 5 / Community participatory mapping, discussions with the local community in Dropull.
Source / the authors*

are devolving powers to local and regional bodies. Within the newly empowered or established political or administrative units, therefore, new opportunities are emerging for community members to define paths of development. This is particularly important for rural areas, historically neglected in the design of national policies. For decades, the planning has been urban-biased and done on a sector-by-sector basis. There is now some movement towards inter-sectoral and spatially-integrated territorial planning. In this context, mapping can support the process of identifying territorial units of management, while helping rural communities to include their concerns in an enlarged, integrated

vision of local realities. Mapping allows the spatial visualization and recording of the social, economic, and natural dynamics of a given territory. This includes routes of communication and commerce, natural resource management systems, water flows, and commercial flows. In other words, by using a common spatial framework, maps can fortify the users' understanding of how physical, social, and economic factors interact. Spatial integration thus becomes a step toward socio-economic integration.

Mapping as a Tool for Empowerment: Lessons Learned

Mapping, when combined with geographical information technologies,



Fig. 6 / Mapping in Llovinë Village (sketch).



Fig. 7 / Mapping in Sotira Village (sketch).

can be highly supportive in advancing the land rights agenda of rural communities. Maps often represent a step toward grass-roots empowerment for better land access and tenure security. Rural maps have shown themselves to be useful tools, increasing the users' capacity to advocate, lobby, plan, manage and monitor territorial and land-related issues within the mapped area. It must be said, however, that the promise of community empowerment through mapping may be tempered by concerns that the mapping process – including the control and management of its technology – can reinforce or reconfigure existing forms of power distribution and relations.

Enabling Environments

Mapping helps communities take advantage of a political window of opportunity. Mapping is most successful in helping gain security of tenure and uses rights when land administration institutions and decision-making processes are to some extent accessible and accountable to rural people. It is important to develop strategic partnerships between government and civil society to make mapping outcomes binding. This has proven to be a viable strategy – although one that is difficult, delicate, and time-consuming. It increases the likelihood that the state will recognize land claims by rural poor and indigenous groups, including those documented through mapping. A key aspect of an enabling environment for community mapping is access to cartographic information. Are our base maps available,

affordable, and up-to-date? Mapping Reflects the Full Bundle of Rights Secondary rights – including rights to use, improve, assign, and transfer natural resources – are highly relevant for rural people. Ownership rights may appear more clearly than others, though, and, if registered via a mapping process, can obscure the bundle of secondary rights, thus reducing the livelihood options of those relying on them. There is also a trade-off between map accuracy and respecting the fluidity of some use rights. In many rural areas, land rights are founded on voluntary-based flexibility and mapping carries the risk of freezing the fluidity of those tenure arrangements. Accuracy of boundaries – necessary for dispute and conflict resolution, natural resource management, and land demarcation – should aim to reflect the agreement reached by mapping users concerning the trade-off between the fluidity of land rights and their relative security.

The Mapping Process May Matter more than the Results.

The ultimate aim of mapping land rights may not be the final lines on a map so much as developing the community's ability to resolve conflict, build consensus and take collective action. With this in mind, it is important to establish guidelines to make the whole process as transparent as possible.

Technology Must Include, not Exclude

More advanced technologies, such as those related to GIS, permit wider use of vast amounts of information but run the



Fig. 8 / Mapping in Llongo Village (sketch).



Fig. 9 / Mapping in Krioner Village.
Source / the authors

risk of increasing the conceptual distance between those making the maps and those providing the local knowledge that nurtures the maps. All too often, it is difficult to make the technology available at the local level because the software is either too costly or available only in English (a major constraint in countries where English is not even the second language), or simply because of frequent disruption of the electricity supply.

Capacity building in the use of mapping technologies can represent an empowering experience for some rural people, but this may happen at the expense of other community members (e.g. women, elders, orphans, and returnees). Experience shows how, in some cases, communities strategically choose not to master new mapping technologies unless the mapmakers themselves are accountable to community members. Training – including the production of important reference materials in the local language – is important in improving the capacity of community members to monitor and intervene in the mapping process.

Maps Are the Beginning of the Empowerment Process

Maps are made to be used. The idea that the map can be an empowering tool implies not only that there must be local demand for mapping, but also that communities should have an improved capacity to develop map-use strategies. Community institutions and their members should be able to update the maps according to their needs. The long-term usefulness of a mapping exercise depends on the initial

strategy, that is, whether capacity building for these long-term uses is built in. Maps Visualise the Social World as well as the Natural. Mapping not only helps to identify physical resources; it can also identify customary institutions that manage these resources and regulate power among different territorial stakeholders. Maps may thus not only reveal rights that community members wish to preserve and secure but social relations that they may wish to change. This can provide a basis for reviving and strengthening local Natural Resource Management (NRM) institutions that may have grown weak over time. This can contribute to greater environmental sustainability and reduced conflict. This institutional dimension of mapping must be taken into account when setting out the strategy so that the final map product is not a mere museum item, but a real tool for community empowerment and sustainable development

These are:

1. Through individual or small group interviews
 2. Through facilitated discovery workshops
 3. Through analysis of existing documentation
 4. Through direct work observation
 5. Through URBAN analysis design
- In many cases, a combination of several of the above is required to obtain the required degree of accuracy.

Each of the different process mapping methods has its strengths and weaknesses and particular relevance in specific circumstances. The methods



Fig. 10 / Community participatory mapping, discussions with the local community in Sotira Village
Source / the authors

(below) will be explained along with some tips on how to document a business process. Once you have decided on which method you will use, it is then important to understand how to be as successful as possible in the actual mapping stage.

Mapping Methodologies through Kevin Lynch and his book "Image of the City"

Mental images are an essential topic and it serves various fields in urban studies including behavioral geography, urban design branding and tourist's destination management.

The emergence of Information Communication Technologies (ICT) and corresponding socio-physical changes have affected almost every aspect of contemporary urban life together and the perce of the city. Legibility, mapping, meaning and experience of the space are all significant issues that need to be readdressed in order to understand how the new image of the city is forming. This paper discusses Image of the City in light of new techno evolution. It uses Lynch's (1960) model and tracks the impact of technology on both the observer and the observed. Describe analytical review of literature on legibility and environmental image, and impact of ICT is carried out. Followed by an enqui how these issues affect our perception of space. Finally, a framework to study Image of the city in the information a developed.

The main goal of this article is to discuss the Image of the City in light of new

technology evolution.

- To define the nature of city image and its mechanism through reading Lynch's (1960) model of image the city and similar approaches.
- To explore emerging cutting-edge technologies that can affect the legibility of the city.
- To study the impact of ICT on meaning, experience, and perception of the space.
- To construct the final synthesis
- To develop a framework to study the Image of the city in the information age.

When Lynch (1960) wrote his masterpiece "Image of the city" in the sixties, he was concerned with "Legibly of the physical environment and providing people with emotional security while performing their daily tasks in the city. He described the experience of being lost in the city as "terrorizing" and may affect "our sense¹² of stability wellbeing" (Lynch, 1960, p. 4). Probably, he would have solved his imminent fear of disorientation differently had the chance to use google maps. Although he justified why using navigation tools like ordinary maps should replace legible mental maps, the set of criteria he assumed for good mapping and imageability match almost all navigation tools and applications available now. Even those criteria ahead of his time like adaptability to cha communicability to others and variety of solutions. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) made it possible with the GIS mapping and

¹² / de Moor, A. (2017). *CommunitySensor: towards a participatory community network mapping methodology*. *The Journal of Community Informatics*, 13(2), 35—58.



Fig. 11 / Abandoned Center of Sotira Village.
Source / the authors

LBD systems embedded in smartphones and portable devices. Never reaching a specific destination readily was not the main objective for Lynch's study. He aimed to improve the legibility of the city. In the sense of being visually clear and imageable to the inhabitants within the whole context pattern of the built environment. Consequently, this would lead to design and rebuild a better urban environment (Lynch, 1960, pp. 4-6). Yet, on the threshold of the twenty-first century, a new dimension has emerged. Information and technology have been affecting every aspect of human life. The unprecedented pervasive evolution of technology changing our view of urban life (Anttiroiko, 2013); (Meshur, 2013); (Cuff, 2003). All these digital, virtual ubiquitous systems are altering our perception of time, space, and mobility. In light of this, many questions such as; how would information and communication technology change the legibility of contemporary cities? How do inhabitants conceive the image of their new city with the affordance of these technologies?

Cognitive/mental mapping is an interdisciplinary field, and just like legibility, it has been addressed with viable approaches and measured by different techniques. Studies of cognitive/mental mapping interested scientific psychology, geography, anthropology, and even linguistics. Cognitive mapping or "Mental mapping" are cognitive features of the human mind. The difference between mental and cognitive as Downs & Stea (1973) clarified is that mental mapping collects and interprets information about maps

in the brain, or simply "map maps". They described in detail the processes of cognitive/mental mapping as "the product of a series of psychological processes that register, code, store, then call to remind and decode all information on our ever spatial environment" (Downs & Stea, 1973, p. 15).

Data gathering for mental mapping is usually obtained from sketch mapping. In this classical method, inhabitants are asked to recall how they remember the city freely. This will show how differently each user perceives and understands his environment. It provides useful spatial data about the environment and the participants. Criticism associated with sketch mapping includes validity difficulty of collecting the data from a large sample (Casakin & Omar, 2008). In other words, mental/cognitive mapping is the image formulated by our mind to understand the surrounding environment. This image could be of a street, city, country, continent or maybe a place never visited. It is affected by our perception but again it shapes how we see the world around us. A sophisticated subjective process differs from one person to another. Lynch (1960) in his study focused on environmental image particularly on the image of the city. Particularly he was interested in reaching a "public image" of the city on which he can develop urban design criteria. Environmental Image serves mainly two functions based on Lynch's model (1960): a Way-finder means an organizer of activity in the city. He also categorized it in three components, see (Fig.1), these are:

- Identity: the ability to identify elements

of the city within the overall context.

- Structure: spatial relationship or pattern between the elements within, elements and the observer, and the whole context.
- Meaning: practical and emotional value to the observer (Lynch, 1960).

From all of the above, an image of the city can be summarized as the process of picturing the city we li through a correlation between the physical representations of the city and the inhabitant that process the image other words, it is "the result of a two-way process between observer and observed" (Lynch, 1960, p. 118). "Imageability" is another term used by Lynch that describes the quality of the physical parts of the city that increases their "probability of evoking a strong image" to the observer. Great attention is given to imageability because it implies physical form. Identifying what makes cities more imageable will help urban scholars to develop design principles and create better viable sitting.

Lynch (1960) deduced five elements of cognitive image; these are paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmarks. They were discerned after his extensive study of Boston city, Jersey, and Los Angeles. His study of these American cities has helped him to obtain certain design qualities that can improve the imageability of the environment and hopefully inhabitants' experience. Likewise, many scholars follow Lynch's model and come up with new d criteria. In (Table2 in The Appendix) two different studies proposed design criteria for increasing legibility of mental image in existing cities, Sheffield city, and Tel Aviv. The results of the three studies indicate a strong towards simplicity in design, vivid elements, and continuity.

Conclusions

The participatory planning process in the Municipality of Dropull, developed by POLIS University in collaboration with different experts including the National Agency for Territorial Development is a key example of the importance of mental mapping in urban and territorial planning. The particularities of the area of Dropull situated within a liminal relationship of cultures, languages, economies and territorial dynamics requires and in depth knowledge not only of such an area but also of the community which comprises it. As a multilayered palimpsest of atmospheres, possibilities, happenings and potential, Dropull is considered an asset for the Albanian landscape, nevertheless often Albania is characterized by the high level of energy and enthusiasm

of Albanians. Their potential was able to transform the urban areas of the country in combination with the high level of migration after the abolishment of the authoritarian regime during the 1990s. This potential often fluctuates between energy and vacuum, between what is possible to happen and what is the actual reality of a happening. Nevertheless, the potential of Albania always was dependent on its people and life in urban centers.

But what happens when life is not the main component of an equation? How do we deal with a remote area, territorially liminal and culturally superimposed?

Often we consider death as an unexpected happening, but what if it is part of the present reality?

The massive migration of Albanians abroad, starting again a new phase which began in 2015, can be considered by a delicate thread which requires guidance and persistence to overcome any difficulty. How territorial and urban planning is able to create new potentials and ideas inspired by "death". The actual death of rural centers which are not able to hold on to its native population.

As a matter of fact, in this process it was fundamental to understand this hidden potential, read between lines and speak the language of the local inhabitants yourself. Not to address their problems in a familiar language, but for us as part of the design team to link and bond with the cultural dilemmas, economic difficulties and social dichotomies of such an area as Dropull. What was incredibly fundamental was to consider even ourselves as part of the local community, in depth consider their point of view and integrate a new level of community participatory planning. A response in rural areas is more intense and productive as we often find it in the urban centers.

This direct approach with a high sensitivity in the individual potential of the inhabitants of Dropull was a key element to understand not only the area of Dropull but to comprehend the power of its people. A power that holds together still that area of a high cultural importance for Albania and Greece together.

Their stories, ideas, suggestions and dreams are the driving force which led this process and inspired new creative ideas and proposals to come through and create a sustainable vision for the area.

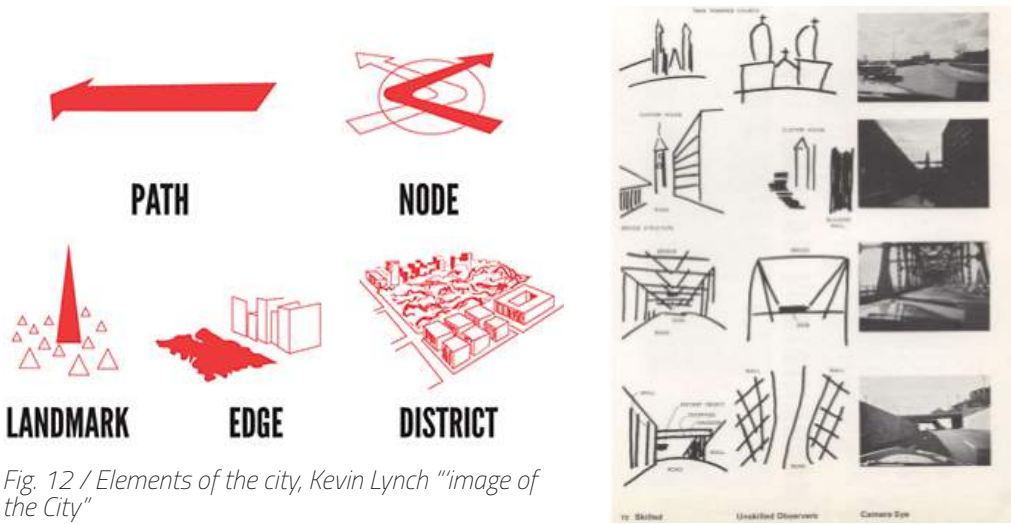


Fig. 12 / Elements of the city, Kevin Lynch "image of the City"

Fig. 13 / In Lynch's view, image can be explained as "a picture especially in the mind", a sentimental combination of objective city image and subjective human thoughts. The productions of environment images are influenced by a two-way process between the observer and the observed. The observer, with great adaptability and in the light of his own purposes, selects, organizes, and endows with meaning what he/she sees. Therefore, the specific image can be totally different from the different perspective of observers. Source / <http://newjerseyurbanism.wordpress.com/2010/09/17/the-view-from-the-road/>



Fig. 14 / Process of interviewing with local people
Source / the authors



Fig. 15 / Traditional clothing from Dropull.
Source / <https://gr.pinterest.com/pin/448882287857473556/>



Fig. 16 / Process of brainstorming and analysis



Fig. 17 / Liminal Landscapes between Albania and Greece while Dropull stands as a cultural threshold between two countries. Source / the authors



Fig. 18 / People of Dropull.
Source / the authors

3.1

Summary of the General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality

Polis University

3.2

Difficulties and innovation in GIS application at Dropull PPV case

Amanda Terpo

3.3

The creative process of statistical gathering and analysing in Dropull

Godiva Rembeci

3.4

Using innovation as a tool for inverting emigration trends in Dropull.

How digital manufacturing could leap the technological gap and strengthen the connection between the community and its territory.

Ledian Bregasi

3.5

The process, difficulties and the innovative VSM findings of Dropull

Sherif Lushaj

3

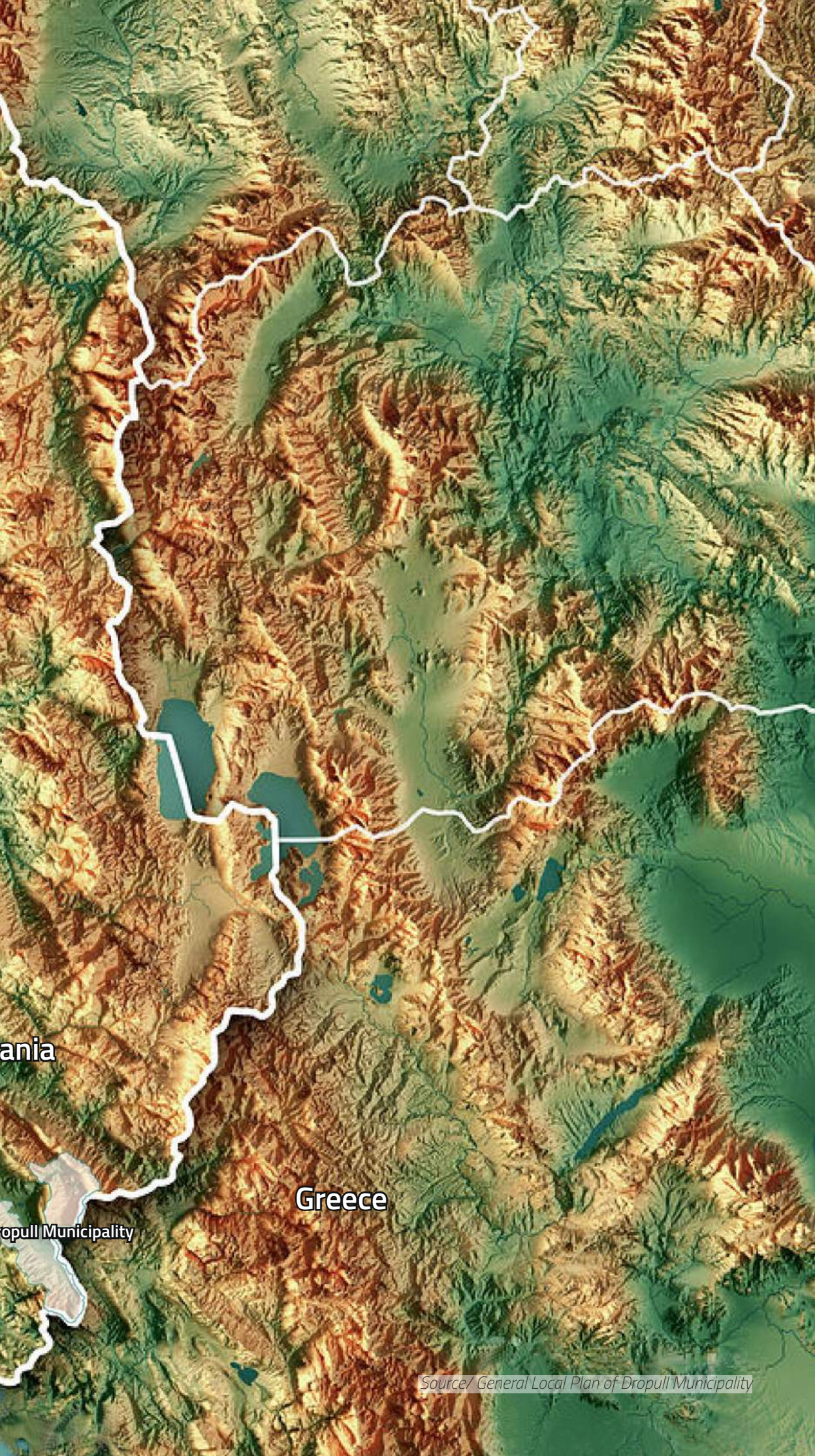
Dropull Regulatory Plan



Alb

Dr

Corfu



Thessaly

Dropull Municipality

Greece

Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality





Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality

Summary of the general Local Plan of Dropull Municipality

Working group: *Besnik Aliaj, Sotir Dhamo, Sherif Lushaj, Godiva Rembeci, Eranda Janku, Amanda Terpo, Dea Buza, Ledian Bregasi.*

Dropull Municipality: *Mihal Mano, Gaqe Meci, Niko Papaile, Alqi Kazaqi, Mite Mejdi, Abana Curi, Thalia Pulla, Lindita Xhumba, Spiro Kallo, Thanas Naka, Lefter Nasto.*

Assistants: *Dea Rogova, Aldo Sulaj, Joana Pavli, Klevis Delli, Andrea Rapo, Esmerina Hidri, Reada Lemnusha, Sadmira Malaj.*

Summary*

The inhabitants of Dropull have historically recognized themselves as a community, kept together by the common traditions, culture and territory. But it was during the recent years that the territory was comprised in one municipality. The establishing of the new administrative unit created the opportunity for developing a new General Local Plan. POLIS University offered to the newly formed municipality the possibility of drafting the plan in a participated process that would profoundly and comprehensively involve the community. The plan is one of the most important instruments for governing the territory and for managing the future opportunities. In this sense the plan is structured in a series of consecutive documents, organized in three groups. The initial and primary document is the analysis of the territory, its culture and its economy. Out of this analysis a series of treats and opportunities emerge. The second document builds on the strengths of the municipality and tries to translate the opportunities into a vision. Dropulli's vision foresees the municipality as a linear development corridor of settlements, and as rural development pole between the regional centers of Gjirokastra and Ioannina, from one side and the southern mountain ranges of Albania and the Ionian coast on the other. A territory with a strong historical and cultural character and identity, a model of coexistence between different nationalities, an important gateway to the cross-border area and a bridge between Albania and Greece.

The municipality can turn into a center focused on the development of tourism, agriculture, livestock, and processing industry that utilizes local products to create a complete production cycle. The territory can welcome and provides space for research and for the establishment of start-ups based on tourism and bioproducts. In this way it can become a cross-border pole that uses sustainably the potential of a consolidated local economy and a favorable atmosphere for the return of population and for the attraction of investments. In order to achieve this vision, in the third and implementation part of the plan, four strategic objectives are proposed. The first one fosters the higher accessibility to the territory and its integration to the larger infrastructural networks. This topic represents one of the most important challenges to the new municipality which is heavily influenced by the geographic position and by the rough terrain. The second strategic objective is the strengthening of the regional and cross border economic position through the development and diversification of the local economic activities. In this case, the geographic position of the municipality can be further exploited in order to become part of larger exchanges networks. The fourth strategic objective is the protection of the rural character of the settlements and the improvement of the quality of life. This objective is one of the most complex to achieve because it requires the creation of a balanced and sustainable development model which gives value to the historical settlements, without altering them but at the same time avoiding the freezing of every development initiative. The fourth and final strategic objective foresees the protection of the environment and the prevention of natural hazards. The strategic objectives are then turned into an operative form through the proposal of programs and projects which are consequently represented in the land use plan and in a budget.

Summary prepared by PhD Ledian Bregasi



Source/ Dropull Municipality

PARIMET E PLANIFIKIMIT DHE METODOLOGJIA E HARTIMIT TË STRATEGJISË

1.1 Parimet e Planifikimit për hartimin e Strategjisë Territoriale

Strategjia Territoriale e Bashkisë Dropull u hartua nga Bashkia Dropull në bashkëpunim me Universitetin POLIS. Kjo strategji formon dokumentin bazë mbi të cilin do të hartohet Planin i Përdorimit të Tokës dhe Rregullorja e Zhvillimit. Strategjia ka si qëllim:

- Të ofrojë një vizion dhe drejtim konsistent, si dhe një vlerësim strategjik jo vetëm të asaj që është e dëshirueshme, por edhe asaj që është e mundshme në kontekste të ndryshme;

- Të mbrojë të drejtat e njerëzve. Aksesi në tokë përkthehet në të drejta dhe obligime, ndaj është e nevojshme që të menaxhohet ndryshimi, që këto të drejta dhe obligime të respektohen;

- Të mbrojë sistemet natyrore. Sistemet natyrore kanë kërkesa operacionale, të cilat duhet të respektohen për të mbrojtur qëndrueshmërinë afat-gjatë të zhvillimit njerëzor, si dhe për të evituar degradimin mjedisor në shkallë të madhe;

- Të sigurojë përdorimin eficient të burimeve, si toka, uji, energjia, financa, materialet e ndërtimit, aftësitë etj.;

- Të arrijë një cilësi të lartë të ofrimit të shërbimeve në të gjitha fushat e qeverisjes;

- Të koordinojë veprimet dhe investimet që të sigurojë impaktin pozitiv maksimal nga investimi i burimeve. Ka mjaft rëndësi që investimet të koordinohen në hapësirë dhe në kohë. Gjithashtu koordinimi duhet të jetë si ndërmjet formave të ndryshme

të veprimeve nga autoritetet publike, ashtu edhe midis veprimeve të ndërmarrta nga autoritetet publike dhe ato private sëbashku;

- Të vendosë prioritete. Të mundësojë krijimin "e rrugëve" të ndërmjetme që nevojat për zhvillim të një vendi të arrihen në mënyra të drejta;

- Të evitojë dublikimin e përpjekjeve nga departamente dhe sfera të ndryshme të qeverisjes.

Bazuar në ligjin 107/2014 "Për Planifikimin dhe Zhvillimin e Territorit", i ndryshuar, si dhe akteve nënligjore në fuqi, Strategjia Territoriale për Bashkinë Dropull është e strukturuar si më poshtë:

Kapitulli i Metodologjisë (në këtë kapitull shpjegohet mënyra e përdorur për formulimin e Strategjisë Territoriale);

Kapitulli i Analizës S.Ë.O.T (në këtë kapitull strukturohen konkluzionet e fazës së parë të analizës së territorit. Konkluzionet e bazuara në analizën S.Ë.O.T shërbejnë për zhvillimin e Vizionit, Objektivave Strategjike dhe më pas të Programeve, Politikave e Projekteve);

Kapitulli i Vizionit dhe Objektivave Strategjike (në këtë kapitull shpaloset Vizioni Strategjik për zhvillimin e Bashkisë Dropull në 15 vitet e ardhshme. Ky Vizion më pas detajohet në Objektivat Strategjike);

Programet dhe Politikat (Objektivat Strategjike operacionalizohen me anë të programeve. Secili program, sipas rastit, shoqërohet me një kombinim Politikash dhe Projektsh, të cilat mundësojnë arritjen e Objektivave);

Projektet (Plani i Investimeve Kapitale/ Plani i Veprimit, shtjellon projektet dhe i kategorizon ato në kohë, prioritet dhe





hapësirë. Matrica e projekteve i shërben Bashkisë gjithashtu edhe në hartimin e Programeve Buxhetore afatmesëm si dhe në tërheqjen e donatorëve, apo në aplikime për financime);

Projekt Fishat (secili projekt shoqërohet me një projekt fishë, ku shtjellohet në mënyrë të detajuar projekti, koha e realizimit, aktorët përgjegjës, burimi i financimit etj. Projekt fishat më pas mund të përdoren për kërkimin e financimit të projekteve nga donatorët, aplikimin për fonde pranë instancave të ndryshme, si dhe angazhimin e partneriteteve publike-private për implementimin e projekteve).

1.2 Parimet e Planifikimit për Strategjinë e Bashkisë Dropull

Në hartimin e Strategjisë Territoriale për Bashkinë Dropull u përcaktuan disa parime për të udhëhequr metodologjinë dhe më tej hartimin e strategjisë dhe objektivave specifike. Në këtë mënyrë u garantua cilësia dhe u sigurua një përqasje e hapur, transparente dhe gjithëpërfshirëse në formulimin e strategjisë territoriale, jo vetëm duke respektuar bazën ligjore e plotësuar qëllimet e dokumentit, por edhe duke krijuar bazat e një etike pune, e cila do të mund të forcohet më tej me implementimin dhe bërjën operacionale të strategjisë.

- Parimi Demokratik
 Që procesi i planifikimit të territorit të jetë legjitim dhe eficient vendimmarrja duhet të jetë transparente, e drejtë dhe e bazuar në parimet e qeverisjes demokratike. Planifikimi i territorit si një nga detyrat kryesore të qeverisjes, ka një impakt të

drejtpërdrejtë mbi cilësinë dhe kushtet e jetesës. Në këto kushte në mënyrë të ndërsjelltë një qeverisje e mirë është baza e një planifikimi të qëndrueshëm.

- Parimi i Pjesëmarrjes
 Vendimmarrja bëhet legjitime kur ndër të tjera është transparente dhe gjithëpërfshirëse. Përfshirja e të gjithë grupeve të interesit në procesin e planifikimit jo vetëm krijon kushtet për një proces demokratik dhe të paqtë, por u jep të gjithë aktorëve ndjenjën e përkatësisë dhe përgjegjësisë.

- Parimi i Integritetit dhe Bashkëndimit
 Planifikimi i territorit është një proces, i cili për të qenë i suksesshëm duhet të bashkërendojë vendimmarrjen në shkallë të ndryshme dhe të integrojë të gjithë autoritetet përgjegjës. Struktura operacionale e planifikimit të territorit duhet të mbështetet në një kornizë strategjike, institucionale dhe ligjore të mirë-integruar për të eliminuar çdo mundësi për mbivendosjen e institucioneve, ligjeve apo të kompetencave, gjë që do të ndikonte në mënyrë të drejtpërdrejtë qëndrueshmërinë e strukturës.

- Parimi i Proporcionalitetit
 Planifikimi duhet të dëshmojë një angazhim të fortë dhe udhëheqës të Qeverisë në proceset zhvilluese, në formën e politikave të qarta dhe robuste. Në të njëjtën kohë politikat e planifikimit duhet të kenë fleksibilitet të mjaftueshëm për t'u adaptuar me ndryshimet ekonomike, sociale dhe teknologjike, si dhe duhet të marrin në konsideratë interesat e aktorëve



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality

të ndryshëm, për të qenë të drejta, proporcionale dhe të garantojnë ekuilibrin midis interesave publike dhe private në zhvillimin e territorit.

- Zhvillimi në bazë zone

Ky parim synon kthimin drejt një qasjeje të re për të eliminuar përfundimisht zhvillimin në bazë parcele, i cili nuk koordinohet me politikën e autoriteteve publike dhe thith në mënyrë të padrejtë të gjitha të drejtat e zhvillimit në një zonë.

- Zhvillimi ligjor i tokës dhe rikuperimi i vlerës së krijuar

Aplikimi i të drejtës së zhvillimit në bazë parcele që aplikohet nga procesi i planifikimit krijon përfitim për pronarin ose zhvilluesin, ndërkohë që kostot i ngarkohen territorit, pra bashkisë dhe si rezultat edhe shoqërisë. Zhvillim i drejtë ndodh kur vlera e krijuar i kthehet atij që e krijon – pra shoqërisë, dhe përfituesi mbulon kostot e veprimit të tij.

- Vendimmarrja e drejtuar për qëndrueshmërinë

Ky parim konsiston në aplikimin e politikave dhe investimeve që promovojnë qëndrueshmërinë, jetueshmërinë dhe aftësitë për të përballur presionet mjedisore, ekonomike dhe sociale.

- Investimet Strategjike

Investimet duhen bërë në infrastrukturë, programe dhe projekte, të cilat shfaqin një ndikim të qartë tek borët dhe zhvillimi ekonomik.

Politika Efektive

Qeverisja duhet të ketë një theks të fortë të tëk pjesëmarrja e shoqërisë civile, partneritetet e shëndetshme publike-private dhe zbatueshmëria e vazhdueshme.

1.3 Metodologjia

1.3.1 Analiza e Planeve të Hartuara më Parë

Metodologjia e Hartimit të Strategjisë së Zhvillimit të Territorit është bazuar në praktikën e "Planifikimit Strategjik". Në këtë kuadër, për të njohur kontekstin në të cilin ndodhet dhe që impakton në mënyrë të drejtpërdrejtë ose të tërthortë zhvillimin e Bashkisë Dropull, u shqyrtuan të gjitha dokumentet e planifikimit të territorit në shkallë të ndryshme, duke nisur nga ato ndërkombëtare e kombëtare, në ato rajonale e vendore.

Analiza e Planeve Ndër/Kombëtare

- Strategjia 2020 e Evropës Juglindore-Punësimi dhe prosperiteti në një këndvështrim Evropian (BE/ Këshilli i Bashkëpunimit Rajonal);

- Programet e Bashkëpunimit Ndërkufitar IPA – Programi "Greqi- Shqipëri 2014-2020";

- Plani i Përgjithshëm Kombëtar Plane Rajonale/ Qarku

- Strategjia e Zhvillimit të Qarkut Gjirokastrë 2005-2015;

Plane Vendore

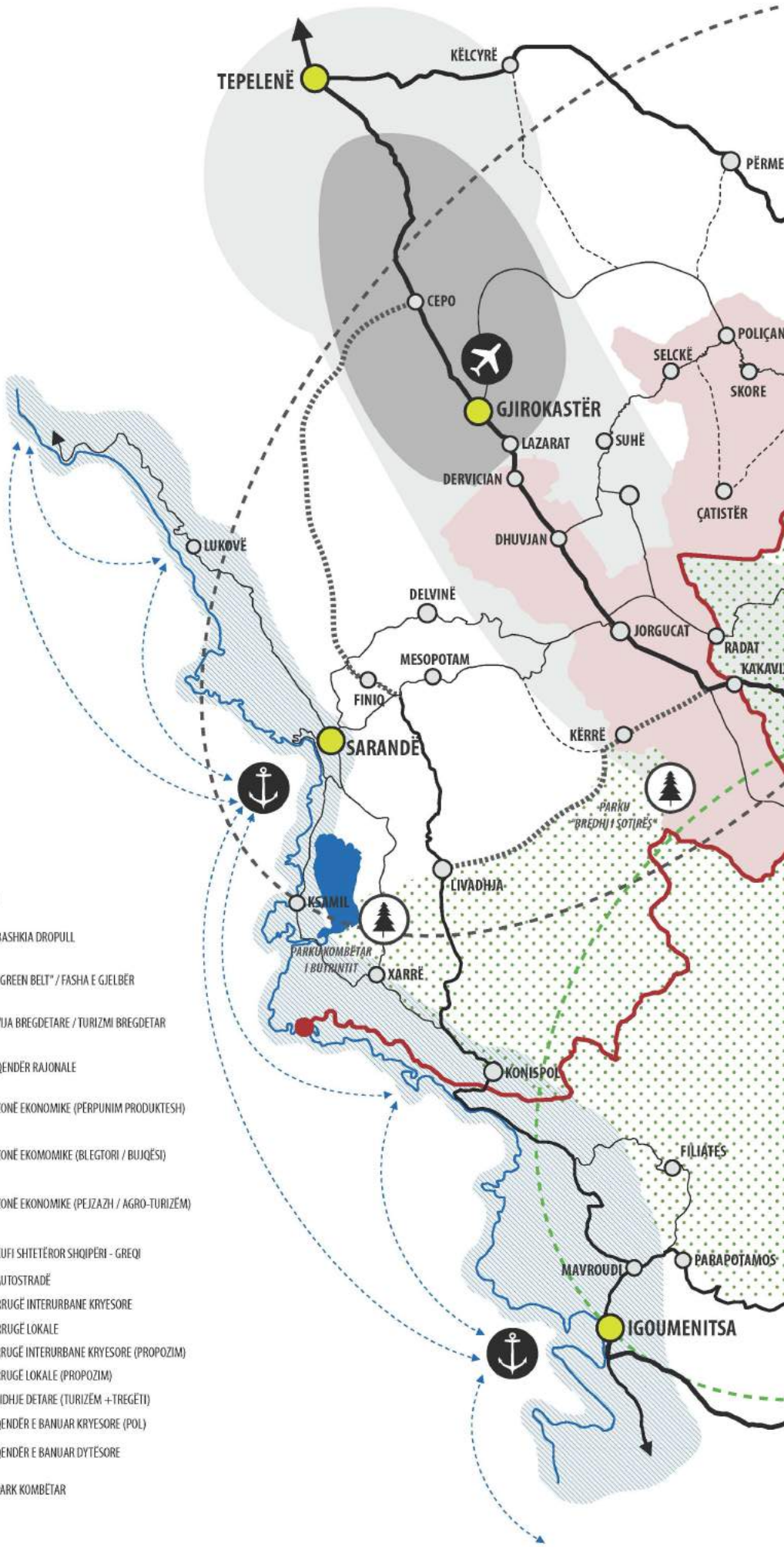
- Plani Operacional për Zhvillimin Lokal të Bashkisë Dropull;

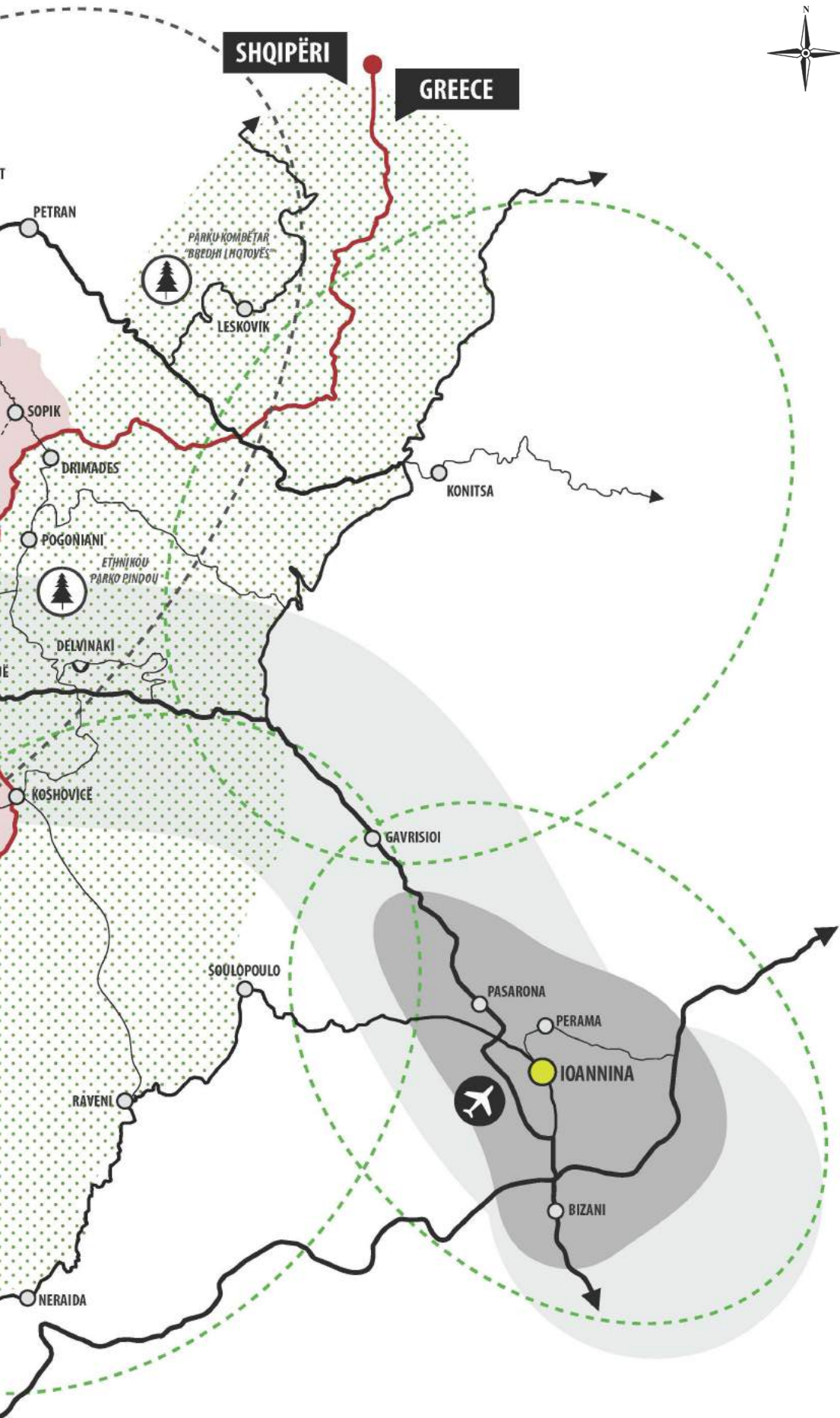
Plane territoriale të Bashkive fqinje që impaktojnë zhvillimin e Bashkisë Dropull

- Planet Operacionale për Zhvillimin Lokal të Bashkive fqinje Libohovë, Delvinë, Finiq, Përmet;

LEGJENDA

- BASHKIA DROPULL
- "GREEN BELT" / FASHA E GJELBËR
- VIJA BREGDETARE / TURIZMI BREGDETAR
- QENDËR RAJONALE
- ZONË EKONOMIKE (PËRPNIM PRODUKTESH)
- ZONË EKONOMIKE (BLEGTORI / BUJQËSI)
- ZONË EKONOMIKE (PEJZAZH / AGRO-TURIZËM)
- KUFI SHITËTOR SHQIPËRI - GREQI
- AUTOSTRADË
- RRUGË INTERURBANE KRYESORE
- RRUGË LOKALE
- RRUGË INTERURBANE KRYESORE (PROPOZIM)
- RRUGË LOKALE (PROPOZIM)
- LIDHJE DETARE (TURIZËM + TREGËTI)
- QENDËR E BANUAR KRYESORE (POL)
- QENDËR E BANUAR DYTËSORE
- 🌲 PARK KOMBËTAR





- Plani i Përgjithshëm Vendor i Bashkisë Gjirokastrër;
- Plani Rajonal për Rajonin e Janinës.

Pas studimit dhe vlerësimit të materialeve të mësipërme dhe strategjive përkatëse, grupi i punës është thëlluar më tej në analizat e gjeneruara me anë të sistemit GIS në bazë të parashikimeve ligjore, por jo vetëm, duke u munduar të investigojë të gjitha problematikat, potencialet dhe sfidat e kontekstit mjaft specifik të Bashkisë Dropull.

1.3.2 Parashikimet që rrjedhin nga plani I Përgjithshëm Kombëtarë

Plani i Përgjithshëm Kombëtar është një document i cili ka synon të nxisë përdorimin e qëndrueshem të burime dhe potencialeve të vendit. Ky document shërben si një koncept cadër, i cili orienton zhvillimin e aseteve dhe rritjen ekonomike për njësitë e qeverisjes vendore. Plani i Përgjithshëm Kombëtar (PPK) "Shqipëria 2030", vjen si detyrim për zbatimin e kornizës ligjore, i përcaktuar si dokument referues i detyrueshëm për të gjitha planet që hartohen në Republikën e Shqipërisë.

Bazuar në Planin e Përgjithshëm Kombëtar të publikuar nga AKPT dhe MZHU, disa nga direktivat kryesore të cilat rrjedhin për PPV të Bashkisë Dropull janë:

- Bashkia Dropull është pjesë e Rajonit Tepelenë- Gjirokastrër- Sarandë, gjithashtu kondisderuar si Pol Zhvillimi Rajonal;
- Në këtë Rajon Bashkia Dropull konsiderohet si qendër terciare;
- Territori i Bashkisë Dropull konsiderohet si zonë, në të cilën prioritare janë fuqizimi i zhvillimit dhe rigjenerimi e kooperimi, me specializim drejt ekoturizmit, turizmit të aventurës, blegtorisë, bujqësisë, e sektorit përpunues;
- Bashkia Dropull është një zonë strategjike ndërkuftare, ku bashkëveprimi me territorin përtej kufirit është gjithashtu një prioritet. Pika kufitare e Kakavijës ndodhet në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull;

- Shumë shërbime Bashkia Dropull do të mund t'i marrë nga Gjirokastra dhe Saranda, që përpos fatit që kanë distanca relativisht të vogla nga Dropulli, konsiderohen nga PPK si Metropole dhe Porta Hyrëse. Ndër të tjera Gjirokastra do të ofrojë edhe shërbimin e aeroportit, dhe Saranda të portit detar;

Përmes territorit të Bashkisë Dropull kalon një nga akset primare infrastrukturore të rëndësishme kombëtare, që lidh Tiranën me Gjirokastrën, e më tej shkon drejt zonës ndërkuftare për t'u lidhur me Janinën;

- Hekurudha e propozuar nga PPK dhe PPV

i Bashkisë së Gjirokastrës, kalon gjithashtu përmes territorit të Bashkisë Dropull dhe pritet të ketë një impakt të madh përse i përket jo vetëm integritet të Shqipërisë në rrjetin hekurudhor Ballkanik e European, por në mënyrë të drejtpërdrejtë edhe të vetë Bashkisë Dropull me rajonin përreth, brenda dhe përtej kufirit;

- Zona e Mbrojtur e Pyllit të Bredhit të Sotirës i jep zonës së Dropullit rëndësi në panoramën kombëtare të habitateve të mbrojtura, ku në rastin konkret Zona e Mbrojtur ka rëndësi edhe për rajonin ndërkuftar dhe kthehet në një objekt të projekteve të mundshme të bashkëpunimit ndërkuftar.

1.3.3 Puna dhe mbledhja e të dhënave në terren

Për të realizuar me sukses këtë fazë grupi i punës nuk është mjaftuar vetëm me të dhënat zyrtare të siguruar nga institucionet përkatëse, por ka realizuar gjithashtu një databazë të dedikuar territorit të Bashkisë Dropull falë vizitave të shumta studimore në terren.

Deri në këtë fazë janë zhvilluar gjithsej 7 ekspedita 2-3 ditore pune dhe 4 ekspedita 1 ditore.

Vizita 1: 14-15 Dhjetor 2016

- Njohja me territorin e Bashkisë Dropull. Vizitat në çdo fshat në Njësitë Dropull i Sipërm dhe Dropull i Poshtëm.

Vizita 2: 25-26 Janar 2017

- Njohja me territorin, problematikat dhe sfidat e Njësisë së Pogonit.

Vizita 3: 8-9 Shkurt 2017

- Kryerja e pyetësorëve mbi ofrimin e shërbimeve, ekonominë dhe kushtet e banimit, në të 41 fshatrat e Bashkisë Dropull. Një pjesë e grupit ju dedikua takimeve me të gjitha bizneset (AGNA, ELKA, GLINA, Gjiofarma etj.) që operojnë në territorin e Bashkisë së Dropulli.

Vizita 4: 15-16 Mars 2017.

Takime me bashkitë fqinje Gjirokastrër, Libohovë, Finiq dhe më Prefektin e Qarkut Gjirokastrër. Një pjesë e grupit të punës vazhdoi ndërkohë punën në terren për mbledhjen e të dhënave në lidhje me demografinë, punësimin dhe ekonominë, dhe problematikat mjedisore.

Vizita 5: 5-6 Prill 2017

- Takim me Prefektin e Rajonit të Janinës dhe ekipin e tij të ekspertëve. Gjatë takimit u nënshkrua një marrëveshje bashkëpunimi midis dy palëve, Rajonit të Janinës dhe Bashkisë Dropull.

Vizita 6: 23-24-25 Prill 2017

- Punë në terren në Njësinë Administrative të Pogonit në kuadër të hartimit të VSM. Njohja me problematikat kryesore mjedisore.

Vizita 7: 5 Maj 2017

- Dëgjesa e parë publike me grupet e interesit në kuadër të hartimit të VSM dhe prezantimi me rëndësinë e hartimit të PPV dhe hapat përkatës që do të shoqërojnë të gjithë procesin.

Vizita 8: 12-13-14 Maj 2017

- Punë në terren për katalogimin e përdorimit dhe gjendjes së çdo godine në të 41 fshatrat e Bashkisë Dropull.

Vizita 9: 13 Korrik 2017

- Dëgjesa e dytë publike në lidhje me prezantimin e Analizës dhe Vlerësimit të Territorit.

Vizita 10: 17 Tetor 2017

- Konsultim final i materialit të korigjuar të Analizës dhe Vlerësimit të Territorit, pas komenteve të mara nga AKPT, dhe konsultim paraprak i Strategjisë, Objektivave dhe Projekteve.

Vizita 11: 2 Nëntor 2017

- Konsultim dhe punë përgatitore për Strategjinë Territoriale.

1.3.4 Skenarët e Propozuar

Duke marrë parasysh të gjitha analizat e bëra mbi territorin e Bashkisë Dropull dhe duke u bazuar në dinamikat sociale dhe ekonomike të zonës, u morën në konsideratë 3 skenare bazë për zhvillimin e territorit.

Skenari 1: Dropulli, zonë rurale ndërkufitare Bashkia Dropull, një territor me identitet rural bujqësor, turistik që karakterizohet nga vendbanime dhe shërbime të decentralizuara. Një zonë tranzit e pjesës ndërkufitare midis dy qendrave rajonale Gjirokastër dhe Janinë, e pasur me potenciale natyrore dhe pejzazhe të mbrojtura.

Skenari 2: Dropulli, një satelit shërbimesh industriale

Bashkia Dropull, një satelit i Gjirokastrës dhe vend-përqëndrim i shërbimeve dhe njësive ekonomike përpunuese më të mëdha të Rajonit Jugor Shqipëtar. Hambar produktesh dhe zonë ekonomike me rëndësi ndërkufitare, që siguron konkurrencë, ekonomi shkalle dhe mundësi punësimi për popullsinë e zonës, si brenda dhe jashtë kufirit.

Skenari 3: Dropulli, portë hyrëse dhe pol zhvillimi rural

Bashkia Dropull, pol zhvillimi rural midis dy qendrave rajonale Gjirokastër, Janinës dhe vargmaleve jugore të Shqipërisë dhe bregdetit të Jonit, me fokus në zhvillimin e bujqësisë, blegtorisë, turizmit dhe industrisë përpunuese. Një territor me karakter dhe identitet të fortë historik e kulturor, model i bashkëjetesës midis kombësive të ndryshme, dhe urë lidhëse midis Shqipërisë dhe Greqisë. Një territor që përdor në mënyrë të qëndrueshme potencialet për një ekonomi lokale të konsoliduar dhe atmosferë favorizuese për kthimin e popullsisë dhe tërheqjen e investimeve.

KAPITULLI 2- ANALIZA S.W.O.T

S.W.O.T

Bazuar në VKM 671 dt. 29/07/2015 "Për miratimin e Rregullores së Planifikimit të Territorit" analiza S.W.O.T është orientuar në bazë të 5 (pesë) sistemeve territoriale. Ndërkohë, është gjykuar si e arsyeshme që të përfshihet një element i 6-të në strukturën e analizës, i cili konsideron "kuadrin institucional". Analiza do të shërbejë më pas si bazë për programet dhe politikat, në mënyrë që ato të marrin në konsideratë dhe zbatueshmërinë apo masat për të arritur në zbatimin e tyre.

PIKAT E FORTA

Sistemi Institucional

- Ndërgjegjësim i lartë për detyrimet qytetare/ publike në pagimin e taksave (si popullsia banuese e përhershme, ashtu edhe ajo emigruese e sezonale);
- Administratorët e Njësive (Dropull i Sipërm, Dropull i Poshtëm, Pogon) kanë njohje të mirë të territorit dhe mbajnë lidhje të ngushta me kryetarët e çdo vendbanimi (fshati);
- Si administrata, ashtu edhe popullsia lokale janë mjaft mbështetës dhe të gatshëm të kontribuojnë dhe punojnë sëbashku për hartimin e Planit të Përgjithshëm Vendor për territorin e Bashkisë Dropull;
- Remitancat kanë lehtësuar investimet e Bashkisë në infrastrukturë dhe shërbime ekonomike/tregtare (banorët kanë vetë-financuar përmisimin e këtyre shërbimeve);

Sistemi i Vendbanimeve

- Zona me trashëgimi të pasur kulturore dhe historike;
- Rrjet i pasur monumentesh me rëndësi fetare dhe arkeologjike;
- Traditë në përpunimet artizanale;

- Karakteristika dalluese arkitektonike;
- Bashkëjetesë midis etniciteteve të ndryshme;
- Pozicionim strategjik midis Shqipërisë dhe Greqisë;
- Prani të bizneseve të mëdha me impakt ndërkombëtar;
- Distanca të vogla midis zonave të ndryshme të banuara;
- Ri-konstruktiv dhe restaurim i shesheve kryesore dhe disa prej banesave tipike (remitancat si burim financiar);

Sistemi Infrastruktural

- Vendbanimet shtrihen përgjatë aksit kryesor infrastrukturor dhe lidhen midis tyre përmes këtij aksi;
 - Afërsi me pikën kufitare të Kakavijës – Portë hyrëse për në Shqipëri nga Greqi;
 - Afërsi me portet e Igoumenitsa-s dhe Sarandës;
 - Afërsi me qendrat rajonale Gjirokastër dhe Janinë;
 - Sistemi bujqësor ka ruajtur një pjesë të madhe të infrastrukturës mbështetëse të vaditjes dhe kullimit;
- Sistemi Hidrik**
- Rrjet i pasur hidrografik – Afërsi ndaj luginës së Drinosit;
 - Prania e burimeve ujore në afërsi të zonave të banuara;
 - Burime të pasura ujore nën-tokësore;
 - Prania e ujit në afërsi të zonave bujqësore;
 - Ekzistenca e pikave me atraksion kulturor dhe historik/ natyror (Lumi Drinosit, Lumi Suhës, Liqeni Viroit, Shpellat nën-ujore të Viroit dhe Skotinisë, etj.);

Sistemi Bujqësor / Blegtoral

- 18.3% e sipërfaqes së përgjithshme është tokë bujqësore;
 - Bujqësia përbën një nga degët kryesore të zhvillimit ekonomik për Bashkinë e Dropullit;
 - Bonitetet e tokës ka përgjithësisht katëgorinë III, III-IV dhe IV-V;
 - Varietet produktesh;
 - Iniciativa private për përpunimin e produktit vendas në mënyrë artizanale dhe krijimin e një marke lokale;
 - Kërkesë në rritje në treg për produkte lokale/artizanale;
- Sistemi Natyror**
- Pejzazhi dhe natyra përbëjnë një nga sistemet mbizotëruese në Bashkinë Dropull;
 - Zona me karakteristika të veçanta natyrore dhe pejzazh dallues;
 - Shpërndarje të zonave natyrore në të gjithë territorin e Bashkisë dhe një marrëdhënie e ngushtë e tyre me vendbanimet;
 - Monumente të shumta natyrore;

- Shumëllojshmëri e relievit/ malor/ kodrinor/ fushor/ lumor;
- Sipërfaqja Natyrore përbën 78% të sipërfaqes së përgjithshme të Bashkisë, nga ku pyjet përfaqësohen me rreth 12,061 ha.

PIKAT E DOBËTA

Sistemi Institucional

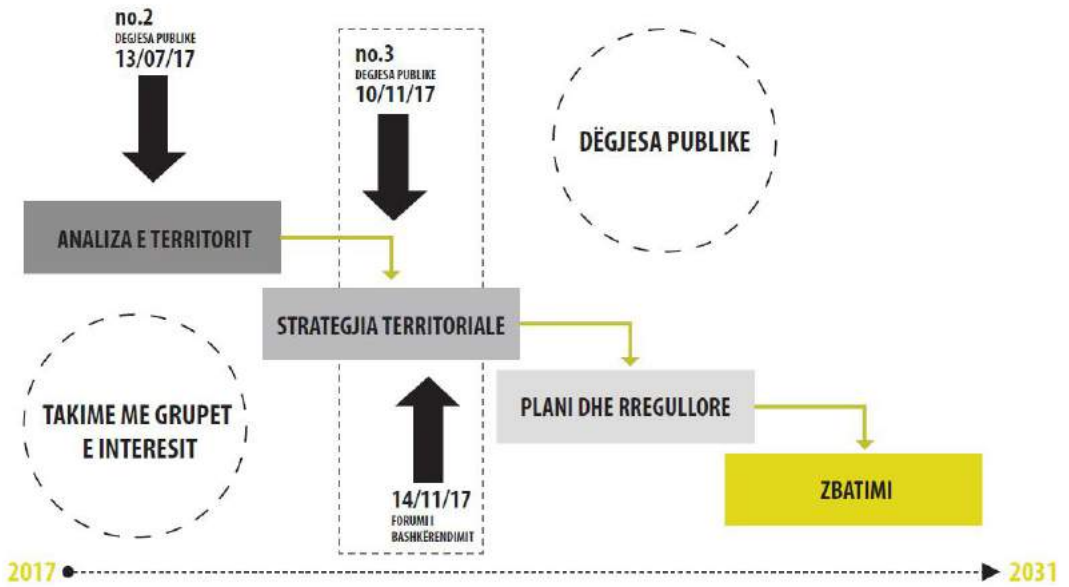
- Pas Reformës Territoriale, Bashkia ka një sipërfaqje më të madhe të territorit, gjë që përbën një sfidë për manaxhimin dhe ofrimin e shërbimeve, sidomos duke konsideruar karakterin ruralv e të shpërndarë të vendbanimeve dhe relievit;
- Mungesë e kapaciteteve institucionale;
 - Bashkia për momentin ofron shërbime të ndryshme në fshatra të ndryshëm (Sofratikë, Vrisera, Vanister, Dervician) / Godina e re e Bashkisë, e cila do të mbledhë ofrimin e të gjitha shërbimeve administrative është duke u ndërtuar në Sofratikë;
 - Mungesë e theksuar e informacionit mbi territorin e Bashkisë;
 - Ndryshim i madh ndërmjet popullsisë së deklaruar nga INSTAT (3,507 banorë) dhe asaj të deklaruar nga Regjistrit Civil i Popullsisë (22,898 banorë);
 - Ndonëse në territorin e Bashkisë Dropullit operojnë bizneset më të mëdha në vend, me impakt ndërkombëtar, shumica e personave të punësuar në këto biznese nuk janë vendas;

Sistemi i Vendbanimeve

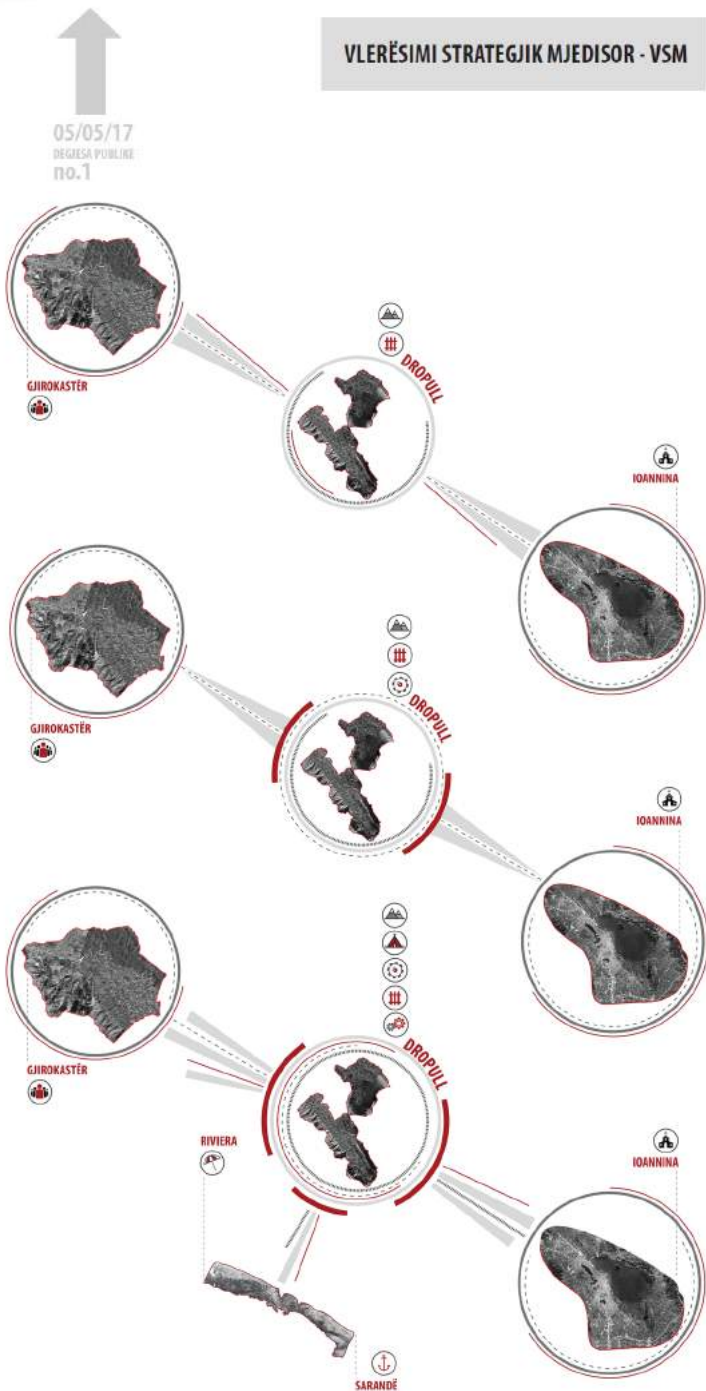
- Promovim i dobët i vlerave kulturore, historike dhe arkeologjike;
- Amortizim i banesave si pasaojë e largimit të popullsisë në emigracon (shumica prej të cilave janë banesa karakteristike tradicionale);
- Popullsi 'sezonale' (mungesë e shërbimeve dhe aktiviteteve gjithë-vjetore);
- Sistem vendbanimesh i shpërndarë në territor (41 fshatra), duke ndjekur aksin kryesor rrugor;
- Mungesë e theksuar aksesit dhe shërbimesh në Njësinë Administrative të Pogonit (relieve i vështirë si sfidë ndaj kësaj problematike);

Sistemi Infrastruktural

- Mungesë e infrastrukturës së plotë lidhëse midis Njesive Administrative Dropull i Sipërm/Poshtëm dhe Pogon;
- Mungesë e lidhjes së shpejtë me portin e Sarandës për shërbime tregtare/biznesi dhe turizmi;
- Ngritja e një pike kufitare zyrtare dhe rehabilitim i infrastrukturës lidhëse me Greqinë, përmes zonës së Glinës dhe



VLERËSIMI STRATEGJIK MJEDISOR - VSM



SKENARI 1:
Dropulli, një zonë rurale ndërkulturre.

Bashkia Dropull, një territor me identitet rural bujqësor, turistik që karakterizohet nga vendbanime dhe shërbime të decentralizuara. Një zonë tranzit e pjesës ndërkulturre midis dy qendrave rajonale Gjirokastrë dhe Janinë, e pasur me potenciale natyrore dhe peizazhe të mbrynta.

SKENARI 2:
Dropulli, një satelit shërbimesh ekonomike.

Bashkia Dropull, një satelit i Gjirokastrës dhe vend-përqëndrimi i shërbimeve dhe njësi ekonomike përpunuese në të mëdha të Rajosit Jugor Shqiptar. Hambar produktesh dhe zonë ekonomike me rëndësi ndërkulturore, që siguron konkurrencshmëri, ekonomi shkalle dhe mundësi punësimi për popullsinë e zonës, si brenda dhe jashtë kufirit.

SKENARI 3:
Dropulli, portë hyri dhe pol zhvillimi rural.

Bashkia Dropull, pol zhvillimi rural midis dy qendrave rajonale Gjirokastrë, Janinë dhe vargmalëve jugore të Shqipërisë dhe bregdetit Janinar, me fokus në zhvillimin e bujqësisë, blegtorisë, turizmit dhe industrisë përpunuese. Një territor me karakter identitet të fortë historik e kulturor, model i bashkëjetës midis kombësive të ndryshme dhe urë lidhëse midis Shqipërisë dhe Greqisë. Një territor që përdor në mënyrë të qëndrueshme potencial për një ekonomi lokale të konkurrues dhe atmosferë favorizuese për këtimin e popullsisë dhe tërheqjen e investimeve.

Vllaho Goranxisë;

- Mungesë e theksuar e infrastrukturës rrugore midis fshatrave në Njësinë Administrative Pogon;
- Mungesë e sistemit të transportit publik;
- Mungesë e ofrimit të plotë në të gjithë territorin e bashkisë, të shërbimeve të furnizimit me energji elektrike dhe ujë të pijshëm;

Sistemi Hidrik

Burime pikësore të ndotjes përgjatë rrjedhës së lumit;

- Ndotja e lumit të Drinos nga hedhjet e paorganizuar të mbetjeve urbane;
- Ndryshim në vite i shtratit të lumit si pasojë e erozionit dhe ndryshimit të morfologjisë së terrenit nga ndërhyrjet dhe përdorimet e reja të tokës të prezantuara në zonë;
- Shtrirje e zonave të banuara pranë shtratit të lumit (rrezik ndaj përmytjeve);
- Amortizimi i sistemit të vaditjes dhe kullimit;
- Mungesë e njohjes dhe promovimit të potencialeve lokale;

Sistemi Bujqësor / Blegtoral

-Mungesë evlerësimit të përshtatshmërisë së tokës për kultivimin e produkteve specifike;

- Fragmentizimi i tokës bujqësore;
- Braktisje e tokës së punueshme;
- Kosto e lartë e prodhimit;
- Mungesë e pikave të grumbullimit dhe tregtimit të produkteve;
- Mungesë e organizimit në tregëtimin e produkteve, që lë hapësirë për tregëtimin individual të produkteve, e rrjedhimisht rrit kostot;
- Mungesë e kushteve të përshtatshme për magazinim e produkteve;
- Mungesë e kontrollit të cilësise dhe certifikimit të produkteve;

Sistemi Natyror

- Prerje pa kriter e pyjeve;
- Aktiviteti i gjuetisë i pakontrolluar;
- Mbjellje e paorganizuar e bimëve medicinale;
- Erozion përgjatë rrjedhës së Drinosit (prerje e pyjeve, aktivitete që zhvillohen përgjatë rrjedhës së lumit);
- Mungesë e lidhjeve të rrjeteve natyrore me kontekstin përreth, parqet rajonale/ kombëtare/ ndërkuftare;
- Thatësira ekstreme gjatë stinës së verës;
- Zjarre të shumta gjatë stinës së verës (temp. të larta; mungesë kontrolli dhe pajisjesh etj.).

RREZIQET

Sistemi Institucional

- Vështirësi në ngritjen e kapaciteteve lokale;

- Paaftësi në mbulim të territorit me ofrimin e shërbimeve/ kosto të mëdha administrative;

Thellimi i ndryshimit mes popullsisë së raportuar nga INSTAT dhe asaj të Regjistrimit të Gjendes Civile, gjë që reflektohet edhe në transfertat financiare nga Qeveria Qëndrore;

- Largimi i forcës së punës dhe popullsisë drejt qyteteve më të mëdha të rajonit dhe vendit, sidomos drejt vendbanimeve të tjera fqinje përtej kufirit;

- Pabarazi në zhvillimin rajonal krahasuar me vendet fqinje;

Sistemi i Vendbanimeve

- Humbja e vlerave kulturore-historike;

- Braktisja e vendbanimeve për arsye të emigracionit (qoftë sezonal, qoftë në terma më të shkurtër kohor);

- Braktisje e vendbanimeve në zonat e thella malore, kryesisht në Njësinë Administrative të Pogonit, si pasojë e terrenit të vështirë dhe mungesës së infrastrukturës shërbyese;

- Amortizim i mëtejshëm i banesave si pasojë e largimit të popullsisë;

- Cilësi e ulët e jetesës si pasojë e mungesës së shërbimeve dhe aktiviteteve ekonomike;

- Rritje e aktiviteteve ekonomike informale dhe të paorganizuar, dhe humbja e mundësisë për të materializuar në nivel vendor përfitimin nga këto aktivitete dhe potenciale ekonomike;

- Pamundësia për të materializuar përfitimin nga prezencën e bizneseve më të mëdha, të cilat momentalisht ndodhen në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull (taksa, shërbime, punësim etj.);

- Braktisje dhe rrënim i monumenteve të kulturës (kisha, shtëpi, ura etj.);

Sistemi Infrastrukturor

- Bashkia Dropull si një pikë tranziti mes qytetit të Gjirokastrës dhe territorit përtej kufirit, pa materializuar në aktivitete dhe shërbime potencialet që zotëron;

- Ndotje e burimeve të ujit të pijshëm nga aktivitetet ekonomike të pakontrolluara, si bizneset, ashtu edhe në bujqësi;

- Amortizim i infrastrukturës rrugore lokale;

- Investim vetëm në akset kryesore strategjike, dhe jo në ato dytësore e lokale që u shërbejnë zonave të banuara. Kjo do të çonte në braktisje të mëtejshme të këtyre zonave;

- Amortizim i mëtejshëm i veprave kryesore infrastrukturore e me rëndësi historike (rrugë historike, ura të vjetra, akuadukte etj.);

- Mos-integrimi i territorit në strukturat



rajonale (brenda vendit dhe përtej kufirit), duke humbur mundësinë e gjenerimit të fondeve dhe zhvillimit të mëtejshëm të territorit, përmes projekteve të përbashkëta ndërkuftare;

Sistemi Hidrik

Ndotje e pasqyrës ujore nëntokësore dhe mbitokësore nga aktivitetet ekonomike të pakontrolluara, si bizneset, ashtu edhe në bujqësi;

- Shfrytëzim pa kriter i zonave për marrjen e inerteve (që do të çonte në rritjen e ekspozimit ndaj përmytjeve);

- Rrënim i mëtejshëm i veprave kryesore të ujësjellësit, të cilat janë jo vetëm funksionale dhe shërbyese ndaj zonave të banuara, por kanë edhe vlera historike (p.sh. Ujësjellësi i Selckës etj.);

- Humbje e mundësisë për të materializuar në shërbime dhe të ardhura potencialet hidrike me vlera turistike (rrjedha e Drinosit, Suhës, shpella nënujore e Viroit, shepella nënujore e Sktorinisë etj.);

Sistemi Bujqësor / Blegtoral

- Rritje e braktisjes së tokës së kultivueshme;

- Kultivim një-sezonal i tokës, pra humbje e mundësisë për të rritur prodhueshmërinë në sasi dhe kohë-zgjatje;

- Fragmentarizim i mëtejshëm i tokës së kultivueshme;

- Ulje e aksesit të kultivuesve dhe prodhimit në treg;

- Zvogëlim i prodhimit/ prodhim individual/ impakt i vogël në ekonomi;

- Humbje e produkteve tradicionale sipas zonave (humbje e metodave tradicionale të prodhimit, por edhe e produkteve tradicionale, duke mos i kultivuar më ato);

- Vështirësi bashkëpunimi midis sipërmarrësve të ndryshëm midis tyre, si dhe midis sipërmarrësve dhe Bashkisë;

- Standarte të ulëta të prodhimit/ më pak prodhim;

- Rritje e ekonomive informale dhe pa kontroll cilësie;

- Braktisje e tokës bujqësore dhe blegtorisë si pasojë e emigracionit, ose kostove të mëdha të zhvillimit të tyre;

Sistemi Natyror

- Dëmtim i zonave natyrore e pejzazhistike si pasojë e rritjes së aktivitetit të erozionit dhe rrëshqitjeve;

- Rritje e ndotjes natyrore nga mbetjet industriale, bujqësore dhe të ngurta urbane;

- Dëmtim i zonave të mbrojtura (rritje e rasteve si ai i Bredhit të Sotirës etj.);

- Humbja e mundësisë për të integruar potencialet natyrore në strukturat ekonomike turistike të Bashkisë;

- Zhvillim i aktiviteteve njerëzore në zonat e ndjeshme natyrore;

- Zhvillim pa kriter e pa kontroll i turizmit në zonat natyrore/ zonat e mbrojtura;

- Mos-integrim i potencialeve natyrore në strukturat rajonale (brenda vendit dhe përtej kufirit), duke humbur mundësinë e gjenerimit të fondeve dhe zhvillimit të mëtejshëm të këtyre potencialeve, përmes projekteve të përbashkëta ndërkuftare;

MUNDËSITË

Sistemi Institucional

- Manaxhim i integruar i territorit, duke lejuar mundësi për zhvillim të planifikuar dhe sipas rregullave për çdo fushë;

- Zhvillim në bazë të prioriteteve nga momenti i hartimit të planit;

- Krijimi i databazës së të dhënave për bashkinë e Dropullit;

- Kualifikim i stafit të bashkisë dhe rritje e kapaciteteve vendore;

- Dixhitalizim i shërbimeve dhe shërbimet online;

- Krijimi i qendrave multifunksionale në territor që shërbejnë edhe në kuadër të procesit të decentralizimit;

- Përmirësim i sasisë dhe cilësisë së shërbimeve të ofruara;

Sistemi i Vendbanimeve

- Krijimi i identitetit lokal/ shndërrimi i zonave të banuara në zona me karakter specifik sipas karakteristikave specifike;

- Shtimi i shërbimeve dhe zgjerimi i gamës së shërbimeve të ofruara në cdo Njësi Administrative e qendër banimi;

- Ofrimi i mundësisë së arsimit profesional e specilizimeve sipas karakteristikave lokale të ekonomisë;

- Mirëmbajtja e banesave, rikonstruksioni dhe restaurimi i banesave që janë në gjendje kritike;

- Krijimi i një manuali ndërhyrjeje për cdo banesë, me qëllimin e unifikimit të stileve dhe formave të ndërhyrjeve (kjo në kuadër dhe të krijimit të identitetit lokal të sipërpërmendur);

- Restaurimi dhe mirëmbajtja e monumenteve kryesore kulturore e historike;

- Krijimi i hapësirave publike cilësore, dhe përdorimi i tyre si katalizatorë për rritjen e aktiviteteve sociale dhe gjithëpërfshirjes;

- Privatizimi ose shfrytëzimi i ish-zonave industriale në dobi të njesive të ndryshme administrative (ish-depo ushatarake, kapanone etj.);

- Përmirësimi dhe rritja e bashkëpunimit me zonat fqinje përtej kufirit (konsiderimi i zhvillimit në disa prej këtyre zonave, si shembull për nxitjen e zhvillimit edhe në



territorin e Bashkisë Dropull);

- Prezantimi i përdorimeve alternative të banesave që banohen në mënyrë sezonale (krijimi i shtëpive pritëse/ bujtina etj.);
- Integrimi i aftësive përpunuese artizanale në sistemin e zhvillimit ekonomik dhe ofrimit të shërbimeve;

Sistemi Infrastruktural

- Rritja e aksesueshmërisë së qendrave kryesore me zonat më periferike dhe të izoluara;

- Përmirësimi i infrastrukturës shërbyese rrugore sidomos në zonat e thella malore (zona e Pogonit);

- Përmirësimi i aksesit dhe lidhja e shpejtë me portin e Sarandës;

- Përmirësim i aksesit dhe lidhja me aeroportin e Gjirokastrës;

- Ndërlidhje e shpejtë me pikën më të afërt të sistemit hekurudhor që përshkon rajonin;

- Implementim i një sistemi të rregullt të transportit publik në të gjithë territorin e Bashkisë së Dropullit;

- Prezantimi i formave alternative të transportit që mund t'i shërbejnë edhe zhvillimit të turizmit (makina off-road, bicikleta, kuaj);

- Krijimi i infrastrukturave pritëse për zhvillimin e turizmit (qendra informacioni, shtëpi pritëse, mundësi alternative transporti, opsione iteneraresh turistike, shërbime alternative etj.)

- Nxitja e aktiviteteve ekonomike dhe shërbyese komplementare me pjesën tjetër të rajonit (si atë më të zhvilluar-Gjirokastrën e Sarandën, po ashtu edhe bashki të tjera fqinje e të ngashme-Libohovë, Finiq, Delvinëm etj.);

- Përmirësimi i shërbimit të furnizimit me energji elektrike dhe furnizimit me ujë të pijshëm;

- Sistemet ekologjike të trajtimit të ujërave/ infrastruktura e gjelbër;

Sistemi Hidrik

- Rivitalizim/ rikonstruksion/ rihvillim e zgjerim i sistemit të kanaleve kulluese e vaditëse;

- Minimizimi i ndotjeve të pasqyrës ujore nëntokësore dhe mbitokësore;

- Manaxhim i mbetjeve industriale/ bujqësore e urbane, për të ulur ndotjen e sipërfaqeve ujore e natyrore;

- Identifikimi i të gjitha burimeve kryesore ujore, manaxhimi, kontrolli dhe vënia në funksion e tyre sipas kritereve të mirë-përcaktuara;

- Prezantimi i masave mbrojtëse për pasuritë kryesore ujore;

- Promovimi i pasurive kryesore ujore, dhe integrimi i tyre në zhvillimin e turizmit;

Sistemi Bujqësor/ Blegtoral

- Krijimi i fermave të prodhimit bujqësor e blegtoral;

- Krijimi i pikave të grumbullimit, tregëtimit dhe lidhja me tregjet rajonale (brenda vendit dhe përtej kufirit);

- Sigurimi i kontrollit të cilisë dhe krijimi i markës lokale të produkteve (si mundësi për të futur prodhimin vendas edhe në tregun Europian);

- Zgjerimi i gamës së produkteve të kultivuara dhe prodhuara (plotësimi i sistemit me ciklin e përpunimit të produkteve);

- Promovimi i përpunimit artizanal të produkteve, si mundësi edhe për ruajtjen e metodave tradicionale të përpunimit;

- Mbështetja e sipërmarrjeve të vogla;

- Ripërdorimi i tokës djerrë (taksimi dhe subvencionet);

- Nxitja e partneriteteve publike-private;

- Manaxhimi i mbetjeve për të shmangur/ minimizuar dëmtimin e sistemit bujqësor/ blegtoral;

Sistemi Natyror

- Vlerësimi i potencialeve natyrore dhe zgjerimi i zonave të mbrojtura;

- Pasurimi i legjislacionit dhe masave mbrojtëse për mbrojtjen e sistemit natyror dhe pejzazhit;

- Krijimi i zonave me atraksion natyror/ pejzazhistik për zhvillimin e turizmit të qëndrueshëm;

- Krijimi i zonave me biodiversitet të lartë/ kthimi në zona më interes studimi për kërkime shkencore;

- Nxitja e zhvillimit të turizmit multidimensional dhe gjithëvjeter;

- Nxitja e zhvillimit të sporteve ujore dhe të bazuara në natyrë;

- Krijimi i mikro-zonave për zhvillimin e plazheve lumore;

- Lidhja me potencialet natyrore me rëndësi rajonale (brenda vendit dhe përtej kufirit)/ Rritja e mundësive për zhvillimin e projekteve ndërkuftare (CBC);

- Manaxhimi i mbetjeve për të shmangurë minimizuar dëmtimin e sistemit natyror;

2.1 Analiza Metabolike dhe vlerësimi i përgjithshëm i territorit të njësisë vendore

Metodologjia për analizën Metabolike Dropull

Analiza e metabolizmit është një analizë komplekse, e cila kërkon një sasi shumë të madhe informacioni të përditësuar për të qënë e bazuar në të dhëna sa më aktuale dhe për t'i bërë gjetjet e analizës sa më të besueshme. Mbledhja e informacionit është bërë në disa burime:

Në institucionet që kanë të dhëna mbi mjedisin (INSTAT, Bashki/Komuna, Qark,







Ministria e Mjedisit, Ministria e Bujqësisë dhe Zhvillimit Rural, Ministria e Industrisë dhe Energjisë, dhe institucione të tjera qëndrore sipas nevojës dhe flukseve që janë përcaktuar);

Vizita në terren- kjo metodë ka shërbyer pak për qëllimin e studimit, pasi nuk jep të dhëna sasiore;

Takimi me ekspertë të fushave të ndryshme, për të dhënat cilësore.

Kjo analizë kërkon një sasi të madhe informacioni, ndaj kërkon një metodologji të mirë për analizimin e të dhënave në territor. Analizimi i të dhënave mund të bëhet duke u bazuar në një nga mënyrat e përpunimit të informacionit mbështetur në konceptin e "Smart Cities":

- Mass – Balance

Kjo metodologji mbështetet në një sistem, i cili lidh origjinën, sasinë dhe daljen ose humbjen e sistemeve në një "peshore", e cila balancon informacionin duke krijuar një panoramë për rrugën e ndjekur nga fluksi. Kjo krijon një skemë për hyrjet dhe daljet, duke përcaktuar humbjet dhe balancën e përgjithshme të flukseve në territor.

Duke u mbështetur në metodologjinë e zgjedhur për të analizuar flukset e Bashkisë Dropull është përcaktuar edhe formati i softëare-it për të lehtësuar paraqitjen e flukseve në formë diagramatike, mbështetur në tabelat exel që janë krijuar për të kategorizuar informacionin në territor.

Zakonisht identifikimi i fushave që do të analizohen për metabolizmin urban varet nga sasia e të dhënave në dispozicion, si dhe konteksti për të cilin kryhet analiza. Kategorizimi i të dhënave krijon një tablo të plotë të flukseve, të cilat më vonë do të shërbejnë si bazë për hartëzimin. Në rastin konkret për Bashkinë Dropull, për secilin nga treguesit e marrë në analizë janë kryer matjet dhe llogaritjet për të bërë sa më të qartë inputin dhe outputin e përgjithshëm për fushën e marrë në analizë. Më tej hartëzimi i analizave është bazuar mbi të dhëna sasiore, ndaj kjo ka bërë që edhe procesi i hartëzimit të kryhet më mirë në GIS.

Flukset e analizara janë: (a) fluksi i energjisë, (b) fluksi i ujit, (c) fluksi i ushqimit dhe (d) fluksi i mbetjeve. Analizimi i flukseve është bërë nëpërmjet identifikimit të hyrjeve dhe daljeve për secilin prej tyre. Hyrjet dhe daljet krijojnë një tablo të plotë të mënyrës së funksionimit të territorit, duke evidentuar potencialet dhe burimet që e bëjnë territorin të funksionojë si një i tërë.

2.1.1 Fluksi i Mbetjeve

Fluksi i mbetjeve për analizën e

metabolizmit në bashkinë Dropull mbështetet në mbledhjen dhe krahasim e informacionit. Ky fluks ka marrë në konsideratë disa elementë: sasinë e mbetjeve në nivel individ sipas të dhënave të përcaktuara në nivel qarku, në nivel bashkie dhe gjetjeve të grumbulluara nga grupi i punës. Ky informacion është konvertuar në sasi mbetjesh të gjeneruara për individe/ton/vit, kjo për të kuptuar impaktin që ka ky fluks në nivel bashkie. Një element tjetër i marrë në konsideratë është largësia e qendrave të banuara, vendet e depozitimit të mbetjeve. Ketu janë konsideruar ato formale dhe jo formale si dhe shpeshtësia e ofrimit të shërbimit të pastrimit. Nga kjo panorama jemi përpjekur të kuptojmë sesi ndikojnë llojet e ndryshme të mbetjeve duke bërë një ndarje, por në munges të informacionit të detajuar dhe transporti të mbetjeve jashtë territorit të bashkisë ka kufizuar këtë analizë. Bashkia Dropull gjatë janar 2017 dhe Qeshor 2017 ka gjeneruar 5,665 ton mbetje totale për një popullsi 7,138 banorësh. këto mbetje depozitohen në nivel rajonal në Gjirokastër ku me pas behet dhe transporti i tyre për në landfill-in.

Gjenerimi i mbetjeve në bashkinë Dropull është i përqendruar në zonat urbane dhe kryesisht në aksin kryesorë lidhës ku është e vendosur dhe numri më i madh i bizneseve. Transporti i këtyre mbetjeve bëhet me mjetet komunale të administruara nga bashkia, por dhe në mënyrë individuale sic veprojnë shumë nga bizneset vendase në mirëkuptim me bashkinë. Largësia mjaftë e madhe midis qendrave nga njera-tjetra dhe numrit jo të madh të rezidentëve në këto zona ka bere qe ky shërbim të ofrohet më pak se 1-2 herë në javë, kjo është akoma më e ulët në zonat malore të cilat e kanë këtë shërbim 1 herë në tre javë, ose në muaj, kjo edhe për shkak të vështirësisë në akses.

Në Bashkinë Dropull problematikat në lidhje me mbetjet lidhen me vëndet e depozitimit dhe shpeshtësisë e ofrimit të këtij shërbimi. Në munges të ktyre vëndeve kemi fenomene të ndotjes dhe krijmin e zonave të depozitimit informale dhe pa kushtet e duhura për mbrojtjen e tokës dhe mjedisit. Kjo munges ndihet dhe në zonat urbane ku mungojnë koshat. Një përpjekje e vogël riciklimi gjendet nga ana e bizneseve të cilat riciklojnë dhe shesin mbetjet e tyre të letres, plastikës dhe kartonit bizneseve te tjera në zonë.

Përsa i përket përpjekjeve për kompostimin e mbetjeve nuk ka të dhëna të sakta për përdorimin e kesaj metode, por nga bisedat dhe intervistat e kryera në bashki

nga grupi i punës kemi shumë nga familjet të cilat përmiqen ta përdorin, kjo metodë përdoret kryesisht në zonat malore ku dhe aksesimi është më i vështirë. Pavarësisht gjetjeve të grupit të punës nuk ka të dhëna zyrtare të cilat të konfirmojnë përdorimin e kësaj metode në bashkinë Dropull dhe të intervistuarit nuk kishin një skemë të qartë për aplikimin e kësaj metode.

2.1.2 Fluksi i Energjisë

Analizimi i këtij fluksi është mjaft kompleks pasi duhet marrë në konsideratë sigurimi i energjisë dhe konsumi i saj në nivel familje dhe biznesi, duke përdorur formulën për llogaritjen e energjisë: Energji/kw/vite .

Fluksi ndërtohet në mënyrë të posaçme për bizneset sipas tipologjisë së tyre, duke marrë në konsideratë që në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull ka m^w shumë se 150 biznese që operojnë në prodhim, ose përpunim. Nga k^wto kushte dhe duke marrë në konsideratë këto tregues për të identifikuar fluksin e energjisë dhe mënyrat e gjenerimit të tij, zona e biznesit wshtw ndarw në tre fasha kryesore.

P^wr tw vlerësuar konsumin e energjisë vjetore për familje wshtw konsideruar numri total i familjeve rezidente në Bashkinë Dropull, dhe më pas wshtw vlerësuar fluksi në tre sezonet e ndryshme, ku janë përfshirë dhe banuesit sezonalë gjatë muajve Mars- Prill, Qeshor-Korrik-Gusht dhe Dhjetor- Janar. Këto janë dhe sezonet gjatë të cilave konsumi i energjisë është më i lartë. Në konsideratë janë marrë dhe mundësitë alternative të sigurimit të energjisë, siç janë panelet diellore, të cilat aplikohen në nivel individual, pra në bazë familjeje.

Matja e fluksit për bizneset është bërë duke kategorizuar një fashë të përhershme të konsumit të energjisë që shtrihet përgjatë dy krahëve të Rrugës Interurbane SH4 Gjirokastër-Kakavijë. Këto biznese janë ndarë në biznese të kapaciteteve të mëdha, të mesme dhe të vogla. Të dhënat janë siguruar nga intervista të kryera në terren nga grupi i punës, dhe nga kryerja e një pyetësores, përmes së cilit u përcaktua nr. i punonjësve, hapësira që biznesi përdor në m², makineritë që përdoren dhe kapaciteti i tyre, si dhe të dhëna në lidhje me konsumin e energjisë gjatë muajve të ndryshëm.

Fluksi mbështetet në burimet e energjisë dhe mënyrat e gjenerimit të saj. Një tregues mjaft domethënës është propozimi për ndërtimin e dy Hidrocentraleve që impaktojnë këtë Bashki: ai i Selenicës 1 dhe i Selenicës 2, me një kapacitet të propozuar deri në dy mega. Kjo ndërhyrje impakton analizën e këtij fluksi, pasi rrit

prodhimin e energjisë. Një e dhënë shtesë është dhe ekzistenca e 175 digave të vogla për përdorim bujqësorë, shumica e të cilave janë mjaft të vjetra dhe tejet të amortizuara.

2.1.3 Fluksi i Ujit

Bashkia Dropull ka një sistem hidrik mjaft të pasur. Analizimi i këtij fluksi mbështetet në matjen e sasisë së ujit që shkon për konsum familjar, humbjet e sistemit, si dhe përdorimi nga pusët e ujit. Për të llogaritur këtë fluks janë grumbulluar të dhëna nga Bashkia, por edhe janë marrë në konsideratë pyetësoret e kryer në zonë nga grupi i punës, për të mundësuar vlerësimin e konsumit të ujit me formulën: $\text{familje/m}^3/\text{vite}$.

Për të kuptuar sasinë e ujit të konsumuar në këtë Bashki, analiza është përqendruar në disa komponentë për të kuptuar sasinë e ujit që qarkullon në territor. Fillimisht janë analizuar bizneset që operojnë në Bashkinë Dropull, duke i ndarë ato sipas profileve të tyre prodhuese dhe madhësisë: biznese të mëdha, të mesme dhe të vogla. Për të realizuar këtë ndarje janë konsideruar të dhëna si: nr. i punonjësve, hapësira që përdor çdo biznes në m², makineritë që përdorin ujë, kapaciteti i tyre si dhe të dhëna mbi konsumin e ujit gjatë muajve të ndryshëm.

Komponentë të tjerë që janë marrë në konsideratë janë dhe prurjet e lumejve dhe furnizimi i tyre gjatë pranverës nga përrenjtë sezonalë, ku përfshihet lumi Drinos dhe degëzimet e tij. Pjesë e analizës janë bërë dhe rezervuarët, sipërfaqjet ujore të përdorura në bujqësi dhe blegtori, si dhe burimet ujore të shpërndara në territor.

Këto elemente kanë një rëndësi të madhe për të kuptuar gjenerimin e fluksit dhe rrugën që ai ndjek. Formula e përdorur për të realizuar matjet përkatëse është: $\text{sasi uji/tokë bujqësore/vite}$. Në Bashkinë Dropull ka më shumë se 9 zona të pasura me burime ujore nëntokesore, të cilat si pasojë e përdorimit individual nuk janë pjesë e sistemit. Përjashtim bën burimi i ujit Glina, i cili është shndërruar në një "produkt konsumi" përmes industrisë së ngritur që operon mbi këtë burim. Për të matur rëndësinë të burimeve me përdorim individual, brenda sistemit, janë marrë në konsideratë elemente si: kapaciteti i tyre sipas stinëve të ndryshme në bazë të prurjeve, dhe shfrytëzimi i tyre.

2.1.4 Fluksi i Ushqimit

Analiza e këtij fluksi mbështetet në llogaritjen e sasisë dhe llojeve të prodhimit ushqimor në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull. Për kryerjen e analizës meren





në konsideratë dy fakte: që sipërfaqja bujqësore zë rreth 18.03% të sipërfaqjes totale të territorit, si dhe klasat kryesore të bonitetit të tokës bujqësore. Klasat e bonitetit variojnë nga III-VIII, duke filluar me III në Veri- Lindje, për tu ndërthurur më pas në klasat IV-V në pjesën qendrore të Bashkisë, e për të përfunduar me klasat VII-VIII në Jug- Lindje, ku prodhimtaria është më e vogël dhe terreni më i thepisur. Duke konsideruar bujqësinë si një aktivitetet kryesore ekonomike të zonës janë marrë në shqyrtim tregues, të cilët ndihmojnë të kuptohet konsumi i produkteve të zonës nga familjet. Të dhënat për të llogaritur këtë fluks janë siguruar nga Bashkia dhe mbi këto të dhëna janë ndërtuar një sërë analizash, që më pas në bazë të llojit të produktit dhe sasisë së prodhuar është mundur të përcaktohet sasia e konsumit në terma lloj/ton/vite.

Zona prodhon disa produkte, por një pjesë të produkteve që konsumon për shkak të klimës dhe vështirësive që ajo paraqet, nuk mund të prodhohen në Bashkinë Dropull, ndaj duhet t'i marrë nga Bashki të tjera. Sipas intervistave të bëra, shumë nga këto produkte shkëmbehen midis tregëtarëve të Bashkive fqinje. Importi i produkteve për zonën është mjaft i ulët dhe kjo shifër nuk ka ndikuar në ndryshimin e të dhënave të këtij fluksi. Eksporti nga ana tjetër, ka luajtur një rol mjaft të madh, pasi në fashën ekonomike ndodhen biznese të industrisë ushqimore të lehtë, bimëve medicinale dhe erqzave. Këto produkte shkojnë kryesisht për eksport në vendet Europiane, por një sasi e vogël e tyre konsumohet nga vetë banorët e Dropullit. Prodhimi është kryesisht i orientuar drejt prodhimeve sipas stinëve, dhe nuk ka një konsideratë të llogaritur përsa i përket përshtatshmërisë së prodhimit, sipas tipit të tokës.

Një element i rëndësishëm i këtij fluksi janë dhe serat e prodhimit, stallat dhe pularitë që operojnë si biznese prodhuese të vogla, të cilat kryesisht operojnë në nivel familjar dhe funksionojnë me referime për të aksesuar tregun. Mungesa e një tregu lokal dhe rajonal ka limituar zhvillimin e iniciativave të vogla prodhuese, duke i lënë ato të pa konsiderueshme në matjen e këtij fluksi.

■ Konkluzione

Kjo metodologji Analize është përdorur si një instrument për të përmirësuar cilësinë e jetesës, si dhe për të kuptuar se si menaxhohet fluksi dhe zinxhiri që ai ndjek brenda territorit të Bashkisë Dropull. Gjatë kryerjes së analizave janë marrë në konsideratë më shumë se 50 lloje

të ndryshme të dhënash sasiore, të përthyerë më pas në ilustrime grafike dhe hartografike.

Disa nga problematikat e hasura gjatë këtij procesi lidhen me mungesën e informacionit. Për të kryer analiza të sakta dhe përfaqësuese duhet të sigurohen dhe përdoren të dhëna sasiore, të cilat duhet të jenë të plota dhe të përditësuara për të pasqyruar sa më mirë dinamikën e territorit. Për të këtë arsye, për realizimin e analizave metabolike mbi territorin e Bashkisë Dropull, grupi i punës ka shfrytëzuar disa burime, duke përfshirë jo vetëm të dhënat zyrtare (INSTAT, Ministritë përkatëse, autoritetet vendore etj.), por edhe të dhëna të grumbulluara nga intervistat individuale, pyetësorët dhe evidentimet e realizuara në terren në kuadër të hartimit të PPV.

Përfaqësimi i këtyre flukseve është lidhur ngushtë me tipologjinë e territorit, specifikat, problematikat dhe resurset e tij.

2.1.2 Konkluzionet për Fluksin e Mbetjeve:

- Fluksi i mbetjeve tregon se menaxhimi i shërbimit të mbetjeve duhet përmirësuar dhe duhen gjetur mënyra alternative për të ofruar këtë shërbim;
- Kompostimi ndodh në nivel të vogël, pa marrë dimension më të gjerë, dhe jo duke u përfshirë në një cikël të plotë prodhimi e përdorimi;
- Përqëndrimi i bizneseve në një pjesë të territorit ka ndihmuar në grumbullimin dhe manaxhimin e mbetjeve.

2.1.3 Konkluzionet për Fluksin e Energjisë:

- Fluksi i energjisë reflekton impaktin e mungesës së energjisë në periudha të caktuara të ditës, si dhe problematika me linja të ndryshme në zona me mbulim të dobët;
- Fluksi ka një impakt konsumi të lartë në zonën ekonomike, ku janë përqëndruar dhe pjesa më e madhe e aktiviteteve prodhuese dhe përpunuese;
- Ndërtimi i hidrocentraleve në aspektin energjistik ndikon në sasinë e energjisë së prodhuar në vend, por kjo nuk impakton prodhimin e energjisë në Bashki.

2.1.4 Konkluzionet për Fluksin e Ushqimit:

- Fluksi i ushqimit reflekton ndjeshëm mungesën e aksesit në treg të bizneseve të vogla dhe kjo impakton zhvillimin e tyre, por dhe njohjen nga Bashkitë e tjera;
- Sasia e ulët e tokës bujqësore të kultivuar reflekton aksesin e ulët në treg, i cili impakton në mënyrë të drejtëpërdrejtë

dhe gjenerimin e prodhimit në vetvete;

- Bizneset e mëdha dhe importimi i produkteve nga vendet fqinje konkuron dhe nuk ndihmon në njohjen e produkteve vendase.

Konkluzionet për Fluksin e Ujit:

- Burimet e ujit në zonë nuk kanë asnjë adresim, përdorim ose mirëmbajtje. Kapaciteti dhe potenciali i tyre nuk vlerësohen;
- Diferenca midis konsumit të ujit dhe prodhimit të tij tregon se sistemi ka humbje;
- Prurjet e mëdha të lumejnve shkaktojnë dëme dhe humbje toke. Nevojitet aktivizimi i kanaleve të drenazhimit;
- Rrjeti i furnizimit me ujë ka një mbulim jo të plotë dhe është në gjendje të amortizuar.

KAPITULLI 3- VIZIONI, OBJEKTIVAT STRATEGJIKË DHE SISTEMET

3.1 Vizioni Hapësinor i Zhvillimit të Territorit për Bashkinë Dropull

Bashkia Dropull, korridor zhvillimi linear i vendbanimeve, dhe pol zhvillimi rural midis qendrave rajonale Gjirokastër dhe Janinë, dhe vargmaleve jugore të Shqipërisë e bregdetit Jon.

Një territor me karakter dhe identitet të fortë historik e kulturor, model i bashkëjetesës midis kombësive të ndryshme, portë e rëndësishme e zonës ndërkufitare dhe urë lidhëse midis Shqipërisë dhe Greqisë.

Qendër me fokus në zhvillimin e turizmit, bujqësisë, blegtorisë, dhe industrisë përpunuese që vë në përdorim produktet vendase, për të krijuar një cikël të plotë prodhimi dhe tregëtimi. Zonë që mirëpret dhe siguron hapësirë për kërkimin dhe ngritjen e start-upeve të bazuara tek turizmi dhe bioproduktet, duke u shndërruar kështu në një "pol" ndërkufitar që përdor në mënyrë të qëndrueshme potencialet për një ekonomi lokale të konsoliduar dhe atmosferë favorizuese për kthimin e popullsisë dhe tërheqjen e investimeve.

3.2 Objektivat Strategjike

Me qëllim specifikimin dhe përkthimin e vizionit të mësipërm në një udhëzues të vlefshëm dhe lehtësisht të aplikueshëm, janë hartuar 4 objektiva kryesorë strategjike, të cilët synojnë të jenë të prekshëm dhe lehtësisht të zbatueshëm nga Bashkia gjatë 15 vjeçarit të ardhshëm.

OS_1: Rritja e aksesueshmërisë dhe integrimi territorial

Siç është shprehur edhe gjatë fazës së Analizës së Territorit për Bashkinë Dropull,

rritja e aksesueshmërisë dhe integrimi territorial si në nivel makro dhe atë mikro, përbën një nga sfidat kryesore të Bashkisë momentalisht. Kjo vjen jo vetëm si pasojë e konfigurimit të territorit pas Reformës së re Territoriale, por edhe si pasojë e terrenit të vështirë malor, i cili përbën një nga sfidat kryesore për Bashkinë dhe popullsinë vendase.

Në nivel makro infrastruktura kryesore rrugore lidh Dropullin me qytetin e Gjirokastrës, qendrën e Rajonit Jugor të Shqipërisë (rajon në të cilin Bashkia Dropull bën pjesë), me qytetin e Janinës përtej kufirit, që është dhe qendër e Rajonit me të njëjtin emër. Rruga Interurbane Kryesore SH4 lidh këto dy qendra rajonale midis tyre, duke shërbyer territorin e Bashkisë Dropull që gjendet në mesin e këtij aksi në zonën ndërkufitare, dhe duke rritur mundësitë e integritimit të këtij të fundit në aktivitetet ekonomike dhe sociale. Ndonëse në termat e infrastrukturës fizike lidhëse Bashkia Dropull është përgjithësisht e mirë-integruar në këtë makro-Rajon ndërkufitar, ka mangësi përse i përket integritimit më të mirë me qëllim zhvillimin ekonomik. Si pasojë e mungesës së një rrjeti të plotë të infrastrukturave alternative të aksesit dhe shërbimeve, të cilat mbështesin dhe shtyjnë më tej zhvillimin ekonomik dhe integrimin e Bashkisë Dropull në makro-Rajonin ndërkufitar, shumë nga aktivitetet që zhvillohen janë ende lokale dhe të izoluara, pa pasur një impakt të gjerë konkret në makro-Rajonin në fjalë. Në këto kushte përmirësimi i infrastrukturës rrugore lidhëse dhe shërbimeve, si dhe trajnimi i administratës për të qenë e aftë të jetë partnere, sëbashku me autoritetet fqinje, në Projekte të ndryshme të Bashkëpunimit Ndërkufitar.

Në nivelin mikro lidhja e dy Njësive Administrative Dropull i Sipërm dhe Dropull i Poshtëm me Njësinë e Pogonit është një nga prioritetet kryesore, në mënyrë që Bashkia Dropull të arrijë integrimin e plotë të të gjithë territorit që ka nën administrim. Momentalisht Njësia e Pogonit mund të aksesohet vetëm nga një arterie lidhëse (dalja nga Rruga Interurbane Kryesore SH4 nga Sofratika, përmes grykës së Selckës dhe Suhës), e cila është pjesërisht e shtruar dhe paraqet mjaft vështirësi aksesit drejt fshatrave Sopik e Skore dhe sidomos drejt fshatrave Hllomo, Çatistër dhe Mavrojer. Arteria tjetër lidhëse me Njësinë e Pogonit është përtej kufirit. Përmirësimi i infrastrukturës rrugore lidhëse mes Njësive Administrative Dropull i Sipërm dhe Dropull i Poshtëm, dhe Njësies së

Pogonit, do të ndikojë në një qeverisje dhe integrim më të mirë të të gjithë territorit të Bashkisë Dropull, do të rrisë aksesin ndaj çdo zone të banuar, dhe do të shtyjë më tej përmirësimin e ofritit të shërbimeve dhe aktiviteteve të ndryshme ekonomike dhe sociale të popullsisë.

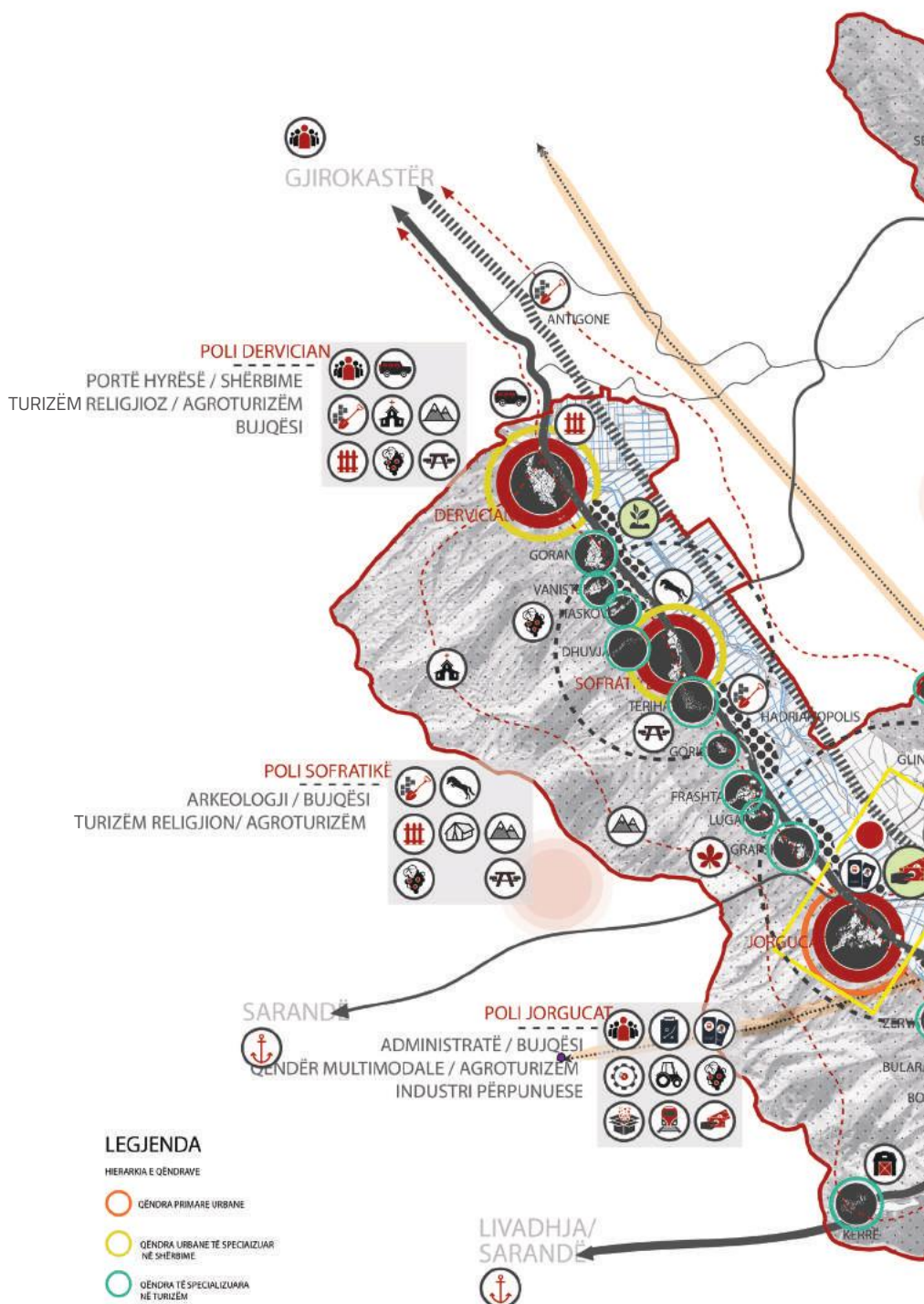
Integrimi mikro-territorial konsiston gjithashtu edhe në ngritjen e një sistemi infrastrukturor lokal alternativ që do të lidhë të gjithë fshatrat midis tyre, për t'u aksesuar jo vetëm nga automjetet, por mbi të gjitha nga biçikletat dhe këmbësorët. Kjo do të kontribuojë gjithashtu në ndërhyrjet pasuese për krijimin e itinerareve turistike në kuadër të zhvillimit të turizmit bazuar tek natyra, pejzazhi dhe bioproduktet, ku vetë fshatrat dhe banorët do të luajnë një rol mjaft të rëndësishëm.

Për të siguruar një shpërndarje më të mirë në ofrimin e shërbimeve dhe integrimin e plotë të territorit Bashkia Dropull do të ketë një sistem centralitetesh të reja (polet Dervician, Sofratikë, Jorgucat, Vrisera dhe Poliçan), të cilat do të jenë plotësisht të dedikuara funksioneve specifike në kuadër të implementimit të vizionit hapësinor të zhvillimit, për zhvillimin ekonomik, rritjen e aksesueshmërisë dhe sjelljen e shërbimeve më pranë popullsisë dhe nevojave lokale.

Për realizimin e këtij objekti strategjik janë përcaktuar një seri programesh strategjike si më poshtë:

- Programi Strategjik OS1PS1: Lidhja e Shpejtë me Portin e Sarandës dhe Itinerari Turistik drejt Rivierës;
- Programi Strategjik OS1PS2: Përmirësimi i infrastrukturës rrugore ekzistuese dhe implementimi i sistemit "sloë line" infrastrukturor alternativ që lidh më mirë fshatrat midis tyre, si dhe siguron akses ndaj vendeve me atraksion turistik;
- Programi Strategjik OS1PS3: Konsolidimi i pikave kufitare në Koshovicë, Radat dhe Sopik (përmirësimi i portave hyrëse të Bashkisë Dropull dhe lidhjeve strategjike rajonale, kombëtare dhe ndërkombëtare);
- Programi Strategjik OS1PS4: Krijimi i Terminalit Multimodal Interurban pranë polit Jorgucat;
- Programi Strategjik OS1PS5: Krijimi i Stacionit të Trenit;
- Programi Strategjik OS1PS6: Centralitetet e Bashkisë Dropull / Polet: Dervician, Sofratikë, Jorgucat, Vrisera dhe Poliçan.

OS_2: Integrimi në rajonin ekonomik ndërkufitar përmes zhvillimit dhe diversifikimit të ekonomisë lokale



POLI DERVICIAN
 PORTË HYRËSE / SHËRBIME
 TURIZËM RELIGJIOZ / AGROTURIZËM
 BUJQËSI

POLI SOFRATIKË
 ARKEOLOGJI / BUJQËSI
 TURIZËM RELIGJION/ AGROTURIZËM

POLI JORGUCAT
 ADMINISTRATË / BUJQËSI
 QENDËR MULTIMODALE / AGROTURIZËM
 INDUSTRI PËRPUNUESE

LEGJENDA

HIERARKIA E QËNDRAVE

- QËNDRA PRIMARE URBANE
- QËNDRA URBANE TË SPECIALIZUAR NË SHËRBIME
- QËNDRA TË SPECIALIZUARA NË TURIZËM

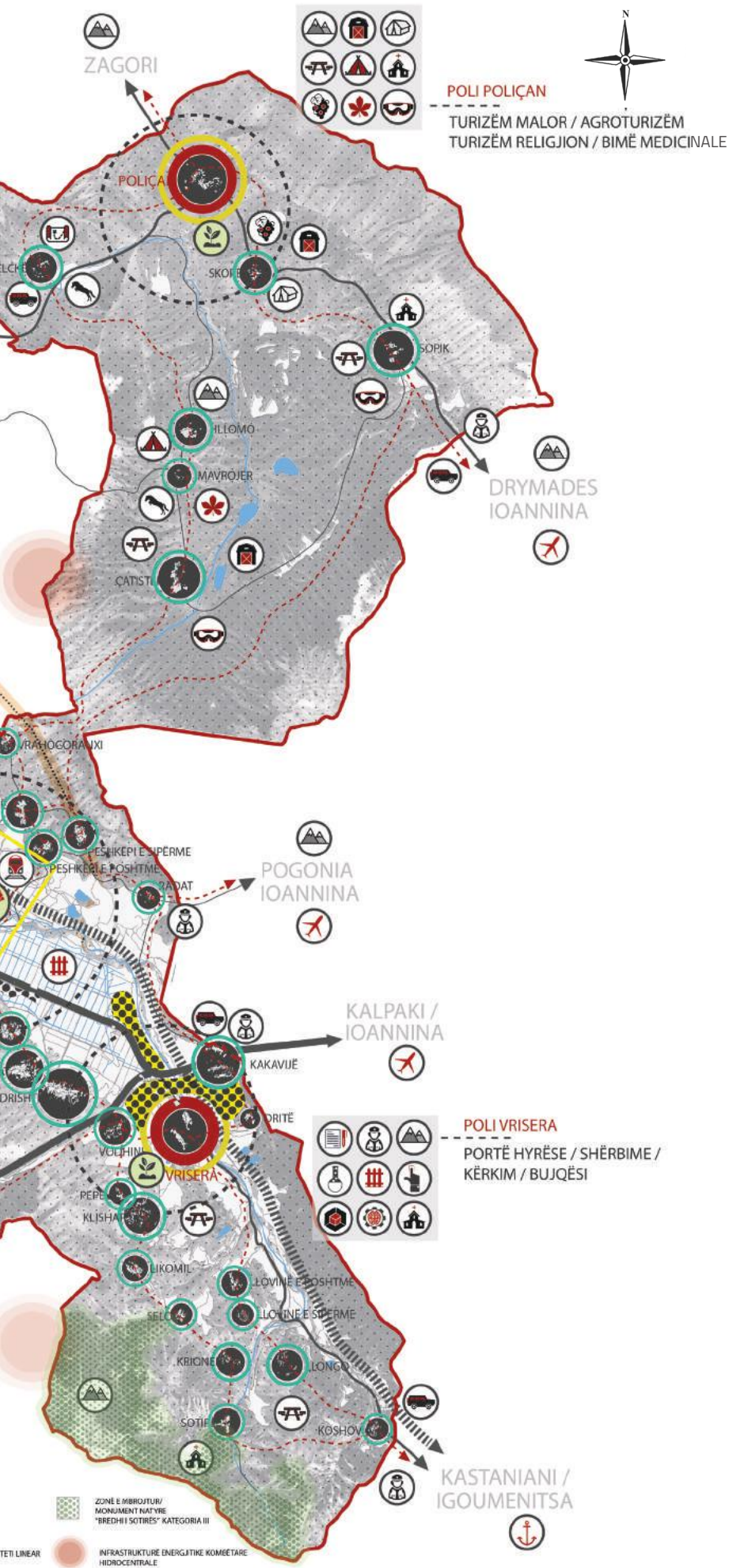
INFRASTRUKTURA E RËNDËSISË KOMBËTARE ENERGETIKE

- KUFI ADMINISTRATIV
- RRUGË INTERURBANE KRYESORE
- IT INERAR KËMBËSOR / BIKIKLETË
- RRUGË INTERURBANE DYTËSORE
- HIDROGRAFI
- RRUGË URBBANE KRYESORE

- "PARKU I ZHVILLIMIT"
- FASHË ME BIZNESE

- PEIZAZH NATYOR / ZONË MALORE
- TOKË BUJQËSORE
- QËNDRA OPERACIONALE E BASHKISË DROPUILL (HYRJA PËR NË "PARKUN E ZHVILLIMIT")

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|---|
| | QENDËR ADMINISTRATIVE | | TURIZËM PEIZAZHOR | | KËRKIM DHE TESTIM MBI PRODUKTET LOKAL | | STACIONI I TRENIT DRC | | ORIENTE KULTI / TURIZËM RELIGJIOZ |
| | PËRPUNIM PRODUKTESH | | FERMA BLEGTORALE | | HAPËSIRE PËR START-UP | | FERMA BUJQËSORE | | GRUMBULLIM DHE PËRPUNIM BIMËSH MEDICINALE |
| | MAGAZINIMI / KONTROLL ÇLËSIE/ PAKETIM | | KAMP NË NATYRE | | QENDËR TRAJNIMI / WORKSHOPE | | KANTINA PRODUKTESH | | PISTË E VOGLË SKISH / SHITËPI DIMËROR |
| | QENDËR MANAXHIMI (OPERACIONALE/ EMERJENÇ) | | BUJTINA NË SHITËPITRADIO | | QENDËR INFORMUESE MBI PRODUKTET VENDË | | TREG RAJONAL | | QENDËR GRUMBULLIMI DHE PËRPUNIMI TË DHËNASH |
| | QENDËR MAKINERESH BUJQËS | | BUJTINA USHQIMI LOKAL | | PËKË KLIFITARE | | TREG LOKAL | | QENDËR NARRUEJE ME QERA TË AUTOMJETVE OFFROAD / BIKIKLETA |
| | QENDËR HËPZIMI DHE MARRI ME QERA TË KUJAVE | | STACIONI MULTIMODAL | | PARK ARKEOLOGJIK | | POL ZHVILLIMI / SHËRS | | ZONË E RE ZHVILLIMI |
| | | | | | | | ZONË E BANUAR / Q | | |



Vizioni Strategjik për Zhvillimin Hapësinorë të Bashkisë Dropull. Editimi grafik nga E. Janku

Duke marrë në konsideratë pozicionin strategjik të Bashkisë Dropull në makro-Rajonin ndërkuftar, midis qendrave Gjirokastër, Janinë e Sarandë, si dhe gamën e gjerë të potencialeve që territori i Bashkisë ka, diversifikimi dhe zhvillimi i mëtejshëm e ekonomisë lokale do të kontribuojë në integrimin më të mirë, pjesëmarrjen aktive, si dhe rritjen e konkureshmërisë së Bashkisë Dropull në këtë makro- Rajon ekonomik.

Me implementimin e ndërhyrjeve lidhëse dhe integruese infrastrukture të prezantuara në Objektivin Strategjik 1, territori do të jetë i gatshëm të mirëpresë një seri ndërhyrjesh me qëllim zhvillimin ekonomik të Bashkisë Dropull.

Duke vlerësuar potencialet kryesore ekonomike të zonës, si një territor me karakter të theksuar rural, bujqësia dhe blegtoaria janë dy degët kryesore me kontributin më të madh në punësim dhe gjenerim të ardhurash. Por si pasojë e mjaft faktorëve të analizuar edhe në Dokumentin e Analizës së Territorit (migracioni dhe emigracioni, madhësia e vogël e fermave/sipërfaqeve të kultivuara që si rrjedhojë sjell inefiçencë në prodhim, konkurenca në treg e produkteve të importuara etj.), këto dy degë momentalisht nuk shfrytëzohen në potencialin e plotë të tyre. Në këto kushte një sërë ndërhyrjesh si: konsolidimi i tokës bujqësore, rritja e madhësisë së fermave bujqësore e blegtorale, rehabilitimi i tokave të lëna djerrë, zgjerimi i gamës së kulturave të kultivuara, krijimi i ciklit të plotë të prodhimit (prodhim-grumbullim- përpunim-tregëtim), brandimi dhe promovimi i produkteve lokale, kontrolli i cilësisë, ngritja e tregjeve lokale për tregëtimin e produkteve, aksesin në tregjet lokale brenda vendit dhe përtej kufirit në makro- Rajonin ndërkuftar, lidhja e fermerëve me bizneset e mesme dhe të mëdha, etj., do të synojnë të rivalizojnë ekonominë lokale të Bashkisë Dropull, rrisin konkureshmërinë e saj në Rajon, si dhe ta bëjnë atë pjesë aktive të një zinxhiri ekonomik të plotë që funksionon në makro-Rajonin ndërkuftar, duke rritur mundësitë e përfitimit për të gjithë aktorët e përfshirë.

Përpos zhvillimit të degëve të bujqësisë dhe blegtorisë, përkrahja e zhvillimit të biznesit dhe industrive përpunuese, që momentalisht përbëjnë një tjetër sektor me rëndësi të ekonomisë së Bashkisë Dropull, është një tjetër prioritet. Ndonëse momentalisht zhvillimi i njësive të ndryshme të biznesit shfrytëzon territorin e Bashkisë Dropull për vendosjen fizike të

tyre, pa një impakt të konsiderueshëm në lidhje me punësimin e popullsisë vendase, ose investimeve për përmirësimin e kushteve të territorit, vendosja e një marrëveshjeje bashkëpunimi më interes dy-palësh, mes Bashkisë Dropull dhe njësive të biznesit do të ndikonte në një impakt më të madh pozitiv të operimit të tyre në territorin e Bashkisë. Në këtë bashkëpunim, Bashkia mund të ofrojë vendin fizik të vendosjes së tyre, ndërkohë që njësitë e biznesit sigurojnë punësim të sigurtë për popullsinë vendase, si dhe parashikojnë një plan investimesh në infrastrukturën lokale dhe mjedisin në të cilin ato operojnë. Në këtë mënyrë, jo vetëm do të krijohet një cikël i plotë ekonomik, por dhe përfitimet reale nga ky cikël nuk mbeten vetëm ndërmjet njësive operuese, por bëhen të prekshme dhe të dobishme edhe për Bashkinë Dropull dhe territorin që ajo zotëron.

Turizmi përbën degën e tretë të zhvillimit ekonomik të Bashkisë Dropull. Zhvillimi i këtij të fundit nuk duhet parë si një fenomen rastësor, aksidental, ose sektorial, por duhet trajtuar në mënyrë të integruar dhe bashkërenduar me sektorët e tjerë të ekonomisë, në mënyrë që të krijohet një zinxhir i plotë ekonomik që siguron të ardhura shtesë për popullsinë vendase dhe Bashkinë. Duke kombinuar zhvillimin rural që e karakterizon territorin, me pejzazhe të rralla dhe habitate natyrore të pasura, me zhvillimin e degëve si bujqësia, blegtoaria, kultivimi i bimëve medicinale, por edhe me industrinë përpunuese dhe ofrimin e shërbimeve, turizmi do të marrë një zhvillim të plotë 360 gradë dhe gjithëvjetor (pra që shkon përtej një sezoni të vetëm), duke u shndërruar në një promotor të rëndësishëm të vlerave të territorit të Bashkisë Dropull. Integrimi i popullsisë vendase në këtë zinxhir do të luajë një rol shumë të madh për sa i përket rritjes së punësimit, integritit të popullsisë në ekonominë lokale, rritjen e të ardhurave, si dhe mund të kthehet në një argument për të tërhequr popullsi të re rezidente në zonë, ose kthimin e popullsisë së larguar. Shndërrimi i banesave të braktisura, ose të rrënuara në bujtina pritëse do të mund të rrisë gjithashtu kapacitetin pritës turistik.

Lidhja me Sarandën, Rivierën dhe vargmalet jug-perëndimore të bregdetit Jon përbën gjithashtu një prioritet në integrimin makro-territorial të Bashkisë Dropull. Kjo lidhje jo vetëm do të lehtësojë aksesin meszonave të banuara që ndodhen në këtë pjesë të territorit, por kontribuon gjithashtu në rritjen e shtrirjes së zonës

që do të impaktohet nga ndërhyrjet për zhvillimin e turizmit bazuar tek natyra, pejzazhi dhe bioproduktet, për të krijuar një zonë më të madhe impakti e lëvizshmërie, duke kontribuar kështu në atë që ndryshe konsiderohet si "turizmi fluid". Në këto kushte dhe për të rritur konkureshmërinë ekonomike, krijimi i një lidhjeje të shpejtë me portin e Sarandës do të bëjë më eficient jo vetëm turizmin në kuptimin e lëvizjes së pasagjerëve, por edhe zhvillimin ekonomik bazuar tek shkëmbimi i mallrave, duke ulur kostot aktuale (taksa etj.) që mbarten nga përdorimi i porteve alternative si ai i Igumenicës.

Në kuadër të zhvillimit dhe integritimit ekonomik në rajon dhe më gjerë, krijimi i kushteve për të nxitur rritjen e sipërmarrjeve të vogla dhe të mesme do të jetë prioritarë. Në këtë kuadër parashikohet gjithashtu që pranë zonës ndërkufitare, midis poleve Vrisera dhe Jorgucat, të krijohet një "Park Zhvillimi", ku të sigurohet hapësirë dhe kushte të përshatshme për vendosjen dhe operimin e qendrave të: trajnimit dhe arsimit profesional për degët kryesore ekonomike të zonës; kërkimit (mbi produktet vendase, ciklin dhe procesin e prodhimit etj.); testimit dhe kontrollit të cilësisë; si dhe start-upeve. Të gjitha këto ndërhyrje me qëllim zhvillimin e dijes dhe teknologjisë synojnë të shndërrojnë Luginën e Drinosit në një "luginë zhvillimi dhe progresi", duke i dhënë rëndësi Bashkisë së Dropull si një pikë strategjike dhe komplementare në zhvillimin ekonomik të makro-Rajonit ndërkufitar, me mjaft mundësi bashkëpunimi me qendrat rajonale Gjirokastër e Janinë, dhe territorin përreth tyre.

Si pjesë e këtij makro-Rajoni ndërkufitar, projektet me fokus Bashkëpunimin Ndërkufitar janë me mjaft rëndësi. Programi "Greqi- Shqipëri 2014-2020" që synon të përmirësojë cilësinë e jetesës në rajonet kufitare Greqi- Shqipëri duke promovuar zhvillimin e qëndrueshëm lokal, është një mundësi shumë e mirë që Bashkia Dropull dhe njësitë e tjera fqinje përtej kufirit mund të përdorin për të hartuar programe të përbashkëta zhvillimi. Programi mbulon 11 njësi rajonale kufitare në Greqi dhe 4 në territorin Shqipëtar, dhe ka një vlerë rreth 42 million Euro, me një kontribut rreth 36 milion Euro nga Bashkimi Europian, përmes instrumentit të Asistencës së Para-Aderemit, IPA. Për të realizuar këtë objektivë duhet bërë trajnimi dhe përgatitja e stafit të Bashkisë, në mënyrë që të jenë të aftë të evidentojnë,

hartojnë, prezantojnë dhe implementojnë projektet të këtij karakteri.

Në përfundim, në këto kushte ngritja e kapaciteteve lokale dhe promovimi i imazhit dhe potencialeve vendase përbëjnë dy iniciativa mjaft të rëndësishme, të cilat do të arrijnë të sigurojnë një bazë të shëndetshme operacionale për implementimin dhe realizimin e çdo sipërmarrjeje në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull.

Për realizimin e këtij objektivit strategjik janë përcaktuar një seri programesh strategjike si më poshtë:

- Programi Strategjik OS2PS1: Zhvillimi i Bujqësisë;
- Programi Strategjik OS2PS2: Zhvillimi i Blegtorisë;
- Programi Strategjik OS2PS3: Kultivimi dhe Përpunimi i Bimëve Medicinale dhe Eterovajore
- Programi Strategjik OS2PS4: Zhvillimi i Turizmit;
- Programi Strategjik OS2PS5: Zhvillimi i Biznesit dhe Industrisë Përpunuese;
- Programi Strategjik OS2PS6: Krijimi i "Parkut të Zhvillimit";
- Programi Strategjik OS2PS7: Ngritja e kapaciteteve institucionale dhe financiare në dobi të hartimit të Projekteve të Bashkëpunimit Ndërkufitar IPA;
- Programi Strategjik OS2PS8: Ngritja e kapaciteteve lokale;
- Programi Strategjik OS2PS9: Brandimi dhe promovimi i Bashkisë Dropull.

OS_3: Ruajtja e karakterit rural të vendbanimeve dhe përmirësimi i cilësisë dhe kushteve të jetesës

Territori i Bashkisë Dropull përbëhet nga 41 fshatra dhe ka një karakter të theksuar rural, i cili mer vlera të mëdha falë zhvillimit të bujqësisë e blegtorisë, pejzazhit të pasur dhe habitateve natyrore të shumta që e rrethojnë. Në këto kushte qëllimi i këtij objektivit është të promovojë dhe shtyjë më tej zhvillimin e territorit dhe ta bëjë atë të jetueshëm, pa kompromentuar karakterin dhe vlerat e tij të pazëvendësueshme. Përmes politikave specifike të zhvillimit do të nxitet rehabilitimi i mjaft zonave të banuara, të cilat momentalisht janë të braktisura, ose në kushte kritike. Në çdo fshat do të rigenerohet qendra e tij dhe sistemi kryesor infrastrukturor shërbyes, me qëllim rigjallërimin e jetës së banorëve, rritjen e sigurisë dhe cilësisë së hapësirave publike, si dhe për t'i bërë të gjithë fshatrat të vizitueshëm në kuadër të zhvillimit të turizmit. Për këtë qëllim do të ngrihet gjithashtu një sistem rrugësh këmbësore



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality

dhe biçikletash, i cili ndër të tjera do të lidhë të gjithë fshatrat dhe vendet e atraksionit turistik midis tyre.

Do të konservohen zonat me karakteristika të veçanta arkitektonike, historike dhe kulturore, ku ndër të tjera përveç kishave, manastireve dhe objekteve të tjera të shpallura si Monumente Kulture, edhe banesat vendase historike do t'i nënshtrohen restaurimit dhe një pjesë e tyre do të vihen në përdorim më funksione alternative (bujtina, shtëpi muze, kantina etj.).

Për të mirëpritur rritjen e popullsisë, qoftë atë të shtimit natyral, por edhe shtimin si pasojë e kthimit të popullsisë së larguar, ose ardhjen e popullsisë së re, si pasojë e kushteve tërheqëse që do të sigurojë zhvillimi ekonomik në 15 vjeçarim e ardhshëm, politika të ndryshme do të ndiqen edhe përsa i përket akomodimit të këtij shtimi në shtëpi banimi dhe zona të ndërtueshme. Për të shmangur konvertimin e tokës bujqësore dhe zonave natyrore në tokë të ndërtueshme, do të synohet së pari rehabilitimi i banesave të braktisura ose të rrënuara, suke synuar futjen e tyre në tregun e strehimit; së dyti do të promovohet densifikimi i zonave ekzistuese të banimit aty ku është e mundur; së treti do të parashikohet rritja e zonave ekzistuese të banimit. Gjithashtu do të përdoren edhe instrumenta financiare dhe mbështetje financiare për të garantuar ofrimin e banesave me kosto të përballeshme në rastet e familjeve dhe personave në nevojë.

Do të dakortësohet për një set rregullash ndërtimi (të cilat do të detajohen në dokumentin e Rregullores) në stil dhe materiale, në mënyrë që të ruhet karakteri lokal i banesave tradicionale me gurë. Kjo është një praktikë që vë në përdorim materialet lokale, krijon identitet dhe i përshtatet kushteve të territorit, traditës dhe kulturës vendase. Ndër të tjera, vetë banorët e kanë aplikuar këtë praktikë tashmë prej disa vitesh në mirëkuptim midis tyre.

Brenda 15 vjeçarit të parashikuar nga PPV do të plotësohen të gjitha nevojat për shërbime publike: shëndetësore, arsimore, transport etj. Do të plotësohen gjithashtu rrjetet e shërbimit me ujë të pijshëm, energji dhe sistemit të kanalizimeve, të cilat momentalisht janë pjesërisht jashtë funksionit si pasojë e amortizimit, ose janë ngritur në mënyrë individuale nga secila familje (gropa septike, puse etj.) në zonat e reja të banimit.

Përpos përmirësimit të aksesit, plotësimi me elemente të dizajnit urban, si ndriçimi, gjelbërimi, hapësirat cilësore publike dhe ambientet kulturore, etj., do të ndikojnë gjithashtu në rritjen e sigurisë në vend, duke kontribuar në përdorimin më të shumtë dhe në çdo kohë të hapësirave të përbashkëta.

Për realizimin e këtij objekti strategjik janë përcaktuar një seri programesh strategjike si më poshtë:

- Programi Strategjik OS3PS1: Rikualifikimi i banesave të braktisura/ rrënuara dhe futja e tyre në tregun e strehimit;
- Programi Strategjik OS3PS2: Restaurimi i banesave/ objekteve historike dhe bërja e tyre pjesë në programet turistike;
- Programi Strategjik OS3PS3: Rikualifikimi i hapësirave publike (qendrat e fshatrave) dhe aplikimi i praktikave të dizajnit urban për të rritur cilësinë e hapësirave dhe sigurinë;
- Programi Strategjik OS3PS4: Ngritja e Qendrave Sociale (sigurimi i shërbimeve dhe përkrahjes ndaj popullsisë në nevojë, sidomos moshës së tretë);
- Programi Strategjik OS3PS5: Unifikimi në stil dhe materiale ndërtimi (përdorimi i materialit vendas, gurit);
- Programi Strategjik OS3PS6: Plotësimi me shërbime publike: arsim dhe shëndetësi;
- Programi Strategjik OS3PS7: Plotësimi me shërbime publike: transporti publik;
- Programi Strategjik OS3PS8: Rehabilitimi dhe shtrirja e plotë e rrjetit të kanalizimeve dhe ujësjellësit.

OS_4: Mbrojtja e pejzazhit, habitateve natyrore dhe mobilizimi ndaj emergjencave

Me karakterin e saj të theksuar rural, Bashkia Dropull ka rreth 78% të sipërfaqes së saj totale prej 45,409.93 ha, të konsideruar si sipërfaqe Natyrore, rreth 18.3% sipërfaqe Bujqësore, dhe rreth 2.02% sipërfaqe Ujore. Në këto kushte është e kuptueshme se edhe problematikën, të cilat shqetësojnë territorin e Bashkisë kanë një karakter të theksuar natyror, dhe se zgjidhja e këtyre problematikave përbën një objektiv parësorë për Bashkinë e Dropullit.

Një nga problematikën më madhore, që vë në rrezik dhe kompromenton një sërë asetesh të tjera, është rënia e zjarreve, që veçanërisht këtë vit shkaktoi mjaft dëme në sipërfaqe të tëra pyjesh, duke rrezikuar edhe zonat e banuara në afërsi të tyre. Duke qenë se ndër shkaktarët kryesorë mbeten përgjithësisht temperaturat e larta gjatë stinës së verës, të cilat përbëjnë

faktorë natyrorë jashtë kontrollit të drejtëpërdrejtë njerëzor, marja e masave në mobilizim trupash dhe mjetesish për fikjen e zjarreve është një domosdoshmëri për Dropullin. Në terma afatgjatë, marrja e masave për parandalimin e thellimit të mëtejshëm dhe adaptimin ndaj ndryshimeve klimatike duhet të kthehet në një prioritet për autoritetet kombëtare dhe vendore në planifikimin dhe qeverisjen e territorit.

Thatësira e skajshme gjatë stinës së verës përbën një tjetër problematikë. Ndonëse zona e Dropullit ndodhet në një nga territoret më të pasura me burime ujore sipërfaqësore dhe nëntokësore, mungesa e manaxhimit të kësaj pasurie, përkundrajt procesve natyrore dhe përdorimit pa kriter, krijon situata emergjente, sidomos gjatë periudhës më të nxehtë. Rehabilitimi i rezervuarëve ujorë ekzistues dhe planifikimi i krijimit të rezervuarëve të rinj, aty ku është e nevojshme, do të ndihmonte në mirë- manaxhimin dhe parandalimin e situatave ekstreme. Në këtë cikël do të mund të integrohet gjithashtu grumbullimi i ujërave të shiut, për t'u përdorur më pas në periudha krize për ujitje në sistemin bujqësor, ose pas trajtimeve përkatëse edhe si ujë për gjënë e gjallë në sistemin blegtoral.

Në kuadër të këtij objektivi parashikohet edhe marja e masave për mbrojtjen nga erozioni dhe rrëshqitjet, duke shtuar pyllëzimin, duke krijuar argjinatura, si dhe duke ndërmarrë masa të posaçmë inxhinierike. Prezantimi i politikave dhe masave të rrepta për mbrojtjen e pyjeve, duke rritur kontrollin dhe vigjilencën gjithashtu, parashikohen si masa për të ndaluar prerjen në masë të pyjeve, sidomos në Njësinë e Pogonit. Manaxhimi i pyjeve, por dhe kullotave përbën një tjetër masë të rëndësishme për mbrojtjen e habitateve natyrore dhe atyre prodhuese.

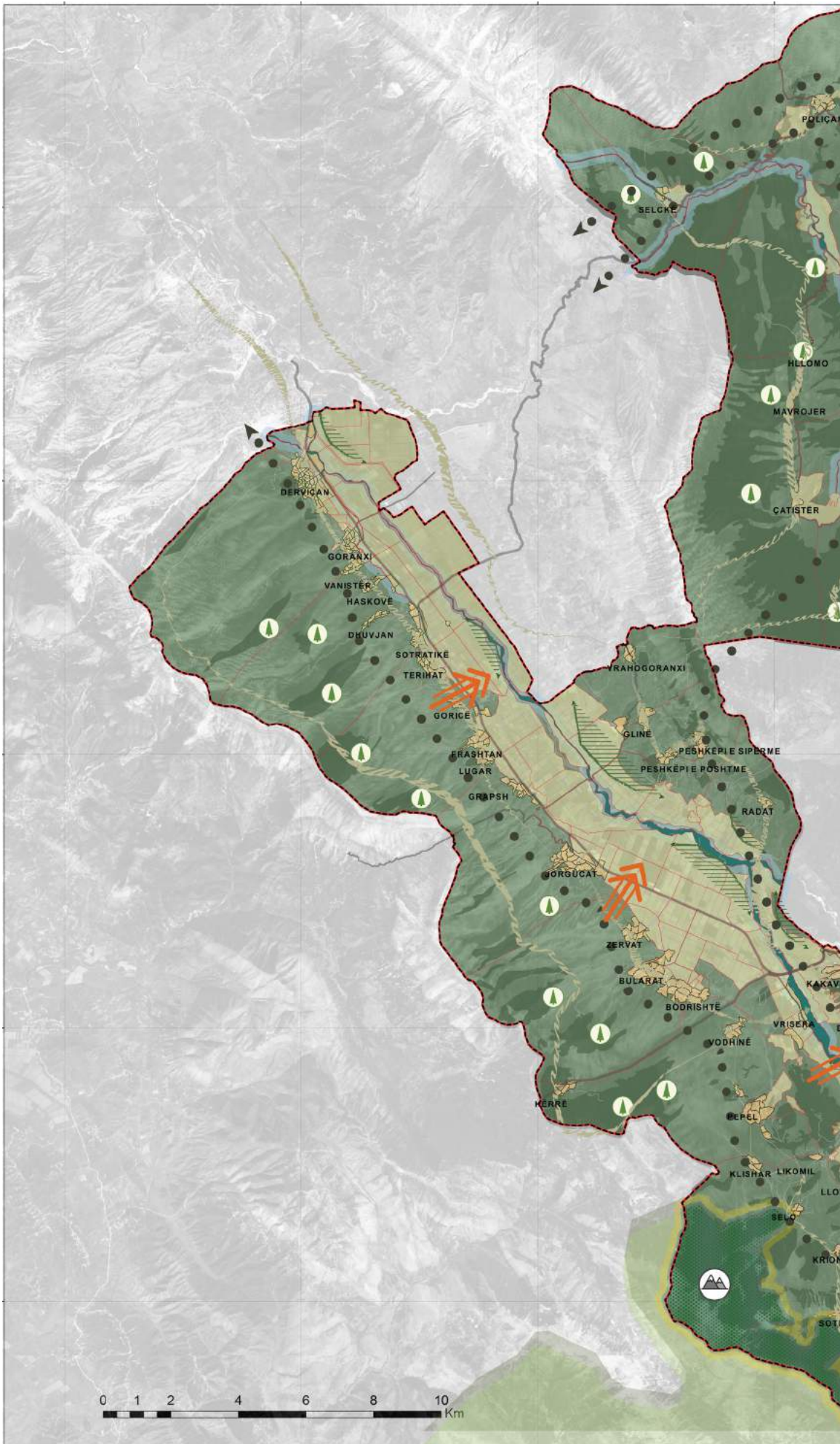
Bashkia Dropull synon gjithashtu të krijojë një sistem të rregullt grumbullimi dhe manaxhimi të mbetjeve. Duke qenë se aktualisht në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull zhvillon aktivitetin një biznes që meret në mënyrë të veçantë me riciklimin e letrave dhe kartonave, për të prodhuar më pas nën-produkte (qese letre dhe kuti paketimi) që i shërbejnë bizneseve të tjera prodhuese në Bashkinë Dropull, dhe jo vetëm, synohet promovimi i riciklimit në masë të letrës, duke ndikuar në manaxhimin e mbetjeve dhe gjithashtu në edukimin dhe ndërgjegjësimin e banorëve. Duke qenë se në Bashkinë Dropull operojnë një sërë biznesesh, zhvillimi i të cilave synohet të nxitet edhe më tej,

kontrolli dhe manaxhimi i ndotjes që ato shkaktojnë në ambientet përreth, sidomos ato natyrore, është mjaft me rëndësi, ndaj marja e këtyre masave është me prioritet. Për realizimin e këtij objektivi strategjik janë përcaktuar një seri programesh strategjike si më poshtë:

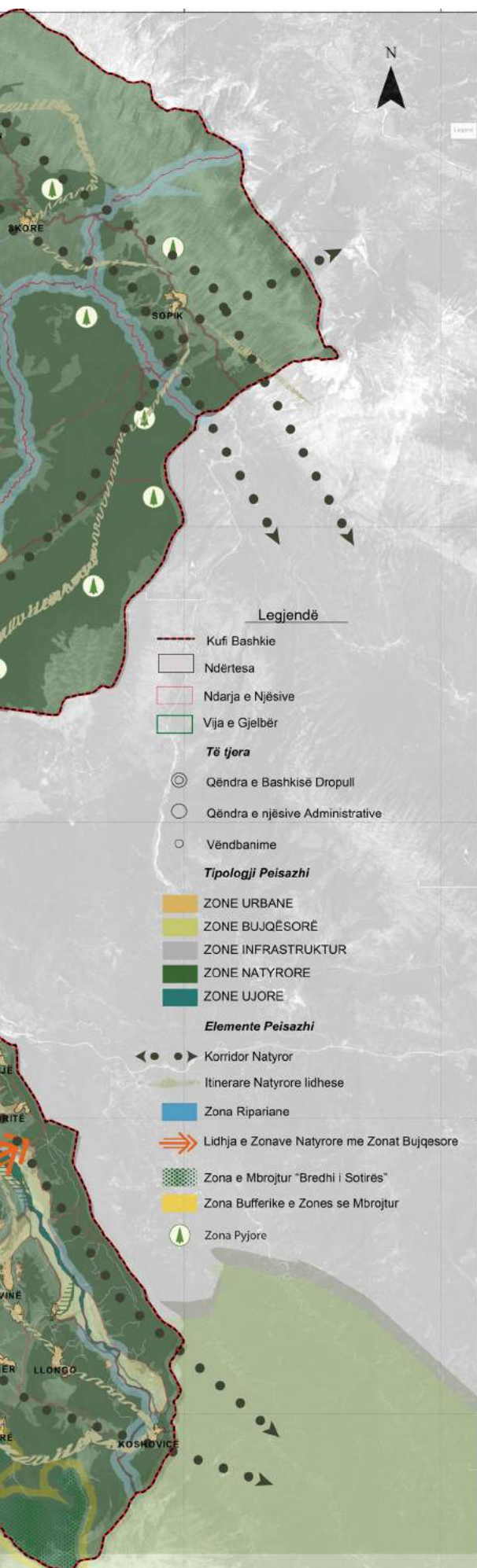
- Programi Strategjik OS4PS1: Mobilizimi për mbrojtjen ndaj zjarreve;
- Programi Strategjik OS4PS2: Masa për manaxhimin e thatësirave ekstreme (rehabilitimi i rezervuarëve, projektimi i rezervuarëve të rinj, grumbullimi dhe trajtimi për përdorim i ujërave të shirave etj.);
- Programi Strategjik OS4PS3: Manaxhimi i rreziqeve natyrore (erozioni, rrëshqitjet e tokës etj.);
- Programi Strategjik OS4PS4: Manaxhimi i pyjeve dhe kullotave;
- Programi Strategjik OS4PS5: Manaxhimi i mbetjeve dhe promovimi i riciklimit dhe kompostimit;

3.3 Sistemet Territoriale

Me hartimin e Strategjisë së Territorit, Plani dhe Projekteve Strategjike pritet një ndryshim i mundshëm në sistemet e territorit, të cilat ndikohen në mënyrë të drejtëpërdrejtë nga ndërhyrjet e propozuara. Ndërkohë që në nivel planesh territoriale sigurohet krijimi i përdorimeve të përputhshme të tokës, në nivel strategjik duhet të kuptohet dhe pranohet që të gjitha sistemet territoriale (bujqësore, natyrore, ujorë, urbane dhe infrastrukturore) mund të ndryshojnë, dhe kjo ndodh për dy arsye: si pasojë e efekteve afatgjata të strategjisë dhe planit, porë në çdo aspekt (territorial, mjedisor, social dhe ekonomik); dhe si pasojë e efekteve të sektorëve të ndryshëm mbi njëri-tjetrin dhe si rezultat duhen parashikuar, rregulluar dhe marë masa ligjore e procedurale për zbutjen e efekteve, ose për realizimin e tyre. Si pasojë e këtyre faktorëve dhe ndikimeve, priten ndryshime edhe në përdorimet e tokës, pra në konvertime të saj nga një sistem në tjetrin. Këto konvertime mund të ndodhin mbi bazën e propozimeve të planit të përdorimit të tokës dhe të infrastrukturave, si dhe përmes procedurave ligjore të vendosura në legjisllacion sektorial në fuqi (për bujqësinë, tokat natyrore, ujërat etj.). Më hartimin e strategjisë së zhvillimit, dhe detajimit të saj me anë të programeve dhe projekteve strategjike, krijohet një ide e përgjithshme mbi ndryshimet e mundshme që mund t'i ndodhë një territori të caktuar dhe sistemeve përkatëse. Më pas hartimi i planit të përdorimit të propozuar të tokës dhe infrastrukturave legjitimon të gjitha ndryshimet e propozuara nga strategjia



Harta e Peisazhit dhe Ndërhyrjet Përmirësuese. Editimi grafik nga E. Janku



territoriale dhe programet e projektet përkatëse.

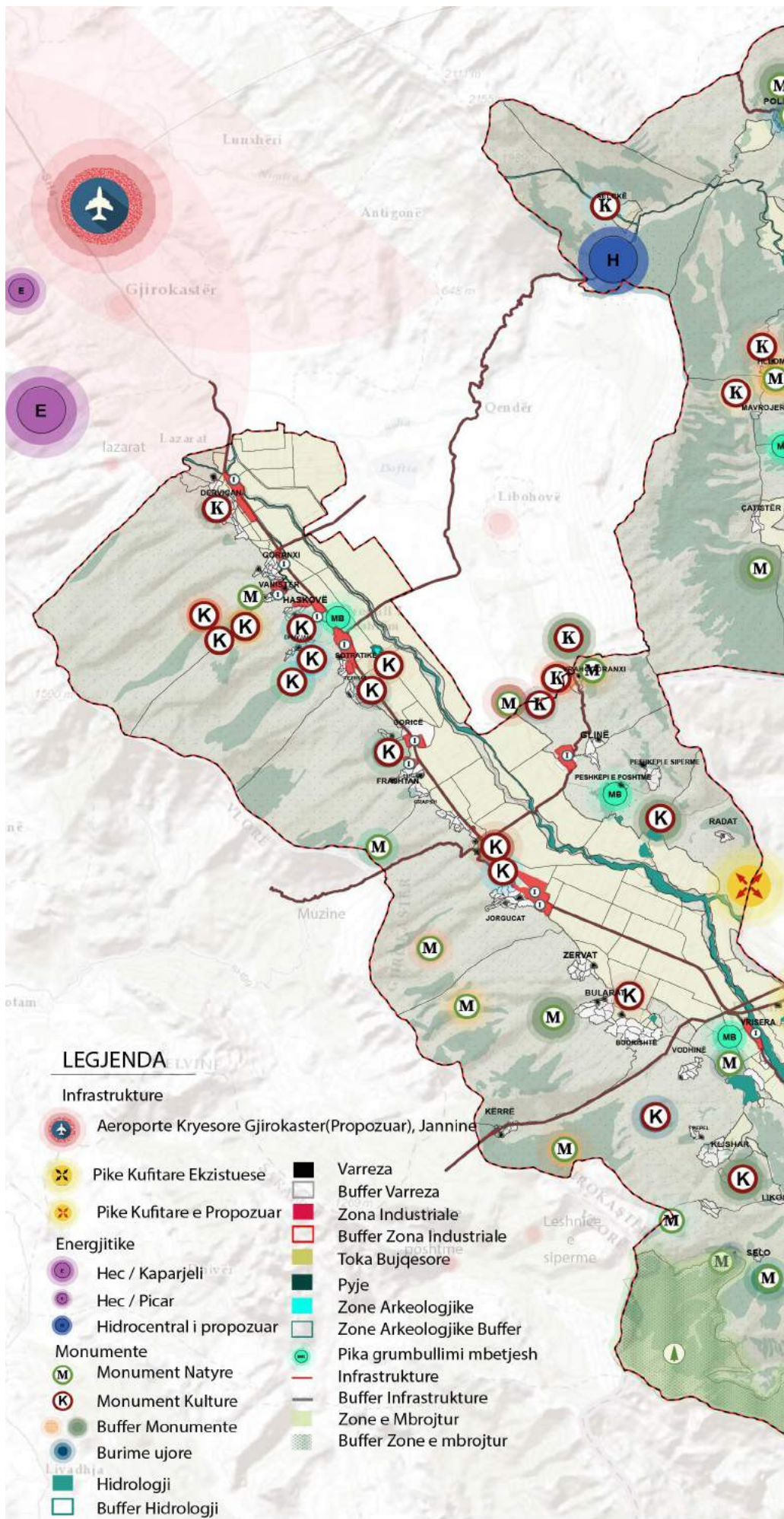
Bazuar në VKM nr.671/2015, propozimet në kuadër të Strategjisë Territoriale për Bashkinë Dropull nuk ndryshojnë sistemet territoriale, pra në thelb ato mbeten të njëjtët: sistemi natyror, urban, bujqësor, ujqor dhe infrastrukturor, por disa territore brenda kufirit të Bashkisë mund të pësojnë ndryshime bazuar në tendencat e zhvillimit që propozon strategjia, e më tej plani. Në kuadër të këtyre ndryshimeve, janë konvertime të tokës bujqësore në ato pjesë të territorit ku parashikohen zhvillime si p.sh. krijimi i aksit të shpejtë Dropull – Sarandë; ndërtimi i segmentit rrugor Dropull – Livadhja; kalimi i linjës hekurudhore që planifikohet edhe nga PPK; ngritja e "Parkut të Biznesit" dhe Stacionit Multimodal; zgjerimi i zonës ekonomike përgjatë Rrugës Interurbane SH4; apo dhe krijimi i vendbanimit të ri pranë Stacionit. Edhe pse këto ndërhyrje mund të shkaktojnë konvertime të një pjese të territorit nga një sistem territorial në tjetrin, ato do të planifikohen të realizohen në mënyrë sa më kompakte, duke lejuar zhvillimin, por pa shkaktuar ndryshime të konsiderueshme në sistemet territoriale. Harta në vijim shpreh në mënyrë të përafërt konvertimet e pritshme të sistemeve në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull. Duhet theksuar se në këtë seksion janë treguar tendencat e mundshme të transformimeve, ndërkohë që gjatë hartimit të Planit të Propozuar të Tokës këto tendenca do të materializohen dhe konkretizohen, dhe sipas rastit do të përgatiten për procedurat ligjore për konvertim.

Përcaktimi i territorit në bazë të 5 sistemeve: urbane, natyror, bujqësor, ujqor dhe infrastrukturor.

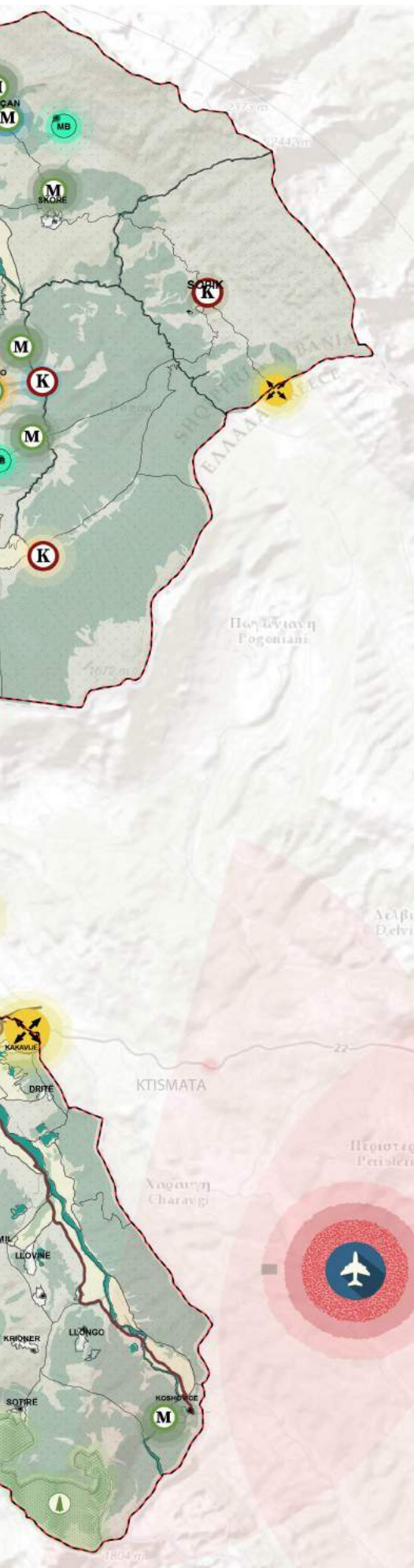
Territori në administrimin e Bashkisë Dropull është trefishuar në krahasim me sipërfaqjen e mëparshme të njësisë administrative ku ajo bënte pjesë.

Me zgjerimin e sipërfaqjes së këtij territori, janë shtuar dhe sipërfaqje Natyrore, Ujqore, Infrastrukurore dhe të Vendbanimeve. Duke u mbështetur në VKM nr. 671, datë 29.07.2015 "Për Miratimin e Rregullores së Planifikimit të Territorit", për një planifikim sa më të mirë të territorit përcaktohet ndarja e tij në pesë sisteme territoriale si:

- Sistemi Natyror / Sistemi Ujqor / Sistemi Infrastrukturor/ Sistemi Urban / Sistemi Bujqësor
- Këto sisteme janë parë të reflektuara në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull dhe duke



Harta e Rëndësisë Kombëtare. Burimi / PPV Dropull



përdorur programin GIS për të përpunuar dhe analizuar këto të dhëna, territori është ndarë në pesë sisteme, duke zbatuar kushtet për ndarjen e territorit, përcaktuar nga VKM nr. 671 datë 29.07.2015. Në këto kushte mund të thuhet se:

Sistemet e Territorit / % të territorit të Bashkisë Dropull

Sistemi Natyror / 78%

Sistemi Ujor / 1.30%

Sistemi Infrastruktural / 0.66%

Sistemi Urban / 2.02%

Sistemi Bujqësor / 18.03%

3.3.1 Sistemi Natyror

Sistemi Natyror në Bashkinë Dropull zë përqindjen më të madhe, me një total prej 78% të territorit, ose sipërfaqes totale të Bashkisë. Në brendësi të këtij sistemi qëndron zona e mbrojtur me 3.83% të territorit, kullotat me 39.15 %, pyjet me 0.05% dhe bujqësia me 15.43% të territorit.

- *Zonat e Mbrojtura*

Monument natyre "Bredhi i Sotirës"

Bredhi i Sotirës është bërë pjesë e zonave të mbrojtura si zonë e kategorisë së III me Vendim të Këshillit të Ministrave, Nr. 102, datë 15.01.1996, Monument natyre Bredhi i Sotirës me një sipërfaqje prej 1,740.00 ha, nga të cilat vetëm 1,586.75 ha ndodhen brenda territorit të Bashkisë Dropull, me gati 75% pyje dhe pjesa tjetër kryesisht kullota dhe sipërfaqje shkëmbore.

Monumenti i natyrës Bredhi i Sotirës ndodhet në pjesën Jugore të Shqipërisë, në kufi me Greqinë. Gjithashtu ndodhet në skajin verior të Bashkisë së Dropullit, mbi Malin e Strugarës. Kjo zonë kufizohet në veri me Majën e Amblikos me lartësi 1,333 m dhe ndjek kurrizin në drejtim të kuotës 653 m, deri në Përroin e Selos. Në lindje ndjek rrugën automobilistike në kufirin shtetëror me Greqinë, maja e Musovunit dhe maja e Murganës. Bredhi i Sotirës ndodhet 0.4 km nga Sotira në vijë ajrore, 0.3 km nga fshati Selo në vijë ajrore dhe 3.7 km në vijë ajrore nga rruga kryesore, duke e bërë këtë zonë një vend të qetë dhe me vlera të larta biodiversiteti nga pikpamja e habitateve dhe llojeve, me vlera të konsiderueshme shkencore dhe eko-turistike. Kufijtë e dixhitalizuar përfshijnë:

- Në Veri, Maja Amblikos 1,333 m / (4441247.93L/4412892.19V);

- Në Lindje, Pika me koordinata (4447193.44L/4412740.14V), Maja Murganës 1,806.4 m / (4447390.40L/4406172.80V);

- Në Jug, Maja Murganës 1,806.4 m / (4447390.40L/4406172.80V);

- Në Perëndim: Kuota 1,735.7 m /

(4440171.44L/4410136.31V).

Ne Zonën e mbrojtur të Bredhit të Sotirës, sipas hartave të përbërjes Gjeologjiko-inxhinjere të tokave evidentohen ndarje në tre klasifikime kryesore bazuar në gjenezën e shkëmbinjve, veçorive petrografike dhe geomorfologjike: shkëmbinj të fortë, gëlqerorë dolomitike dhe evaporite. Në klasifikimin e parë janë shkëmbinj me qëndrueshmëri të madhe ujore dhe me shpate shumë të pjerrët, me deformim të vogël dhe luginat lumore kanë formën 'V' të lidhur me proceset sipërfaqësore. Në klasifikimin e dytë gëlqerorë dolomitike janë kryesisht përfaqësime ndërthurjesh midis shtresave gëlqerore dhe dolomitike, ku shkëmbi përbëhet prej lënde të pakristalizuar. Këta shkëmbinj qëndrojnë vertikalisht në lartësi mbi 1,000 m, me pjerrësi më të vogël ku përqëndrohet dhe bimësia. Në klasifikimin e tretë janë përbërje evaporitike që përfaqësohen nga gjipset, anhidridet dhe kripa e gurit. Ato janë të buta me thyerje, pjerrësi të lehtë bimësi të dendur dhe me kraste sipërfaqësore të zhvilluara.

- Biodiversiteti

Bredhi i Sotirës përfaqëson një natyrë të virgjër, komplekse dhe të pasur me vlera si nga ana eko-turistike dhe nga ajo shkencore. Hapësira në të cilën ndodhet dhe pozicionimi i tij largë rrugës dhe vendbanimeve e bëjnë të pasur në aspektin e biodiversitetit të habitateve dhe llojeve të vegjetacionit, ku një pjesë dominante zihet nga Flora e Dushkajave të përherëblerta, e cila karakterizohet nga pyjet: qarr, mëllëzë, shkozë, frashër, rrapishtet, (*Crataegus monogyna*) bimë-mjekësore me veti të larta dhe përdorime të ndryshme industriale dhe vetiake, (*Rubus ulmifolius*) një lloj manaferrash të egra, (*Sanguisorba minor*) e cila është një bimë në familjen e (*Rosaceae*), ose trëndafilave, që përbën një nga 4,828 speciet e njohura dhe rritet në pjesët shkëmbore të parkut. Kjo bimësi gjen përdorim gjithashtu në mjeksi në formën e çaj-it. Shoqërim interesant dhe dominant mbetet edhe *Abies borisii-regis* (*Huetio-Abietum*), ndryshe Bredhi i Bardhë me prejardhje Ballkanike. Kati shkurror përbëhet kryesisht nga murrizi (*Crataegus heldreichii*), dëllinja e zezë (*Juniperus communis*), (*Daphne mezereum*) etj. Një element, i cili i shton vlerat peizazhistike zonës është dhe pasuria e rjetit hidrografik më rrjedha të shumta sezonale dhe përrenj si ai i Selos që kalon në vendbanimin e Selos dhe furnizon lumenjtë e Kserjasit dhe Llongos që kalojnë në vendbanimin e Sotirës.

3.3.2 Sistemi Ujor

Sistemi ujor në Bashkinë e Dropullit zë

rreth 1.30% të sipërfaqes së përgjithshme. Ky sistem përbëhet nga rezervuarë, lumenj sezonalë dhe të përhershëm, si dhe infrastruktura mbështetëse për bujqesinë, pra kanalet ujtëse dhe të kullimit.

Lumi Drinos

Lumi Drinos është dega më e madhe e rjetit hidrografik të lumit Vjosa. Gjatësia e shtratit të tij është 85 km dhe pjerrësia 5 m. Sipërfaqja e pellgut ujëmbledhës të këtij lumi është 1,324 km², nga të cilat vetëm 1,078 km² shtrihen brenda territorit të Shqipërisë. Ky lum e ka fillimin e tij në Greqi, në shpatet e malit Elatos dhe futet në territorin shqipëtar në Baskinë e Dropullit midis Radatit dhe Kakavies, duke ndjekur një rrjedhë të rregullt Veri-Perëndimit.

Ultësira ndërmjet Malit të Gjerë dhe Lunxhëri-Buretos përbëhen nga formacione flishi në pjesën e sipërme të tyre, të mbushur me zhavorre. Shtrati i lumit Drinos është i vendosur mbi formacione flishi deri në Vrisera. Duke iu afruar Gjirokastrës flishet i nënshtrohen procesit të shpëlarjes.

Lumi Drino kalon nëpër një shtrat të gjerë, por kjo rrjedhje ngushtohet pas Urës së Leklit deri në derdhjen e tij në Vjosë. Gjatë rrjedhjes së tij nga ky lum dalin përrenj me rrjedhje të përkohshme sipërfaqësore shumë erodues që derdhen në konuse të mëdha depozitimi, si përroi i Vriserasë, i Suhës dhe NumericUpDown.

Prurja maksimale e Drinos me përsëritje 1 herë në 100 vjet në derdhje është Q M1%=1840 m³/s. Temperaturat e ujërave ndryshojnë nga t = 8.4°C në muajn Janar, deri në t = 17.8°C në Gusht. Ujërat e Drinos kanë një mineralizim mesatar prej mj= 380 mg/lit dhe një fortësi prej 13.5 gradë Gjermane.

3.3.3 Sistemi Infrastruktural

Infrastruktura rrugore zë rreth 0.69% të sipërfaqes së përgjithshme të territorit të Bashkisë Dropull, ose ndryshe një total prej 313.24 ha.

Infrastruktura / Sip. (ha) / % / Gjatësi (km)

Rrugë Interurbane Kryesore

52.07 ha

16.62 (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

49.61 km

Rrugë Interurbane Dytësore

27.62 ha

8.82% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

62.08 km

Rrugë Urbane Kryesore

4.55 ha

1.45% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

7.23 km

Rrugë Urbane Dytësore
9.51 ha
3.05% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)
21.06 km

Rrugë Urbane Lokale
206.69 ha
66.05% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)
726.27 km
*Sistemi Infrastrukturor, Klasifikimi sipas Kodit Rrugor

Rrugët dhe transporti

Për Bashkinë Dropull Rruga Interurbane Kryesore SH4, e cila zë 16.62% të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, ose rreth 52.07ha, luan një rol mjaft të rëndësishëm përsa i përket jo vetëm lidhjes së saj me Bashkinë Gjirokastrë dhe me Rajonin e Janinës përtej kufirit, por siguron gjithashtu akses për të gjithë fshatrat e Njësi Administrative Dropull i Sipërm dhe Dropull i Poshtëm. Një sërë biznesesh dhe njësi ekonomike janë pozicionuar përgjatë kësaj rruge, jo vetëm për të krijuar ekonominë e shkallës, por edhe sepse ajo siguron akses të shpejtë të tyre në lidhje me tregjet brenda vendit dhe përtej kufirit. Përmes këtij aksi bëhet gjithashtu lidhja me Njësinë e Pogonit, edhe pse cilësia e kësaj rruge në këtë Njësi është mjaft e keqe, duke shkaktuar vështurësi aksesit dhe vonesa në kohë.

Rruga Interurbane Dytësore zë 8.82% të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, ose rreth 27.62 ha, dhe kalon përmes territorit të Bashkisë Dropull, duke lidhur fshatrat Vrahogoranxi, Glinë, Jorgucat, qeështë dhe qendra e re e Bashkisë Dropull, me Bashkinë Sarandë. Ky aks përbën një lidhje mjaft strategjike, pasi lidh zonat ekonomike të Dropullit me portin e Sarandës. Pavarësisht rëndësisë ekonomike që ka ky aks, terreni i vështirë ku ai kalon e bën jo shumë të favorshëm dhe të aksesueshëm për automjetet e tonazhit të rëndë, ndaj është kjo arsyeja që njësitë ekonomike të zonës së Dropullit dhe Gjirokastrës preferojnë dhe përdorin më së shumti portin e Igumenicës, me gjithë kostot shtesë doganore që aplikohen në këtë portë.

Rrugët Urbane Kryesore zënë 1.45% e sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, ose rreth 4.55 ha, dhe duke konsideruar që thuajse të gjitha zonat e banuara të Bashkisë Dropull kanë karakter rural, janë të kufizuara vetëm në lidhjet e qendrës së fshatrave të Njësi Dropull i Poshtëm dhe Dropull i Sipërmme Rrugën Interurbane Kryesore SH4. Në brendësi të fshatrave, lidhja ndërmjet qendrave kryesore bëhet përmes Rrugëve Urbane Dytësore (3.05%

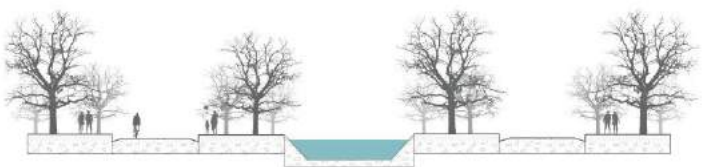
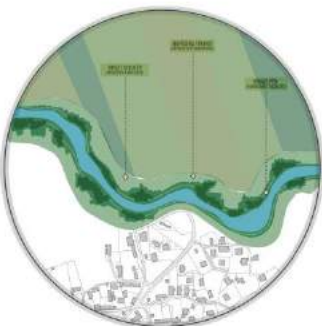
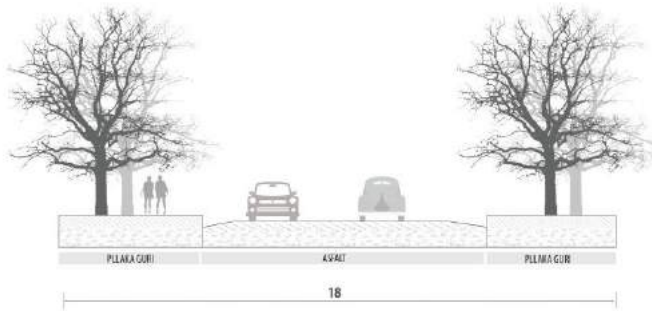
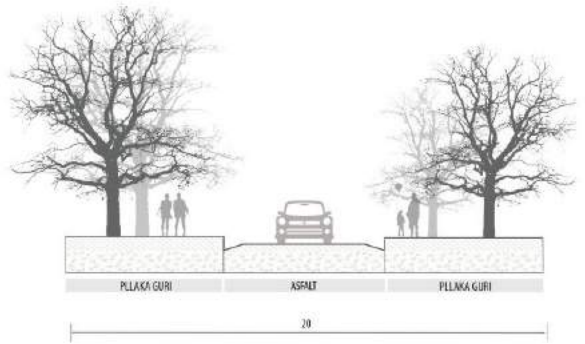
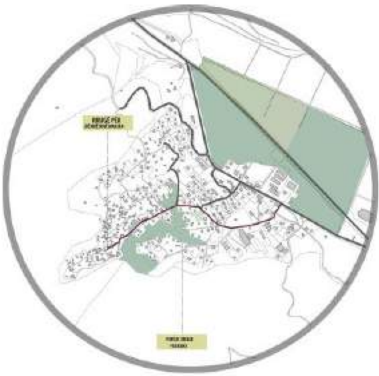
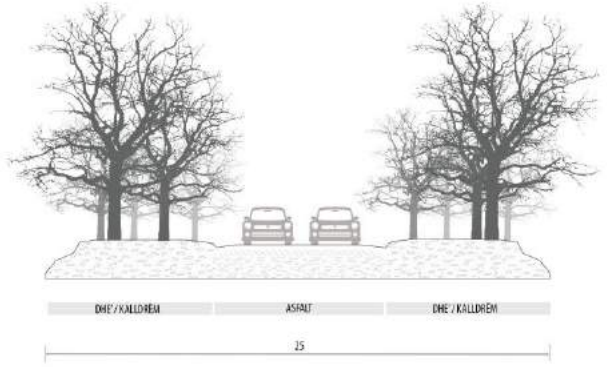
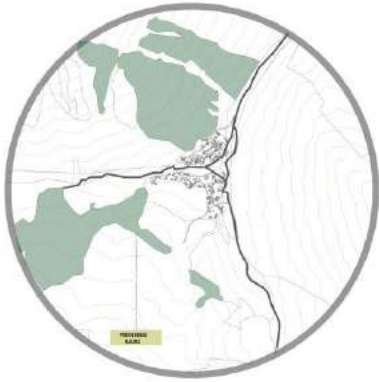
sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, ose rreth 9.51 ha), të cilat gjenden më së shumti në Njësinë Dropull i Poshtëm, dhe vetëm në fshatrat Jorgucat dhe Bularat në Njësinë e Dropullit të Sipërm. Pjesa tjetër e infrastrukturës rrugore shërbyese në brendësi të fshatrave përbëhet nga Rrugë Lokale të karakterit rural, të cilat përbëjnë 66.05% të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, ose rreth 206.69 ha.

Mungesë të theksuar të infrastrukturës rrugore shërbyese ka Njësia e Pogonit, në të cilën të vetmet rrugë aksesit janë ato lokale. Cilësia e tyre mjaft e dobët, jo vetëm ka ndikuar në izolimin e fshatrave, por është dhe një nga faktorët kryesorë që ka çuar në braktisjen e banesave dhe aktiviteteve ekonomike në të gjithë fshatrat e Njësisë Pogon.

- "Hot Spots", Pikat e ndërprerjes së rrugëve lokale me rrugët interurbane kryesore

Duke marrë parasysh strukturën e mësipërme të sistemit infrastrukturor rrugor në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull, një ndër çështjet më problematike është ndërlidhja e rrugëve të kategorive të ndryshme midis tyre. Duke qenë se arteria kryesore shërbyese është Rruga Interurbane Kryesore SH4, që kalon përmes dy Njësi Dropull i Poshtëm dhe i Sipërm, të gjithë fshatrat që ndodhen në këtë pjesë të territorit kanë dalje të drejtpërdrejtë në këtë Rrugë. Vetëm një pakicë shumë e vogël e fshatrave kanë Rrugë Urbane Kryesore dhe Rrugë Urbane Dytësore. Pjesa tjetër kanë vetëm Rrugë Lokale të karakterit Rural. Në këto kushte, pavarësisht tabelave që lajmërojnë hyrjen dhe daljen nga çdo fshat, kalimi i drejtpërdrejtë nga Rrugët Lokale në atë Interurbane Kryesore, paraqet ngërçe në lëvizje dhe shndërrohet në një burim të drejtpërdrejtë aksidentesh. Për të shmangur këto problematika, më tej në propozimet për rrjetin infrastrukturor rrugor do të punohet për të ngritur një sistem hierarkik rrugësh sipas kategorive.

- Gjendja e infrastrukturës rrugore
Duke përjashtuar Rrugën Interurbane Kryesore SH4 dhe Rrugën Interurbane Dytësore Vrahogoranxi- Glinë- Jorgucat- Sarandë, që janë në gjendje të mirë dhe përbëjnë rreth 22.22% të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, përkthyer në 69.61 ha, pjesa tjetër e rrjetit të infrastrukturës rrugore në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull paraqitet problematike dhe në nevojë për ndërhyrje. Rreth 29.81% të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, përkthyer në 93.38 ha, janë kryesisht Rrugë Urbane Kryesore dhe Dytësore, të cilat janë në gjendje të



mesme. Pjesa tjetër e rrjetit infrastrukturor rrugor, që konsiston më së shumti nga Rrugë Lokalë të karakterit rural, por edhe nga hierarki të tjera rrugësh, por të amortizuara, përbëjnë rreth 44.33% të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, përkthyer në 138.85 ha. Emergjentë paraqitet situata sidomos në Njësinë e Pogonit. Rrugët Lokale thuajse në të gjithë fshatrat nuk kanë pësuar asnjë mirëmbajtje që nga hapja e tyre, madje shumica janë ende të shtruara vetëm me çakull, ose të pashtuara fare, gjë që vështirëson aksesin dhe rrit koston oportune kohë.

Në total 37.26% e sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, e cila përbën rreth 116.71 ha, janë rrugë të asfaltuara, ndërsa 51.11% e sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, e përkthyer në 185.14 ha janë të paasfaltuara.

Përsa i përket Kategorive të Rrugëve, referuar Kodit Rrugor, përqindjet më të mëdha i zënë Rrugët Pejzazhistike me rreth 32.38% të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, përkthyer në 104.1 ha, dhe Rrugët Bujqësore me rreth 23.95% të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve, përkthyer në 75.05 ha. Kjo shpjegohet edhe nga vetë karakteri i territorit të Bashkisë Dropull, ku bujqësia dhe turizmi bazuar tek pejzazhi dhe natyra janë dy karakteristikat kryesore të zhvillimit të territorit dhe baza kryesore ekonomike për Bashkinë Dropull.

Rrugë Arterie

8.67 ha

2.8% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Rrugë Bujqësore

75.05 ha

23.96% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Rrugë e Brendshme Dytësore

19.07 ha

6.09% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Rrugë e Brendshme Kryesore

30.97 ha

9.89% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Rrugë Kolektor

45.92 ha

14.66% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Rrugë Korridor Shumë-funksional

1.25 ha

0.4% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Rrugë Pejzazhistike

104.1 ha

32.38% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Rrugë Rekreative

23.33 ha

7.45% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Rrugë Shërbimi

7.44 ha

2.38% (të sipërfaqes totale të rrugëve)

Lëvizja e banorëve drejt vendit të punës dhe linjat e transportit

Me një karakter të theksuar rural ekonomia e popullsisë në Bashkinë Dropull bazohet kryesisht tek bujqësia, blegtoria dhe ofrimi i shërbimeve.

Bujqësia dhe blegtoria zhvillohen në bazë familjeje, që përkthehet në banesa private, të cilat kanë zonën bujqësore, ose blegtorale të integruar dhe pranë zonës së banimit. Për sa i përket sektorit të shërbimeve dhe biznesit, njësitë ekonomike janë të përqëndruara përgjatë Rrugës Interurbane Kryesore SH4, e cila lidh midis tyre dhe kalon përmes dy Njësiave, Dropull i Sipërm dhe Dropull i Poshtëm, duke lidhur territorin e Bashkisë Dropull edhe me Bashkinë Gjirokastër dhe Rajonin e Janinës përtej kufirit. Lëvizja e banorëve nga vendi i banimit, drejt atij të punësimit në këtë rast, bëhet përmes automjeteve personale, ose me shërbimin taksit.

Duke qenë se popullsia minoritare përbën rreth 1/6 e popullsisë totale, nga ku rreth 1/2 e minoritetit Grek, marrëdhëniet me Greqinë kanë qenë dhe vazhdojnë të jenë mjaft të ngushta. Një pjesë e konsiderueshme e popullsisë është e punësuar në sektorë të ndryshëm jashtë kufirit, për t'u kthyer në Shqipëri (Bashkinë Dropull) në periudha sezonale, që variojnë nga vjetore, në mujore, javore, madje edhe ditore. Mobiliteti për këtë segment të popullsisë realizohet përgjithësisht me automjete personale, ose me anë të shërbimit taksit.

Në Bashkinë Dropull ka vetëm 1 linjë të transportit publik që ofrohet dhe manaxhohet nga Bashkia Dropull: Poliçan-Zagori- Gjirokastër, me frekuencë dy herë në javë. Nëvojat e tjera për transportin publik mbulohen nga 4 operatorë privatë, të cilët operojnë në 4 linja kryesore:

o Gjirokastër- Sofratikë (2 operatorë);

o Gjirokastër-Kakavijë (2 operatorë);

o Llongo- Gjirokastër (1 operator);

o Llongo- Pershkëpi (1 operator me frekuencë 2 herë në javë);

Stacionet ekzistuese zyrtare për linjat e mësipërme janë 5, nga një në çdo fshat: Dervician, Vanister, Sofratikë, Terihat dhe Grapsh.

Me ndërtimin dhe zhvendosjen e godinës së re të Bashkisë në fshatin Jergucat, sistemi i transportit publik pritet të ketë ndryshime, si në oraret e funksionimit, ashtu edhe në shtimin e linjave dhe stacioneve, nga ku parashikohen stacionet: Haskovë, Goricë,

Frashtan, Jergucat, Zervat, Bodrishtë, Vriser dhe Kakavijë.

▪ Infrastruktura e shërbimit me ujë dhe kanalizimet

Shënim: Analizat e Infrastrukturës së shërbimit me ujë dhe kanalizimet, në mungesë të të dhënave nga sektori përkatës nuk janë gjeneruar ende. Deri në përfundim të procesit të hartimit të PPV-së (proces dakortësuar të kryhet me 1 ndalesë), grupi i punës do të punojë në vazhdimësi të sigurojë të dhëna të mjaftueshme për të kryer analizën.

3.3.4 Sistemi Urban/ Rural

Bashkia Dropull është një Bashki rurale, e cila përbëhet nga 3 Njësi Administrative dhe 41 fshatra. Njësia Dropull i Sipërm ka 16 fshatra, Njësia Dropull i Poshtëm 18 dhe Njësia e Pogonit ka 7 fshatra. Qendra më e madhe e banuar e Bashkisë Dropull është fshati Dervician në Njësinë Dropull i Poshtëm, që zë rreth 0.09% të të gjithë territorit të Bashkisë, e përkthyer kjo në 42.92 ha. Në Bashkinë Dropull Derviciani përbën zonën e vetme që mund të konsiderohet me karakter disi urban, ndërsa pjesa tjetër e banuar e territorit ka karakter të theksuar rural.

- Cilësia Fizike e Ndërtesave

Për kryerjen e kësaj analize grupi i punës ka kryer një ekspeditë 3 ditore në Bashkinë Dropull, duke lëvizur në të 41 fshatrat për të bërë dokumentimin e gjendjes, konstruksionit dhe përdorimit për çdo ndërtesë.

Referuar kësaj analize në Bashkinë Dropull ka gjithsej 6,700 ndërtesa, të cilat zënë rreth 0.16% të të gjithë territorit, e përkthyer në 73 ha sipërfaqe totale e ndërtuar. Për arsye vështirësie në akses nga totali i përgjithshëm u arrit tëurvejohen në terren vetëm 6,027 ndërtesa. Nga ky total:

1..1. 206 ndërtesa datojnë rreth viteve '30-të, ose më parë;

1..2. 1,344 ndërtesa datojnë rreth viteve '40- '50të;

1..3. 3,069 ndërtesa datojnë rreth viteve '80- '90; dhe

1..4. 1,408 ndërtesa datojnë në vitet 2000 e më pas.

Janë numëruar 5,052 banesa, të cilat kanë mbulesë me çati dhe 941, të cilat kanë tarracë. Të dhënat e grumbulluara në lidhje me cilësinë fizike të ndërtesave variojnë si më poshtë:

- Ndërtesa të rrënuara: 191 njësi, ose 3.48% e sipërfaqes së përgjithshme së ndërtuar;

- Ndërtesa në kushte të dobëta të cilësive fizike: 625 njësi, ose 8.15% e sipërfaqes së përgjithshme së ndërtuar;

- Ndërtesa në kushte të mesme të cilësive

fizike: 2,165 njësi, ose 29.26% e sipërfaqes së përgjithshme së ndërtuar;

- Ndërtesa në kushte relativisht të mira të cilësive fizike: 2,177 njësi, ose 45.28% e sipërfaqes së përgjithshme së ndërtuar;

- Ndërtesa të reja e në kushte shumë të mira të cilësive fizike: 68 ndërtesa, ose 1.47% e sipërfaqes së përgjithshme së ndërtuar;

- Ndërtesa në konstruksion, ende të papërfunduara: 44 ndërtesa, ose 0.84% e sipërfaqes së përgjithshme së ndërtuar.

- Ndërtesa të vjetra (vitet '30-të ose më parë dhe '40-'50), por të rikonstruktura: 479 njësi, ose 7.25% e sipërfaqes së përgjithshme së ndërtuar;

Duke qenë se Bashkia e Dropullit karakterizohet nga lëvizje aktive të emigracionit dhe migracionit, qoftë ato afat-gjatë, edhe ato në afate të shkurtra kohore, banueshmëria rezulton si më poshtë:

1..5. Banesa të braktisura: 278 njësi;

1..6. Banesa që banohen në kohë të pjesshme, gjatë fundjavave (gjatë javës familjarët janë të punësuar e banojnë në Greqi): 1,685 njësi;

1..7. Banesa që banohen përkohësisht, familjarët kthehen vetëm gjatë verës: 223 njësi;

1..8. Banesa pronarët e të cilave banojnë jashtë vendit, dhe që janë dhënë me qera: 10 njësi;

1..9. Banesa që banohen gjatë tërë vitit: 3,640 njësi.

▪ Vendbanimet Informale

Referuar letrës së Ministrisë së Zhvillimit Urban me Nr. 2826/1 Prot., datë 29.05.2017, në përgjigje të shkresës së Bashkisë Dropull për mbledhje të dhënash, me Nr.2512/1 Prot., datë 18.04.2017, sipas ALUIZNIT në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull, nuk ka Zona Informale të miratuara.

Ndërhyrjet informale në sistemin e vendbanimeve në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull kanë karakter të shpërhapur, duke u kufizuar në shtime anësore të ndërtesave, shtesa në numër katesh, ose ndërtesa të reja të cilat janë ndërtuar në krah të atyre ekzistuese, ose në tokë me përdorim bujqësor, por jo duke krijuar zona me karakter informal. Si rrjedhim i këtij fakti, dhe duke ju referuar sërish letrës së mësipërme nga ALUIZNI, në Bashkinë Dropull ka një total prej 144 lelesh të dhëna për legalizim e këtyre objekteve informale.

Përqëndrimin më të madh të këtyre objekteve e ka fshati Dervician, i cili përfaqëson dhe zonën me karakter më të theksuar urban në të gjithë territorin

NR. NDËRTESASH	KOHA E NDËRTIMIT
206	'20-'30 të
1,344	'40-'50 të
3,069	'80-'90 të

1,408 pas 2000

Burimi: Të dhëna të mbledhura nga grupi punës

CILËSIA FIZIKE	NR. NDËRTESASH	% NGA TOTALI
Ndërtesa të rënuara	191	3.48%
Ndërtesa në kushte të dobëta fizike	625	8.15%
Ndërtesa në kushte mesatare fizike	2,165	29.26%
Ndërtesa të reja në kushte shumë të mira	2,177	45.28%
Ndërtesa në konstruksion ende pa mbaruar	44	0.84%
Ndërtesa të vjetra ('20-'30, '40-'50)	479	7.25%

Burimi: Të dhëna të mbledhura nga grupi punës

GJENDJA E PËRDORIMIT	NR. NDËRTESASH
Banesa të braktitura	278
Banesa që banohen me kohë të pjesshme	1,685
Banesa që banohen përkohësisht (verë)	
Banesa pronarët e të cilëve banojnë jashtë vendit	233
Banesa që banohen gjatë tërë kohës	223

3,640

Burimi: Të dhëna të mbledhura nga grupi punës

Cilësia fizike e ndërtesave; Burimi: të dhëna të mbledhura nga grupi i punës

e Bashkisë Dropull, si dhe vendin që ka përjetuar dhe presionin më të madh për zhvillim. Të pakta kanë qenë ndërhyrjet informale sidomos në Njësinë e Pogonit dhe zonat e thella malore të Njësisë Dropull i Sipërm.

■ Pronësia Publike/Private

Ashtusi shumënjësi të tjetra administrative në territorin shqipëtar edhe Bashkia Dropull nuk ka një sasi të konsiderueshme pronash publike. Shumica e tyre si pasojë e privatizimeve që kanë ndodhur kanë kaluar në pronësi private¹¹.

Në total në Bashkinë Dropull ka 5,919 struktura në pronësinë private, të cilat kanë më së shumti përdorim banimi, por pa përjashtuar edhe njësitë ekonomike. Këto përbëjnë rreth 96.68% të të gjithë ndërtimeve në territorin e Bashkisë.

Në pronësi publike numërohen rreth 121 struktura, ose rreth 3.31% e fondit të ndërtuar në të gjithë Bashkinë Dropull, të cilat janë më së shumti struktura me përdorim administrativ, ose institucione publike si shkolla, kopshte, qendra shëndetësore etj.

■ Trashëgimia Kulturore dhe Historike

Bashkia Dropull ka një numër të konsiderueshëm objektiv me vlera historike dhe kulturore të shpërndara thuajse në të gjithë territorin e saj administrativ.

Bazuar dhe në karakterin e vetë zonës së Dropullit, zonë minoritare rurale e shtrirë përgjatë luginës së lumit Drinos dhe përgjatë vargmaleve, vendbanimet kanë vlera të mëdha qoftë si objekte me karakteristika të veçanta arkitekturore, qoftë edhe sipasojë e përshtatjes që kanë pësuar në kohë, duke krijuar një bashkëjetesë thuajse perfekte me terrenin e thyer malor dhe fondin natyror e bujqësor që përfaqëson dhe bazen e ekonomisë lokale.

Objektet me rëndësinë më të madhë

historike e kulturore në Bashkinë Dropull janë shpallur Monumente Kulture, dhe janë plot 42 objekte të Kategorisë së I, nga të cilat 3 janë të nënkategorisë "zona" dhe 38 të nënkategorizë "objekte".

Nga ky total dallojnë disa tipologji:

- Objekte banimi dhe fortifikime:
- Kala
- Vendbanime të rrënuara
- Banesa
- Kulla
- Objekte kulturi:
- Manastire
- Kisha
- Varre
- Objekte infrastrukurore:
- Ura
- Çezma
- Puse

Analiza e Tipologjive Hapësinore

Fjala "tipologji" nënkupton klasifikimime karakteristike kryesore dalluese të një ose disa objekteve, apo dukurive. Kur flasim për "tipologjitë hapësinore" kemi parasysh një analizë komplekse, e cila konsiston në dallimin e karakteristikave, të cilat shpjegojnë marrëdhënien e objekteve (qoftë ato të banimit, dhe ato me përdorim ekonomik) midis tyre, ose në raport me territorin, ku ato ndodhen.

Në këto kushte, analiza e tipologjive hapësinore për territorin e Bashkisë Dropull është realizuar në dy shkallë të ndryshme¹²:

- Në nivel territorial – duke konsideruar fshatin me të gjithë territorin e tij administrativ si një njësi e vetme e banuar, është analizuar marrëdhënien e tij në lidhje me topografinë e territorit në të cilin ndodhet, afërsinëndaj rrugës kryesore, si dhe marrëdhënien me elementët e fortënatyrorë që kanë kushtëzuar mjaft faktorë zhvillimorë, në rastin konkret lumin. Duke analizuar çdo fshat me







#hymnëDropull
gati për t'u eksploruar





metodologjinë e mësipërme, u përfytuan 4 tipologji kryesore hapësinore territoriale si më poshtë:

- Tipologjia A – shtrirja e vendbanimit fshat ndodh përgjatë rrugës kryesore dhe përgjatë lumit, përgjithësisht në terren fushor;
- Tipologjia B – shtrirja e vendbanimit fshat ndodh e zhvendosur nga rruga kryesore dhe nga lumi, në terren kodrinor;
- Tipologjia C – shtrirja e vendbanimit fshat ndodh larg rrugës kryesore dhe lumit, shpesh e izoluar nga pjesa tjetër e territorit, e vendosur në terren malor;
- Tipologjia D – shtrirja e vendbanimit fshat ndodh pranë, ose në largësi të vogël nga rruga kryesore, ose lumi, por e ndarë në dy pjesë, në të dy anët e rrugës, ose lumit.

1. Në nivel vendbanimesh – duke marrë në konsideratë karakteristikat hapësinore të shtrirjes së vendbanimeve janë evidentuar gjithsej 22 tipologji për 41 fshatrat e Bashkisë Dropull. Tipologjitë bazë janë si më poshtë, ndërkohë pjesa tjetër ka karakter të përzier, që vjen si pasojë e ndërthurjes së tipologjive të mëposhtme:

3.3.5 Sistemi Bujqësor

Bashkia Dropull ka rreth 7,000 ha tokë bujqësore, e cila ndarë sipas Njësive Administrative rezulton që thuhet 87% e totalit zotërohet nga Njësitë Dropull i Poshtëm dhe i Sipërm, respektivisht me 46% dhe 41%, dhe vetëm 13% zotërohet nga Njësia e Pogonit. Në nivel Bashkie koeficienti i shfrytëzimit të tokës bujqësore, që është dhe tregues i efektivitetit ekonomik të përdorimit të saj, është 44%, dhe vlera maksimale arrihet në Njësinë e Dropullit të Sipërm me 49% dhe vlera minimale në Pogon me 21%. Nga këndvështrimi strukturor shpërndarja e tokës bujqësore gjithsej dhe pjesës së kultivuar, varion nga 50% në Njësinë Dropull i Sipërm, në 46% në Njësinë Dropull i Poshtëm dhe vetëm në 4% një Njësinë e Pogonit.

Përsa i përket strukturës së mbjelljes së tokës së punuar bujqësore sipas produkteve, në nivel Bashkie rreth 72% e saj kultivohet me bimë foragjere, 25% me drithra dhe 2.6% me perime, fruta, patate, fasule e bimë medicinale. Ndërkohë që Njësitë Dropull i Poshtëm dhe i Sipërm, si produkt primar kanë drithrat dhe bimët foragjere, Njësia e Pogonit dallohet për prodhimin e frutave që përbëjnë rreth 50% të prodhimit frutor në nivel Bashkie, ose 25% të produktit bujqësor të kësaj Njësie. Përsa i përket fermave bujqësore, numrin më të madh të njësive bujqësore e zotëron

Njësia e Dropullit të Poshtëm me rreth 2,300 njësi, ose rreth 46% të numrit total të njësive bujqësore. Ndërkohë Njësia e Pogonit regjistron numrin më të vogël të njësive bujqësore me rreth 700 njësi, ose 13% të numrit total në nivel Bashkie. Madhësia mesatare e njësive ekonomike bujqësore për Bashkinë Dropull është rreth 1,3ha, ose rreth 36% më e vogël se madhësia mesatare e fermës bujqësore në nivel qarku dhe vendi, që vlerësohet me 2ha. Ky tregues është relativisht i përafërt në dy Njësitë Administrative të Dropullit të Poshtëm dhe të Sipërm, ndërkohë që Njësia e Pogonit regjistron vlerën mesatare më të ulët për madhësinë e fermës bujqësore/ njësive ekonomike bujqësore, vlerësuar me 0.7ha.

Analiza e volumit të prodhimit bujqësor në vite në nivel Bashkie nxjerr në pah një rënie që për vitin 2016 vlerësohet të jetë në rreth (-43%), krahasuar me vitin 2015. Rënia më e madhe shënohet në Njësinë e Pogonit me rreth (-74%) të prodhimit, ndërkohë që rënia më e ulët konstatohet në Njësitë e Dropullit të Poshtëm me (-28%) dhe Dropullit të Sipërm me (-21%). Faktorët kryesorë që kanë ndikuar në këtë rënie, si dhe në rritjen e stokut të prodhimit gjendje në magazine, rezultojnë të jenë të ndryshëm, ku përmenden: çmimet e larta të inpueteve bujqësore, farëra, plehrave, pesticideve etj.; çmimi i lartë i karburantit për mekanikën bujqësore pas heqjes së subvencionit nga shteti; tarifatat e larta të punimeve bujqësore dhe për rrjedhojë çmimet e larta të prodhimit vendas; çmimet e ulëta të produkteve bujqësore të importuara, të cilat janë të zhveshura nga taksimi dhe mbulohen me subvencione nga shteti etj. Në pamje të parë rënia më e madhe është shënuar në grupin e perimeve, vlerësuar me rreth (-71%), ndjekur nga rënia e grupit të drithrave me rreth (-27%).

Boniteti i Tokave

Boniteti është një tregues që vlerëson agro-prodhueshmërinë e tokës. Një kategori përfshin brenda të gjithë cilësitë e tokës, duke treguar që ajo mund të jetë e një standarti e një zhvillimi bujqësor të qëndrueshëm, ose që nuk është e përshatshme për zhvillimin e bujqësisë dhe nuk ka nivel nivel të mrië prodhimi. Tokat më të mira janë duke filluar nga kategoria e I deri në kategorinë e IV, ndërsa kategoritë VII deri në X janë toka të dobëta nga pikëpamja agroprodhuese, pasi nuk plotesojnë kërkesat e bimëve dhe nuk janë të përshtatshme për bujqësi. Në këtë këndvështrim kategoritë I deri në IV duhet të ruhen nga përdorimi me qëllime të tjera.

Në këtë kontekst, për Bashkinë Dropull fondi i tokës bujqësorë shtrihet përgjithësisht në fushën e Dropullit, përgjatë luginës së lumit Drinos, dhe shumë pak në Njësinë e Pogonit përgjatë rrjedhës së lumit të Suhës. Boniteti i tokave varion nga kategoria e III-IV që janë dhe tokat me prodhimtarinë më të lartë, në kategoritë më pak prodhuese V-VIII. Tokat bujqësore me cilësinë më të mirë të kategorisë III-IV shtrihen përgjatë ultësirës së fushës së Dropullit dhe përgjatë rrjedhës së lumit Drino, dhe u përket fshatrave të Njërive Dropull i Sipërm dhe Dropull i Poshtëm. Sa më shumë largohemi nga rrjedha e lumit Drino aq më pak prodhuese bëhet toka bujqësore.

KAPITULLI 4- PROGRAMET, POLITIKAT DHE KONSIDERATA FINANCIARE

4.1 Programet dhe Politikat

Për realizimin e Objektivave Strategjike dhe Programeve në funksion të tyre, për secilin program janë përcaktuar një sërë politikash, ose projektash që vijojnë si më poshtë.

OS_1: Rritja e askesueshmërisë dhe integrimi territorial

Programi Strategjik OS1PS1: Lidhja e shpejtë me Portin e Sarandës dhe Itinerari Turistik drejt Rivierës. Implementimi i segmentit rrugor lidhës Vodhinë-Kërrë- Livadhja- Sarandë planifikohet të realizohet për të shkurtuar distancën dhe afatet kohore, si dhe rritur e përmirësuar cilësinë e infrastrukturës rrugore. Ky aks do t'i shërbejë në mënyrë të veçantë bizneseve dhe transportit të mallrave, të cilët do të inkurajohen që të përdorin Portin e Sarandës, në vend të atij të Igumenicës, për të ulur kostot në transport dhe taksa. Krijimi i kësaj lidhjeje të shpejtë do t'i shërbejë jo vetëm Bashkisë Dropull, por të tërë Rajonit Jugor të Shqipërisë. Ky aks do të realizojë gjithashtu një lidhje dhe integrim më të mirë të territorit të Bashkisë Dropull me zonën e Rivierës, duke rritur mundësitë e integritit edhe përsa i përket zhvillimit të turizmit dhe tërheqjes së turistëve edhe drejt zonës së Dropullit.

Programi Strategjik OS1PS2: Përmirësimi i infrastrukturës rrugore ekzistuese dhe implementimi i sistemit "sloë line" infrastrukturor alternativ që lidh më mirë fshatrat midis tyre, si dhe siguron akses ndaj vendeve me atraksion turistik.

Për realizimin e këtij programi/ projekti do të ndërmeren një seri ndërhyrjesh strategjike me karakter infrastrukturor

lidhës:

- Krijimi i akseve lidhëse këmbësore dhe për bicikleta (sloë line) për të lidhur fshatrat dhe zonat e shërbimit midis tyre;
- Zgjatja e këtyre akseve lidhëse edhe në fshatrat që ndodhen në pjesën më të lartë të territorit (që momentalisht janë dhe zonat më të izoluar);
- Krijimi i një sistemi të plotë lidhës sidomos në zonën e Pogonit;
- Lidhja e këtyre akseve me zonat e atraksionit turistik: ballkone natyrore, kisha, manastire, parqe natyrore dhe objekte të tjera me rëndësi;
- Lidhja e këtyre akseve me zonat e zhvillimit të agro-turizmit, bujtinat pritëse dhe fermat e bio- produkteve;
- Markimi me sinjalistikën përkatëse orientuese;
- Krijimi i kushteve të sigurta të lëvizjes aty ku terreni është i thyer (zonat e ngjitjes në male);
- Krijimi i një ndërfaqeje online dhe aplikacioni të posaçëm që përmban të gjitha itineraret dhe informacionet përkatëse për secilin prej tyre.

Programi Strategjik OS1PS3: Konsolidimi i pikave kufitare në Koshovicë, Radat dhe Sopik (përmirësimi i portave hyrëse të Bashkisë Dropull dhe lidhjeve strategjike rajonale, kombëtare dhe ndërkombëtare). Për realizimin e këtij objekti do të ndërmeren disa projekte strategjike:

- Rregullimi estetik dhe pejzazistik i portave kufitare;
- Plotësimi me të gjitha shërbimet përkatëse i pikave kufitare;
- Vendosja e sinjalistikave orientuese.

Programi Strategjik OS1PS4: Krijimi i Terminalit Multimodal Interurban pranë polit Jorgucat. Terminali do të ndërtohet para ish-fabrikës së plastikës, në një sipërfaqe rreth 11,280m².

Terminali duhet të ofrojë këto shërbime:

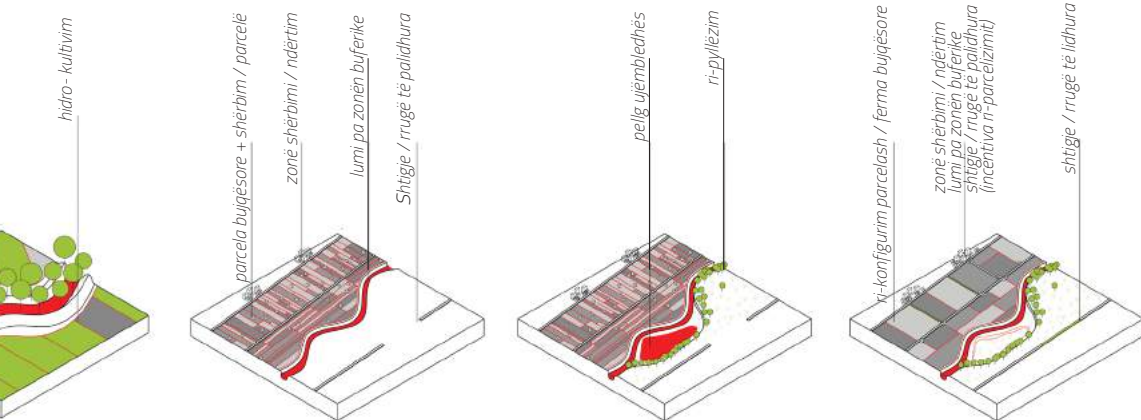
- Hapësirë për parkim dhe ndalimin e autobusave interurbanë;
- Infrastrukturë lidhëse me Stacionin e Trenit;
- Hapësirë për parkim të përkohshëm të automjeteve personale;
- Hapësirë për parkim afatgjatë;
- Biletari dhe Tabela Elektronike Informuese për udhëtarët;
- Hapësirë dhe Vendndalim për ndërldhjen mes llojeve të ndryshme të transportit, automjete individuale dhe autobuza të transportit publik lokal dhe ndërqytetas;
- Hapësirë për parkimin e biçikletave;
- Hapësirë për marrjen me qera të biçikletave;
- Hapësirë për tregëtimin dhe ofrimin

Legjenda

-  Park Linear
-  Breza Mbrojtëse
-  Zona Pyjore
-  Zona Shtimi i Pylezimit
-  Zona e Mbrojtur
-  Itinerare lineare/Zona Sport
-  Itinerare lidhëse me zonat urbane



Harta e Rezervuareve dhe Itinerareve lidhëse



Manaxhimi i rreziqeve natyrore;

e shërbimeve bazike që lehtësojnë udhëtimin e individëve.

Programi Strategjik OS1PS5: Krijimi i Stacionit të Trenit.

Zgjatimi i hekurudhës edhe në këtë pjesë të Rajonit Jugor është një projekt strategjik i qeverisë Shqipëtare. Në këtë kuadër, dhe duke ndjekur edhe propozimin për implementimin e kësaj infrastrukture edhe nga Bashkia fqinje e Gjirokastrës, është propozuar traseja e kalimit të hekurudhës në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull, shoqëruar me Stacionin Qëndror në afërsi të Peshkëpisë së Poshtme.

Ky Stacion do të ofrojë:

- Hapësirë për ndalimin e trenave;
- Infrastruktura lidhëse dhe lidhje të shpejtë me Terminalin Multimodal;
- Hapësirë pritëse për pasagjerët;
- Biletari dhe qendër informacioni;
- Hapësirë magazinimi mallrash;
- Hapësirë për marrjen me qera të biçikletave;
- Hapësirë parkimi automjeteve.

Programi Strategjik OS1PS6: Centralitetet e Bashkisë Dropull / Polet: Dervician, Sofratikë, Jorgucat, Vrisera dhe Poliçan.

Duke promovuar zhvillimin policentrik të Bashkisë Dropull, që konsiston me krijimin e disa poleve/ qendrave që do të mirëpresin shërbimet bazë dhe alternative për zhvillimin ekonomik dhe social, territori i Bashkisë shihet i organizuar rreth 5 poleve kryesore, që sigurojnë mbulimin e plotë me të gjitha shërbimet. Përpos ofrimit të shërbimeve bazë si edukim dhe shëndetësi, këto pole shihen të specializuara në drejtime të ndryshme të zhvillimit ekonomik, që përkohë dhe me potencialet kryesore të territoreve në të cilat ato bëjnë pjesë, duke siguruar kështu krijimin e një cikli të plotë ekonomik për Bashkinë Dropull. Polet janë si më poshtë:

- Poli Dervician:

Portë Hyrëse për Bashkinë Dropull dhe qendër ofrimi shërbimesh. Bazohet tek zhvillimi i Bujqësisë dhe Turizmit, ku turizmi religjioz dhe agro-turizmi janë dy format kryesore përfaqësuese.

- Poli Sofratikë:

Zonë me rëndësi arkeologjike. Ka një ekonomi që bazohet tek zhvillimi i Bujqësisë dhe Turizmit bazuar tek arkeologjia, besimi fetar dhe ritet përkatëse, dhe agro-turizmi.

- Poli Jorgucat:

Qendër administrative dhe multimodale. Hapësirë pritëse e industrive përpunuese dhe Parkut të Biznesit, i cili sjell një seri aktiviteteve alternative për ekonominë e Bashkisë Dropull. Bujqësia është një tjetër bazë e zhvillimit ekonomik, e cila

shihet edhe si lëndë e parë për industrinë përpunuese. Ky pol mirëpret edhe Tregun Rajonal dhe zhvillimin e agro-turizmit.

- Poli Vrisera:

Portë Hyrëse për Bashkinë Dropull, këtë herë parë në kontekstin e Makro-Rajonit Ndërkufitar me Greqinë. Zonë me karakter bujqësor, që mirëpret gjithashtu përqëndrimin e shërbimeve dhe shkëmbimeve tregëtare. Ky pol shihet në një marrëdhënie të ngushtë me polin e Jorgucatit, ku të gjithë sëbashku janë pjesë e Parkut të Biznesit të Makro-Rajonit Ndërkufitar, duke u lidhur kështu ngushtësisht me Rajonin e Janinës.

- Poli Poliçan:

Ky pol ka një karakter të theksuar malor, ku përpos bujqësisë, blegtorja zë një vend të rëndësishëm në zhvillimin ekonomik. Potencialet e mëdha natyrore, pejzazhi dhe tradita krijojnë bazat për zhvillimin e qëndrueshëm të turizmit që bazohet në këto potenciale. Turizmi religjioz, agro-turizmi dhe turizmi bazuar në natyrë janë karakteristikat kryesore të zhvillimit të këtij poli. Bimësia medicinale dhe ekonomia bazuar në këtë bimësi përbën një tjetër potencial zhvillimi për zonën.

OS_2: Integrimi në rajonin ekonomik ndërkufitar përmes zhvillimit dhe diversifikimit të ekonomisë lokale

Programi Strategjik OS2PS1: Zhvillimi i Bujqësisë:

1. Studimi dhe rehabilitimi i sistemit të kullimit dhe vaditjes për të gjithë territorin e Bashkisë Dropull:

- Evidentimi dhe vlerësimi i gjendjes ekzistuese të kanaleve;
- Plani i detajuar i Veprimit për zgjerimin, pastrimin dhe rikonstrukcionin e rrjetit;
- Mirëmbajtja e rrjetit.

2. Hartimi i instrumenteve të manaxhimit të tokës për bujqësinë:

Instrumentat e manaxhimit do të orientojnë zhvillimet që nuk i shërbejnë sektorit të bujqësisë, jashtë sipërfaqeve me Kategori Bazë të përdorimit të tokës të propozuar B.Bujqësi, me qëllim mbrojtjen e tokës bujqësore.

Nxitja e rritjes së numrit të fermave bujqësore dhe rritja e madhësisë së fermave nga 1.39ha (mesatarta e Bashkisë Dropull), në 4-5ha/fermë, do të mbështetet me anë të kredimit për pajisje për fermerët, të cilët më pas mund të grupohen dhe krijojnë ferma mbi 4ha.

Nxitja e zhvillimeve të strukturave në funksion të bujqësisë (magazina, stalla, pika grumbullimi, kooperativa bujqësore etj.), përmes shfrytëzimit të aseteve publike dhe private në skema të

partneritetit publik-privat PPP.

3. Tregjet Rajonale dhe Vendore të produkteve:

Në Bashkinë Dropull është parashikuar 1 treg rajonal dhe 3 tregje lokale që i shëbejnë secilës Njësi, për të mundësuar akses dhe tregëtimin e produkteve për të gjithë fermerët vendorë, pavarësisht vendodhjes së tyre, dhe largësisë ndaj tregut të madh rajonal. Tregjet lokale do të kenë gjithashtu lidhje të drejtpërdrejta me fermat e agro-turizmit, duke krijuar një cikël të plotë të produkteve, nga vendi i prodhimit, në ato të tregëtimit dhe konsumit.

- Tregu Rajonal (në Jorgucat në një sipërfaqje prej 4,650m² përballë Terminalit/ Dropull i Sipërm);
- Tregu Lokal 1 (në Dervician përballë fushës së sportit, në një sipërfaqje prej 2,526m²/ Dropull i Poshtëm);
- Tregu Lokal 2 (në Vrisera, duke nisur nga Lapidari deri në fund të rrugës pranë qendrës administrative, në një sipërfaqje rreth 1,670m² / Dropull i Sipërm);
- Tregu Lokal 3 (në Poliçan, pranë fushës së futbollit, në një sipërfaqje prej 1,002m²/ Pogon).

Ndër të tjera, krahas hapësirave për grumbullim, magazinim dhe tregëtim, Tregu Rajonal do të sigurojë edhe:

- Hapësirë edhe për certifikimin dhe kontrollin e cilësisë së produkteve;
- Hapësirë për parkimin e automjeteve të transportit të produkteve;
- Zyrën e informimit mbi produktet vendase;
- Qendrën e informimit mbi fermat kryesore që operojnë në Bashkinë Dropull, për të lehtësuar lidhjen e fermerëve jo vetëm me tregëtuesit, por edhe me industrinë përpunuese industriale dhe artizanale;
- Hapësirën e reklamimit të produkteve alternative që industritë përpunuese prodhojnë me produktet parësore lokale që ofron zona;
- Hapësira alternative sociale si: bare, restorante, vende degustimi etj.

Ndërkohë Tregjet Lokale do të sigurojnë hapësira për tregëtimin e produkteve me pakicë, kryesisht për konsum familjar, ose biznesesh të vogla. Këto tregje do të jenë drejtpërdrejtë të lidhura me fermat dhe pikat kryesore të zhvillimit të agro-turizmit, duke krijuar zinxhirin e plotë të produktit nga toka-tek fermeri-tek konsumatori.

4. Hartimi i Planeve të Pejzazhit për trajtimin e tokave bujqësore

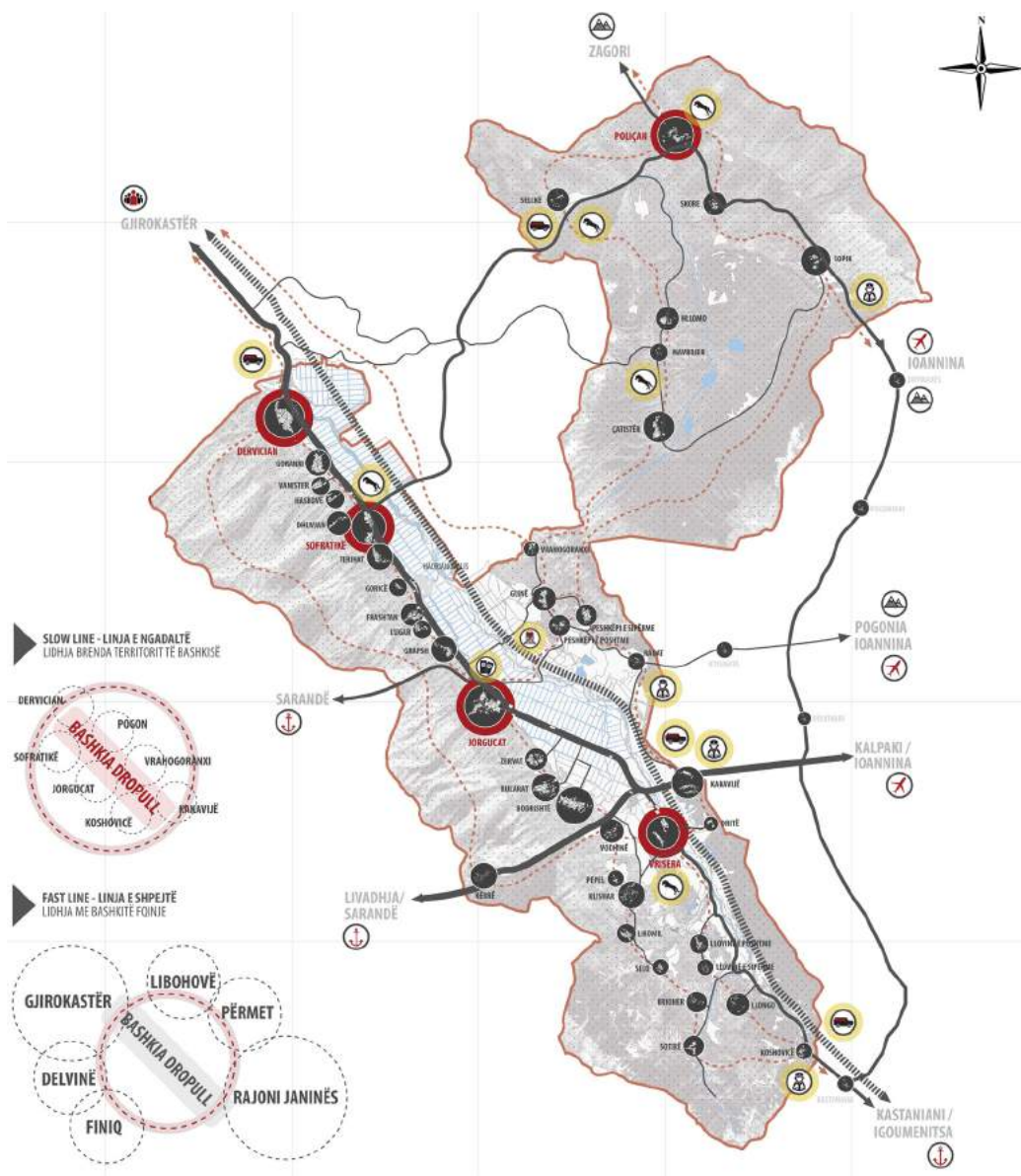
Me qëllim rritjen e atraksionit dhe përmirësimin e imazhit të Bashkisë

Dropull, pejzazhi i pasur dhe i larmishëm që e karakterizon mund të luajë rolin e një katalizatori mjaft të rëndësishëm. Sistemi Bujqësor zë 18.03% (8,308.7ha) të sipërfaqes totale të Bashkisë së Dropullit (45,409.93ha), duke zënë vendin e dytë pas atij Natyror me 78%. Në këto kushte, detyrimisht vjen si kërkesë që kjo sipërfaqe të trajtohet me kujdes dhe prioritet jo vetëm në aspektin ekonomik fitim-prurës, por edhe në atë estetik e pejzazhor.

Kjo qasje e alternuar/ bashkënduar kultivimi mund të nxisë më tej vlerat e prodhimit dhe të forcojë identitetin lokal. Kultura e pejzazhit mbështetet në konceptin se toka bujqësore e kultivuar, mundet të jetë gjithashtu një pasuri pejzazhore, duke u trajtuar sipas praktikave përkatëse, pa cënuar prodhimtarinë e tokës dhe ciklin e prodhimit. Kjo kulturë promovon përdorimin e të njëjtës sipërfaqje toke në stinë dhe periudha të ndryshme prodhimi, duke kultivuar sipas këtyre periudhave, produkte të ndryshme. Në këtë mënyrë jo vetëm bëhet më eficient prodhimi i të njëjtës sipërfaqje toke, por dhe rritet sasia e prodhimit dhe cikli i prodhimit shtrihet në periudha më të gjata kohore. Kultura e pejzazhit është një proces, i cili kërkon koordinim midis kultivimeve të tokave bujqësore me njëra-tjetrën, nuk kufizon prodhimin, ndërkohë që në fasha të caktuara vendos përdorime të prodhimit duke eficientuar kultivimin e tokës bujqësore.

Programi Strategjik OS2PS2: Zhvillimi i Blegtorisë.

Zhvillimi i blegtorisë për Bashkinë Dropull është po aq me rëndësi sa bujqësia. Ndonëse për arsye të ndryshme, ku më me rëndësi është faktori migrim/emigrim, pra largimi i popullsisë, blegtoria ndër vitë ka pësuar një humbje rëndësie në kontributin e zhvillimit ekonomik, potenciale që ajo ka është mjaft i madh. Rënia e këtij kontributi është matur sipas dy faktorëve kryesorë: (a) ulje e numrit të fermave blegorale (në 94 ferma për vitin 2016) dhe (b) ulje e kontributit në produkte blegtorale që këto ferma japin. Në këto kushte, edhe pse Njësia e Pogonit është zona që përfaqësohet me 50% të totalit të fermave blegtorale, kontributi që kjo Njësi ka në produkte është vetëm 11% e totalit (Njësitë Dropull i Poshtëm dhe Dropull i Sipërm kontribuojnë thuajse në të njëjtin nivel, me rreth 45% të totalit të produkteve blegtorale). Madhësia mesatare e fermave është 122ha/fermë, ku Njësia Pogon ka sipërfaqen më të madhe më 152ha, dhe Njësia Dropull i Poshtëm sipërfaqen më



Harta: Objektivi Strategjike 1, Rritje e Aksesueshmërisë dhe Integrimi Territorial

të vogël me 101ha. Rreth 60% e kullotave janë verore dhe pjesa tjetër dimërore. Vetëm 37% e fermave (përkatësisht në Njësinë Dropull i Sipërm) nuk janë të dhëna me qera dhe punohen nga fermerët pronarë, ndërsa pjesa tjetër janë të tëra të dhënë me kontrata qeraje (përgjithësisht ferma në pronësi publike).

Në këto kushte, projektet strategjike që propozohen për zhvillimin e mëtejshëm të blegtorisë janë:

1. Stimulimi i fermerëve (përmes incentivave) për të rritur numrin e fermave blegtorale:

- Mbështetje teknike nga Bashkia Dropull dhe partnerë të tjerë të fushës;
- Akses në tregje dhe mundësi për tregëtimin e produkteve blegtorale;
- Integrim i mirë me njësitë e tjera ekonomike (agro-turizmi etj.);
- Krijimi i shoqatave të fermerëve për të lehtësuar ndarjen e informacionit dhe manaxhimin e burimeve.

2. Përmirësimi i manaxhimit të parcelave

kullësore:

- Pastrim i kullotave nga gurët dhe shkurret, me qëllim rritjen e hapësirës së përdorshme;
- Pastrim i kullotave nga bimësitë helmuese;
- Përdorimi i plehrave azotike në sasi të vogla për të rritur cilësinë e kullotave.

3. Rritja e kapacitetit kullësorë:

- Kullotja sipas një grafiku të caktuar, që lejon kullotjen e qëndrueshme, duke lënë hapësirat e nevojshme kohore për rigjenerim dhe riprodhim të bimësisë së kullotave.

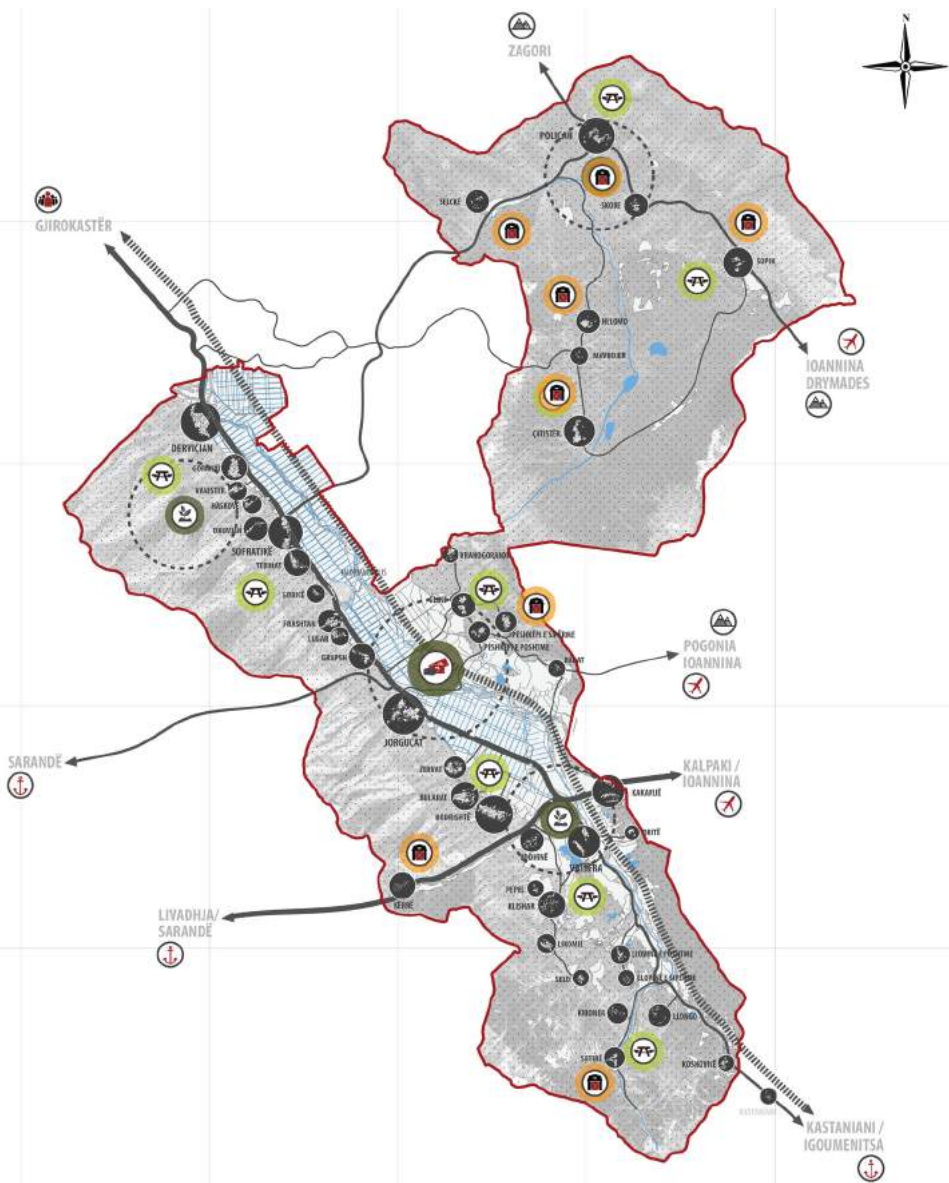
4. Rritja e shkallës së përdorimit dhe shfrytëzimit të kullotave duke:

- Stimuluar fermerët aktualë dhe ato potencialë (kthim popullsie dhe tërheqje e popullsisë së re banuese përmes incentivave;
- Rritje e numrit të kontratave të qira-dhënies;
- Akses më i mirë në tregjet rajonale e lokale, pra interes më i madh në përdorimin





Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality



Harta: Objektivi Strategjik 2, Integrimi në Rajonin Ekonomik përmes Zhvillimit dhe Diversifikimit të Ekonomisë Lokale - Zhvillimi i Blegtorisë

Dropullit të Poshtëm dhe Pogonit për llojin e përshtatshëm të tokës dhe kushteve favorizuese, do të promovohet kultivimi i mëtejshëm i bimëve medicinale dhe eterovajore, duke rritur kështu gamën e përdorimit të tokës në këto Njësi. Edhe pse momentalisht vetëm një total prej 7ha në të dy Njësitë kultivohet me bimë medicinale, mundësitë për të diversifikuar përdorimin janë të mëdha, ndaj Bashkia do të promovojë këtë nismë edhe më tej përmes incentivave dhe metodave të tjera alternative. Në kuadër të këtij programi, në terma kohorë, fillimisht synohet rritja e sipërfaqes së kultivuar dhe më tej ngritja e njësive grumbulluese dhe përpunuese të produkteve, duke ja shtuar ato sasisë së prodhimeve lokale, të cilat do promovohen në tregjet rajonale, kombëtare e ndërkombëtare përmes markës së produkteve të Bashkisë Dropull.

- Shtimi i sipërfaqeve të kultivuara me bimë medicinale dhe eterovajore;
- Krijimi i qendrave grumbulluese (Dropull i

Poshtëm dhe Pogon);

- Krijimi i qendrës përpunuese të prodhimeve medicinale dhe eterovajore.

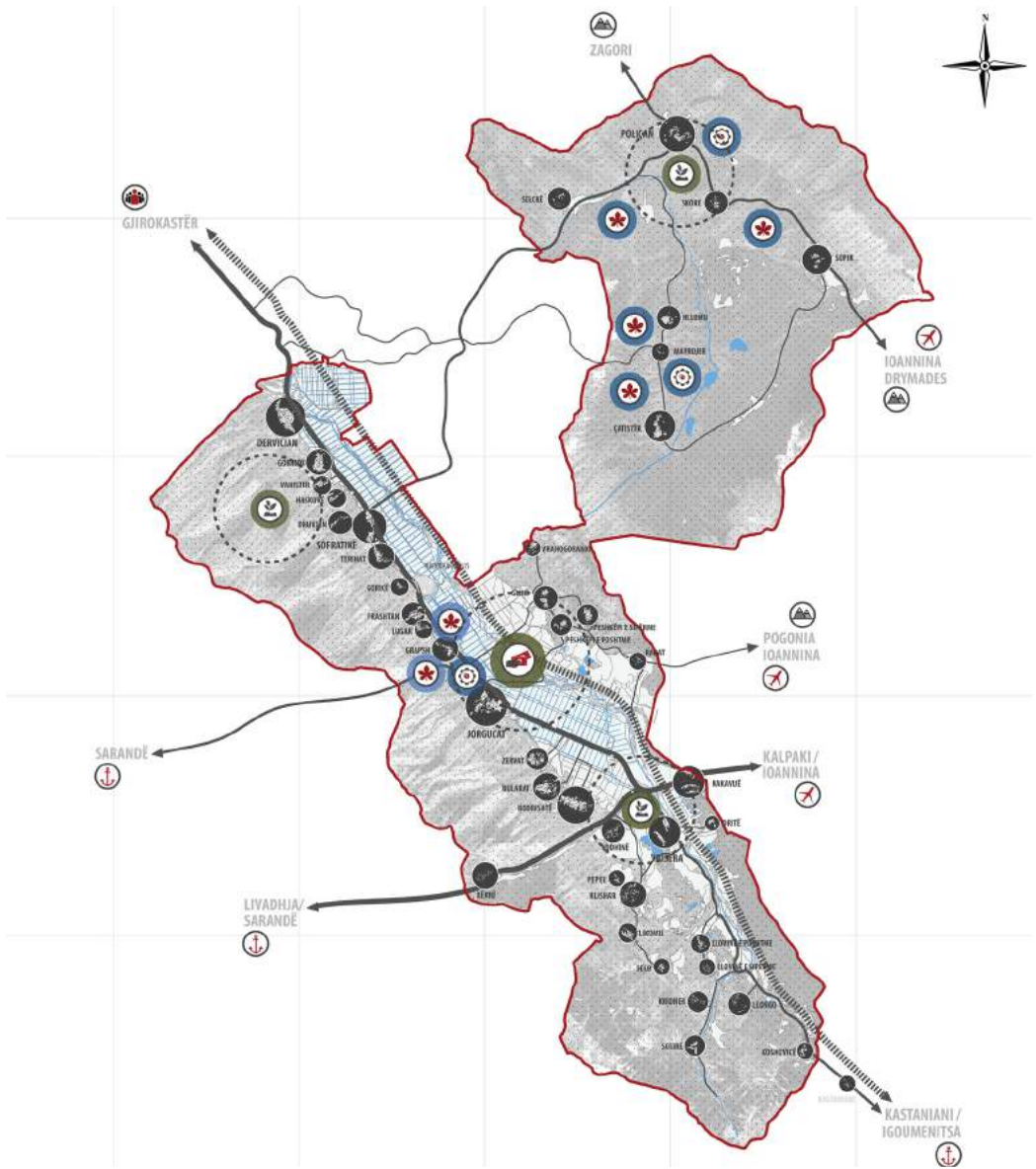
Programi Strategjik OS2PS4: Zhvillimi i Turizmit:

Kombinimi i zhvillimit rural që e karakterizon territorin, me pejzazhe të rralla dhe habitate natyrore të pasura, me zhvillimn e degëve si bujqësia, blegtoria, kultivimi i bimëve medicinale, por edhe me industrinë përpunuese dhe ofrimin e shërbimeve, bën që turizmi të marrë një zhvillim të plotë 360 gradë dhe gjithëvjetor (pra që shkon përtej një sezoni të vetëm), duke u shndërruar në një promotor të rëndësishëm të vlerave të territorit të Bashkisë Dropull.

Për të përmbushur këtë program strategjik, disa nga projektet strategjike që parashikohen janë:

2. Zhvillimi i itinerareve turistike

Në kontekstin Rajonal krijimi i lidhjes së shpejtë me Portin e Sarandës do të shërbejë gjithashtu edhe si një itinerar



Harta: Objektivi Strategjike 2, Integrimi në Rajonin Ekonomik përmes Zhvillimit dhe Diversifikimit të Ekonomisë Lokale - Kultivimi dhe Përpunimi i Bimëve Medicinale

me karakter turistik duke qenë se synon ndër të tjera integrimin më të mirë të Bashkisë Dropull me Rivierën dhe Bregdetin Jonian, që përbëjnë një nga rajonet më të zhvilluara turistike. Ky itinerar do të përfshijë segmentin rrugor nga Vodhina në Kërrë, për të dalë më pas përmes Livadhjasë drejt Rivierës. Disa nga ndërhyrjet për implementimin e karakterit turistik të këtij itinerari janë:

- Pasurimi i pejzazhit ku rruga do të kalojë, duke u shoqëruar me seri pemësh përgjatë saj dhe duke u hapur në ballkone panoramike, aty ku është e mundur;
- Sigurimi i akseve/ degëve të itinerarit, të dedikuara për biçikleta dhe këmbësorë, të cilat jo domosdoshmërisht ndjekin aksin e shpejtë të lëvizjes (që do të realizojë lidhjen me Portin e Sarandës). Gjatë këtyre degëzimeve me karakter turistik do të ketë shërbimet përkatëse, burime uji dhe mini-markete me produktet bazike;
- Lidhja me pikat kryesore të zhvillimit të agro-turizmit, bujtinat pritëse dhe fermat

e bio- produkteve.

Në kontekstin lokal territori i Bashkisë Dropull ka një sërë objektesh dhe zona me interes për zhvillimin e turizmit. Këtu mund të përfshihen: monumente natyrore; monumente kulturore; objekte të rëndësishme të veçantë (p.sh. shtëpi me karakteristika të veçanta arkitektonike etj.); objekte kulturore; dhe vende panoramike. Duke i kombinuar këto të fundit dhe me kulturën vendase dhe jetën në fshat, mund të krijohen një sërë itinaresh, të cilat jo vetëm do të nxjerrin në pah të gjitha potencialet turistike të zonës së Dropullit, por duke krijuar një rrjet lëvizjeje në territor, do të mundësojnë gjithashtu përmirësimin e aksesibilitetit dhe një lidhje më të mirë midis fshatrave të ndryshëm dhe zonave të atracionit turistik. Ky rrjet lëvizjeje me makina off-road, biçikleta dhe këmbësor është quajtur "sloë line", ose "linja e ngadaltë". Rrjeti ka segmente me tematika të ndryshme itinaresh:

- Itinere Pejzazhore;

- Itinerare të Ujit (përgjatë lumenjve);
- Itinerare Historiko-Kulturore;
- Itinerare të Kultiti;
- Itinerare të Agroturizmit;
- Itinerare të Ujit (përgjatë lumenjve);
- Itinerare me Tematika të Veçanta (sipas kalendarit të eventeve në zonë etj.);
- Itinerare të Përziera (që miksojnë elemente të itinerareve të ndryshme).

Në kuadër të zhvillimit të itinerareve do të ngrihen përgjatë tyre një sërë pikash të vogla shërbimi (me shërbimet bazë), si dhe do të vendosen në dizpozicion guida të posaçme (të printuara dhe në version elektronik) që japin informacion mbi të gjitha objektet dhe eventet me interes përgjatë itinerareve.

Banorë nga zona do të trajnohen në mënyrë të veçantë për të shërbyer si guida përgjatë itinerareve (ku synim do të jenë sidomos të rinjtë). Trajnime të veçanta do të bëhen edhe me banorët e tjerë (kryesisht të moshat e mesme dhe të moshuarit) në mënyrë që në bujtina, shtëpi pritëse, ferma, apo ndalesa të tjera të itinerareve, të dinë se si të sillen dhe presin turistat. Këto trajnime do të shërbejnë gjithashtu edhe për të rritur ndërgjegjësimin ndaj rëndësisë dhe përfitimeve që turizmi mund të sjellë.

3. Agro-turizmi

Zhvillimi i Agro-turizmit është një tjetër prioritet në kudër të zhvillimit të turizmit në tërësi në Bashkinë Dropull. Duke kombinuar mjaft nga potencialet që zona ofron (pejzazhin, produktet vendase, mikpritjen e banorëve etj.), kjo formë e turizmit i jep sidomos popullsisë vendase dhe banorëve mundësinë të jenë pjesë e drejtpërdrejtë e të gjitha shërbimeve dhe aktiviteteve që ofrohen. Kjo jo vetëm rrit përgjegjësinë dhe pjesëmarrjen, por dhe ndjenjën e përkatësisë dhe interesin për t'i zhvilluar gjërat më tej. Për sa i përket eksperiencës dhe përfitimeve të turistëve, ata do të kenë mundësinë të shohin dhe njohin nga afër aktivitetet kryesore ekonomike të zonës; të shijojnë produktet vendase, madje të kenë mundësinë t'i mbledhin, ose kultivojnë vetë ato; të njohin nga afër popullsinë vendase dhe kulturën e tyre; të jenë më tej promotorë të kulturës dhe traditës së Bashkisë Dropull, etj.

Fermat bujqësore, ose blegtorale do të përdorin potencialin që kanë për t'u shndërruar në atraksione turistike, duke ofruar shërbime alternative, si ofrimi i akomodimit, njohja me kafshët dhe format e përkujdesjes ndaj tyre, mbledhja dhe shijimi i produkteve, njohja me ciklin e produkteve etj.

Bashkia do të kujdeset të krijojë një frymë që mirëpret aktivitetin e fermave

bujqësore, duke:

- Hartuar një rregullore të veçantë mbi tipologjitë e fermave agroturistike (madhësia, sasia e kafshëve/ prodhimeve ose produkteve, vendet e akomodimit, lloji i strukturave etj.);
- Ofruar asistencë në ndërlidhjen e fermerëve me burime të ndryshme financimi për mbeshtjetjen e zhvillimit të agroturizmit (mikro-kredi ndërmjet lidhjes me Ministrinë e Bujqësisë, mundësi lidhjesh partneriteti mes investitorëve dhe firmave private dhe fermerëve lokalë etj.);
- Ofruar infrastrukturën ndihmëse në funksion të agroturizmit (itinerare turistike, transporti alternativ, brandimi dhe promovimi i produkteve lokale nën një emër që përfaqëson të tërë zonën e Dropullit etj.).

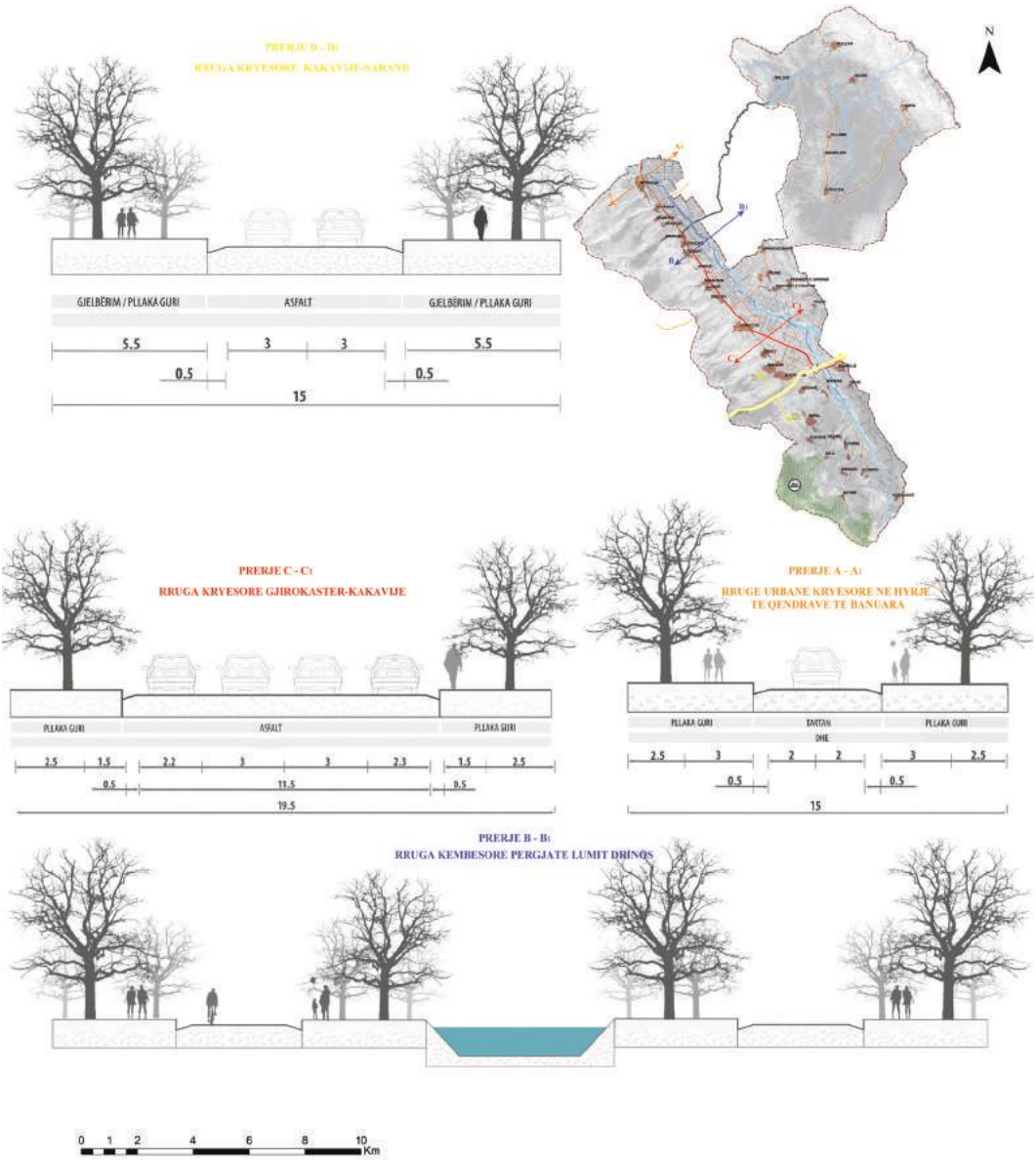
4. Zhvillimi i Turizmit Malor dhe Eko-turizmit

Turizmi malor dhe eko-turizmi janë dy nga format më potenciale, të zhvillimit të turizmit në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull. Pejzazhi mjaft i pasur, ku ndër të tjera ka një larmishmëri që sjell si fushat dhe luginat përgjatë rrjedhës së lumenjve, por edhe majat e thepisura të maleve, krijon mundësi pa fund për zhvillimin e turizmit bazuar në këto potenciale. Sidomos zona e Pogonit është një territor ende i pa-transformuar në një pjesë të mirë të tij, dhe me mjaft mundësi për shfrytëzimin e natyrës së virgjër për zhvillimin e turizmit bazuar natyra.

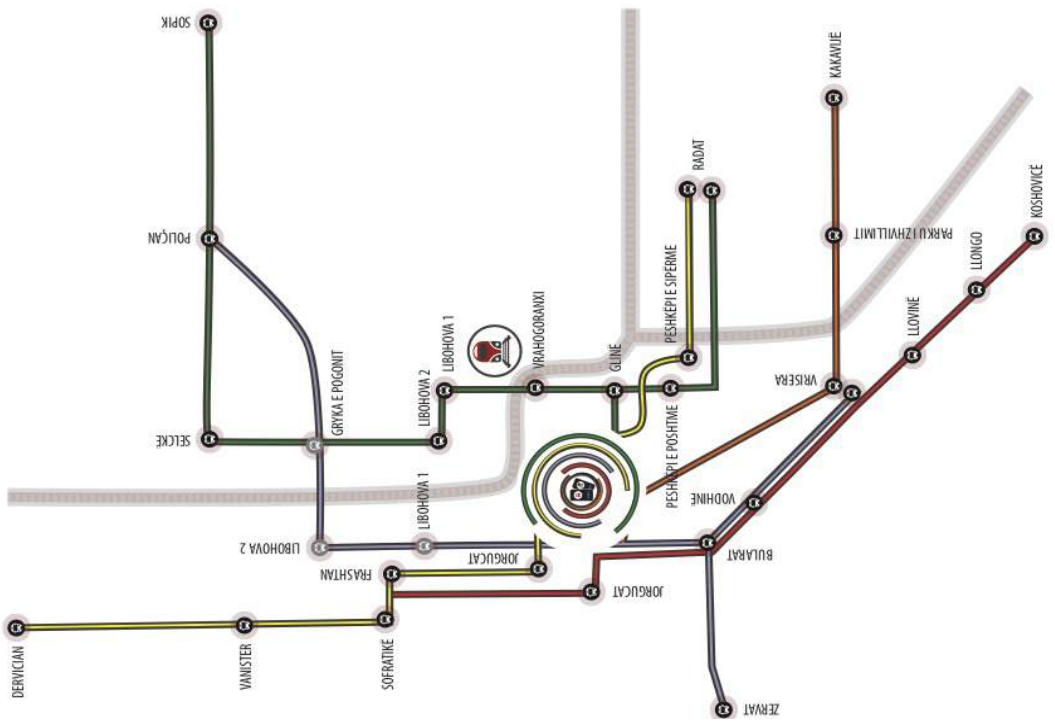
Në këto kushte është e domosdoshme mbështetja me infrastrukturën e nevojshme: evidentimi dhe markimi i shtigjeve kryesore, pajisja me shërbimet bazë, ngritja e bujtinave dhe shtëpive pritëse, përgatitja e guidave të posaçme dhe aktiviteteve në natyrë, trajnimi i popullsisë etj.

5. "Wayfinding"

Bashkia do të hartojë një manual për mënyrat e trajtimit të llojve të ndryshme të infrastrukturave rrugore, në varësi të karakterit dhe përdorimit të tyre, për të themeluar kështu një traditë dhe sistem që lidh karakterin e zonës me një formë specifike të ndërhyrjes në të, duke vendosur disa kritere dhe standarte bazë. Për të lehtësuar lëvizjen sidomos me biçikletë dhe në këmbë, do të hartohet një program specifik për planifikimin e shenjave drejtuese në të gjithë territorin e Bashkisë, sidomos në ato zona ku parashikohet të kalojnë itineraret turistike. Jo vetëm shenjat dhe sinjalistika në territor, por dhe harta të printuara dhe në version elektronik, do të prodhohen dhe shpërndahen për të lehtësuar lëvizjen e



Harta: Seksionet e Prerjeve të Segmenteve Rrugore



Skema: shërbimet publike, transporti publik

banorëve dhe turistëve. Të gjitha këto do të jenë në sinton me elementët e dizajnit të prodhuar për brandimin dhe marketimin e Bashkisë Dropull, duke krijuar një paketë të plotë unike dhe tërheqëse.

6. Ndërfaqe online dhe Aplikacionet Elektronike

Që strategjia e zhvillimit të turizmit të funksionojë plotësisht është e nevojshme që të promovohet dhe ndahet me këdo. Për këtë arsye do të krijohen: një ndërfaqeje online, një aplikacion i posaçëm, dhe produkteve të tjera si harta, broshura etj. Këto materiale do të informojnë këdo mbi të gjitha detajet e nevojshme në lidhje me zhvillimin e turizmit në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull (atraksione, itinerare, evente, akomodim, shërbime etj.).

Programi Strategjik OS2PS5: Zhvillimi i Biznesit dhe Industrisë Përpunuese (mbështetja e sipërmarrjeve të reja, lidhja me fermerët vendas etj.).

Diversifikimi i aktiviteteve ekonomike në Bashkinë Dropull është një prioritet me mjaft rëndësi. Sidomos kur bëhet fjalë për nxitjen e zhvillimit të biznesit dhe industrisë përpunuese, që edhe momentalisht shihen të kenë një zhvillim të konsiderueshëm. Bashkia Dropull do të sigurojë hapësirë dhe mundësi për rritjen e numri të këtyre njësive ekonomike, duke krijuar veçanërisht një rrjet marrëdhëniesh të ngushta mes fermerëve lokal bujqësorë e blegtoralë, me njësitë e industrive përpunuese dhe ato të biznesit. Kjo lidhje jo vetëm do të rriste efikasitetin dhe impaktin real ekonomik dhe përfitues të prezencës së këtyre njësive ekonomike në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull, por do të përbëjë gjithashtu një burim të sigurtë punësimi për banorët vendas.

Prania e bizneseve dhe Industrive përpunuese do të mundësohet që të akomodohet në ato pjesë të territorit që sigurojnë akses të mirë dhe të shpejtë në infrastrukturën kryesore ndihmëse (rrugë kryesore strategjike, tregje etj.), por pa impaktuar negativisht në mjedis dhe pa prishur ekuilibrat e habitateve natyrore të zonave përreth. Këto njësi do të nxiten gjithashtu të bëjnë investime në infrastrukturën lokale dhe përmirësimin e shërbimeve, në kuadër të bashkëpunimit që do të kenë me Bashkinë Dropull (incentivat e alokimit, akomodimit etj.).

Do të krijohet gjithashtu një fond i përcaktuar për të mbështetur nismat e sipërmarrjeve të vogla dhe të mesme, përmes të cilit Bashkia do të mund të mbështesë veçanërisht sipërmarrjet e vogla që hapen për herë të parë, të cilat operojnë në fushat parësore të ekonomisë lokale dhe lidhen me objektivat e Vizionit

të Zhvillimit Hapësinor. Këtu përmendim ndërmarrje, të cilat fokusohen në ofrimin e shërbimeve turistike (jo-hoteleri), në fushën e bujqësisë e blegtorisë, dhe në shërbime të tjera të lidhura me ekonominë inovative që shfrytëzon potencialin vendas. Çdo vit Bashkia do të organizojë një thirrje për ide të reja për krijimin e sipërmarrjeve, dhe përmes aplikimeve individë ose grupe individësh mund të aplikojnë dhe konkurojnë për financim. Përzgjedhja do të bëhet në bazë të kreativitetit, aplikueshmërisë në realitet, dobishmërisë dhe përfitimeve, si dhe studimit të fizibilitetit dhe tregut. Kjo iniciativë lidhet ngushtë edhe me operimin dhe funksionimin e "Parkut të Zhvillimit" që do të shpjegohet në programin strategjik pasues.

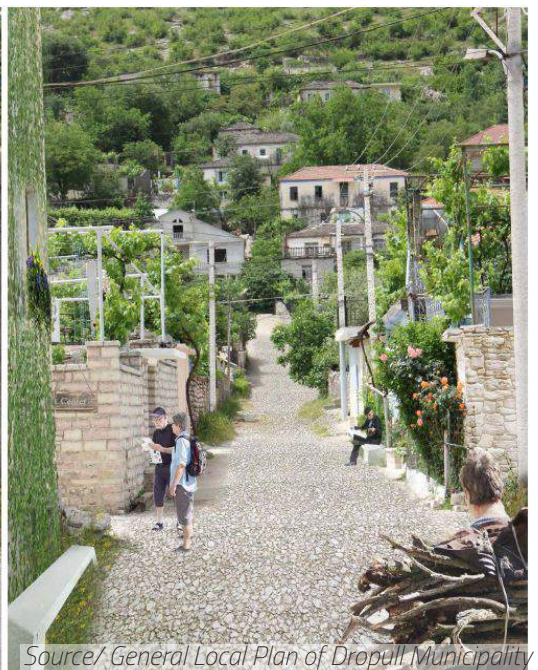
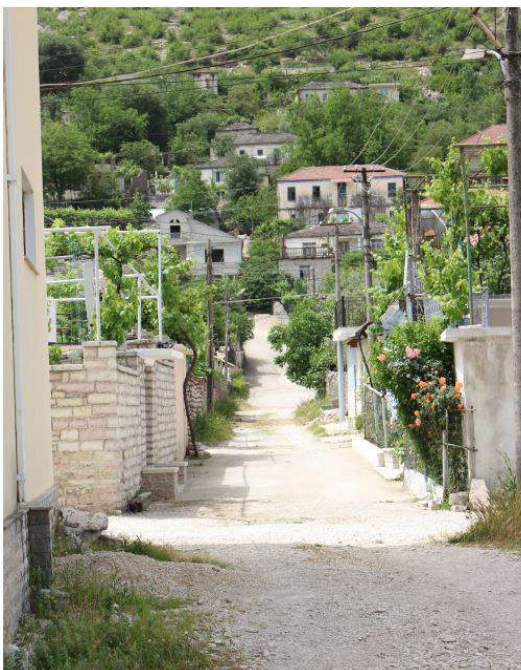
Programi Strategjik OS2PS6: Krijimi i "Parkut të Zhvillimit".

Në vazhdimësi të programit strategjik për diversifikimin e ekonomisë lokale, si dhe mbështetjes së krijimit të ciklit të plotë ekonomik (prodhim – përpunim – tregëtim), propozohet gjithashtu krijimi i një zone me karakter të theksuar edukativ, eksplorues dhe zhvillues. Kjo zonë nën emrin "Parku i Zhvillimit" do të sigurojë hapësirë për edukim të specializuar (shkolla dhe kurse profesionale), kërkim, testim dhe ngritjen e sipërmarrjeve, ku të gjitha sëbashku do të kenë si qëllim integrimin e popullsisë vendase dhe promovimin e prodhimeve lokale. E vendosur pranë zonës ndërkufitare, midis Kakavijës e Vrisesasë, kjo zonë do të synojë të shndërrojë Luginën e Drinosit në një luginë zhvillimi e progresi dhe do të jetë një urë lidhëse midis dy qendrave Gjirokastër e Janinë dhe zonave ekonomike përreth tyre, duke shërbyer si një hapësirë e përbashkët kërkimi e zhvillimi, për një ekonomi sa më të integruar e të qëndrueshme.

"Parku i Zhvillimit" do të sigurojë hapësira për:

- Start Up-e dhe sipërmarrjeve të vogla dhe të mesme;
- Qendra të trajnimit dhe edukimit të specializuar sipas degëve kryesore ekonomike të zonës: turizëm, bujqësi, blegtori, shërbime, përpunim etj.;
- Zyra të këshillimit për karrierën;
- Kërkim mbi produktet vendase, ciklin dhe procesin e prodhimit etj.;
- Testimi dhe kontroll të cilësisë së produkteve;
- Qendër informimi mbi shërbimet që ofron "Parku i Zhvillimit".

Programi Strategjik OS2PS7: Ngritja e kapaciteteve institucionale dhe financiare në dobi të hartimit të Projekteve të Bashkëpunimit Ndërkufitar IPA.



Bashkia Dropull bën pjesë në makro-rajonin ndërkufitar Shqipëri – Greqi, ku e gjendur mes dy qendrave rajonale Gjirokastër dhe Janinë, ka mundësi të përfitojë dhe shfrytëzojë mjaft nga potencialet që ky rajon ofron. Edhe pse për Bashki të vogla si ajo e Dropullit (ku të ardhurat janë të limituara), bashkë-financimi i projekteve IPA mund të mbarti kosto të mëdha, shihet me mjaft rëndësi ngritja e kapaciteteve lokale për aftësim mbi vlerësimin e projekteve të mundshme të bashkëpunimit ndërkufitar, dhe më tej brenda parashikimeve financiare përkatëse, hartimin e tyre.

Programi “Greqi- Shqipëri 2014-2020” që synon të përmirësojë cilësinë e jetesës në rajonet kufitare Greqi- Shqipëri duke promovuar zhvillimin e qëndrueshëm lokal, është një mundësi shumë e mirë që Bashkia Dropull dhe njësitë e tjera fqinje përtej kufirit mund të përdorin për të hartuar programe të përbashkëta zhvillimi. Programi mbulon 11 njësi rajonale kufitare në Greqi dhe 4 në territorin Shqipëtar, dhe ka një vlerë rreth 42 million Euro, me një kontribut rreth 36 milion Euro nga Bashkimi Europian, përmes instrumentit të Asistencës së Para-Aderemit, IPA.

Disa nga hapat përgatitorë për këtë program janë:

- Të vendosen marrëdhënie shumë të mira me njësitë fqinje (brenda dhe jashtë vendit);
- Të njihet mirë territori ndërkufitar, pikat e dobëta dhe potencialet e tij, dhe më pas të punohet mbi bazën e tyre;
- Të realizohet trajnimi dhe përgatitja e stafit të Bashkisë, në mënyrë që të jenë të aftë të evidentojnë, hartojnë, prezantojnë dhe implementojnë projektet të këtij karakteri;
- Të zhvillohen takime informimi të vazhdueshme midis autoriteteve të njëjësive bashkëpunuese.

Programi Strategjik OS2PS8: Ngritja e kapaciteteve lokale.

Për të garantuar zhvillimin e qëndrueshëm të Bashkisë Dropull, dhe ofrimin sa më cilësor të shërbimeve, është tejet e nevojshme që të punohet për ngritjen e kapaciteteve lokale, ku përfshihen administrata vendore dhe komuniteti. Në këtë aspekt janë identifikuar 5 fusha prioritare:

- Planifikim dhe Menaxhim Terriori;
- Trajtimi i Çështjeve Sociale (duke përfshirë aspekte të barazisë gjinore);
- Zhvillim Rural dhe Menaxhim Pyjesh;
- Turizëm dhe Guida Turistike;
- Menaxhim i Rreziqeve Natyrore.

Përsa i përket planifikimit dhe menaxhimit të territorit, trajnimet mund të konsistojnë

në:

- Hartim politikash zhvillimi;
- Përdorimi i instrumentave të drejtimit të zhvillimit;
- Përdorim i GIS dhe Regjistrit të Territorit;
- Menaxhim Projektesh;
- Rregulla të përdorimit të tokës.

Trajnimi dhe ngritja e kapaciteteve lokale do të kryhet me anë të marrëveshjeve të bashkëpunimit me institucione arsmiore, Agjenci dhe Organizata, të cilat operojnë në Bashkinë Dropull dhe Rajonin e Gjirokastrës, sipas tematikave të mësipërme.

Programi Strategjik OS2PS9: Brandimi dhe promovimi i Bashkisë Dropull.

Bashkia Dropull në bashkëpunim me aktorë të përzgjedhur nga shoqëria civile, academia, instancat shtetërore dhe subjekte private, mund të bashkëpunojnë sëbashku për të krijuar një PPP (Partneritet Publik Privat) me qëllim krijimin e një “marke”, e cila përfaqëson produktet më të mira vendase. Më tej ky partneritet mund të krijojë një fond të veçantë dhe të merret me promovimin dhe marketimin e produkteve vendase në tregjet kombëtare e ndërkombëtare. Krijimi i një logoje që garanton sigurinë e cilësisë së produkteve është një hap shumë i rëndësishëm, jo vetëm për të rritur aksesueshmërinë e produkteve në tregje të ndryshme, por edhe për të promovuar identitetin dhe vlerat e Bashkisë Dropull.

Pjesë e programit strategjik të Bashkisë Dropull është dhe promovimi i vlerave lokale përsa i përket objekteve dhe zonave kryesore të atraksionit turistik. Këto, të lidhura me historinë, kulturën, prodhimet lokale dhe shërbimet kryesore të ofruara në territorin e Bashkisë, përbëjnë një kompleks mjaft të pasur për t’i dhënë jetë brandimit të Bashkisë Dropull si një destinacion rëndësishëm që nuk duhet humbur. Të gjithë këto elementë më pas mund të përkthehen në harta tematike, tabela sinjalistike, apo edhe elemente të dizajnit të hapësirave dhe objekteve të ndryshme. OS_3: Ruajtja e karakterit rural të vendbanimeve dhe përmirësimi i cilësisë dhe kushteve të jetesës

Programi Strategjik OS3PS1: Rikualifikimi i banesave të braktisura/ rrënura dhe futja e tyre në tregun e strehimit.

Programi Strategjik OS3PS2: Restaurimi i banesave/ objekteve historike (kishave etj.) dhe bërja e tyre pjesë në programet turistike.

- Për të dy Programet Strategjike të mësipërme:

Për shkak të lëvizjeve migratore dhe më së shumti emigratore, një pjesë e



konsiderueshme e popullsisë së Bashkisë Dropull për momentin ndodhet jashtë. Kjo bën që një pjesë e banesave të banohen përkohësisht, vetëm gjatë verës, ose gjatë fundjavave (rreth 1,685 banesa), ndërsa një pjesë tjetër të jetë totalisht e braktisur, ose e pabanuar (rreth 501 banesa). Pjesa më e madhe e këtyre banesave të braktisura (ndërtuar rreth viteve '20të-'30të, por edhe më të vjetra), edhe pse përfaqësojnë banesat më të bukura të zonës së Dropullit, me stil, motive dhe detaje të veçanta arkitektonike, duke qenë se janë lënë në braktisje, pas asnjë përkujdesje, janë thuajse në rrënim dhe në kushte të mjerueshme.

Për të shpëtuar këtë pasuri historike e kulturore të Bashkisë Dropull, Bashkia do të krijojë një platformë, në të cilën do të identifikojë dhe regjistrojë të gjitha këto banesa, duke përshkruar karakteristikat e secilës, si dhe do të krijojë gjithashtu një fond të posaçëm për të siguruar restaurimin dhe rikualifikimin e tyre. Sipas karakteristikave, një pjesë e tyre mund të rifuten më pas në tregun e banesave, disa të tjera që mund të jenë edhe banesat më të veçanta mund të shndërrohen në Shtëpi Muze e Muze Etnografik, apo hapësira artistike të dedikuara ekspozitave të ndryshme. Disa prej banesave mund të rikonceptohen dhe të mobilohen me interior dhe funksione në stilin origjinal, për t'u shndërruar në bujtina, ose shtëpi pritëse, duke kirjuar për pushuesit ndjesinë e të ndjerit vërtetë në zonën e Dropullit, e duke u përballur me traditën, kulturën, zakonet dhe mënyrën vendase të të jetuarit.

Bashkia e Dropullit ka gjithashtu një sërë objektesh të rëndësishme të veçantë në formën e Monumenteve të Kulturës. Veçanërisht objekte kulti (kisha dhe manastire) ka një total prej 18 njësisht, të cilat mbartin vlera të veçanta përsa i përket vjetërsisë së tyre dhe detajeve në ornamented he afreske. Të lëna në harresë dhe një pjesë të izoluara në zona të vështira për t'u aksesuar, këto objekte janë në kushte emergjente për ndërhyrje, ndaj iniciativa për t'i restauruar ato, jo vetëm do të ndihmonte në shpëtimin e tyre dhe përmirësimin e kushteve fizike, por dhe do të rriste dobishmërinë e tyre në terma ekonomike, duke i bërë ato pjesë të itinerareve turistike.

Programi Strategjik OS3PS3: Rikualifikimi i hapësirave publike (qendrat e fshatrave) dhe aplikimi i praktikave të dizajnit urban për të rritur sigurinë dhe cilësinë e hapësirave publike.

Zonat e Dropullit, ashtu si dhe shumë zona të tjera rurale të vendit, ka një kulturë të

të organizuarit të jetës së komunitetit nëpër të ashtu-quajturat qendrat e fshatrave, të cilat në shumicën e rasteve konsistojnë në hapësira publike rreth një rrapi, ose peme tjetër karakteristike, apo një kishe, ose burimi ujor (çezme etj.). Në këtë aspekt, thuajse të gjithë fshatrat e Bashkisë Dropull kanë hapësira të tilla, të cilat janë një potencial shumë i madh përse i përket ndërhyrjeve që synojnë krijimin e identitetit të fshatrave dhe riorganizimit të jetës sociale në hapësirat publike. Edhe pse shumë pak prej këtyre fshatrave kanë hapësira të dizenuara me të gjithë elementët e nevojshëm, prania e elementëve natyrorë që përbëjnë bazën dhe gjenezën e këtyre hapësirave, krijon mjaft lehtësi për përmirësime të mëtejshme.

Në këto kushte për të gjithë fshatrat do të punohet me qendrat e tyre dhe hapësirat kryesore publike, për të aplikuar metodat e dizajnit me elementët përkatës të mobilimit të hapësirave publike, për të rritur jo vetëm cilësinë e tyre, por mbi të gjitha për të rritur sigurinë dhe për të krijuar një identitet të veçantë për çdo fshat. Mobilimi do të konsistojë në:

- Rigjenerimin dhe vënien në mbrotje të elementëve kryesorë hapësirë-formues si pemë, burime ujore, kisha, ose objekte të tjera të veçanta;
- Pajisjen me ndriçim;
- Pasjiesjen me stola dhe elemente të tjera ulëse;
- Shtimin e gjelbërimit dhe bimësisë që krijon kushte për hijëzim, ngjyra dhe aroma të ndryshme sipas stinëve;
- Përdorimi i infrastrukturës së gjelbër si drenazhim natyror për reshjet;
- Shtimi i rrugëve lidhëse këmbësore dhe integrimi me rrjetet kryesore të levizjes;
- Integrimi i terreneve sportive, aty ku është e mundur;
- Integrimi i parqeve lokale dhe zonave me atraksion turistik që ndodhen në afërsi të zonave të banuara;
- Përdorimi i materialeve lokale për krijimin e elementëve të mobilitetit të hapësirave;
- Plotësimi me tabela dhe objekte të tjera informimi;
- Implementimi në afërsi të këtyre hapësirave, i shërbimeve të tjera plotësuese si ushqimore, bar, shtëpi kulture etj.

Lidhja e këtyre hapësirave kryesore publike me rrjetin infrastrukturor (fast line dhe sloë line) dhe të aksesit është gjithashtu një prioritet, ashtu siç është dhe integrimi i tyre në itineraret dhe guidat kryesore turistike. Pjesë e integruar e këtij Programi Strategjik është dhe rikualifikimi i banesave të rrënuara dhe në kushte jo të mira (që lidhet me dy PS të mëparshme),

Existing



Existing



Proposal



Proposal



Tregu Rajonal Jorgucat

Rrugë në Pogon / Hllomo

Existing



Existing



Proposal



Proposal



Terminali Dropull

Lëmi / Sheshi Publik

Existing



Proposal







si dhe plotësimi me shërbimet kryesore të nevojshme.

Programi Strategjik OS3PS4: Ngritja e Qendrave Sociale (sigurimi i shërbimeve dhe përkrahjes ndaj popullsisë në nevojë, sidomos moshës së tretë).

Sipast të dhënat të gjeneruara në Bashkinë Dropull grupet në nevojë (të papunë, të pastrehë dhe grupe me probleme sociale) nuk përbëjnë një zë në totalin e popullsisë, por brenda kësaj kategorie, duke marrë për bazë karakteristikat e popullsisë lokale, janë konsideruar moshën e tretë, duke qenë se përbëjnë 16% të totalit. Pjesa tjetër e popullsisë përbëhet nga 4% të moshës 0-15 vjeç, dhe 81% të moshës 15-64 vjeç, të cilët përbëjnë dhe popullsinë më aktive përse i përket lëvizjeve migratore në territorin fqinj. Kjo bën që një pjesë e tyre të kthehen në Dropull gjatë sezoneve të caktuara (verë, ose dimër), ose gjatë fundjavave. Rrjedhimisht në këto kushte, popullsia që është banuese gjithëvjetore e Bashkisë Dropull, është më shumti ajo e moshës së tretë, e cila shpesh gjendet e vetme përball problematikave të ndryshme ditore.

Për këtë arsye, sëpari do të bëhet identifikimi në një platformë të gjithë individëve dhe nevojave specifike që ato kanë. Më tej do të ngrihet një qendër e specializuar, e cila do të vërë në përdorim këtë platformë, duke aktivizuar programe të ndryshme për këtë grup të popullsisë. Programet do të asistojnë në mbajtjen në kontroll të vazhdueshëm të këtij grupi, për t'u siguruar që ato marrin shërbimet e nevojshme në kohën dhe vendin e duhur, sidomos marrjen e shërbimit shëndetësor. Platforma do të asistojë këtë grup popullsie edhe përse i përket manaxhimit të aseteve ekonomike që ato posedojnë (tokë bujqësore, ferma blegtorale etj.) në rast se ato nuk kanë kapacitetet dhe kushtet për t'i manaxhuar ato. Platforma nuk do të ketë përgjegjësi operacionale në këtë fushë, por vetëm funksion ndërlidhës dhe ndërmjetësues, midis këtij grupi të popullsisë dhe grupeve të tjera, të cilat mund të marrin role specifike (qira-marrës, blerës potencialë, familjarë të tjerë që mund të marrin përgjegjësi, etj.).

Programi Strategjik OS3PS5: Unifikimi në stil dhe materiale ndërtimi (përdorimi i materialit vendas, gurit).

Për plotësimin e këtij Programi Strategjik Bashkia Dropull do të dakortësojë për vendosjen e një seti rregullash ndërtimi (të cilat do të detajohen në dokumentin e Rregullores), që konsistojnë në unifikimin e tipologjive të ndërtimit dhe materialeve të

aplikuara, në mënyrë që të ruhet karakteri lokal i banesave tradicionale me gurë dhe druu. Ky set rregullash do të jetë në formën e një manuali që jep informacione dhe udhëzime, pa u kthyer në një mjet detyrimi. Në këtë mënyrë banorët do të kenë mundësinë të informohen për karakterin që duhet të ketë banesa, dhe tipologjitë e ndryshme të materialeve, pa u kushtëzuar në çdo detaj ndërhyrjeje. Kjo do të kontribuojë në vendosjen e një rregulli të përgjithshëm, i cili lejon hapësirë të mjaftueshme edhe për individualizimin e ndërhyrjeve.

Praktika e sipër-përmendur vë në përdorim materialet lokale, krijon identitet dhe i përshtatet kushteve të territorit, traditës dhe kulturës vendase. Ndër të tjera, vetë banorët e kanë aplikuar këtë praktikë tashmë prej disa vitesh në mirëkuptim midis tyre.

Programi Strategjik OS3PS6: Plotësimi me shërbime publike: arsim dhe shëndetësi.

1. Shërbimi Shëndetësor

Në Bashkinë Dropull momentalisht ofrojnë shërbim shëndetësor vetëm 3 Qendra Shëndetësore (1 në Sofratikë, 1 në Vrisera dhe 1 në Poliçan), dhe 11 Ambulanca (8 në Njësinë Dropull i Poshtëm: Dervician, Sofratikë, Vanister, Frashtan, Lugar, Grapsh, Goranxi dhe Terihat; dhe 3 në Njësinë Dropull i Sipërm: Jergucat, Bularat, Vrisera). Në njësitë e sipër-përmendura gjendja e strukturave është e mirë, ndërkohë që në fshatra të tjerë si: Haskovë, Dhuvjan, Glinë, Peshkëpi e Poshtme (Dropull i Poshtëm); Zervat, Bodrishtë, Sotirë, Llongo, Pepel, Kerrë, Vodhinë, Klishar, Selo, Koshovicë (Dropull i Sipërm); Poliçan, Skore (Pogon), ekzistojnë ende godinat ku dikur ofrohej shërbimi i qendrave shëndetësore, por tashmë ato nuk funksionojnë më dhe kanë nevojë për restaurim dhe ri-vënie në funksion.

Shpërndarja e shërbimit në terma "njësisish që ofrojnë shërbimin" momentalisht është e mirë, duke marrë parasysh shpërndarjen e popullsisë në territor. Me projeksionimin e shtimit të popullsisë gjatë 15 vjeçarit të ardhshëm planifikohet restaurimi dhe ri-vënia në punë e njësisive që momentalisht janë jashtë funksionit. Ndërkohë ka mjaft nevojë për përmirësim të mirëfilltë të gjendjes fizike të strukturave të këtyre njësisive të ofrimit të shërbimit, shtim të aparaturave, si dhe shtim kapaciteti shërbimi si mjekë, infermierë etj., (duke qenë se popullsia e moshës së tretë përbën një pjesë të konsiderueshme të popullsisë së Bashkisë Dropull). Gjithashtu do të kushtohet vëmendje sidomos përmirësimit të shërbimit përmes

agjentëve që mund të lëvizin lehtësisht në territor për të asistuar situatat emergjente dhe do të bëhet pajisja me makina të përshtatshme për terren të thyer malor. Për lehtësi aksesit dhe dhënieje shërbimi eficient, me përmirësimin e këtyre kushteve, do të integrohen dhe shërbime të tjera plotësuese, si shërbimi farmaceutik dhe veçanërisht i kujdesit ndaj moshës së tretë.

2. Shërbimi Arsimor

Ofrimi i Shërbimit Arsimor në Bashkinë Dropull bëhet në 3 nivele të ndryshme: arsim parashkollor (Kopshte), arsim 9-vjeçar dhe arsim i mesëm. Në këto kushte në territor operojnë:

- 1 Kopsht Privat në Dervician;

- 3 Kopshte Publike / të integruara pranë Shkollave 9-vjeçare (2 në Njësinë Dropull i Poshtëm: Dervician dhe Goranxi; dhe 1 në Njësinë Dropull i Sipërm: Jorgucat);

- 3 Shkolla 9-vjeçare (1 në Njësinë Dropull i Poshtëm: Dervician; dhe 2 në Njësinë Dropull i Sipërm: Bularat dhe Jorgucat). Ndërkohë ka dhe 7 Shkolla të tjera 9-vjeçare të shpërndara në Njësinë Dropull i Sipërm dhe Dropull i Poshtëm, të cilat nuk ofrojnë shërbim;

- 2 Shkolla të Mesme (1 në Njësinë Dropull i Poshtëm: Dervician; dhe 1 në Njësinë Dropull i Sipërm: Bularat).

Edhe pse numrat shfaqen si më sipër, përse i përket njërive që ofrojnë shërbimin arsimor në Bashkinë Dropull, për arsye të mungesës së nxënësve një pjesë e tyre këtë vit janë jashtë funksionit (p.sh. shkollat 9-vjeçare në fshatrat Bularat dhe Goranxi). Ndërkohë godina ekzistuese që diku ofronin shërbimin arsimor si shkolla 9-vjeçare ka edhe në fshatrat: Sofratikë, Frashtan dhe Peshkëpi e Poshtme (Dropull i Poshtëm); Vrisera, Bodrishtë dhe Zervat (Dropull i Sipërm); dhe Poliçan (Pogon). Një tjetër shkollë e mesme që dikur funksiononte ekziston edhe në Llongo (Dropull i Sipërm).

Të gjitha këto struktura sot janë jashtë funksionit për arsye të mungesës së nxënësve dhe nevojës për restaurim dhe plotësim kushtesh. Në fshatin Skore shkolla 9-vjeçare është restauruar nga vetë banorët, por për arsye të mungesës së nxënësve ajo sërish është jashtë funksionit.

- Në këto kushte fillimisht do të realizohet plotësimi me të gjitha kushtet e nevojshme (klasa funksionale me të gjitha hapësirat e nevojshme, laboratore, biblioteka, hapësira sportive, sistem ngrohje-ftohje etj.) të njërive që momentalisht janë funksionale dhe në shërbim të sistemit arsimor.

- Së dyti do të bëhet restaurimi dhe vënie në funksion e shkollave që momentalisht nuk ofrojnë shërbim: Goranxi, Peshkëpi e Poshtme, Vrisera, Bularat, Llongo dhe Poliçan.

Programi Strategjik mbi arsimin parashikon edhe hapjen e disa kurseve profesionale që lidhen me degë si bujqësia, blegtoria dhe turizmi, për të gjithë ata që duan të marrin edukim profesional në lidhje me degët specifike të punësimit. Akomodimi i hapësirës së nevojshme për klasat mësimore të këtyre kurseve do të realizohet fillimisht pranë shkollave ekzistuese dhe atyre që do të restaurohen, dhe më pas do të zhvendosen pranë Parkut të Biznesit, në hapësirën për kërkim dhe edukim.

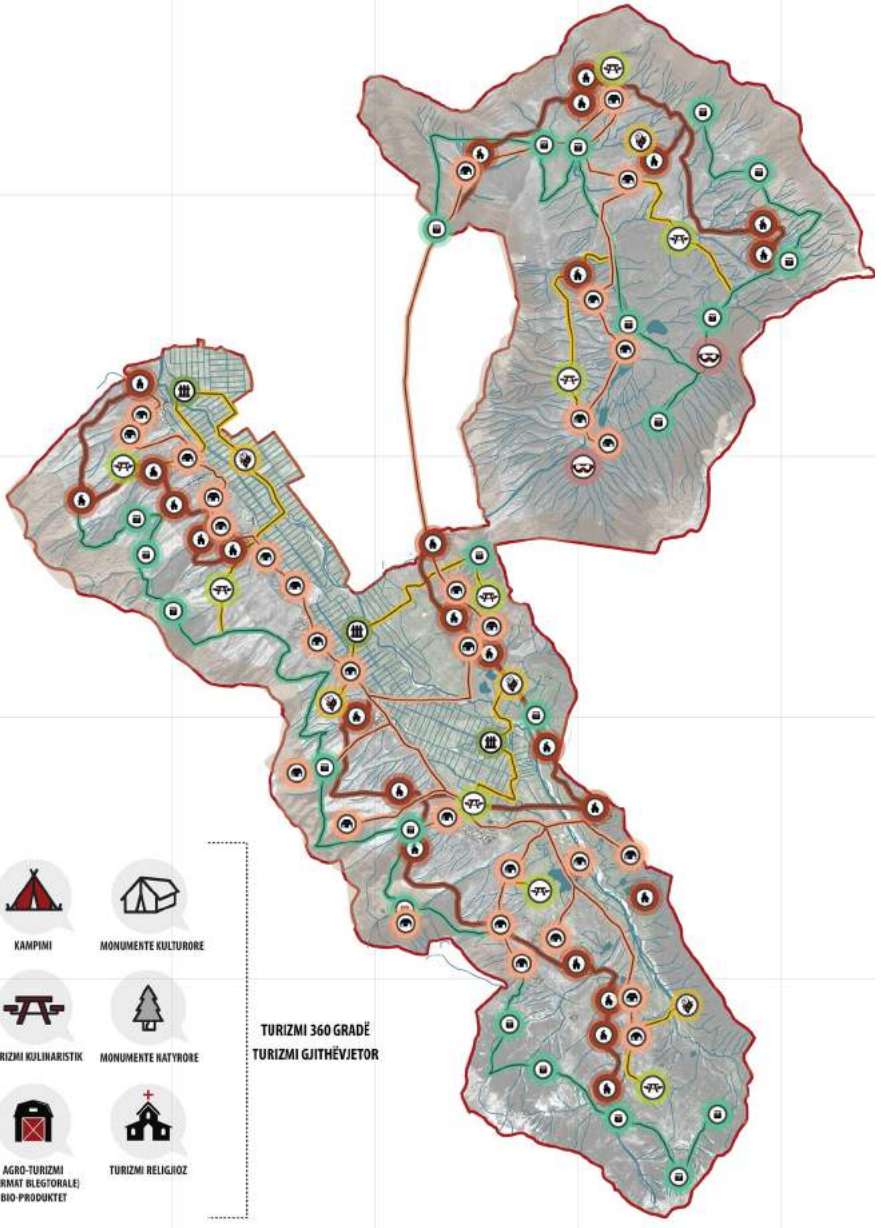
Programi Strategjik OS3PS7: Plotësimi me shërbime publike: transporti publik:

Momentalisht në Bashkinë Dropull operon vetëm 1 linjë e transportit publik rrethqytetas, që ofrohet dhe manaxhohet nga Bashkia, linja Poliçan- Zagori- Gjirokastër, me frekuencë dy herë në javë. Nevojat e tjera për transportin publik mbulohen nga 4 operatorët tjetër privatë, të cilët mbulojnë linjat Sofratikë- Gjirokastër, Llongo- Gjirokastër, Kakavijë- Gjirokastër dhe Llongo- Peshkëpi, me një 2 herë në javë. Në këto kushte synohet përmirësimi i transportit publik rrethqytetas, si dhe ai lokal që ofron shërbimin në territorin e Bashkisë Dropull, për të lehtësuar lidhjen e individëve me vendet e banimit dhe ato të punësimit. Përmirësimi do të konsistojë në shtim linjash, automjetesh, si dhe rritje e frekuencës së orareve të shërbimit. Shërbimi do të mbulojë të gjithë territorin, qoftë për banorët, ashtu edhe për turistët në kuadër të zhvillimit të turizmit. Do të aplikohet gjithashtu bileta e shërbimit të transportit publik, e cila të jetë unike dhe do të ndahet në frekuenca kohore të ndryshme: 1 orëshe, 3 orëshe, ditore, 3-ditore, javore dhe abone mujore.

Përmirësimi i këtij shërbimi mer në konsideratë gjithashtu 3 linja të veçanta që do t'u shërbejnë nxënësve dhe mësuesve, për ofruar në mënyrë të plotë dhe eficiente, si dhe për të stimuluar më tej rritjen e frekuentimit të shërbimit arsimor. Një linjë do të shërbejë për Njësinë e Pogonit, dhe dy linja të tjera në Njësitë Dropull i Sipërm dhe Dropull i Poshtëm.

Programi Strategjik OS3PS9: Rehabilitimi dhe shtrirja e plotë e rrjetit të kanalizimeve dhe ujësjellësit.

Deri në vitin 2031 planifikohet që Bashkia Dropull të plotësojë të gjitha nevojat për përmirësimin dhe shtrirjen e mëtejshme të rrjetit KUB dhe KUZ. Për këtë qëllim



Harta: Objektivit Strategjike 2, Integrimi në Rajonin Ekonomik përmes Zhvillimit dhe Diversifikimit të Ekonomisë Lokale - Zhvillimi i Turizmit



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality, E. Janku



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality, B.Qaja



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality, E. Janku

do të vihen në përdorim të gjitha kushtet favorizuese dhe burimet natyrore të zonës, pa kompromentuar ekzistencën, cilësinë dhe rigjenerimin e tyre. Aty ku është e mundur do të aplikohet gjithashtu teknologji sa më miqësore ndaj mjedisit, kryesisht me qëllimin e ndarjes së ujërave të bardha nga ato të zezat, si dhe do të aplikohet ripërdorimi i ujërave të reshjeve (kryesisht për ri-përdorim në bujqësi dhe blegtori, por jo vetëm). Do të ndalohet derdha e ujërave të zeza në burimet ujore (lumenj, rezervuare, ose pellgje ujëmbledhëse).

Do të vendoset gjithahstu në mbrojtje dhe do të rehabilitohet ujësjellësi historik i Selckës, që mbart mjaft vlera për zonën e Pogonit.

OS_4: Mbrojtja e pejzazhit, habitateve natyrore dhe mobilizimi ndaj emergjencave

Programi Strategjik OS4PS1: Mobilizimi për mbrojtjen ndaj zjarreve.

Një nga sfidat më të mëdha me të cilat përballet Bashkia Dropull lidhet me numrin e madh të zjarreve që bien gjatë stinës së verës. Territore natyrore dhe zona të banuara rrezikohen në mënyrë të vazhdueshme nga zjarret që bien si rrjedhojë e temperaturave të larta dhe thatësirave ekstreme.

Marja e masave për mbrojtjen ndaj zjarreve konsiston në një seri ndërhyrjesh që kanë si qëllim të parandalojnë vënien e zjarreve, por dhe të manaxhojnë situata emergjencash në raste zjarri:

- Pajisja me mjete zjarr-shuese (makina zjarrëfikëse etj.);
- Sigurim i aksesit të mirë në zonat potenciale të rënies së zjarrit, në mënyrë që të aksesohen lehtë nga automjetet dhe individët zjarrëfikës;
- Hartimi i Planeve të Zjarrit, të cilat duhet të hartohen duke marrë parasysh të gjitha masat e parandalimit dhe shuarjes së zjarreve për të gjitha zonat potenciale, dhe duhet të rishikohen periodikisht në mënyrë rigoroze. Planet duhet të jenë të pajisura me hartëzimin e të gjitha zonave potenciale, aksesin përkatës, dhe të gjitha burimet e mundshme ujore në afërsi të tyre;
- Ndalueset e Zjarrit dhe Brezat e Sigurisë reduktojnë dhe vonojnë përhapjen e zjarrit, si dhe rregullojnë qarkullimin dhe aksesin e mjeteve dhe të personave që do të asistojnë emergjencat. Rekomandohet të kenë minimumi 10m gjerësi, dhe mund të realizohen si konture përreth zonave të rrezikuara. Përgjithësisht përbëhen nga grupe bimësish që janë më rezistente ndaj zjarrit, që ndihmojnë në mbajtjen pastër

të dyshemesë së pyjeve, si dhe vonojnë përhapjen e zjarrit. Vendndodhja e tyre varet nga shtrirja e zonave të rrezikuara ndaj zjarrit dhe burimeve të zjarrit në afërsi.

Për të siguruar mbrojtjen maksimale duhet që të jenë vazhdimisht në mirëmbajtje dhe kontroll të vazhdueshëm;

- Përmirësimi i aksesit me rezervuaret në afërsi të zonave të rrezikuara. Do të identifikohen të gjitha burimet ujore natyrore dhe të ndërtuara nga njeriu, në afërsi të zonave të rrezikuara dhe do të sigurohet akses për të përdorur këto burime në rast emergjencash. Struktura të posaçme që grumbullojnë ujërat e shirave do të ndërtohen gjithashtu në afërsi, si një metodë alternative për të siguruar ujë, sidomos gjatë sezoneve të thata;

- Trajnimi i popullsisë lokale për të manaxhuar situatat e emergjencave përbën një tjetër masë të rëndësishme. Këtë Bashkia Dropull do ta realizojë në bashkëpunim me OJQ mjedisore, ekspertë mjedisorë, Bashki Fqinje me të cilat ndaj sipërfaqe pyjore të rrezikuara, si dhe me Ministrinë e Mjedisit.

Shënim: Për Zonat e Mbrojtura do të ndiqet Ligji në fuqi.

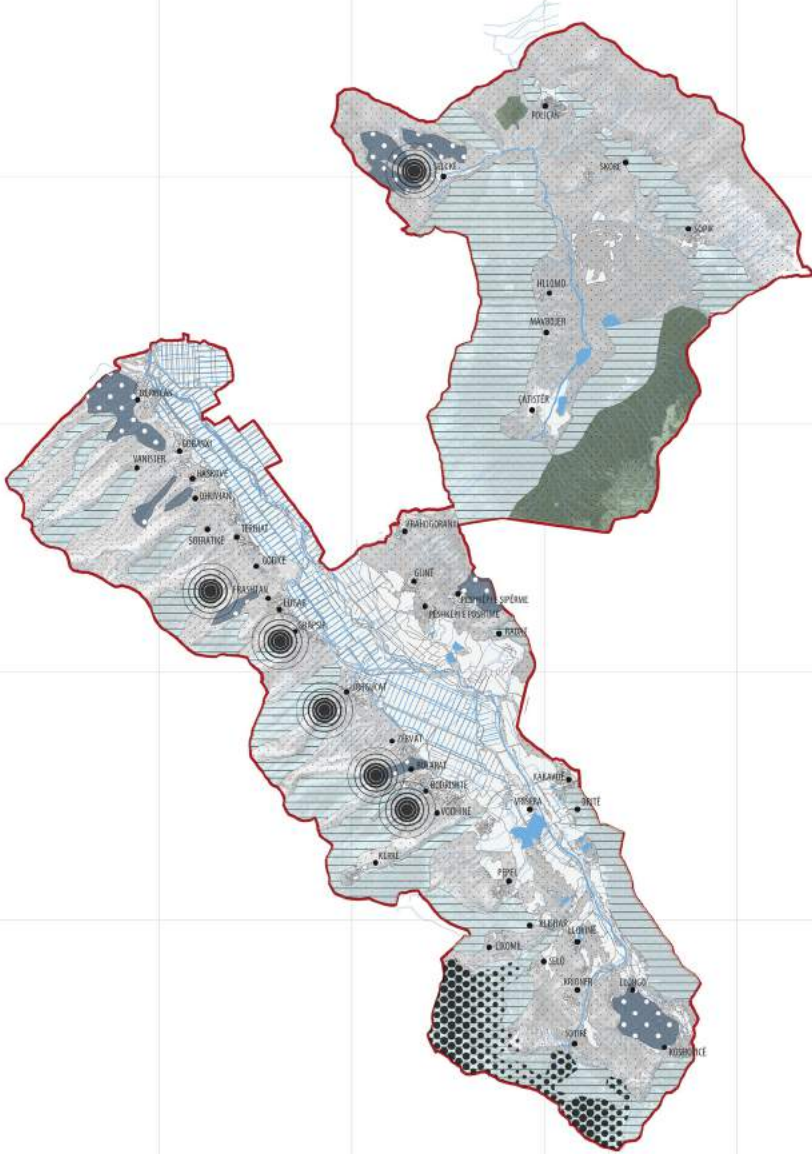
Programi Strategjik OS4PS2: Masa për manaxhimin e thatësirave ekstreme.

Ndonëse zona e Dropullit ndodhet në një nga territoret më të pasura me burime ujore sipërfaqësore dhe nëntokësore, thatësira e skajshme gjatë stinës së verës përbën një problematikë madhore. Në këtë kuadër disa nga masat që do të ndërmerren janë:

- Krijimi i Planit të Manaxhimit të burimeve ujore. Ky Plan përpos se do të bëjë një hartëzimin të të gjitha burimeve, sipas origjinës, përdorimit, kapacitetit, si dhe karakteristikave të tjera, do të krijojë mundësinë e identifikimit edhe të pikave të tyre kritike, duke i lidhur ato më tej me masat përkatëse manaxhuese;
- Rehabilitimi i rezervuarëve ujorë ekzistues;
- Planifikimi i krijimit të rezervuarëve të rinj (lerat për bagëtitë etj.), aty ku është e nevojshme (pranë fermave bujqësore, ose blegtorale);
- Ngritja e pikave të posaçme që bëjnë grumbullimin e ujërave të shiut gjatë sezoneve më të lagështa, për t'u përdorur më pas në periudha krize për ujitje në sistemin bujqësor, shuarje zjarresh, ose pas trajtimeve përkatëse edhe si ujë për gjënë e gjallë në sistemin blegtoral.

Programi Strategjik OS4PS3: Manaxhimi i rreziqeve natyrore (erozioni, rrëshqitjet e tokës etj.).

Hartimi i një Plan Manaxhimi ndaj këtyre



Harta: Objektivi Strategjike 4, Mbrojtja e Pejsazhit , Habitave dhe Mobilizimi ndaj Emergjencave: Rreziku ndaj Zjarreve



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality, E. Janku





rreziqeve është majft prioritar për Bashkinë Dropull, dhe në kudër të këtij Plani, disa nga masat që do të merren sidomos në kuadër të mbrojtjes nga erozioni dhe rrëshqitjet janë:

- Shtimi i pyllëzimit;
- Krijimi i argjinaturave përgjatë zonave të rrezikuara;
- Ndërmarrja e masave të posaçmë inxhinierike sipas rasteve specifike;
- Prezantimi i politikave dhe masave të rrepta për mbrojtjen e pyejeve, duke rritur kontrollin dhe vigjilencën gjithashtu (sidomos në Njësinë e Pogonit);

Programi Strategjik OS4PS4: Manaxhimi i pyejeve dhe kullotave.

Hartimi i Planit të Manaxhimit të Pyejeve dhe Kullotave është një nga Projektet kryesore Strategjike të këtij Programi. Ky Plan do të mundësojë jo vetëm mbrojtjen e tyre, por dhe shfrytëzimin e qëndrueshëm për të siguruar të ardhura të mjaftueshme për popullsinë dhe Bashkinë e Dropullit.

Programi Strategjik OS4PS5: Manaxhimi i mbetjeve dhe promovimi i riciklimit dhe kompostimit. Shërbimi i mbledhjes dhe manaxhimit të mbetjeve urbane në Bashkinë Dropull ofrohet përmes një firme të kontraktuar për mbulimin e këtij shërbimi në territorin e Bashkisë. Mbledhja realizohet me një makinë grumbulluese në një frekuencë kohore 2 herë në javë, dhe mblidhen mbetjet e një totali prej rreth 70-80 koshash, ose rreth 793 ton mbetje. Derdhja e tyre bëhet në Taroinë, pranë zonës së Peshkëpisë, dhe pa mundësi mbërritjeje në një landfill rajonal.

Në këto kushte synohet së pari shtimi i koshave të grumbullimit të mbetjeve në të gjitha zonat e banuara të Bashkisë Dropull, në njësitë ekonomike bujqësore dhe blegtorale (sidomos fermat), dhe bizneset e njësitë e përpunimit. Në bazë të popullsisë dhe të sasisë së prodhimit të mbetjeve do të përcaktohen dhe frekuencat e grumbullimit dhe itineraret përkatëse. Për zonat që paraqesin vështirësi në akses (veçanërisht zona e Pogonit), do të përcaktohen disa pika (stacione) transferimi të mbetjeve. Pas grumbullimit të përgjithshëm të mbetjeve do të behët transferimi i tyre në Landfill-in e Subashit, një bashkëpunim të cilin Bashkia Dropull dhe Bashkia Gjirokastër kanë dakortësuar sëbashku. Gjithashtu do të krijohen kushtet e përshtatshme për riciklimin e mbetjeve, ku kompani të ndryshme riciklimi do të mund të bëjnë tërheqjen e mbetjeve sipas kategorive.

Bashkia do të ndërmarrë nismën të bëjë ndarjen e mbetjeve në burim dhe të stimulojë riciklimin e tyre më tej. Së

pari nisma do të aplikohet në 4 qendrat më të mëdha të banuara, pra 4 polet kryesore Dervician, Jorgucat, Vrisera dhe Poliçan, e më tej në të gjithë territorin. Për të implementuar këtë nismë Bashkia do të realizojë një fushatë informimi dhe ndërgjegjësimi për të gjithë banorët, si dhe do të pajisë çdo vend grumbullim më kosha të dedikuar mbledhjes së ndarë të mbetjeve, në: letra, qelq, plastikë dhe të përgjithshme. Pjesë e kësaj fushate dhe nisme, do të jetë edhe kompostimi, i cili sidomos në zonën e Dropullit ka mjaft hapësirë dhe mundësi të aplikohet, duke rritur mjaft përfitimet në fushën e bujqësisë. Kompostimi do të bëhet në bazë:

1. Kompostimi në bazë Ferme / Familje / Bujtine

Për aplikimin e kësaj politike Bashkia do të shpërndajë kutia kompostimi me madhësinë 1m³, të cilat do të shërbejnë për depozitimin e mbetjeve organike. Lënda e përftuar më pas do të mund të përdoret nga vetë fermat, familjet dhe bujtinat për qëllime bujqësore.

2. Kompostimi në bazë Njësie Administrative

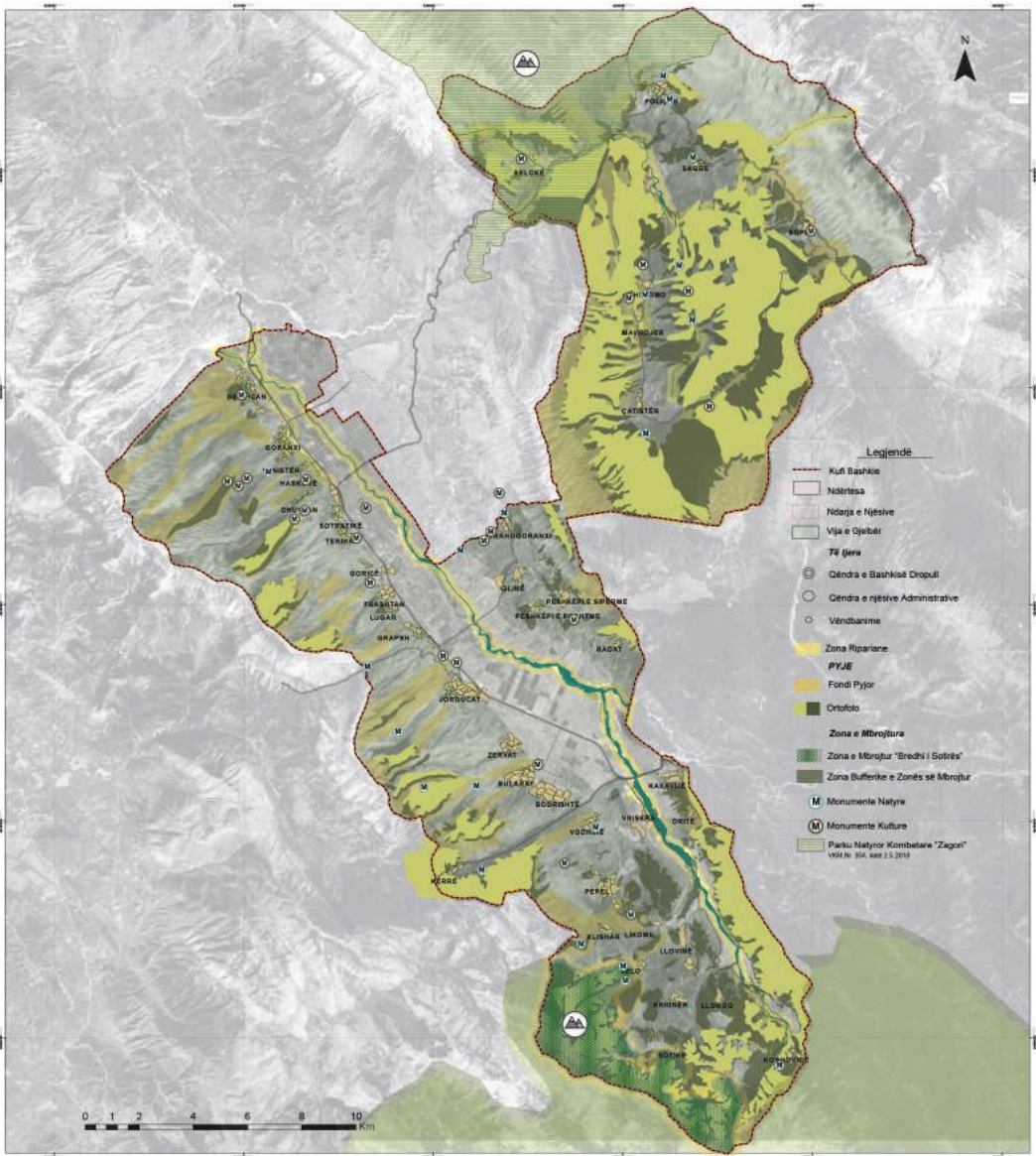
Veçanërisht Njësitë Dropull i Poshtëm dhe Dropull i Sipërm janë ndër prodhuesit kryesorë të mbetjeve organike, duke qenë se kanë dhe sipërfaqen më të madhe të tokave bujqësore. Duke përdorur këtë potencial, do të krijohen qendra të posaçme kompostimi, dhe materialet e përfthuara prej tyre do të mund të përdoren më pas si bazë për prodhimin bujqësor. Për çdo fermë do të ofrohet një kuti me material ekologjik, në të cilën do të vendosen mbetjet organike. Më pas do të jetë Bashkia ajo që do të realizojë transferimin e tyre tek qendrat e kompostimit. Bazuar në sasinë e depozituar nga secila fermë, ose grupim fermerësh, do të kryhet më tej shpërndarja e plehut, për të krijuar kështu një shërbim sa më cilësor dhe të drejtë.

4.2 Konsiderata Financiare

Bashkia e Dropullit përsa i përket nivelit të të ardhurave të gjeneruara nga burimet e veta, paraqet një nivel të ulët autonomie financiare përgjatë 5-viteve të konsideruara. Pas Reformës Territoriale dhe në vijim të Ligjit për vetë-qeverisjen vendore, Bashkia e re e Dropullit përballlet me sfidën e manaxhimit të burimeve financiare të kufizuar, përkundrajt nevojave gjithnjë e në rritje për shërbime dhe investime kapitale.

Në këtë kontekst planifikimi strategjik i investimeve kapitale në funksion të përmirësimit të cilësisë së shërbimeve publike në territorin në administrim





Harta e Menaxhimit të Pÿjeve, Kullotave, Monumenteve të Kulturës dhe Zonave të Mbrojtura.



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality, E. Janku



Harta e Bashkisë Dropull Sipas Pesë Sistemeve të territorit, Ndryshimet nga Objektivat.



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality, E. Janku

rezulton i domosdoshëm dhe një parakusht për zhvillimin ekonomik vendor. Rrjedhimisht vlerësohet thelbësor fuqizimi dhe përmirësimi i performancës financiare përsa i përket të ardhurave (veçanërisht rritja e mëtejshme e bazës së taksueshme dhe tatim paguesve) si dhe racionalizimi i shpenzimeve (kryesisht ato administrative dhe operative). Ligji i ri për Buxherin Vendor i vitit 2016 solli disa risi përsa i përket nivelit, llojit dhe numrit të taksave.

Përgjithësisht, në periudhën afatshkurtër efektet e heqjes së disa taksave dhe futjes/modifikimit të disa të tjera vlerësohet të kundër-bilancojnë njëra tjetrën, duke u përkthyer në një efekt pothuajse neutral për buxhetin vendor. Në kushtet e pamjaftueshmërisë së burimeve financiare të veta të bashkisë, përdorimi i instrumenteve financiarë si huaja nga sistemi bankar (në përputhje me kuadrin rregullator në fuqi), fondet shtetërore nga (FZHR, FSHZH etj) të orientuara kryesisht në mbështetje të zhvillimit të infrastrukturës, fondet nga donatorët e

huaj (Banka Botërore, USAID, KwË, WBIF, etj) për çështje që lidhen me trajtimin e mbetjeve dhe ujërave, asistencë teknike dhe ndërtim kapacitësh, apo edhe format e partneritetit publik-privat, paraqesin një mundësi reale për realizimin e investimeve kapitale.

Në këtë drejtim, vlerësohet e domosdoshme rritja e kapaciteteve të bashkisë në drejtim të hartimit, menaxhimit, zbatimit dhe monitorimit të projekteve të investimeve nëpërmjet këtyre formave të financimit.

Një burim tjetër të ardhurash, i cili kërkon ngritje të kapaciteteve lokale është i lidhur me programet e huaja të tilla si programi për Bashkëpunimin Ndërkufitar IPA me Greqinë, HORIZON 2020, etj. Në kuadër të këtyre programeve është e rëndësishme që të krijohen strukturat e duhura të bashkëpunimit, në mënyrë që të përfitohen projekte dhe të ardhura shtesë për realizimin e tyre.



Source/ General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality, E. Janku

Getting to know the Dropull territory through Data

Amanda Terpo
POLIS University / Tirana, Albania

Abstract

The plan of Dropull was a two-year project undertaken by Polis university in April of 2017. After the new administrative reform that reorganized the country into 61 municipalities had just taken place, the General Local Territorial Plans (GLTP-s) were the first plans that these newly established territories would have. Dropull municipality was not included in the public offering for the development of these plans, rather they contacted POLIS university to aid them in the process as a new municipality.

The plan faced many challenges, but this paper will only deal with the data gap during the planning process and the mixed methodology created to address this gap. For Dropull municipality the planning process was challenging due to lack of data, cadaster registration problems, shrinking population and property conflicts. The main objective of this process was to have substantial data in order to facilitate the planning and decision making process.

These challenges were to be addressed by using GIS mainly oriented toward online data record and overlay of information in order to bring together both quantitative data and its geographical location. The research was the most substantial part of plan, since they had to deal with a merit of actors and agencies in a coordinated effort to contextualize the planning process for this municipality. The use of GIS was a new challenge, since the municipality had no previous experience with it, and their information was fragmented and mainly cartographic. The main purpose of this paper is to contribute to the knowledge sustainable development approaches and multilevel decision-making, and at the same time enrich the territorial information and enable a development strategy based on the realities and interests of the municipality.

Introduction

The context of planning and the need for GIS. The reform started in 2007 with the preparation of the new legislation on "Territorial Planning". But it wasn't until 2009 with the approval of this law that change was introduced. According to this law, the country reorganized its territorial division from 373 municipalities and communes to 61 municipalities with urban and rural territories. (Ministria e Ceshtjeve Vendore, 2015) The reform was supported by the drafting of the first document of the General National Territorial Plan in the late 2013 by the Ministry of Urban Development. This document represented the first spatial plan of Albania, defining common objectives, highlighting the

strengths and potentials of the entire country, under the spatial development umbrella. (A. Qorri, 2017)

The country had clearly stepped forward to enchanted waters, were the newly formed governments units were unclear how to manage or even plan for these new, much larger territories. On top of the absence of the capacities in planning at the local level, the absence of data was one of the main and greatest challenges.

Taking into consideration the directives established by the Albania 2030 Spatial plan, Dropull is characterized as a development hub and part of the Tepelenë- Gjirokastër- Sarandë region,

and it is categorized as a center of tertiary importance. Focused on the eco-tourism development, agriculture and manufacturing process Dropull is an important strategic gate between Albania and Greece. (AKPT, 2015)

The entire Dropull territory was a new challenge for the newly appointed mayor, particularly in terms of data management. After the Territorial reform and the changes into the territorial division supported by legislation, the planning process needed a new approach into planning. Incorporating GIS was not easy for a territory that lacked data. The context required a custom made methodology into dealing with the new territory, but also the specific needs of the people living in this territory.

The Municipality

Located in the south-eastern part of the country, in the region of Gjirokastra, Dropull is the last municipality before entering Greece. The isolation during the communist era led to the close cooperation and exchange with Greece. After the territorial division Dropull was composed by the merging of three former administrative units: the Lower Dropull, the Upper Dropull and Pogon. Taken together these administrative units shared 41 settlements of urban and rural typologies. Placed between two important economic and cultural centers - Gjirokastra and Janina - Dropull finds itself in a strategic location for economic development.

The main infrastructure plays an important role in the development of

Dropull municipality since it connects all the settlements from the Lower Dropull to the Upper Dropull with the Kakavija border crossing. This connection is vital for the municipality since it contributes to the economic development of the municipality. Along this infrastructure there are some of the country's larger manufacturing industries, providing an important connection with the port of Igoumenitsa. The municipalities inner infrastructure are fragmented and in poor conditions.

Among the 41 settlements that can be reached by the main infrastructure, only 5 settlements have road connections that don't require access to the main road. Pogon, which is also the highest part of the municipality, is the only unit connected with infrastructure from the Lower Dropull, through a single dirt road that crosses into two different municipalities.

The potentials and assets of the municipality

More than 70% of Dropull municipality is composed of natural and cultural areas - a protected flora and fauna area and more than 45 monuments. These assets represent an untapped potential for Dropull municipality that the spatial plan has identified in terms of the territorial roles of its centers (Dropull Municipality & Polis University, 2018)

Agriculture also represents an important economic asset for the municipality, but due to migration and poor economic conditions, many farmers have abandoned the agricultural production. According to

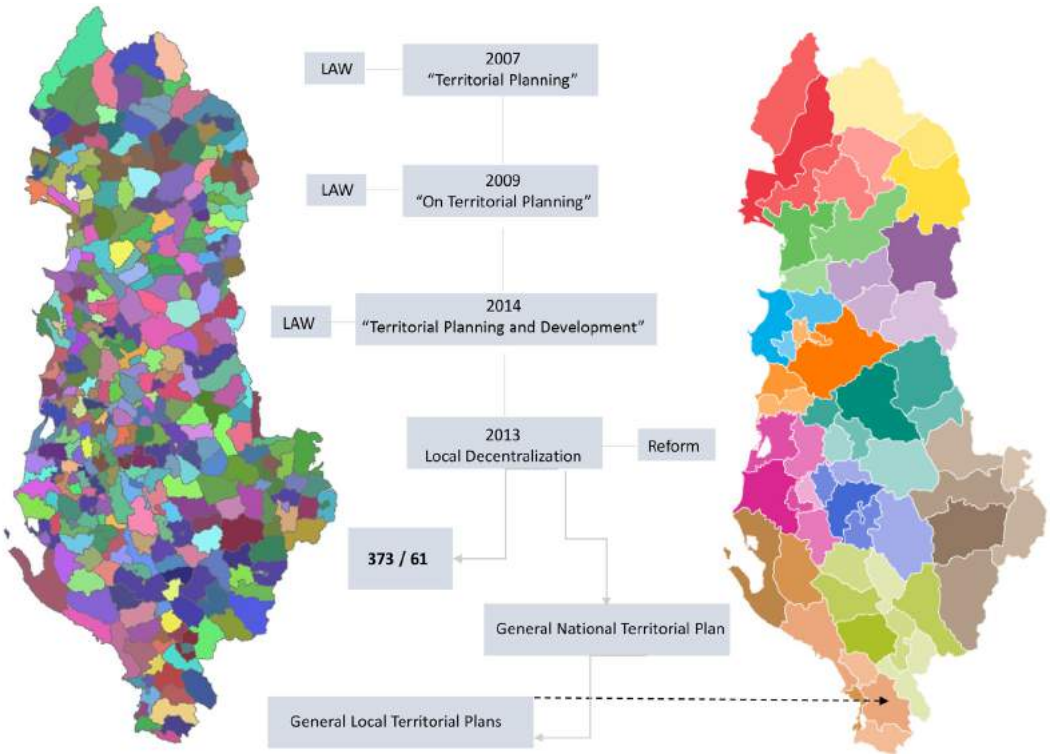


Fig. 1 / A schematization of the timeline evolution of the legislation supporting to the new administrative division of Albania. Source / Created by the Author

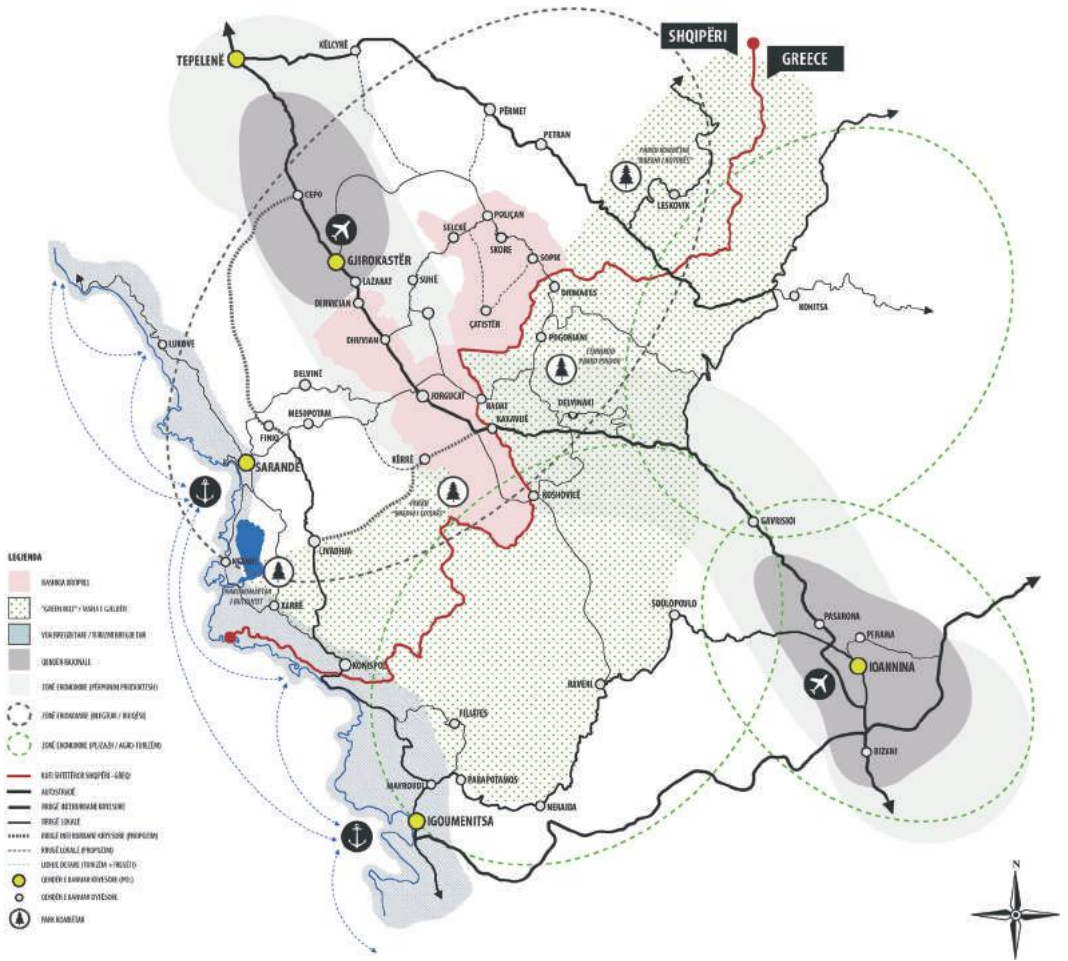


Fig. 2 / The regional position of Dropull municipality and its development gravitational poles/Regional map of Dropull documents of Analyses. Source / Created by Eranda Janku part of planning team.

the survey conducted by Polis university, the farmers have no access to the regional market and no possibility to finance their own production. However, Dropull

municipality is also home to some of the country's biggest manufacturing business. Food production businesses are investing in agriculture and giving new possibilities

to the inhabitants of this municipality. 170 private companies currently operate in Dropull municipality. Five of them are the biggest in the country, and they represent the majority of trade development in the region. Most of the production is destined for a European market, so the strategic position and proximity to the Igoumenitsa port favor the development of business in this municipality.

The population of Dropull municipality was a rather complicated matter for both the municipality and Polis in the process of drafting this plan. The census of 1990 estimated a population of 20 thousand people living in its territory. Immediately after the 90's the country underwent a wave of mass migrations, which considerably influenced all the cities of Albania. This shrunked the previous number to almost 60% of the 1990 estimations. Due to the historic partnership with the bordering Greek region and to limited Employment opportunities, services and facilities that the municipality could offer, a considerable number of people worked seasonally or daily in Greece. The census however, did not consider these particularities, even though most of the seasonal workers payed their taxes, renovated their houses and voted in the municipality. Such situation and certain methodological problems decreased the credibility of the 2011 CENSUS¹.

This was one of the main problematics that the plan had to address, righ from the start. In light of this information and after the micro census was conducted, in 2016 the population of Dropull municipality was estimated to have a population of 7.200 people; 48% to 51% were women. (Dropull Municipality & Polis University, 2018)

The Plan of Dropull

The legislative bases defined the content of the General Local Territorial Plan (GLTP) and established clear steps in the planning process. However, the methodology evaluated all the territories by the same criteria, which was a significant problem for a small municipality such as Dropull. The consultations conducted with the National Territorial Planning Agency, which was in charge of guiding the planning process in all the municipalities, allowed for the plan to evaluate the context based on the step the Decision of Council of Ministers defined, but also incorporate more material to better comprehend the municipality of Dropull. This required

a custom made approach for this municipality. The biggest challenge faced by the team, was the lack of data. The only source of information and classification was organized by the former territorial division, and most of the information had no digital representation whatsoever. The process of digitalization started from zero, because using the previous information was highly inaccurate (Dropull Municipality & Polis University, 2018)

The team had to cooperate with 15 ministries to collect data and create a digital database. The main obstacle of this process was the incoherent data provided by different Ministries and agencies in comparison to the data from the municipality and the current development situation. The ministries provided data and cartographical information that was not updated or overlaid in the territory since 2007. This was the information used in the last official Orthophoto. (Dropull Municipality & Polis University, 2018) The digitalization process was a mixed methodology approach, which was requested by the inhabitants. But the lack of experience of the municipality and its staff obliged the team to conduct a series of trainings before the process officially begun, which made the process slow and quite inefficient. The team engaged more than 150 volunteering students to collect and update data. During this process the team collected more than 50 Shapefile's, 100 cartographic maps and more than 200 documents referenced to the resources, development or interventions of the municipality. This material was overlaid and cross-referenced within the database by a process of elimination, first eliminating the duplicated information, then organizing a meeting with all the contributing actors from the ministries and reconfirming the final information.

Regarding the population data, Polis university drafted an inclusive methodology by applying a participatory micro census that reconfirmed population data and living standards, collecting information from 41 localities and more than 6700 houses. This micro census was organized separately for the population and separately for the industrial and economic areas. The process of data collection was separated into 18 site visits, where the material was overlaid with the cartographic information provided by the

¹ / Claiming that the distinctive character of the municipality had a population that worked in Greece and returned during the spring and summer making them provisory tenants in this municipality and, therefore needed to be accounted for.

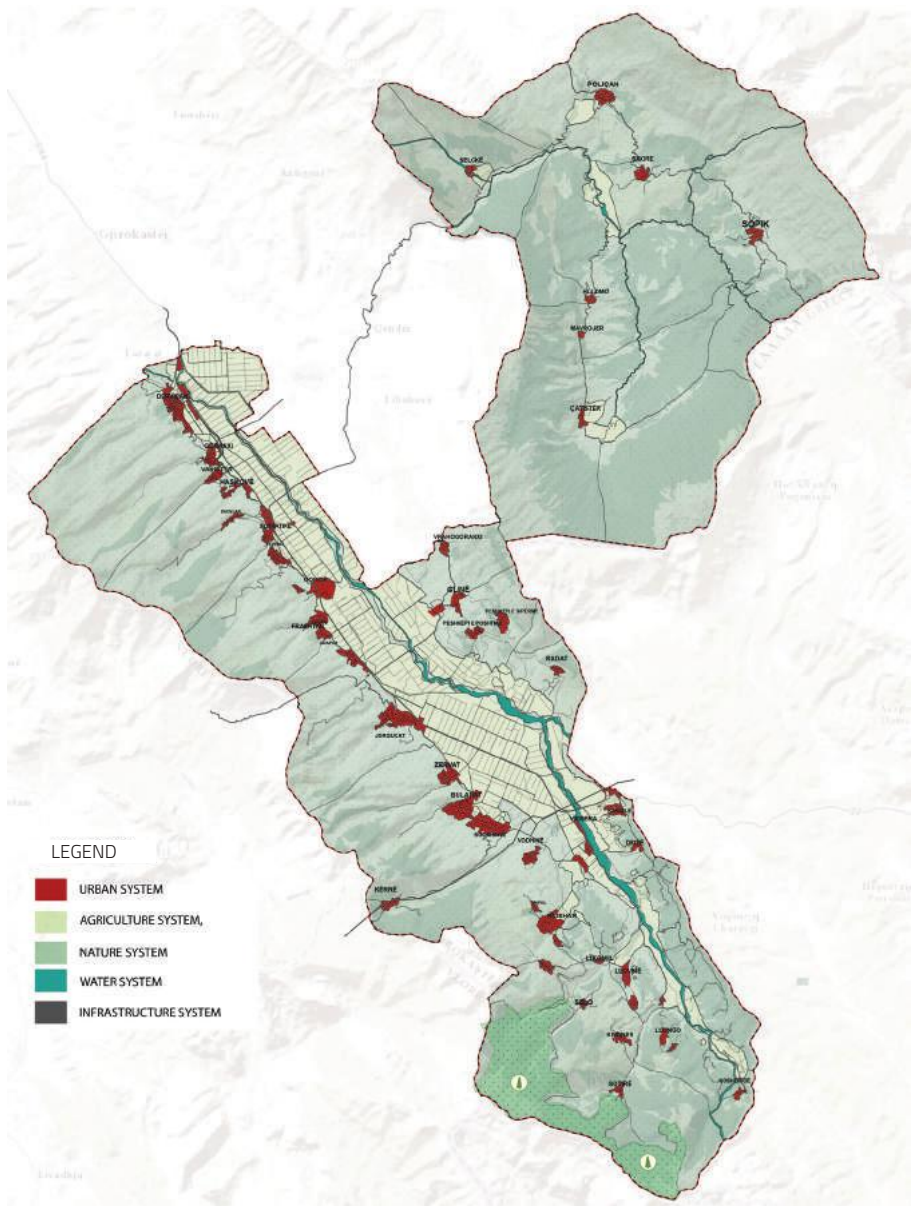


Fig. 3 / Dropull municipality division by territorial systems/ Dropull plan Strategy document / Source / the Author, May 2018

ministry. However, in order to ensure accuracy, the data collection was done by rotation teams at three different times, and by taking into account temporary inhabitants as well. The data was then divided into a group formula that was later consulted and approved by INSTAT².

As required by law, but also as a transparency measure, the team organized 3 rounds of open presentation meetings with local representatives, actors and inhabitants in order to present the findings, objectives and vision based on these findings. From the second phase of this methodology, the working group in collaboration with the municipality, recreated a new database where the population data as collected by the mini census was used to evaluate the future prediction of the population. (Dropull

Municipality & Polis University, 2018).

The fragmented Dropull

The planning process worked hand in hand with the local authorities, actors, ministries and the National Territorial Planning Agency in order to build a plan that reflected the context of Dropull and every asset that could be used to bust economic development, preserve nature and build a sustainable and social community environment for its inhabitants. The territorial challenge, represented by the administrative division, merged together the upper and lower Dropull administrative units together. From a topographic point of view, this made perfect sense, since the upper and lower Dropull communicated long before the formal division. However, Pogon was completely isolated, surrounded by mountains and connected

² / National Institute of statistics

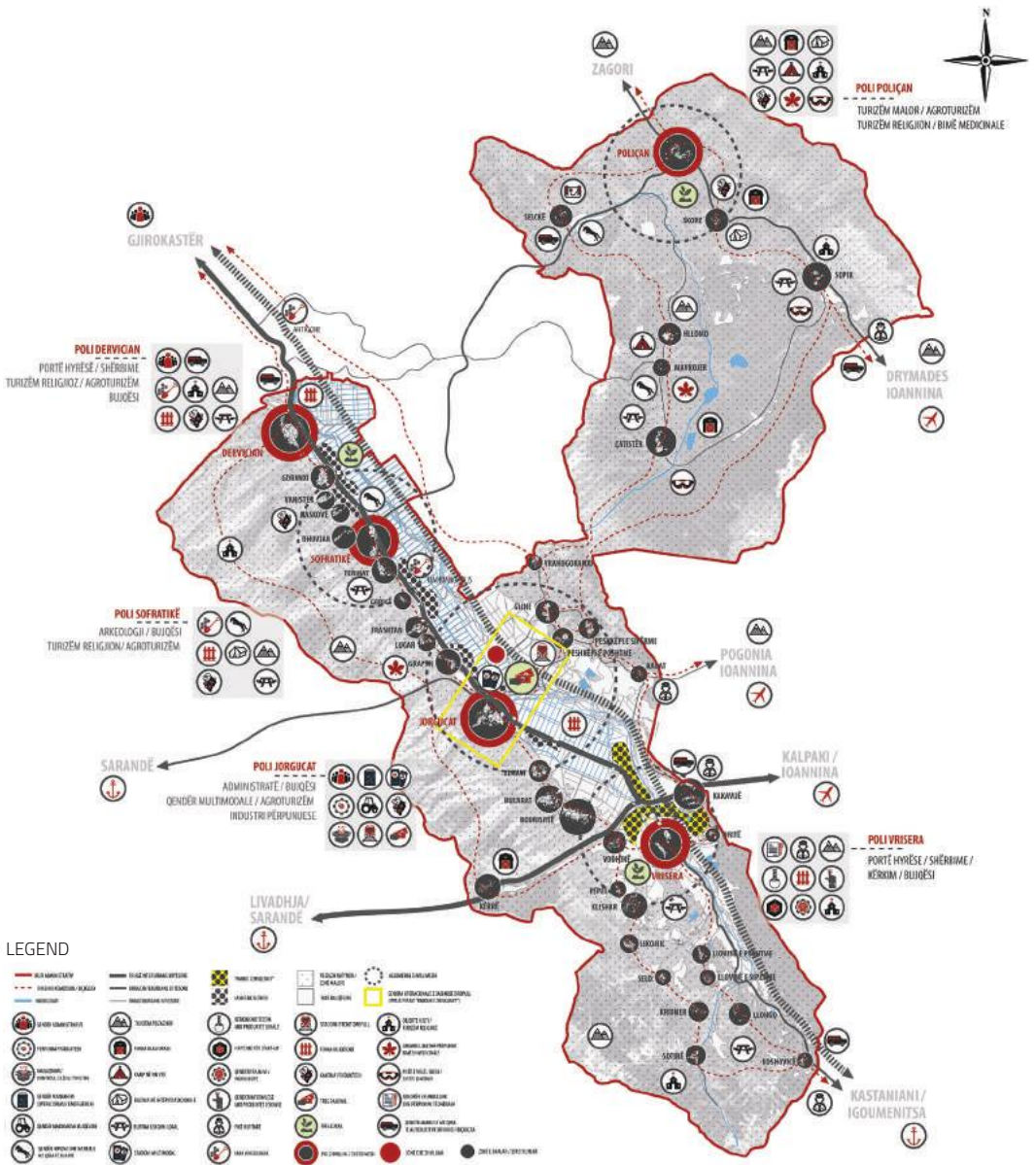


Fig. 4 / Vision map of Dropull Municipality / Strategy document of Dropull municipality / Source / Created by Eranda Janku in May 2018

Use of Orthophoto/ Overlay / Analyze/ Data Geoprocessing

Georeferencing hardcopy data and converting it to Digital Data

+

Data collection(Field Work) and Analyzing

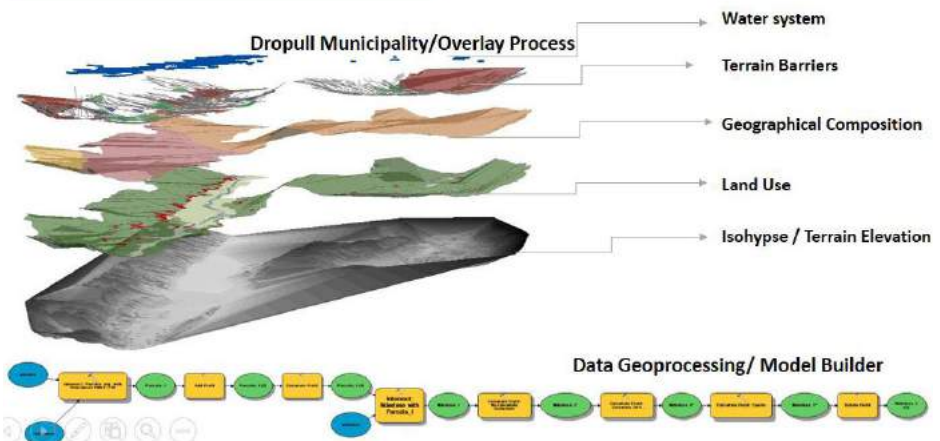


Fig. 5 / Dropull municipality Overlay Process/ Data Geoprocessing, Model Builder / Source / the Author, May 2018

with a single infrastructural road crossing mainly into the neighboring municipality of Libohovë. (Dropull Municipality & Polis University, 2018)

The vision addressed each former administrative division as a separate locality with a specific specialization, giving them independence from each other. Highlighting the strengths and the main economic activities of each center, municipality had 4 local centers with a unique specialization, but shared common goals such as tourism, production, services and industry. (Dropull Municipality & Polis University, 2018) This approach allowed the municipality to address priorities and goals and also bring together the territory as a single organism. The "umbrella" of production, service, culture and tourism united the territory in terms of the guidelines of the future development and at the same time, embraced the specialization of each center creating a ripple effect not only for the settlements of these units but also the region. These allowed for the development to concentrate into existing potentials and inner growth for this municipality.

Conclusions

The process of planning is an intense and complicated process, that needs the possibility to adapt to the context taken into consideration. As the process faced continues challenges the creation of a mixed method in the planning process was relevant for the plan to be realistically drafted and acknowledge by the institutions, people and reflected the current situation.

Though this paper only explored the GIS system and the methodology used in the case of Dropull, the simplification was a means to better transmit the experience and argument this particular course of action.

The challenged that the team faced due to lack of data slowed the process considerably, as information was collected separately from each source and then compared and analyze by process of overlaying and elimination, keeping in mind the margin of error that this methodology holds. The micro census was perhaps the most challenging endeavor, as this methodology was never tried before and the support of the institutions was dubious at first, this required additional consultations with many groups and a clear motivation to push the process forward.

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The creative process of data gathering and analyzing in Dropull Municipality

Dr. Godiva Rëmbeci
POLIS University / Tirana, Albania

Abstract

Statistics are very important in enhancing the ability of the government to develop appropriate policies. Trustable statistics such as GDP, income per capita and living conditions, inflation rate, unemployment rate, projection of population, etc. are crucial in monitoring the achievement of national and local development goals. In addition, to guarantee better public services to the society, government both in central and local level should use statistics for finance allocation on land use planning, housing, health care, and providing education facilities. From that perspective, the setting up of information databases on urban and territorial planning represents an indispensable and imperative tool.

This so-called warehouse of microdata brings about the opportunity for the compilation of various statistics which should be used to measure and monitor the achievements related to the objectives of development strategies. While there is no doubt about the role of statistics in the development and monitoring of national and local strategies, when we talk about the production of statistics, availability of microdata is essential. Lack of data is more likely to occur when we refer to small size administrative areas such as local units or municipalities. In this contribute the case study consisting in process of data sources validation focused on demographic indicators and their role in defining the demographic profile of Dropull Municipality will be described.

Introduction

As Walter Radermacher, (ex DG of Eurostat,2015) mentioned: "Whether we realize it or not, statistics play a decisive and continually growing role in today's society. Independent, impartial and timely data have become a solid part of democracy on our continent. Information requests cover a large area – including data on relatively new domains, such as globalization, well-being, and climate change. The recent financial and economic crisis have also highlighted the need for reliable and trustworthy statistics for the proper functioning of EU economic governance". From that perspective, the setting up of information databases on urban and territorial planning, combining quantitative and qualitative microdata for further analyses, which enable compilation of indicators to measure the achievements of progress, represents

an imperative tool. While there is no doubt about the role of statistics in the development and monitoring of national strategies, when we talk about the production of statistics, availability of microdata is essential. Microdata refers to the data collected or observed from a specific unit of observation (person, household, company) (UN, Statistical commission, 2007). It becomes really difficult to produce statistics when there is a lack of microdata, both observed or administrative one. This situation is more likely to happen when referring to small administrative areas such as local units or municipalities, in terms of population size. In the following paragraphs, the process of data sources validation from the perspective of urban and territorial planning, at Dropull Municipality will be described. As a case study, demographic data both from administrative sources and

population census, are used to describe the process of data estimation to define the size of the resident population as well as the demographic profile of Dropull Municipality. As an introduction, it is useful to mention that the latest territorial administrative reform of 2014, according to which we have a new re-composition of municipalities, does not imply changes in the number of population at the district level, but has brought significant changes in the size of population at the level of municipalities and local units. Therefore, while the population at national and regional levels has declined, the population in the new administrative units is almost doubled, due to the merging of former municipalities with rural areas. This process has been associated at the same time with a multiplication of problems related to the well-management of the natural resources, property and human resources of the new local units.

The performance of the population's size at municipality level over the years follows the same negative trend as the national population stock. Despite the systematic increase of the population in the largest municipalities of Albania, such as Tirana and Durres (mainly due to the migration factor after the 90's), the positive growth rate of population in these municipalities does not offset the population decline in other municipalities (due to migration and emigration factors). The smallest municipalities in Albania in terms of population are the ones called Pustec and Dropull, inhabited mainly by minority population, each of them covering about 0.1 % of the total population. The minority

population also face the same negative growth rate, recording an annual average decline of about 0.6 and 1.6 %. Dropull Municipality, as mentioned above, is inhabited by a Greek population minority. The growth rate of this population was high during the period 1960-1989, with an annual average growth rate of about 14%, while the total population has grown in average over the same period at an annual base estimated around 28%.

After the 1990's, due to the change of political regime in the country and the massive emigration, the population of this area faced a significant decrease estimated for about 60%, while the total population decreased to about 12%.

In addition to the latest territorial reform, the law on territorial planning implies that new municipalities must complete the collection of microdata and the setting-up the databases by 2015, covering all areas, economic, social, and environmental. This ambitious objective is still in place due to the lack of microdata, methodology, and professional skill of municipalities' staff. A similar situation in terms of microdata and statistics is also present in the Dropull Municipality. Therefore, as a first step to proceed with the preparation of the "Analysis and evaluation of the territory's report", it was important to carry out a complex and detailed analysis on the availability and quality of data sources at the municipality level. In doing so, the following data sources were identified:

As mentioned above, there are several data-sources to evaluate the stock's size of the resident population in the Dropull

Demographic indicators	1960	1979	1989	2011*
Albanian total population	1,625,300	2,590,600	3,199,200	2,800,138
Minority total population	44,570	54,687	64,816	52,700
From which, Greek minority	40,404	49,576	58,758	24,243
Inhabitants in Dropull			20,395	8,415**
In % over the minorities	90.65	90.65	90.65	46.00
In % over total population	2.49	1.91	1.84	0.87

Population growth rate			
	1979	1989	2011*
Albanian total population	59%	23%	-12%
Total minorities	23%	19%	-19%
Greek Minority	23%	19%	-59%

Tab. 1 / Demographic indicators of Albanian and minorities population, during 1960-2011

Source: census data, 1960, 1979, 1989, 2011

** estimation according to the weight of Greek minority in Gjirokaster over the total Greek minority

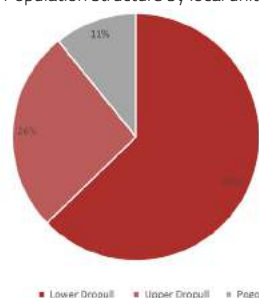
Various estimations of the size of the resident population stock	Source of data	Total population 2015	Population by group-age		
			(0-14)years	(15-64)years	65+years
Official figures	INSTAT ¹	3,301	254	1933	1115
Population according to number of inhabited dwelling	INSTAT+ expert estimation ³	5,244	383	3005	1855
Population according to number of voters	CEC ² + expert estimation	7,128	254	5759	1115
Population according to survey	Staff and students	3,182			
Population according to civil status register	civil status register	23,131			

Tab. 2 / Dropull Municipality's population by various data-sources, 2015

¹INSTAT, statistical office of Albania; ²CEC, Central election commission; ³author estimation

Population by local units	Population (in numbers)	
	Year 2011	Year 2015
Lower Dropull	5,283	4,475
Upper Dropull	2,221	1,881
Pogon	910	771
Dropull Municipality	8,415	7,128

Population structure by local units



Tab. 3 / Population by local units for the period 2011 - 2015

Source / Dropull municipality, local election data and evaluation by the author

Municipality, such as:

1. Civil status register (the data are referring to the civil registration related to demographic events but not updated with detailed information related especially to emigration.)
2. INSTAT figures as a result of census population 2011, (the major problem is

that part of population of this area has abandoned the census process at that period, so the figure produced is not representative)

3. Estimation of population-based on the inhabited dwelling (based on data coming from electricity consumption payments system)

4. Empirical survey, conducted by the staff and students of the university (based on the data collected through face to face interviews, using questionnaire composed with demographic and economic data, the main constraint being that only part of households have been interviewed)

5. Population according to the number of voters, declared by the Central election commission (which refers only to the population over +18 years old)

The main constraint of all the above mentioned data-sources is the coverage, but in order to support the process of designing and developing the Local Plan as a positive instrument for economic growth and quality of life in the Dropull Municipality, the following demographic data produced by using the number of voters in 2015 local election as data sources, was deemed appropriate only for the technical purposes of urban planning:

A simple methodology has been applied to estimate the size of the resident population's stock. This methodology is based on the size and structure of the population by age groups. It was important to define first the total size of the municipality's resident population and then to make a tentative estimation on the population breakdown by age groups. So for the segment of the population aged from +18-, the official number of voters in the local elections, approximately 6200 people have been considered as a "correct" number.

For the estimation of the part of the population aged from 0-18, the structure of the population by age groups based on census data of 2011 was taken into account. Keeping in mind that the size of Dropull Municipality's population was not correct, the population of Gjirokaster Municipality was used as correct size and structure. Based on the acquired information, the ratios by age groups over the total population were built up and those ratios were used to estimate the population aged from 0-18 and also to prepare Dropull Municipality's estimation of population breakdown by age groups. The more in detail steps for estimation of size and structure of population are listed below:

- As source data both data on voter's number of 2015 year and 2011 census data, published by CEC and INSTAT at the commune/local unit level, have been used.
- These data are adjusted according to the new administrative-territorial division of 2014.
- Population number by district level has

been updated according to the latest publication of the Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) in January 2018.

- Based on these data, the weights are built up as ratio of the population at the local unit over the district level.
- These weights have been applied to the latest population number at district-level to calculate population figures at Municipality and local units within municipalities.
- The weights instrument has also been used to prepare the estimation of the population by gender and age group at the Municipality and local level.

Comparing those results with previous years once more, the results showed that the population growth rate records a negative value estimated for about -15% compared with the year 2015 and about 65% compared with years of the 90's. The ongoing process of emigration, as well as the decline in fertility rates, have affected not only the decline in population as stock but also the drastic change in its demographic structure. Another very important factor in determining the resident population's stock in Dropull Municipality is also the migration of population, as a result of which the population of this area is reduced by about 27%.

Conclusion

Building up efficient policies both at the central and local level to guarantee the sustainable development of the territory and economy requires as an indispensable prerequisite, the setting up of sustainable and updated data system which subsequently contributes to the production of reliable and timely statistics indicators.

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Using innovation as a tool for inverting emigration trends in Dropull.

How digital manufacturing could leap the technological gap and strengthen the connection between the community and its territory.

PhD. Ledian Bregasi
POLIS University / Tirana, Albania

Understanding a complex territory

Dropull municipality is one of the “newest” municipalities created as a result of the territorial reform that reorganized Albania passing from 384 administrative units and municipalities to 61 new municipalities. Located in the south-eastern part of Albania, this municipality is part of Gjirokastra region. It is neighbored to the east by the national border with Greece. The historically good cross-border relationship with Greece has always been reinforced by the presence of Greek minority living in this municipality. In Albania 2-3% of the population is composed by minorities, and in the case of Dropull municipality this population represents a very significant part of the total population of 7,128. (Census: Instat 2011).

Dropull is an important gateway in connection with Greece, the main infrastructure route connecting the capital with Greece goes through the municipality, connecting all 41 villages to each other and the economic areas in-between. However, the lack of complementary secondary and tertiary infrastructure and the structure and nature of the economic sectors has increased the abandonment and decay of some urban areas. More than 479 buildings in this municipality are abandoned and in a ruined state. Some of them represent entire neighborhoods, impacting urban space quality, infrastructure and environmental conditions as well.

These phenomena are a result of insufficient public investments and low economic conditions that increased the

need for inner and outer migration. As a result, people abandoned their homes and the low number of residents made it very difficult for the municipality to provide efficient public services. As result of these trends Dropull municipality is currently suffering the lack of experience in managing the new and larger territory, institutional capacities, coordinated services, and detailed and representative data for the new territory.

According to the census and recent statistics, the municipality’s population is dominated by a relatively young population. Keeping these statistics in mind the main sectors of employment are dominated, by industries and service - 72%, by agriculture - 22 %, and public administration - 6% . There are no official unemployment data for Dropull municipality, but the region statistics indicate a 16% of unemployment rate.

However, this situation is slowly starting to change, as a result of the economic downturn in Greece, many people are looking for opportunities to move back into their old houses. These attempts are bringing back small initiatives and new innovative businesses.

Some of the institutional focus is recently placed into increasing social cohesion, and in identifying new potentials and investing in virtuous indicatives.

POLIS University has drafted the General Local Plan for the newly formed municipality of Dropull. This plan provides

a deep analysis of the territory and environment of the municipality. The analysis covers socio-cultural conditions and economic factors that have served as an important database for recognizing resources to be involved in local actions. Parts of the consulting groups engaged in drafting the general local plan can facilitate contacts with the community and with key-actors of the already built network.

Supported by the new General Local Plan that was recently approved, some of the priority objectives include small intervention to deal with abandoned spaces and neglected urban areas. A priority was placed on the preservation and renovation of cultural and historical assets, the stimulation of renovation of historic houses applying long-term solutions. Special focus is placed on community participation and growth.

On these principles, the case of Dropull was used as a proving ground for developing part of a research proposal called COMMON. The consortium developing the proposal was led by the University of Bologna and composed by institutions representing European areas risked by depopulation. One of the aims was to use ICT tools as instrument for reversing the abandonment trend.

POLIS University developed in this framework a concept for the Municipality of Dropull in line with the general strategic vision considering Dropull as a polycentric development of settlements along the main highway connecting Albania to

Greece. In this perspective, Dropull is expected to slowly grow into a rural development pole between Gjirokastra and the Ioannina regional centers on the one hand, and the southern Albanian and Ionian coasts on the other. This territory should build upon a strong historical and cultural identity, a model of coexistence between different nationalities, an important gateway to the cross-border area and a bridge between Albania and Greece.

Dropull has the potential to become a center focused on the development of tourism, agriculture, livestock, and processing industry that puts in use domestic products to create a complete production cycle and tracking. A region that welcomes and provides space for research and the establishment of tourism-based and biological products start-ups, thus becoming a cross-border "pole" that uses steadily the potentials for a consolidated local economy and a favorable atmosphere for returning population and attracting investment. In this perspective, the role of new technologies will provide a proper environment for the emergence of a new creative community. The crises of the existing situation are considered to provide a prolific ground for people/place based innovative blueprints.

The emerging creative individual and enterprises will use the makers' culture for the development of the branches of agriculture and livestock, the support of business development and processing industries, which currently constitute an

important sector of the Municipality of Dropull. Although the development of different business units currently utilizes the Municipality of Dropull for their physical placement, without a significant impact on the employment of the local population or investments to improve the conditions of the territory, the establishment of a cooperation strategy between the Municipality of Dropull and innovative/creative business units would create a greater positive impact in the territory of the Municipality. In this cooperation, the Municipality can provide the physical location of their placement using some of the most interesting abandoned space in the territory, while innovative/creative business units provide safe and appealing employment for the local population and provide for an investment plan for the local infrastructure and the environment in which they operate. In this way, not only will a full economic cycle be created, but the real benefits of this cycle will not be transferred to the larger economical centers of the region, but become tangible and useful for the local communities leveraging site-specific values.

The strategic program aims to empower the local economy and support the creation of a *making culture*. It proposes the creation of a specific network of areas of innovation, education, exploration and development. This network of areas under the name of "Innovation Network" will provide a space for specialized and informal education (schools, vocational courses and craftsmanship knowledge transmission), research, testing and establishment of enterprises, all of which will aim to integrate the local population and promote local products and cultural landscape. Located near the cross-border area, this network of areas will aim to turn the Drinos Valley into a bridge between Gjirokastra and Ioannina centers and the economic zones around them, serving as a common space of research and development for a commonly shared and sustainable development.

Peculiarities of the case of Dropull

The territory of Dropull undergoes a specific abandonment pattern characterized by an abandonment of remote areas of the territory because of a lack of services, poor infrastructure, insufficient formal and informal education opportunities, and a reduction of job prospects. Two groups are considered the most affected: 15-25-year-old group, which is mostly affected by poor education and job opportunities; and the working age Greek

minority living in Dropull which finds Greek job market more attractive. Considering these facts, the strategy tries to involve these population groups in co-detecting and co-exploiting latent common values.

The local values are deeply related to the specific cultural and social specificities of the territory which offers very important economic and environmental assets. In this sense, thematic tourism can be considered the driving sector for an integrated and sustainable development. The General Local Plan document being approved by the municipality defines that a properly balanced tourism can act as an activator for all the strategic economic sectors of the region. In this perspective the environmental and socio-cultural potentials are to be explored.

It is important to emphasize the fact that the proposed "Innovation Network" will work as a cluster of enterprises that interact and complement each other creating a shared and diffused hub. In order for sustainable tourism to be a communal event, some of the main activities of the "Innovation Network" diffused hub should also comprise trainings and sharing of expertise and know-how in the fields of agro-tourism, hospitality, food and medicinal plants processing, traditional and innovative manufacturing.

The important presence of technological tools will also support the creation of a common shared on-line platform of e-governance which will facilitate the active participation of a large part of the local community which has emigrated but is interested in returning to Dropull. The e-governance technology will additionally facilitate the governance and presence of the local authorities in remote areas of the region, providing further services and incentives to local communities in reversing the abandonment trend.

The actions planned to be implemented, aiming to reverse the abandonment trend and support the creation of specific network of areas of innovation, education, exploration and development is supposed to act as a network of economic entities and spaces organized in a polycentric logic. Following the provisions of the General Local Plan of the Municipality, five existing urban centers are defined as new nodes of the polycentric development. Abandoned public and private buildings like schools, warehouses and similar typologies in Dervican, Sofratike, Poliçan, Vrisera and Jorgucat will be reused and reconverted



Fig. 1 / Dropull municipality Process of General Local Plan, (2018).

into spaces of exploration, education, sharing, innovation and creation.

This network of areas under the name of "Innovation Network" will comprise two more areas, the natural protected area of Sotira as part of the national 100+ Villages program and the industrial area near Kakavija proposed in the General Local Plan.

The system-oriented approach toward sustainable tourism would promote and valorize the environmental potentials, the cultural landscapes and the local community's social values. Environmental and cultural tourism would promote local food production and processing, encouraging innovative approaches. The latter would also require vocational and life-long education. The physical spaces for the activities to happen are located in five urban centers and will reactivate abandoned public buildings and spaces.

The "Innovation Network" will work as a diffused hub and will create a cluster of ateliers and spaces of creation. The pop-up ateliers will find the newest and unforeseeable ways of reusing the abandoned structures. A multitude of uses will mix, alternate and follow incrementally. The interventions will need to avoid mono-functionality since the co-existence of functions and activities allows the flexibility of the start-up to adapt during the first stages of its development.

The very strong sense of community of the people of Dropull will enhance this ecosystem based on shared values and will be incentivized to naturally develop into formal partnerships and chains of value. So, the innovative creation model will lead to innovative organization models in association with the local government, which will explore new and innovative ways of governance. New technologies will facilitate this process. As architecture represents in space the spirit of its time, these innovative instruments, as historically proven, will create spatial innovation. The clustering and spatial proximity of the workshops and ateliers will enhance co-creation and sustainable growth.

The majority of the abandoned sites to be reactivated by the "Innovation Network" turning into a diffused hub are located inside or near the urban settlements. Thus, they are able to interact with the nearby spaces and activities contributing in creating an operative chain of urban

upgrades. The transformation prototypes to be tested need to share the following principles:

Mix Use: Dealing directly or indirectly with sustainable tourism development the pop-up ateliers will be organized following the mixed-use principles. A number of main activities will share space and time in the abandoned structures. So, every atelier and workshop will foresee some spaces for working and making, some spaces for lecturing, debating, sharing, exchanging and retail, spaces for different forms of temporary living, opportunities to create or rebuild natural elements of the surrounding site and new infrastructures for the community.

Adaptability for unpredictability: The simultaneous presence of a number of activities will allow the diversification of the economic activities and will allow future adaptability. These two characteristics will show to be very important for start-ups and new businesses due to the high risk these activities face during the first five years of activities. The highly unpredictable economic situation is a characteristic of Albania so the proposed approach is based on an incremental, adaptable and open-ended mentality.

Co-creation and sharing: The "Innovation Network" will importantly rely on the existing sense of community of the inhabitants of Dropull. The ateliers will allow the sharing of ideas and methods under a common maker mentality. Due to the relatively small population, some expertise will not be simultaneously present in all the ateliers. Models of time bank and examples of shared economy will be experimented in order to facilitate the flow of know-how and the sharing of expertise in conditions when it will not always be possible to hire highly specialized figures in the embryonic enterprises.

Emergence of novelty: the most difficult but at the same time exciting principle to be experimented with in the pop-up ateliers will be the emergence of novelty. This idea is based on the fact that complex systems of interacting individuals are able to show group behaviors that are impossible to be achieved by the same number of individuals not interacting among themselves. If the needed quantity and quality of exchange and interaction will be incentivized to develop among the different actors, the "Innovation Network" will be able to coevolve into new models



*Fig. 2 / Dropull municipality Process of General Local Plan, 2018.
Source / General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality*



Fig. 3 / Network Thinking.

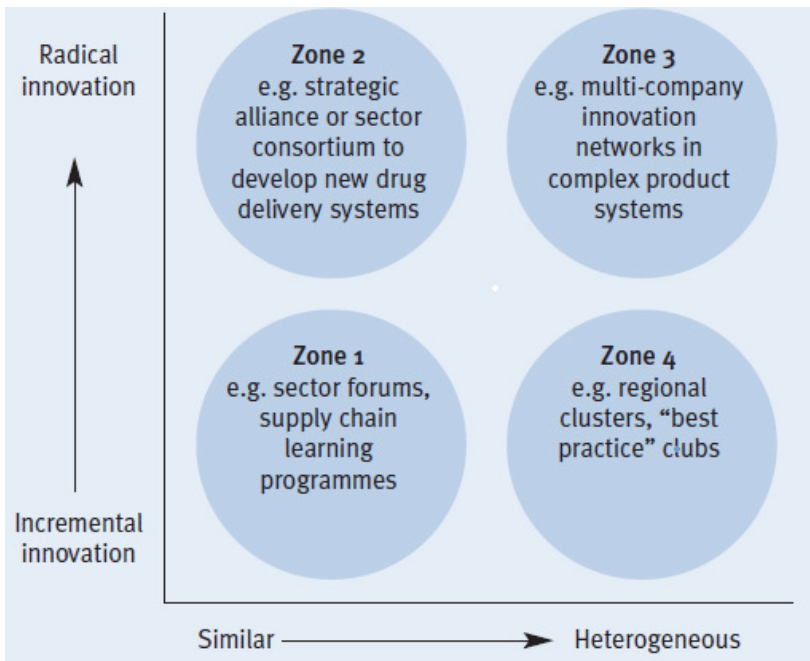


Fig. 4 / Types of innovation networks. Source / Beatriz Helena Neto

of creative community where novelty and innovation will emerge spontaneously.

Conclusions

The prior actions focused on education and governance innovation constitute an indispensable basis to be able to develop new policies. Although the need for contextually informed and place-based policies is unanimously accepted, in countries like Albania where the capacities are scarce and the inclination toward the

“global north” models is strong, more often than not the adopted policies are imported from the developed countries. Therefore, a genuine place-based approach accounts for as a novelty. The recently approved territorial development plan is a starting point to this regard. Additionally, the deliberate focus of the project on the place makers rather than the land policies and instruments constitutes a welcomed departure from the existing policies. The ambition to overcome the local scale

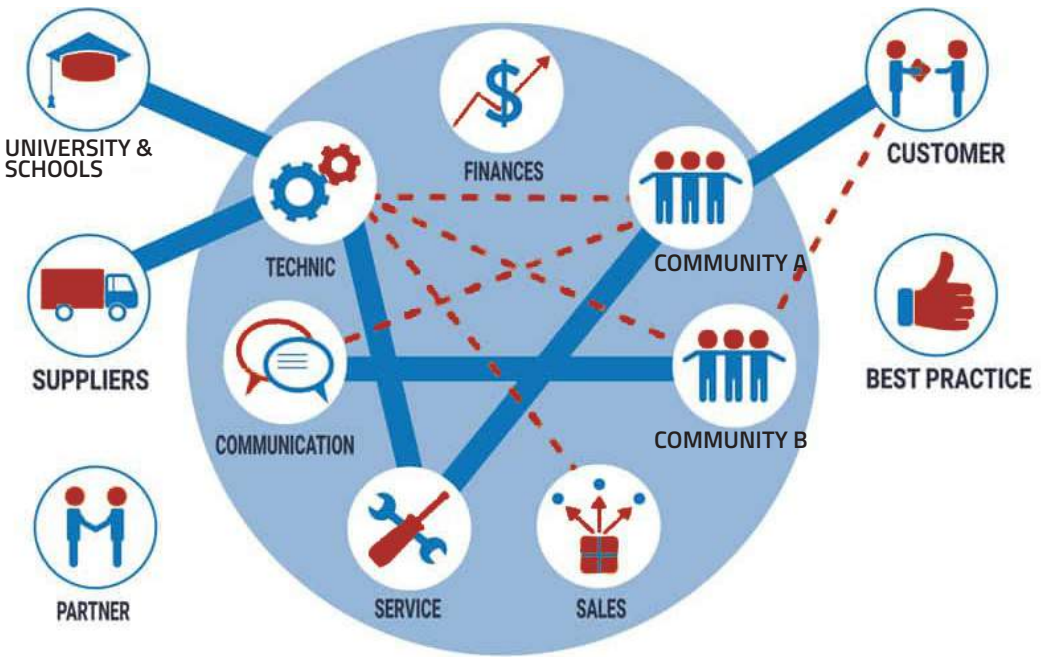


Fig. 3 / Innovation Network. Source / <https://innolytics-innovation.com/innovation-network/>

is faced with a multitude of challenges (some of them explained above). The current size and capacities of the local actors are such that being competitive beyond the local scale is highly unlikely. Therefore, the organization into a network of place makers, which on the other hand can also become part of a value chains with the neighboring territories in Greece, becomes a significant instrument to place Dropull into a cross-border and inter-regional setting.

The process, difficulties and the innovation of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) findings of Dropulli Municipality

Prof. Dr. Sherif Lushaj
POLIS University / Tirana, Albania

Abstract

Dropull municipality was created in 2015 by the union of three municipalities: Upper Dropull, Lower Dropull and Polican. It comprises 41 villages and a size of 45410 hectares. New development and planning relationships are emerging toward sustainable development, establishing urban-rural balances, protecting the environment, and improving community services. In 2017, the Municipality undertook the initiative of drafting the Local General Plan for the strategic development direction for a period of 15 years.

The plan underwent Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) at all stages, as a process of environmental status analysis, to identify the consequences of plan policies and the implementation of environmental projects. Throughout the process, potentials and opportunities for Dropull development, environmental problems and risks as well as measures to reduce the impact of the plan and projects are identified.

Objectives

The main objective of the SEA of the Dropull Local General Plan is to consider the impacts of the Plan and projects on the environment at all the stages of plan development, the alignment of plan objectives and projects with environmental objectives, environmental status analysis with public participation, and identify key stakeholders in decision making.

Main Theories

SEA is based on the requirements of Law 91/2013 "Strategic Environmental Assessment" which is fully aligned with Directive 2001/42 /EC of the European Parliament, and the specific legislation and international conventions. The Protocol on SEA is an international agreement that provides legal obligations and a procedural framework for the implementation of SEA in countries that are Parties to it (UNECE, page 4). The article is based on the SEA of the Dropull Plan conducted by the author as the leader of the SEA team (Lushaj et al., 2018). Developing a successful SEA means that "ideally, this process should start at the earliest phase

of the project formulation, extend through the implementation phase, and include only after full monitoring of the complete project has been achieved" (Partidário, 2012, page 26).

Methodology

The methodology applied for this research work implies the analysis of the following : (i) Environmental assessment, (ii) consideration of the requirements of Ministry of Environment for SEA, (iii) Environmental Impact Assessment of the plan, project and planning scenarios, (iv) compliance of strategic objectives with environmental objectives; and (v) organization of 4 public hearings.

Introduction

The only document on the basis of which the development policies from 2005 to 2014 are based is the Gjirokastra District Development Strategy, drawn up in 2005 and some local operational plans. In 2018, the first Local General Plan of the municipality was drafted.

Topography and territorial systems

The area of Dropull is characterized by flat,

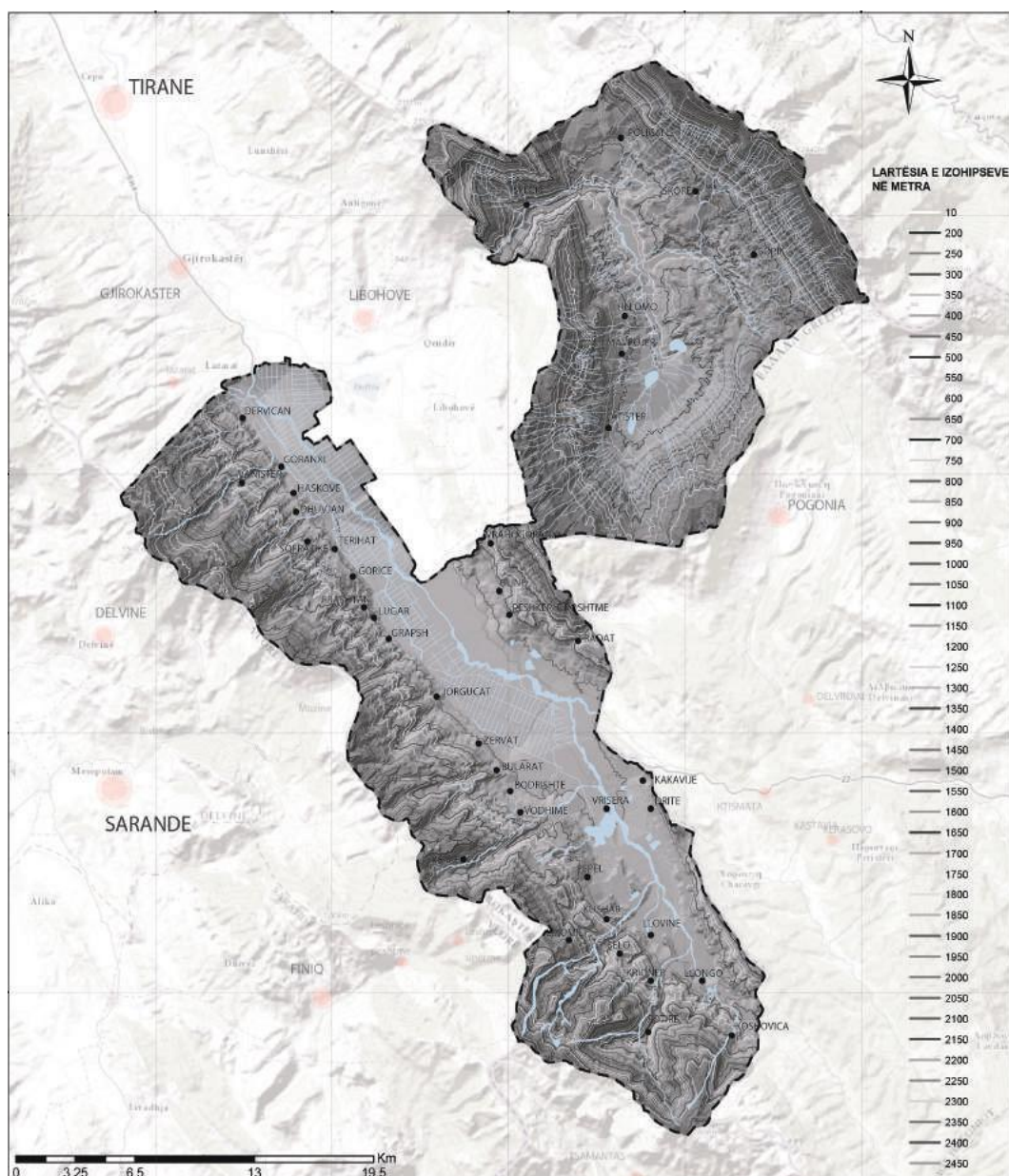


Fig. 1 / Topographic map of Dropull Municipality. Source / Dropull General Local Plan, SEA, Dropull

hilly, para-mountainous and mountainous terrain varying in an altitude from 200 to 2450 m above the sea level. It is rich in mountain ranges, valleys, a variety of ecosystems and habitats, biodiversity, natural landscapes, forest diversity, and 13 natural monuments (maps, 1). Dropull Municipality, with its distinctive rural characteristics, focuses on the development of agriculture, tourism and a cross-border "pole". It is distinguished by 22 species of medicinal plants and is the home of 15% of European migratory bird species.

Among the wildlife, the four species of "Neophron percnopterus" categorized as a globally endangered bird, and "Falco naumanni" account for 2.5% of the world's population. The Dropull Valley is included in the European Green Belt; source: <https://www.euronatur.org>.

Among the 5 territorial systems, the urban system, the infrastructure, the agricultural, and the water components have different percentages, showed in Table 1. The natural habitat comprises 82.5% of the territory, of which 85% is forest and pasture.

There are about 6500 ha agricultural land, mainly in the Drino River valley, with high production capacity.

A rich hydraulic system, Drino River is the main tributary of the Vjosa River, with a length of 85 km, a watershed of 1324 km² and an average elevation of 745 m. Secondary rivers and mountain streams, groundwater, 19 reservoirs for irrigation are also part of the water resources.

Findings from the evaluation scenarios of the environmental assessment plan

SEA explored the potential trends of scenarios with the no-plan environmental development option. It has been observed that in the absence of a plan, economic and social drivers will deteriorate. The migration of rural population will increase while, social services and infrastructure in remote rural areas will be aggravated (urban waste management, wastewater, transport, health, education), and land use will undergo urban sprawl even in areas with natural hazards (seismic zones, landslides, floods). The economy will not develop, the environment and landscape will deteriorate, control over territory will fade, and the different strategies of addressing climate change will not be adapted. Unless the plan is adopted, the vision, strategy, development policies will not comply with the principles of the National General Plan and the development strategy and environmental protection.

Summary of the analysis of the environmental situation in the territory of Dropull Municipality

Environmental assessment for some indicators is based on gathering direct field information by measuring air quality, noise, weather data using the equipments of Polis University.

The CO₂ emissions were calculated, based on the model (USEPA 2016) used by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). According to a 9 months monitoring of the Gjirokaster-Kakavije segment in 2017, 357,110 cars have circulated, and the gas emissions are estimated at 2,088.4 tonne of CO₂. Although air pollution does not reach critical levels, some sources of local activity need to be curtailed, discharges on the Gjirokastra-Kakavi highway, mismanagement of urban waste and sewage, uncontrolled quarrying, burning of waste and forest, improved transportation public (Lushaj et al., 2018).

Management of the solid urban waste by the end of 2018 is organized in only 11 (blue) out of 41 villages. Source sharing, recycling and composting are non-existent. The disposal of waste in landfills is without standards. The hospital waste of the health centers is mixed with urban waste. Management infrastructure is only 30% of the required levels. Through the SEA recommendations, the Municipality intends to establish a waste management system throughout the territory. Currently, the wastewater management is based entirely on the collection in septic tanks constructed without standards, causing pollution of the environment, water, soil, especially during floods.

Geohazards and natural stressors are high: seismicity, rockfall from the mountains, quarry exploitation, extreme seasonal drought, forest burning, landscape damage and fires spread all over the territory, especially in Pogon, the Sotira, and the "Broad" Mountain, where the loss of natural resources and biodiversity are potentially high.

In most of the territory seismicity is 7 degrees, while in the Dervican area and Vanister 9 degrees (yellow color). SEA assessment guides the urban expansion and the design in accordance with the level of seismicity and soil characteristics. Repeated floods occur in the Dropull plain from the Drino river and mountain streams. Soil erosion is a complex problem with widespread presence almost throughout the territory

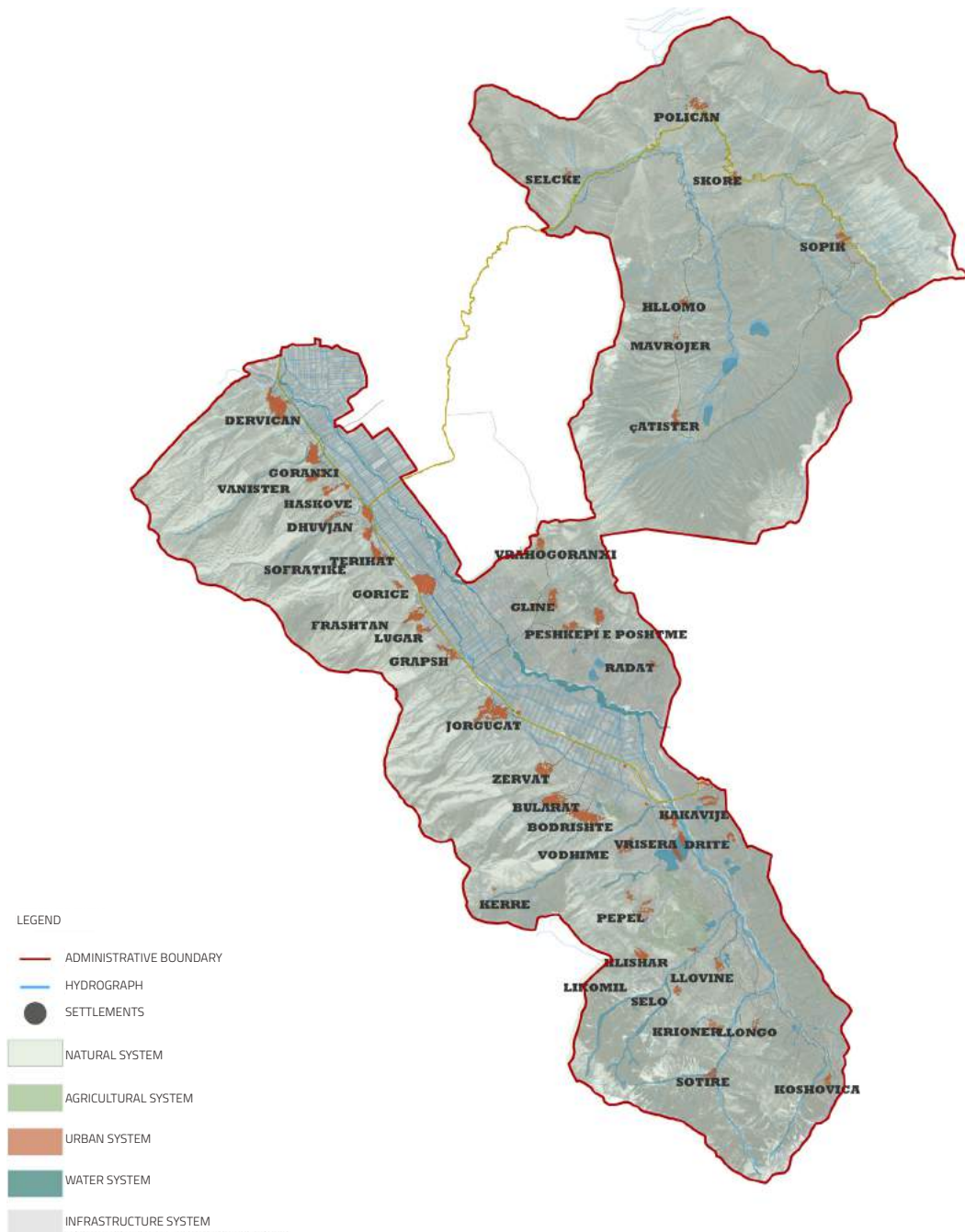


Fig. 2 / Components of the territorial system. Source / Dropull General Local Plan, SEA, Dropull

Territorial components	Percentage of coverage (%)
Urban system	2.22
Infrastructure	0.84
Agricultural	13.48
Water	0.95
Natural habitat	82.5

Tab. 1 / Components of the territorial system. Source / Dropull General Local Plan

of the Municipality. Rehabilitation of the protective structures of the Drino River is needed (panels, embankments, cessation of inert use).

Assessment of the compliance of objectives and environmental impact of the plan

The consistency between the objectives of

the plan in 28 programs and 113 projects is evaluated with 13 environmental objectives. It turns out that overall the objectives of the plan are in line with the environmental objectives, in relation to environmental impacts and efficiency in infrastructure development, economics, services and environmental protection. Specifically, four plan programs are

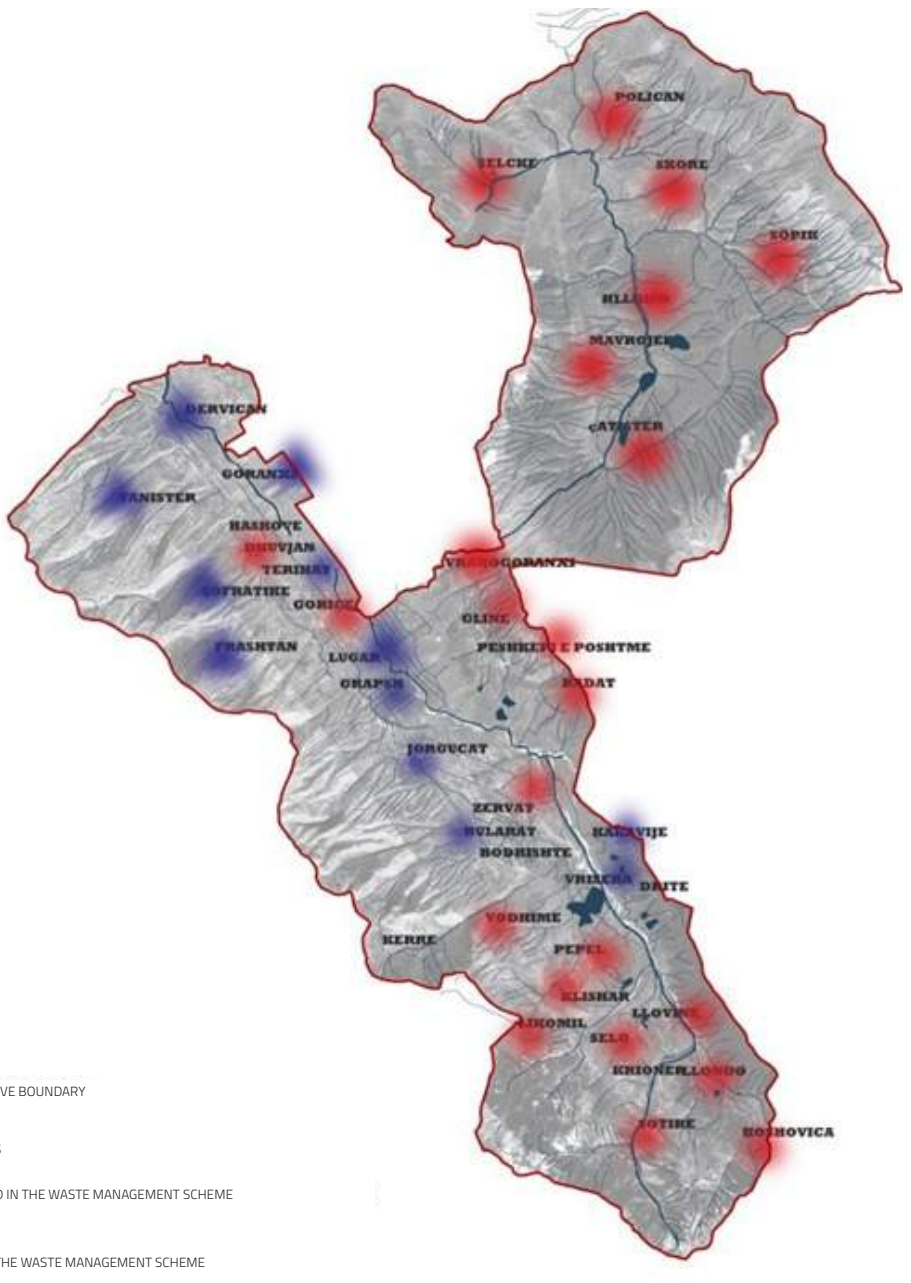


Fig. 3 / Management of solid urban waste, Dropull Municipality
 Source / Dropull General Local Plan, SEA, Dropull

fully compliant with the environmental objectives; ten objectives are partially compliant; in nine programs the link to the environmental objectives is dim; and five objectives have no relationship with one another. The objectives of the plan, which find the highest compliance with the environmental objectives, are those for institutional capacity building, agriculture development, livestock farming, protection from natural hazards, rehabilitation of the production support infrastructure. Objectives that focus on the natural environment find strong links with the objectives of the fire protection plan, forest and pasture management, drought reduction. The development of agriculture has strong links with the environmental objectives of flood protection, adaptation to climate change, land protection etc.

Compatibility of projects with environmental impact

Detailed analysis of the compliance of each project with the 13 environmental objectives, applying the impact rates, shows that: a) 28 projects had no impact or positive impact; b) 28 projects had partial impact (no significant impacts); c) 25 projects have environmental impacts that need to be mitigated through additional mitigation measures; d) there are no projects with significant impacts; (e) There are no projects with disastrous impacts. Mitigation measures have also been recommended for the projects of Group (c) and (b). It is also planned that some projects will undergo the Environmental Impact Assessment.

SEA process difficulties

- In municipalities where there are missing

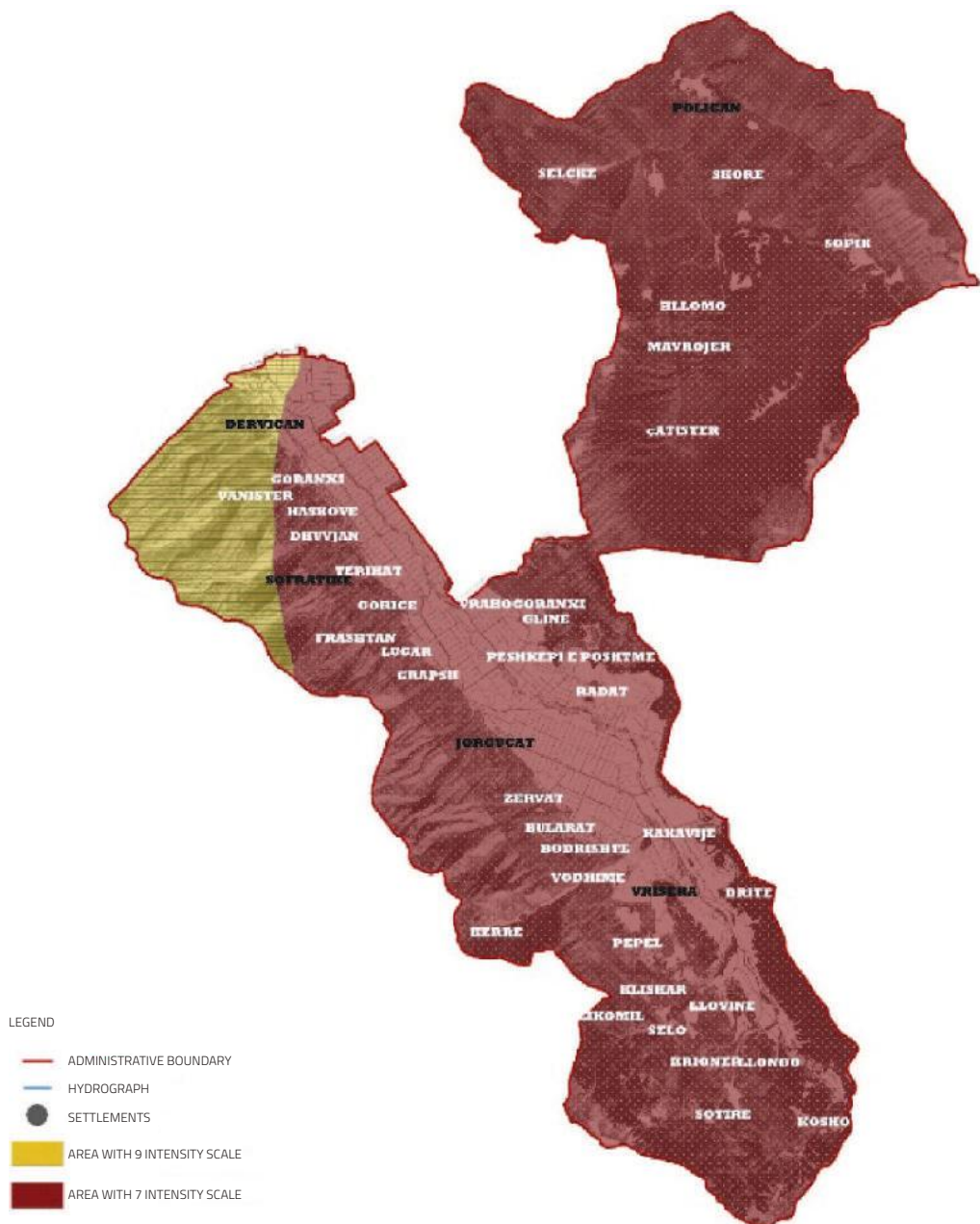


Fig. 4 / Seismic hazard Dropull Municipality. Source / Dropull General Local Plan, SEA, Dropull

data, there are discrepancies between the municipal administrative units and the regional agencies for numerical economic indicators, environmental, and territorial systems. The data system needs to be upgraded and constantly updated in new municipalities.

-The Municipality of Dropull, until (2018) is not included in the scheme of monitoring of environmental indicators by the responsible institutions and the indicators on the state of the environment are missing.

- Insufficient management capacities in the new municipalities do not enable the orientation of measures for prevention, protection and rehabilitation of the environment.

- Coordination of local and regional institutions and public involvement in decision making is weak.

-In order to assess the Transboundary

Environmental Impact Assessment (Espoo Convention), there is a need for more information and consultation from border countries on environmental impacts and emissions.

Innovative findings

- SEA conducted an assessment by expert teams from all fields for innovative and professional findings. To change the criteria for the certification of experts, the way of organizing the courses, the criteria for the right of licensing, Partidário states that "the team that shall perform the SEA must be set up so that it may respond to the iterative and multidisciplinary that satisfy the three main SEA components - technical, process and communication" (Partidário, M.R., 2007).

- In the absence of monitoring, the environmental indicators monitored for the city of Gjirokastra are not valid for

Dropull, and they cannot be used for environmental analysis, benchmarking, change dynamics, and impact mitigation interventions. Monitoring should also be extended to other indicators. According to Nowacki, "the monitoring of the environmental and health indicators, and the integration of the environmental and health monitoring systems would also help to either establish or better monitor health outcomes from certain risk factors" (Nowacki, et al., 2010).

- The evaluation results should be connected well with the components of the General Local Plan. According to Fischer (2002), the policies of SEA generally, obtain better results than SEA of plans and SEA of programmes.
- Communication with key stakeholders must be perfected through dialogue and negotiations, as well as through the methodology developed in the context of the particulars of each plan. The World Bank highlights important that the "Identification of Environmental Priorities" and public participation process SEA is an important mechanism that creates increased accountability for the policymakers enhancing environmental governance, strengthens democratic institutions and addresses potential mechanisms for dialogue and for influencing policy. (World Bank, 2008)

Conclusions

1. Although the Municipality of Dropull possesses a high natural, economic potentials, the environment is threatened by pollution, geohazards, the level of urban waste management and wastewater with impacts on environmental pollution and community life.
2. The Municipality of Dropull should be included in the national environmental monitoring scheme.
3. The plan and SEA oriented the development areas to avoid the risks of high seismicity of 7 and 9 intensity.
4. Develop and implement management plans for forest fires and Dropull field floods from the Drino River and mountain streams over a wide area of the territory with high environmental impacts.
5. Biodiversity and landscape are under the pressure of fires, cuttings, endangered species such as medicinal herbs, Cuckoo Horse, Yellow Claw Hawk, Mountain Eagle, Wild Pork, Bear, Fox, Wolf, Partridge. Reassessment of Nature Monuments, as they have lost their value and announce proposed monuments in SEA.
6. Identification of the consequences of the 15-year plan and environmental projects

shows that: 4 strategic programs fully comply with environmental objectives, ten partially overlap, in 9 programs the link is dim and 5 objectives are not linked. Evaluation of each project with 13 environmental objectives shows that 25 projects have conditional compliance with environmental objectives (C), 28 projects with partial compliance (B). There are no devastating impact-projects.

7. Mitigation measures limiting environmental impacts during implementation have been developed for each project.

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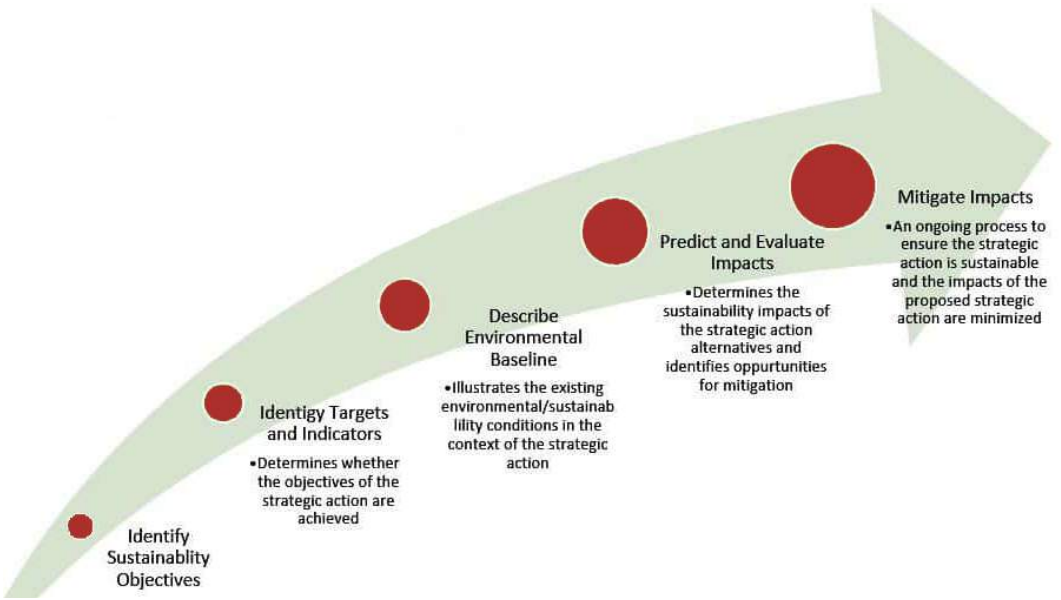


Fig. 5 / Strategic Environmental Assessment.
 Source / <https://planningtank.com/environment/strategic-environmental-assessment-sea>

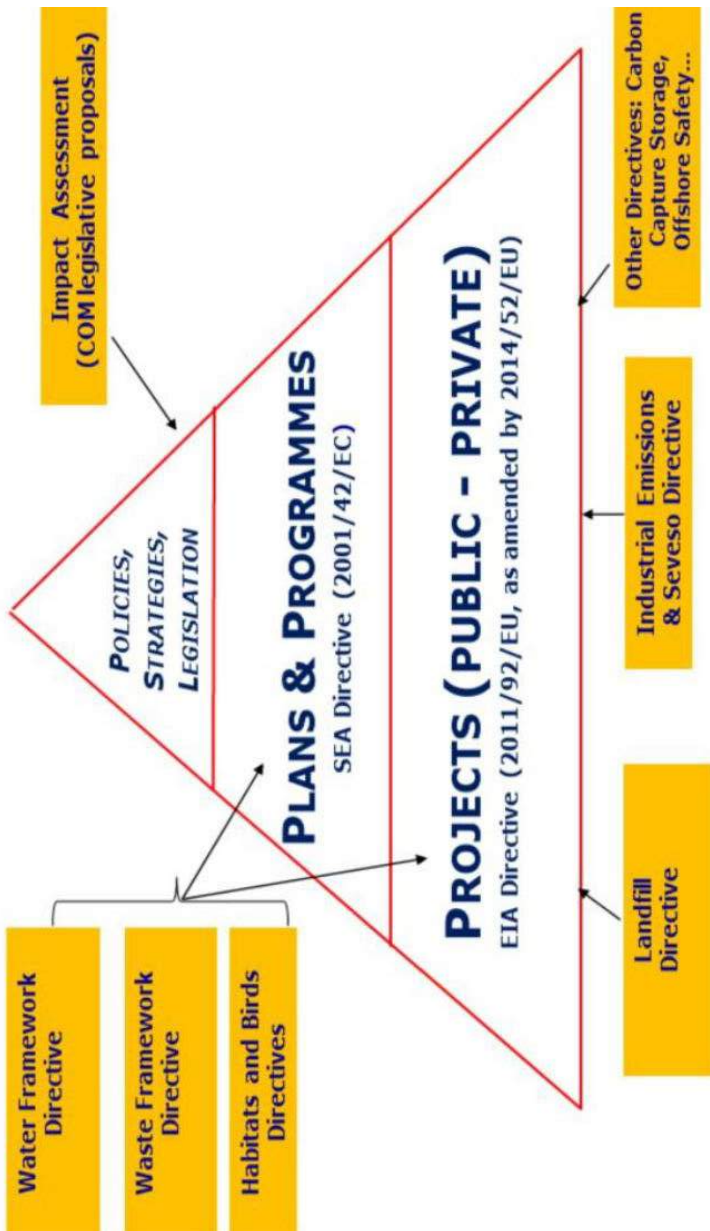


Fig. 5 / Environmental Assessment at EU level.
 Source / https://ec.europa.eu/environment/legal/law/10/pdf/1_Dobeva_Introduction.pdf

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Rurban Sequences. Inquiries on Dropull's states of Liminality
Workshop coordinators

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Sustainable tourism development in Liminal Spaces
Aida Ciro
PhD. researcher / POLIS University

4.3

Inquiries on the liminality in between Raw material extraction sites and urbanized centers. Study case The quarry in the outskirts of Sofratike
Blerim Nika
PhD. researcher / POLIS University

4.4

Landscape of historical identity. Exploring Landscapes in the State of Liminality in/and the case of Sofratika
Emel Petërçi
PhD. researcher / POLIS University

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Johana Klemo
PhD. researcher / POLIS University

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Actions for sustainable development: A strategy for rural growth in Dropull municipality through the promotion of local resources for building and construction
Laia Gemma García Fernández
PhD. researcher / University of Ferrara

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Growing thickness as a research methodology
Laura Boffi
PhD. researcher / University of Ferrara

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Overlapping Layers: a representation and learning landscape code for Dropull
Martina Suppa
PhD. researcher / University of Ferrara

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Structural Assessment and Seismic Performance of Traditional Stone houses in Dropulli region
Nikolla Vesho
PhD. researcher / POLIS University

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Derviçan: a morpho–typological development analysis as a tool for its conservation
Veronica Vona
PhD. researcher / University of Ferrara

4 workshop

Rurban Sequences. Inquiries on Dropull's states of Liminality

THE OBJECTIVE AND RATIONALE OF THE PROJECT RURBAN SEQUENCES

International Workshop: Inquiries on Dropull' states of Liminality
February 08th-17th, 2019, Tirana & Dropull, Albania

International Doctorate in Architecture and Urban Planning
POLIS University, Tirana Albania – UNIFE Ferrara University, Italy

Academic staff responsible:

Prof. Dr Besnik Aliaj, Doc. PhD Sotir Dharmo, PhD. Loris Rossi, PhD Llazar Kumaraku, PhD Laura Pedata

Assistant: PhD. Eranda Janku

Introduction

This Workshop is a research activity organized under the framework of the Joint International PhD Program of POLIS and Ferrara Universities in the fields of Architecture and Urban Planning. Aimed at the 34th cycle PhD candidates, the workshop builds on the previous and ongoing research work of the Department of Applied Research, and Observatory of Mediterranean Basin (OMB) unit, within the FR&D, Faculty for Research and Development at POLIS University.

Each year the research activity promoted by the workshop is aimed at a specific topic, which is then open for debate and critical analysis by each students/ researchers individually, in order to develop their capacity for operating within any given planning context by developing tools, able to generate new architecture and design processes. Previous work includes "Durana" (2014), "Albanian Riviera" (2015), "When a River Flows"

(2016), "Projecting Shkodra" (2017), and "Prishtina, New European capital" (2018), etc. This year's topic concerns with the Municipality of Dropull in south Albania, in other words, a case of "the linear city" which has previously been object of a study and development plan by POLIS University.

During the last three years a mixed group of planning professionals and students have been gathering data and developing a Local Development Plan for the area. After the Territorial Reform of 2016, the territory of Albania was reorganized, reducing the 373 initial Municipalities (divided in Urban and Rural units) into 61 Municipalities (with mixed characters, Urban and Rural). This process not only has presented the local governments with new challenges - due to the new and larger areas falling under their responsibility - but it has also created units which are profoundly Rural, like in the case of Dropull, creating a series of conflicts because of the profoundly

Urban language of the Planning Law and its bylaws and guidelines. So there is a desperate need for developing and adapting new methodologies and instruments of planning also for large territories of rural, agricultural and landscaping character.

Furthermore, the Municipality of Dropull is located in the South-Eastern cross border area between Albania and Greece. With a surface of 467km², Dropull is organized in 3 sub-units (Dropull i Sipërm, Dropull i Poshtëm, and Pogon), and it's home to nearly 7,128 inhabitants of Albanian and Greek minorities. With a total of 41 villages, the Municipality of Dropull doesn't have a main capital urban center, but its inhabitants and economic activities are evenly distributed among the villages. With very rich landscape and touristic potentials, and divided in two main parts - along the valley of Drino River and in the mountains of Nëmërçka and Bureto - Dropull is characterized by diverse landscape typologies, and is rich in cultural heritage. Its present economy is mainly based on agricultural and farming activities.

Nevertheless, some of the biggest business districts in the country are located and operate along the main national road there. Dropull stands on the boundary between two countries (Albania and Greece), but also in the threshold between the Drino River valley/basin and the watershed area of mountain chains of Nëmërçka and Bureto.

This state of liminality (being an intermediate state, phase, or condition, in-between, but also transitional phase)

of the sequence of villages, is the main object of the workshop. It can also serve very well as an inspiration for the detailed design strategies that ought to be developed for the area, but also generate different research paths and stimulate critical discussion among the academic staff and PhD candidates, setting the foundations for the scientific contributions each student/researcher is required to present after the conclusion of the workshop.

Given the Rural character and the potentials that come with it, the lack of reference landmarks for the Municipality, and despite the richness of the territory, one of the main Strategic Objectives of the Local Development Plan was "to consider Dropull as a "linear city" with five main centers." The five centers are developed in proximity with main motorway and around five main villages, which have distinct characteristics and development potentials. Such potentials could be used as energizers for the development of the surrounding areas.

The concept behind the "linear city" also reads Dropull as a link between the two main regional hubs, Gjirokastra (Albania) and Ioannina (Greece), aiming to transform the role and weight of Dropull' territorial gravity from a mere area of transitioning status between two main/bigger cities, into a complementary network of settlements and services which uses all its local potentials and regional competitiveness to develop as a whole. This might sound a better and more logical alternative, rather than concentrating the

development strategies and investments exclusively in as single area.

Considering the hard (winter) weather conditions, poor infrastructure and difficult terrain, only 4 centers were investigated for the scope of the workshop: Dervician, Sofratikë, Jorgucat and Vrisera. The fifth center of Pogon will be introduced referring to the GNL, General Local Plan, and is considered exclusively within the proposed general strategy by the workshop.

A) Dervician

Dervician is located in the border between Dropull and the Municipality of Gjirokastra. It is the biggest village/town and it has served as an administrative center until 2018. Although agriculture is the main economic drive of the village, some of the main businesses are located in its vicinity. Due to massive migration trends in the past and present, there are many abandoned houses which withhold distinct architectural characteristics and reflect cultural values. The group of students/researchers assigned to work on the Dervician area will be responsible for developing a general strategy first, and later identifying and detailing acupunctural interventions on the topic entitled "Restoration and Housing".

B) Sofratikë

Sofratika is one of the biggest villages along the valley of the Drino River, characterized by scenic landscapes and fertile agricultural land. Agriculture and processing of local products in small workshops are the main economic drive of Sofratika, although several businesses populate the area along the national road. A series of old churches and the archeological site of Adrianopolis are located nearby and contribute to the cultural identity of Sofratika. The group of students assigned to work on the Sofratika area will be responsible for developing a general strategy first, and later identifying and detailing acupunctural interventions that fall under the topic entitled "Landscape and History".

C) Jorgucat

Apart from being the new administrative center of the Municipality, Jorgucat is seen as a strategic node. Jorgucat is located right in the center of Dropull, at the intersection of the road to Saranda Port and Riviera Region with the local roads that connect the valley of the Drino River with the unit of Pogon, in the mountains of Nëmërçka and Bureto. Therefore a series of strategic projects like the Multimodal

Station, the Regional Market and the extent of the business district, are planned to populate the center of Jorgucat and its surroundings. The group of students assigned to work on the Jorgucat area will be responsible for developing a general strategy first, and later identifying and detailing acupunctural interventions that fall under the topic entitled "Innovation Technology and Urban Regeneration".

D) Vrisera

Vrisera is the fourth and final center that will be object of the workshop. It's located in the cross-border area between Albania and Greece. Agriculture and farming are the main economic drives of the village and, given its strategic position, a new high speed road towards Saranda and Riviera is in program. The road will start in Vrisera, connecting Dropull with the Region of Ioannina and the touristic southern Region of Albania. Because of its strategic location, a new "Development Park" nearby Vrisera has been proposed. The Park will function as a Research and Business Area, creating connections between local products, new products, promotion of local potentials, development of cross-border projects, and training of the local population. The area has great landscape and heritage potential as well. The group of students assigned to work on the Vrisera area will be responsible for developing a general strategy first, and later identifying and detailing acupunctural interventions that fall under the topic entitled "Tourism Development and Brand Design".

E) Pogon

Pogon is the main village of this region deep into the mountainous area, and in the crossroad that connects local roads to Zagoria area (Albania) and Zagori area (Greece), with Gjirokastra. The General Local Plan considers it as one of 5 main administrative subunits of Dropull, and strengthens its potentials of heritage, tourism, agriculture and animal farming. Pogon is a good platform for hosting, assisting and pushing further up in the mountains hikers, bikers, skiers and tourists of adventure. It is a perfect base for supporting the industry for collection of tea, herbs and medicinal vegetation.

Topics for each village

- a. Restoration and Housing – Dervician
- b. Landscape and History – Sofratike
- c. Innovation Technology and Urban Regeneration – Jorgucat
- d. Tourism Development and Branding Design – Vrisera

e. Mountain tourism, Animal farming and Herbal medicine - Pogon

Teams of researchers

- a. Nikolla Vesho (POLIS) + Veronica Vona (Ferrara) + Doris Andoni (POLIS)
- b. Emel Peterci (POLIS) + Martina Suppa (Ferrara) + Blerim Nika (POLIS)
- c. Joan Konomi (POLIS) + Fernandez Ilaila Garzia (Ferrara) + Ilaria Fabbri (Ferrara)
- d. Johana Klemo (POLIS) + Laura Boffi (Ferrara) + Aida Ciro (POLIS)
- e. All together groups.

The Main Objective of the Workshop:

As main objective each group must elaborate a strategy in the scale of the village developing acupuncture interventions. All the groups will work under the same general municipal strategy, developed under the framework of the Local Development Plan by POLIS University.

Methodology:

The workshop is structured in a way that promotes the merger of different expertise to address the diverse aspects related to the Dropull context. The following steps will be used as a pragmatic approach to combine theoretical knowledge, physical environment and existing data:

- 1 - Introduction to the area
- 2 - Site visit and fieldwork
- 3 - Theoretical lectures + Case studies
- 4 - In class work + Project discussion
5. Final presentation and publication

Expected results:

- a. Graphical materials
- b. Presentation + exhibition
- c. "RURBAN SEQUENCES. Inquiries on Dropull' state of Liminality" – an individual scientific papers draft

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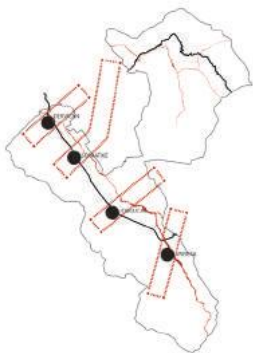
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Polis University - The General Local Plan of Zagori, (2013), – Polis team: Besnik Aliaj, Sotir Dharmo, Ledian Bregasi, Ledio Allkja, Eranda Janku, Kejt Dhrami, Dea Buza, Fiona Imami, Mario Shllaku, etc.

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Metro-Polis studio shpk. and Polis University – The General Local Plans of Gramsh and Belsh, 2019



Legend

1 / Dervişian: "Historical Re-Connections"

Doris Andoni, Nikolla Vesho, Veronica Vona

2 / Sofratike: "Shtresezim"

Blerim Nika, Emel Peterci, Martina Suppa

3 / Jorgucat: "Outdoor Community Living"

Joan Konomi, Fernandez Ilaila Garzia, Ilaria Fabbri

4 / Vrisera: "Vrisera Innovation Park"

Aida Ciro, Johana Klemo, Laura Boffi



1 / Dervican_Restoration and Housing

Doris Andoni, Nikolla Vesho, Veronica Vona

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This is a strategy for preservation and renovation of Dervician housing stock. Dervician is a rural village with a strong historical value. It is possible to recognize in it different aspects that represent a great potential, but the lack of connection and valorisation between the different parts is leading the village to depopulation and architectural decay. In this situation, the idea that emerged during the workshop was to find the main strengths and vulnerabilities of the village, identify where the historical and cultural aspects were already integrated, even if not valorised, and where the connection is lacking.

'Re-connection' is the project key word.

The project performs an analysis of several aspects, according to restoration requirements, according to which no intervention can be realised without a precise historical and material knowledge of the object, both in the case of buildings and urban tissue. Therefore, three different types of settlements have been identified, two historical settlements and a contemporary one. They both contrast and merge with one another. A second field of analysis concerns the social issues. There is a lack of social identity in Dervician accompanied with the abandonment of houses.

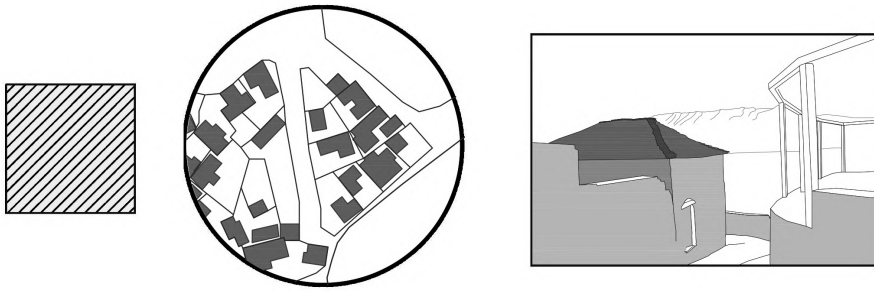
There are three main directions of intervention: First, there is a need to develop guidelines of town planning and development in a detailed level, such as:

what intervention should be allowed in the historic part of the town; where new houses can be built; what kind of housing typology should be designed and built; what kind of materials should be used; how the old houses can be restored; how the streets should be paved; and what kind of greenery should be planted.

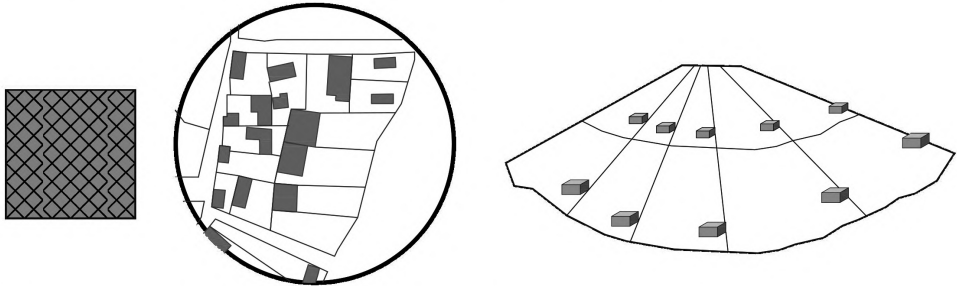
Second, local administration should be trained and stimulated to stay in Dervician. There is a risk, as in other towns, that when students go to study in the main cities, they end up staying there and don't go back to their hometown. Therefore, in town job training associated with some small incentives may give better results.

Last, but not least, the use of existing national programs like "Urban renaissance" for investing and improving the centre of the towns, and housing programs like "improving living conditions of poor and vulnerable groups" are a priority.

Finally, the project consists of an analysis of the typological, architectural and constructive features, with the aim to recognise the specific buildings characteristics that should be preserved. Thus, while from a typological point of view, two different types of residential buildings have been identified, several architectural features that represent an historical value and are typical of the border between Greece and Albania, have been detected.



Historical village - organic pattern according to terrain model



"Soviet" village - planned pattern according to terrain model



"Post '90" village - NO RULE

Fig. 1 / Analysis / Pattern Identification, morfological land use
Source / Doris Andoni, Nikolla Vesho, Veronica Vona



Positive existing connection

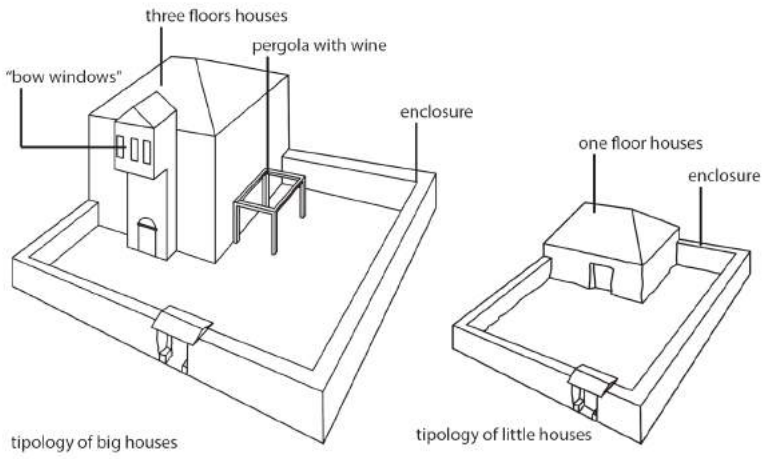
Non - existing connection



Housing Problems

Fig.2 / Housing Problem
Source / Doris Andoni, Nikolla Vesho, Veronica Vona

Typological distinctive features



Architectural distinctive features

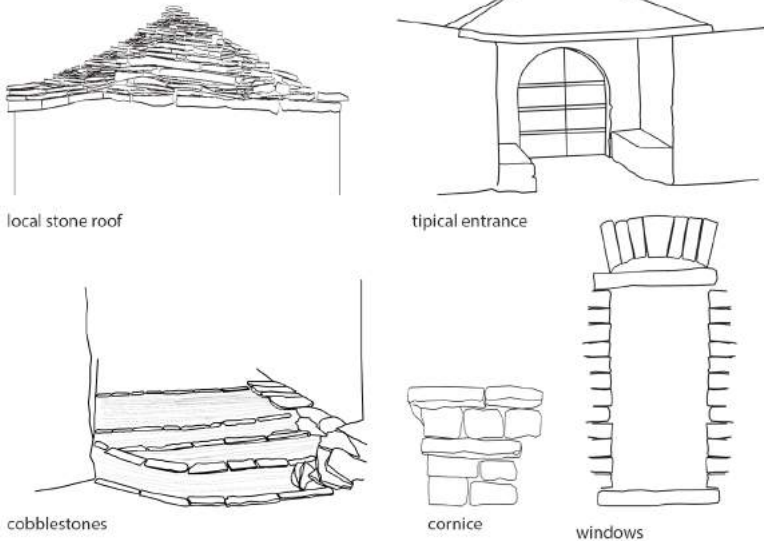
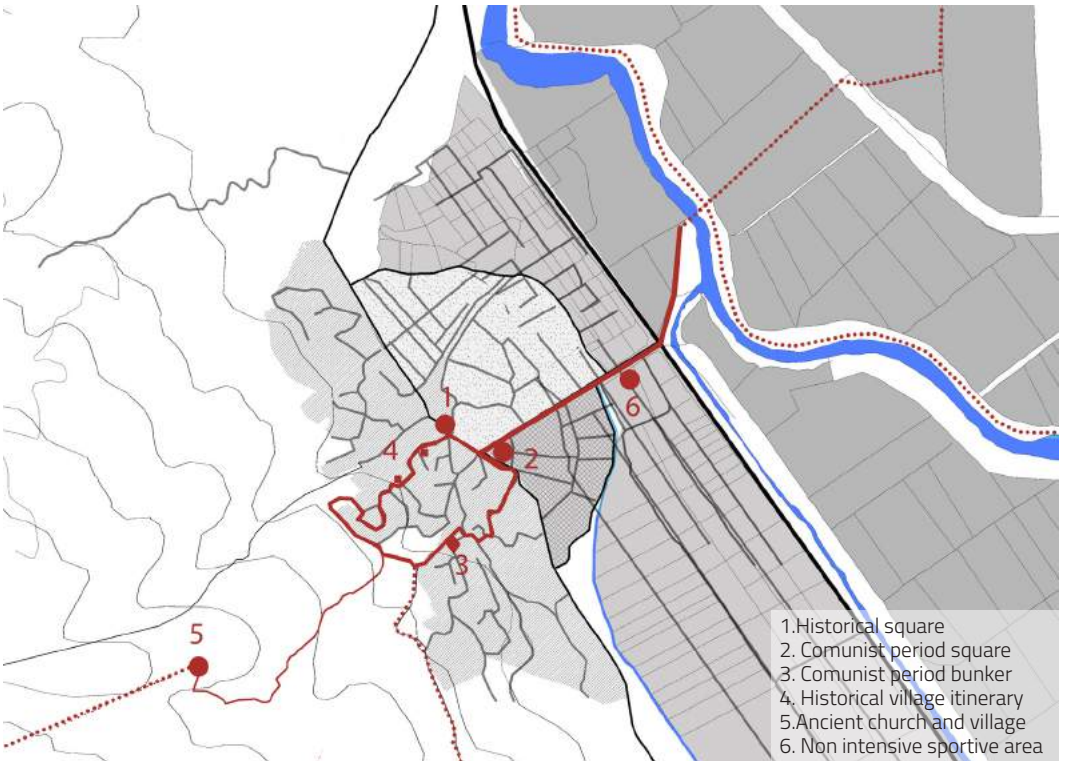


Fig.3 / Housing Problem
Source / Doris Andoni, Nikolla Vesho, Veronica Vona



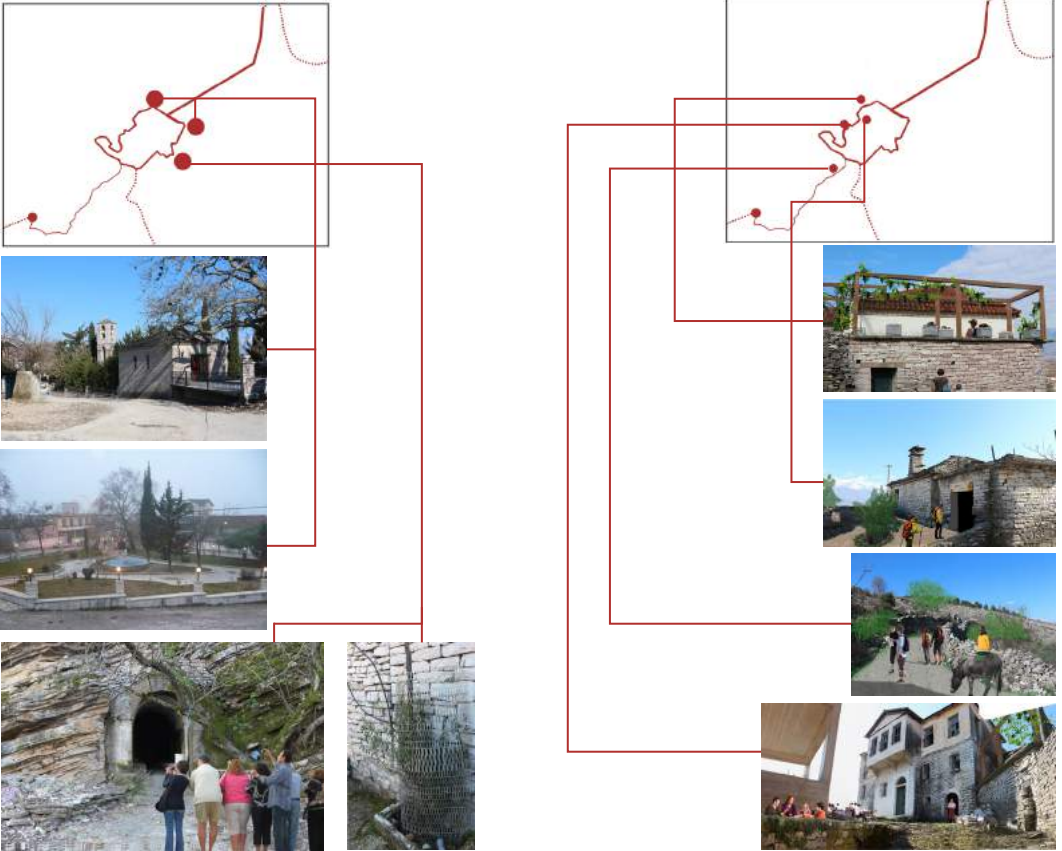
- 1. Historical square
- 2. Comunist period square
- 3. Comunist period bunker
- 4. Historical village itinerary
- 5. Ancient church and village
- 6. Non intensive sportive area

Fig.4 / Strategy
Source / Doris Andoni, Nikolla Vesho, Veronica Vona

Reinforce relationship between historical village and the "soviet" village

- Join the Historical the "Soviet" village in a pedestrian route inside Dervičan that guides tourists in discovery of the different historical moments the different soul of the village

- Reuse the abandoned houses with new functions conncted to tourism, trekking and local products.



Reinforce historical village

Restore the architectural characters where they are damaged or delete



Restore or improve structural consistency



Create relationship between historical village and the new expansion

- Regulate the morfological aspects of the planning:
 - a) to PLAN the growth
 - b) to ADAPT the planning to the terrain model



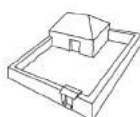
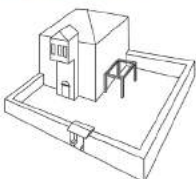
In the mountain use the Organic Pattern according to the ancient roots (reinforcing them if necessary)



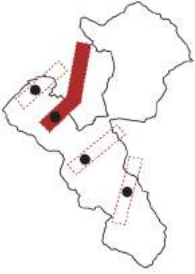
Respect the serial planned path of the field where present

- Don't push down the historic city by too high building

- Design the new building respecting the historical materials and typological and constructive characters **WITHOUT IMITATING BUT PICKING THEM IN A CONTEMPORARY KEY**



The use of the enclosure
The use of the pergola
The slope of roof
The entrance
....



2 / Sofratikë_Landscape and History

Blerim Nika, Emel Petërçi, Martina Suppa

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This article discusses the idea of different independent landscape dimensions in the "liminality" state. The co-existence of the natural, rural, archeological and socio-economic structures, according to the French ethnologist Arnold Van Gennep, indicate how the concept of "liminality" today has affected the experience of the region, tourism and migration of people.

The claim is that what is understood in reality as a "liminal" state, it stands for a transit situation that should be shaped by innovative and creative ideas in order to influence the generation of different projects that would bring the city back to life. In the workshop projects presented here the context under investigation is divided in layers, which reveal the potential to transform the village of Sofratika.



Fig.1 / Innter connection
Source / Blerim Nika, Emel Petërçi, Martina Suppa

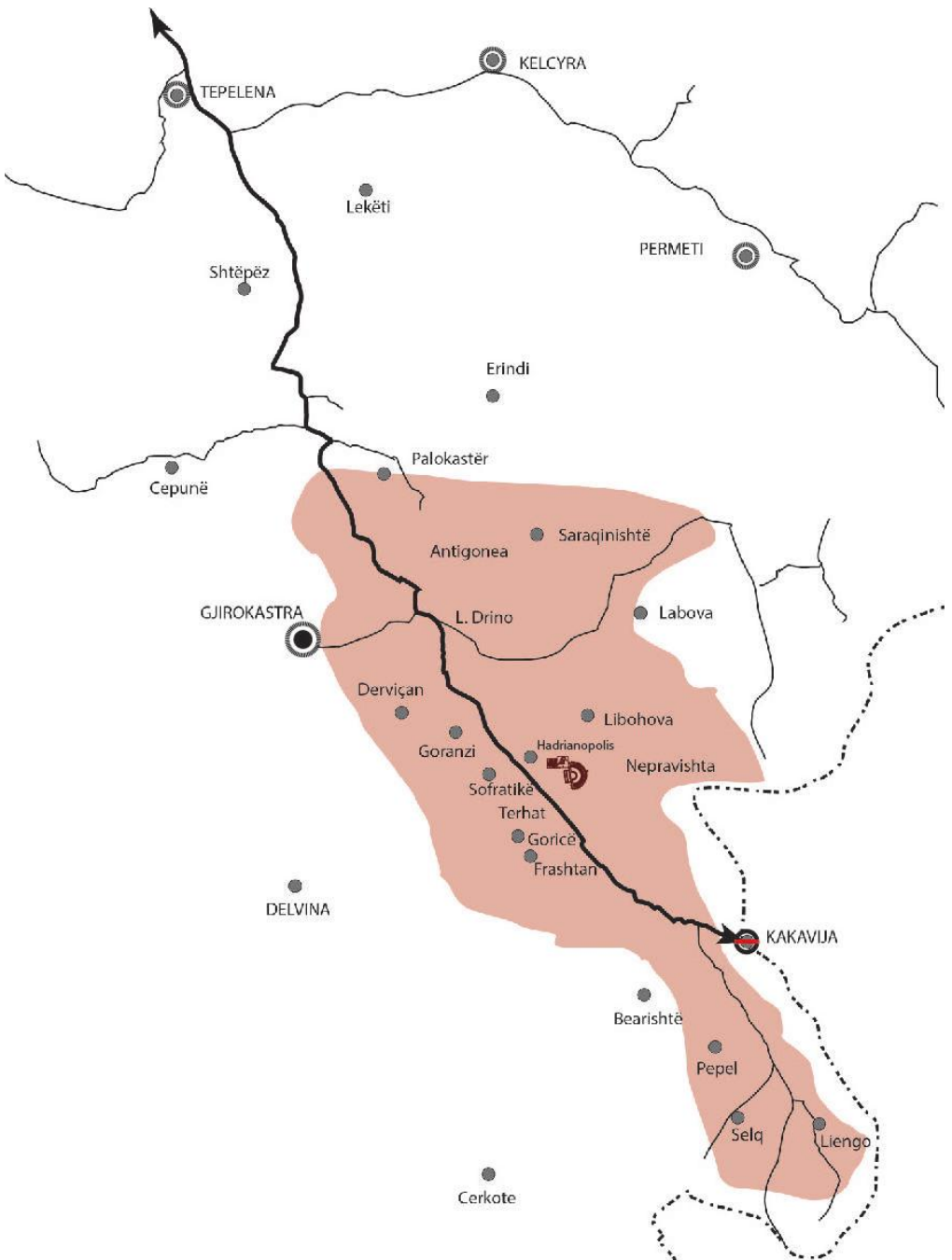
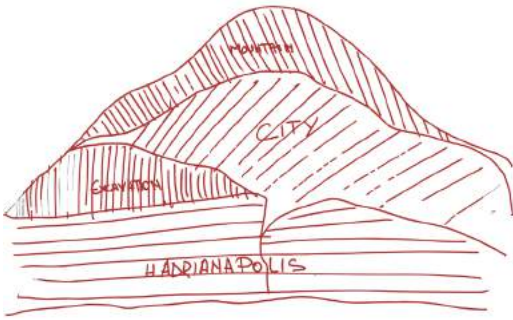
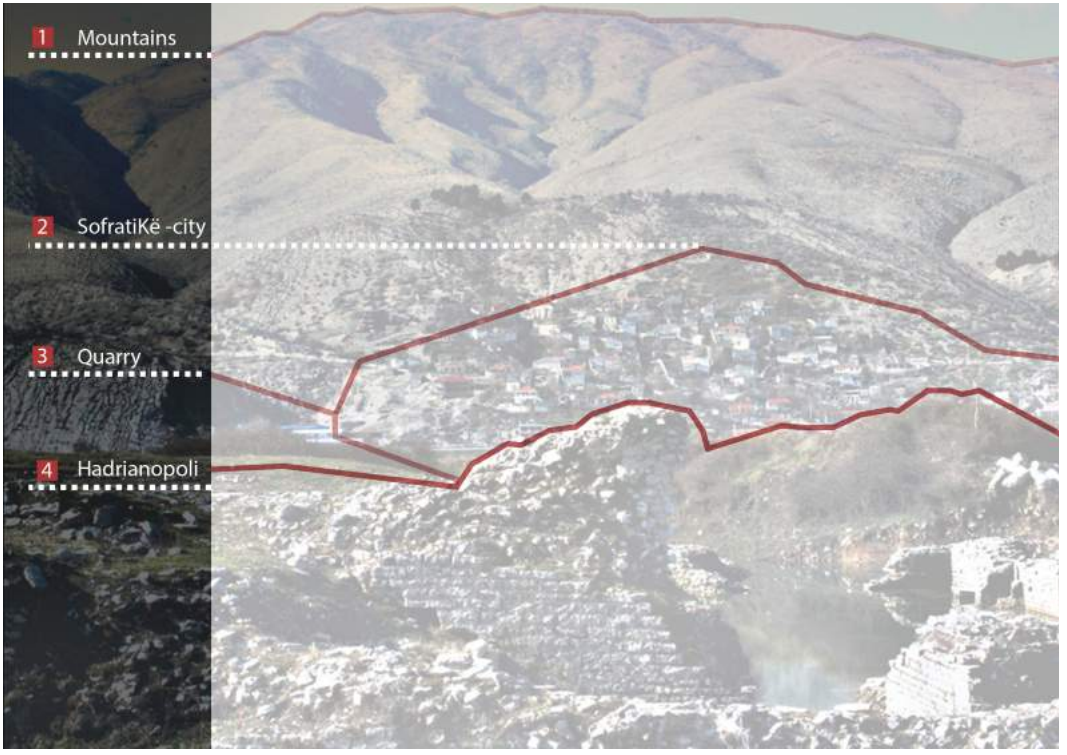


Fig.2 / Archeological Map Drinos Valley
Source / Blerim Nika, Emel Petërçi, Martina Suppa

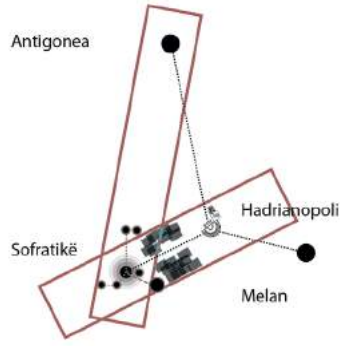
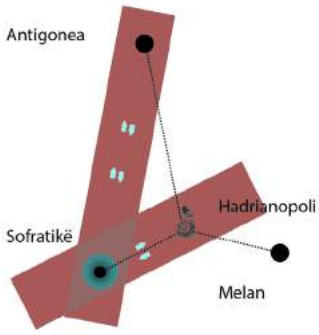


2 STRIPES/ 2DIRECTIONS

+

4 CLUSTER SYSTEMS

+



Sofratikë ➔ Hadrianopolis

Sofratikë ➔ Antigonea



archeological system



economic activities

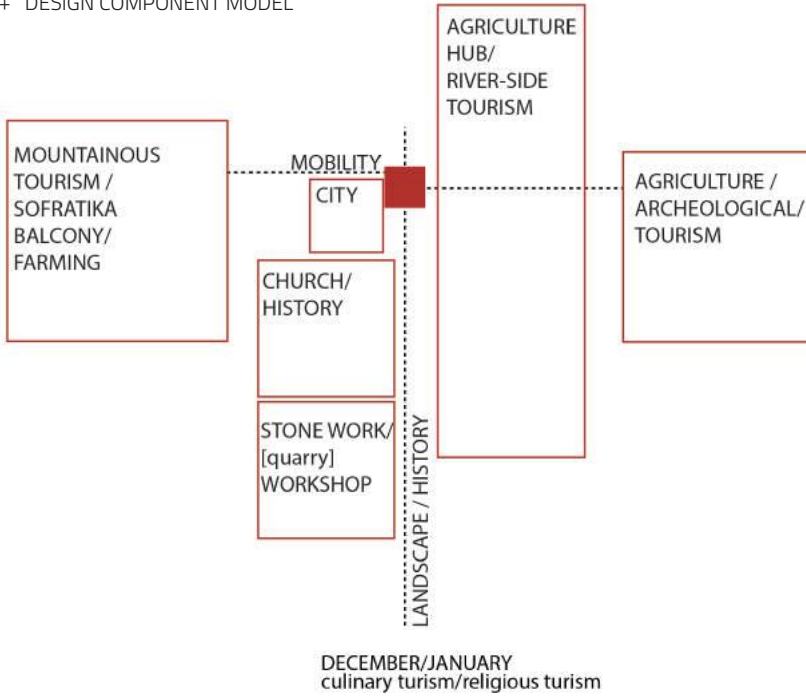


historic system



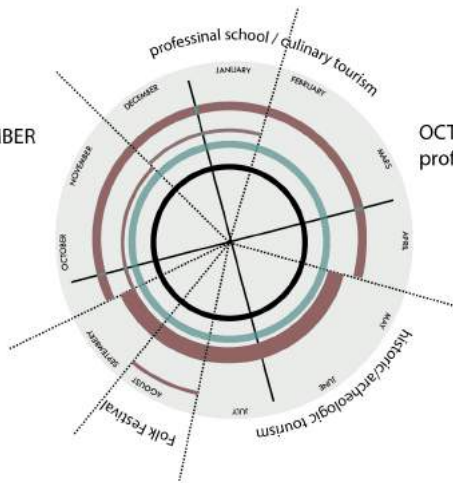
agricultural landscape

+ DESIGN COMPONENT MODEL



DECEMBER/JANUARY
culinary turism/religious turism

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER
wheat cultivation

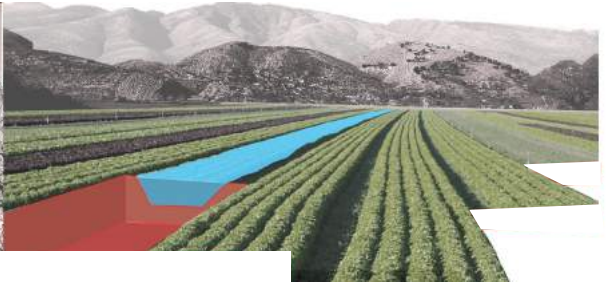
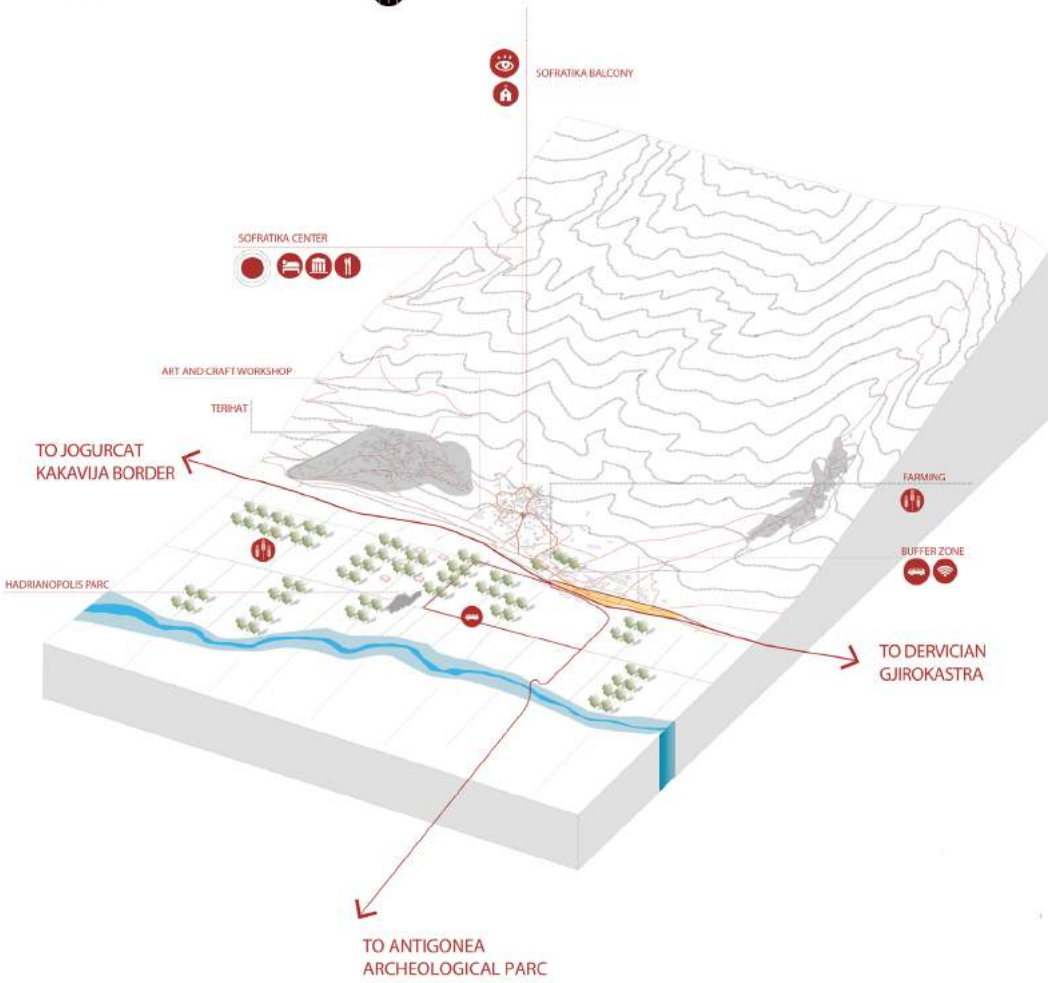


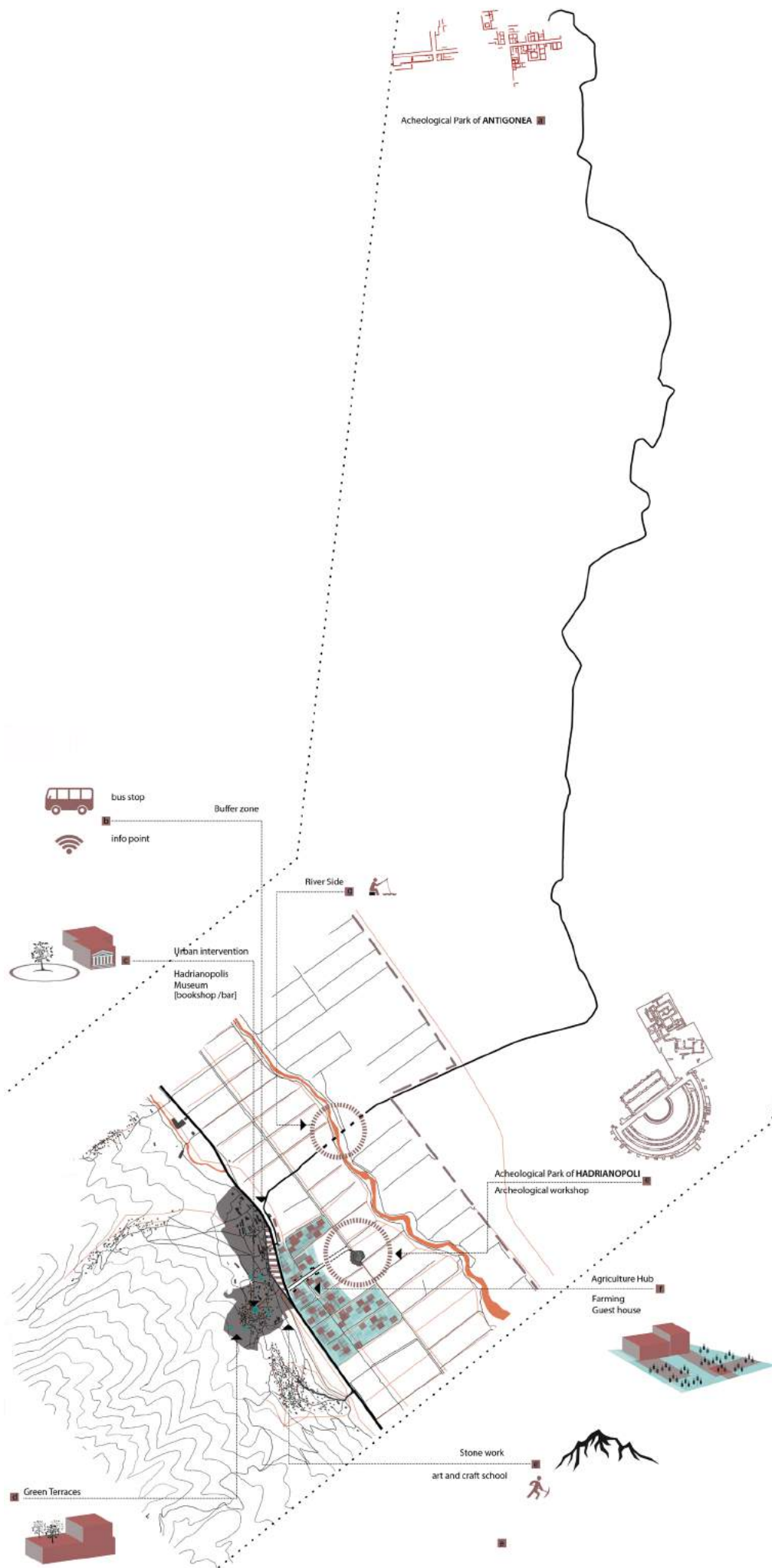
OCTOBER/APRIL
professional school/

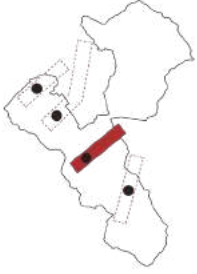
SPRING TIME/
MAY/SEPTEMBER
archeologic / culinary turism
cultural / turism

Fig 3 / Revitalize Strategy
Source / Blerim Nika, Emel Petërçi, Martina Suppa

- NATIONAL ROAD
- SECONDARY ROAD
- CENTER NODE
- 🛏 TOURIST ACCOMODATION
- 🏛 HISTORIC RESORT
- 🏠 RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS
- 🍴 RESTAURANT
- 👁 PANORAMIC VIEW
- 🚶 STONE WORK
- 📶 INFO POINT
- 🌾 FARM







3 / Jorgucat_IT and Urban Regeneration

Ilaria Fabbri, Joan Ikonomi, Laia Gemma Garcia Fernandez

Jorgucat has a strong potential to be transformed, first because of its geography, being right in the center of Dropull Municipality, at the intersection of the road to Saranda with the local roads connecting Gjirokastra to the Greek border, and second, because it houses the administrative center of the nearby villages.

Apart from these specific features, Jorgucat shares the great challenges affecting the other main villages of Dropull: depopulation, poor access to services and little public transport connectivity, and general lack of urban energy. Moreover, if compared to some of the nearest villages like Sofratika, for instance, Jorgucat's development could scarcely take advantage of the archeological site remains. Therefore, since the upcycling of the cultural heritage is not probably the specific feature of this center, its revitalization should start from something different.

In Jorgucat there is a high number of private lands that could be reused for agricultural crops. After close-up research on the area, our proposal seeks to bring

back prospective economic business to the village. To achieve this we focus on better public spaces and better infrastructures through the improvement of the existing infrastructure, and the revitalization of public spaces and monuments of cultural heritage. New sustainable businesses may be created through economic activity diversification and by supporting local products and services.

This project promotes the human and social capital by supporting rural networks, traditions, sports, and rural lifestyle. We propose acupunctural interventions at different levels: that of public infrastructures, local paths for tracking routes for tourist attractions and sports infrastructures, a local market that encourages local products, and the heritage sites.

With these small interventions in the Jorgucat area, we seek to promote sustainable economies, and at the same time bring back the young people to the village by creating opportunities, encouraging social relationships, and better infrastructure creations.



Fig1 / Site Map
Source / Ilaria Fabbri, Laia Gemma Garcia Fernandez, Joan Ikonomi

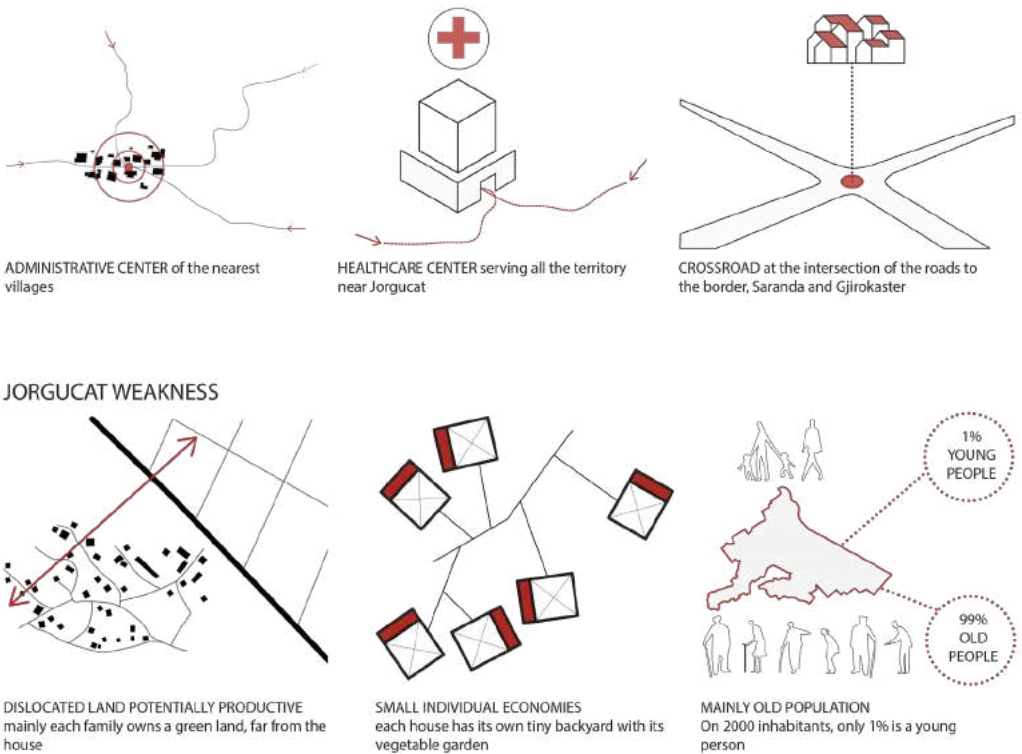
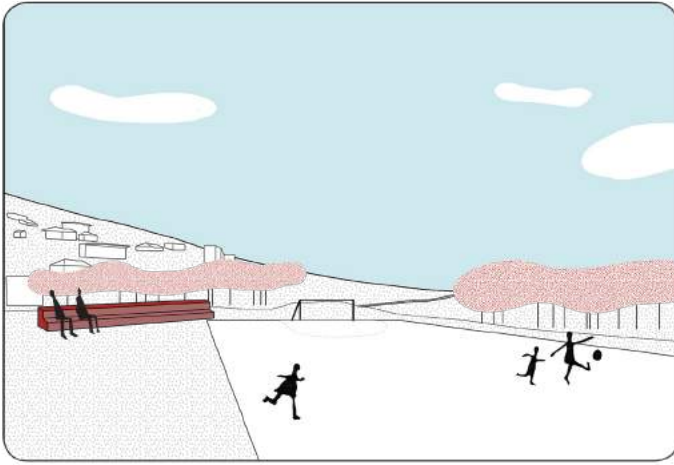
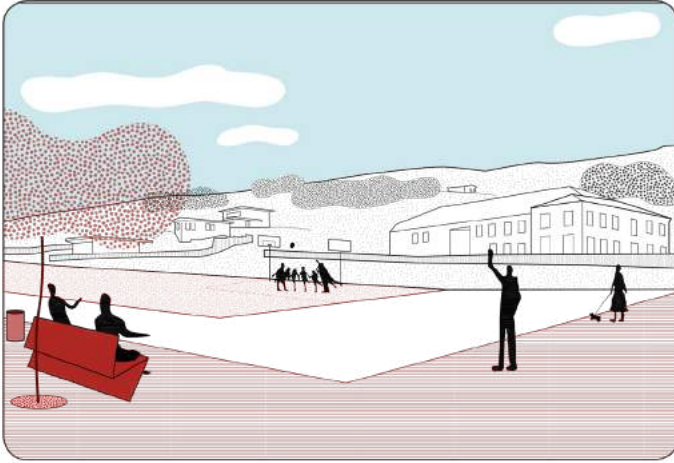


Fig2 / Jorgucat Strength
Source / Ilaria Fabbri, Laia Gemma Garcia Fernandez, Joan Ikonomi



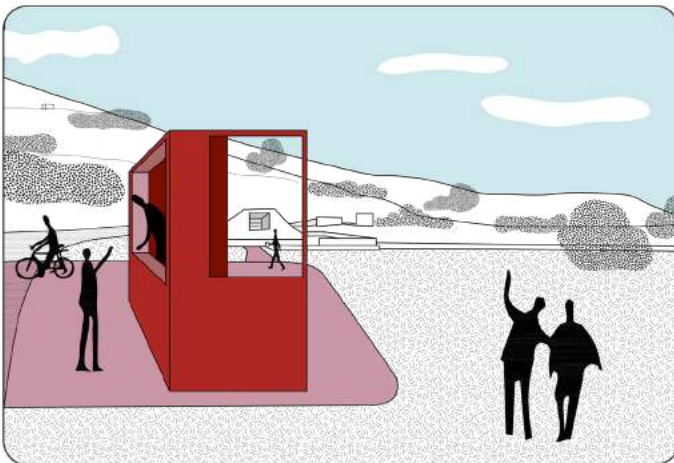
FOOTBALL PITCH AREA Sport facilities improvement and green refurbishment



BASKETBALL COURT AREA Sport facilities improvement with urban furniture and green spaces



COMMUNITY SERVICE STREET community market shelter for local products selling and urban refurbishment



TOURISM INFOPOINT AND BIKE RENTAL entering Jorgucat, and starting point of trekking routes

1:20 000 URBAN STRATEGY

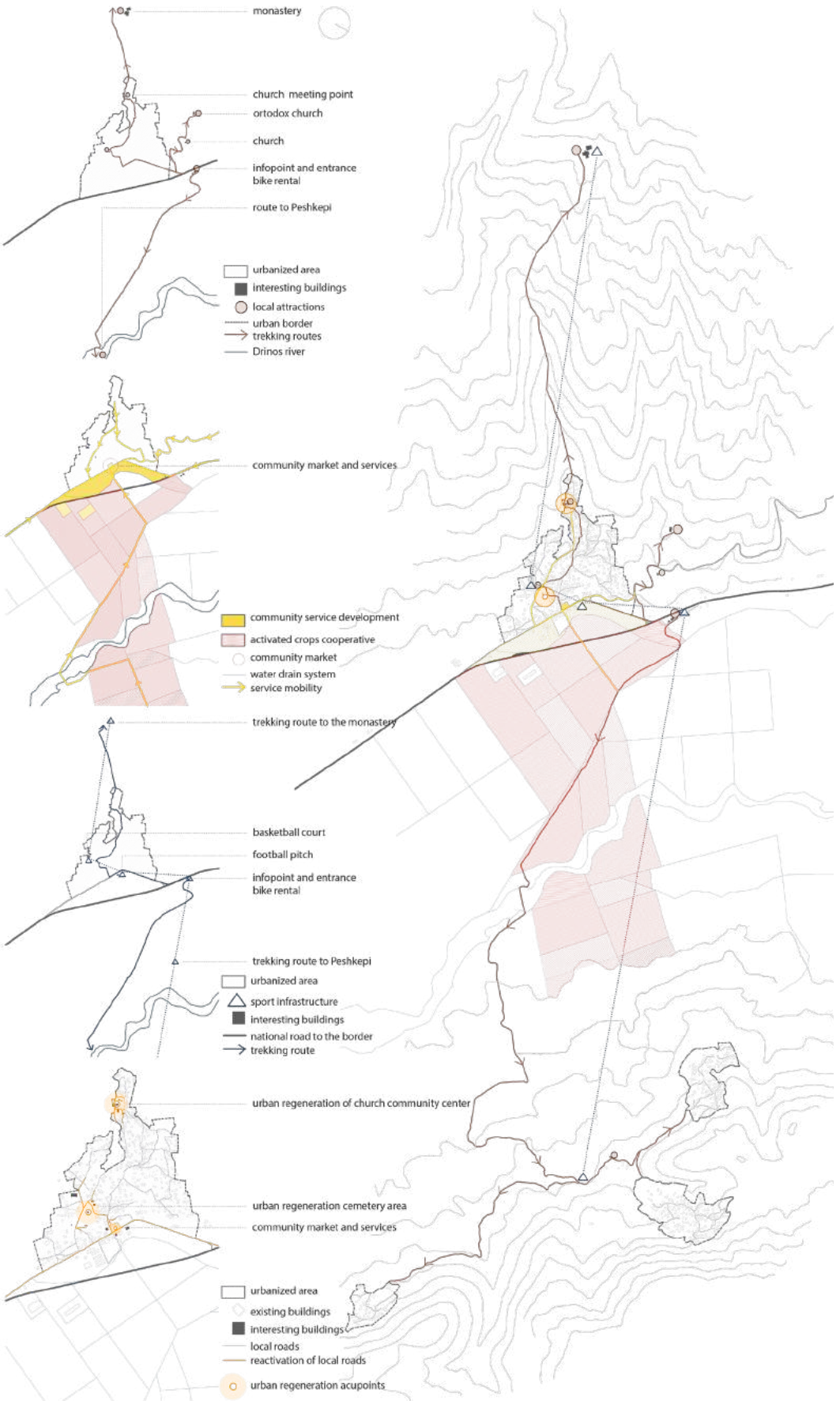


Fig4 / Urban Strategy
Source / Ilaria Fabbri, Laia Gemma Garcia Fernández, Joan Ikonomi

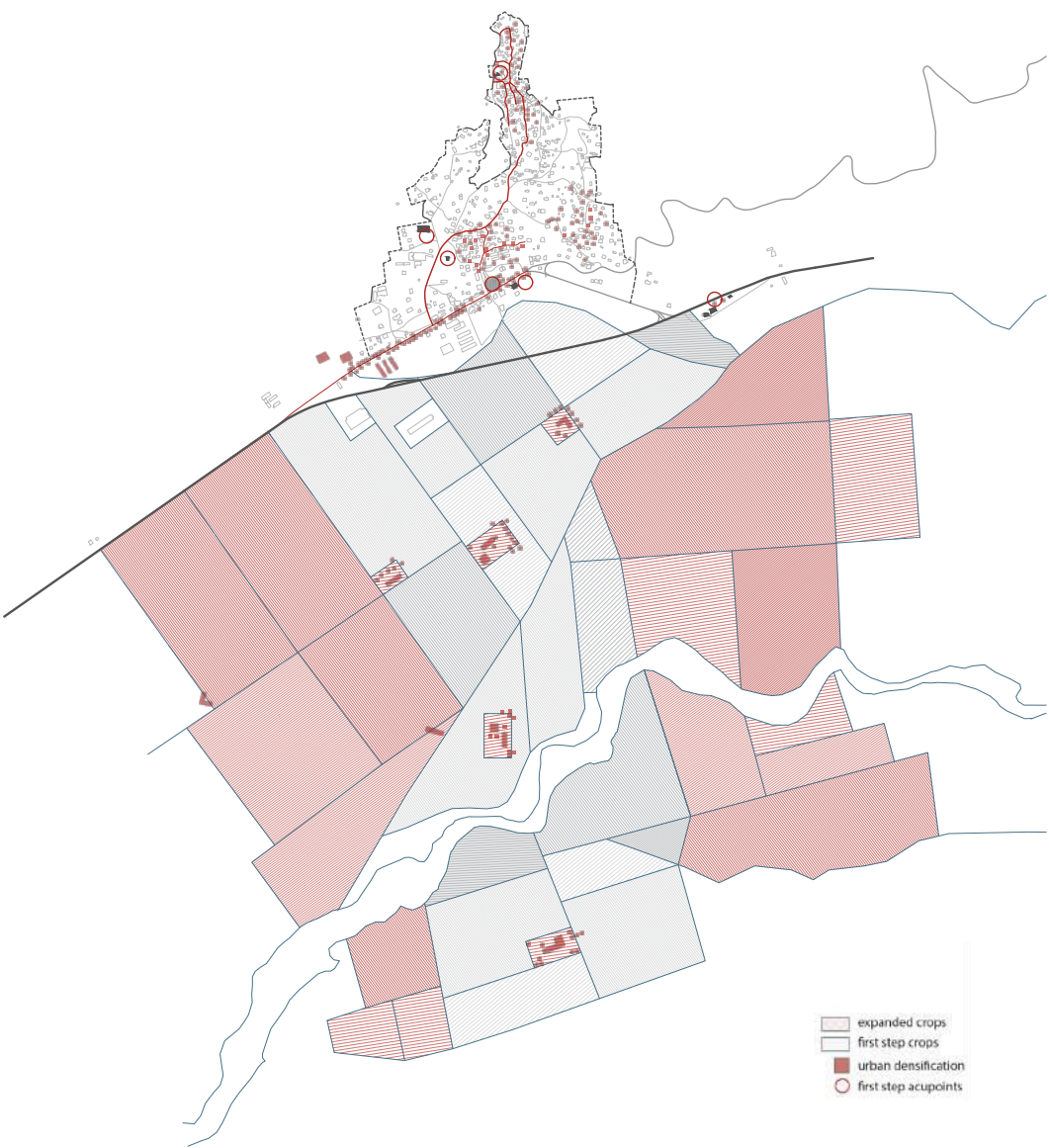


Fig5 / 2060 Strategic Development Plan
 Source / Ilaria Fabbri, Laia Gemma Garcia Fernandez, Joan Ikonomi

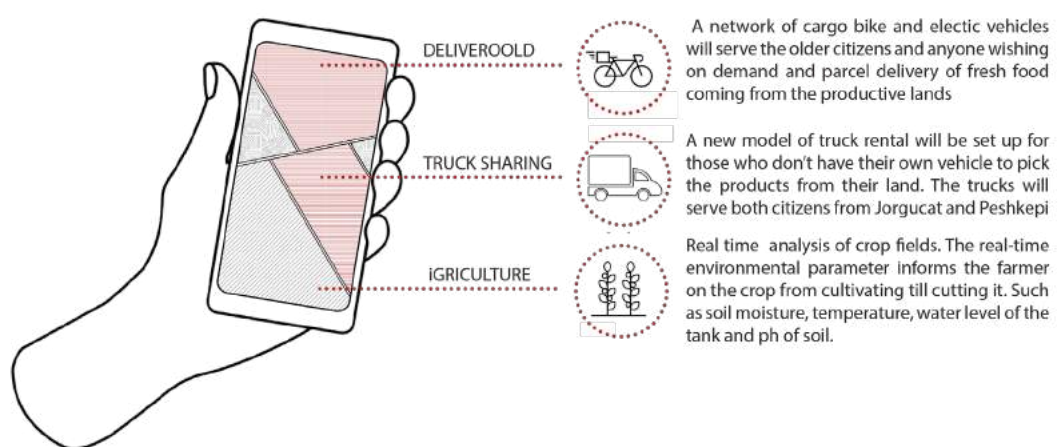


Fig6 /IoT Potential Implications
 Source / Ilaria Fabbri, Laia Gemma Garcia Fernandez, Joan Ikonomi

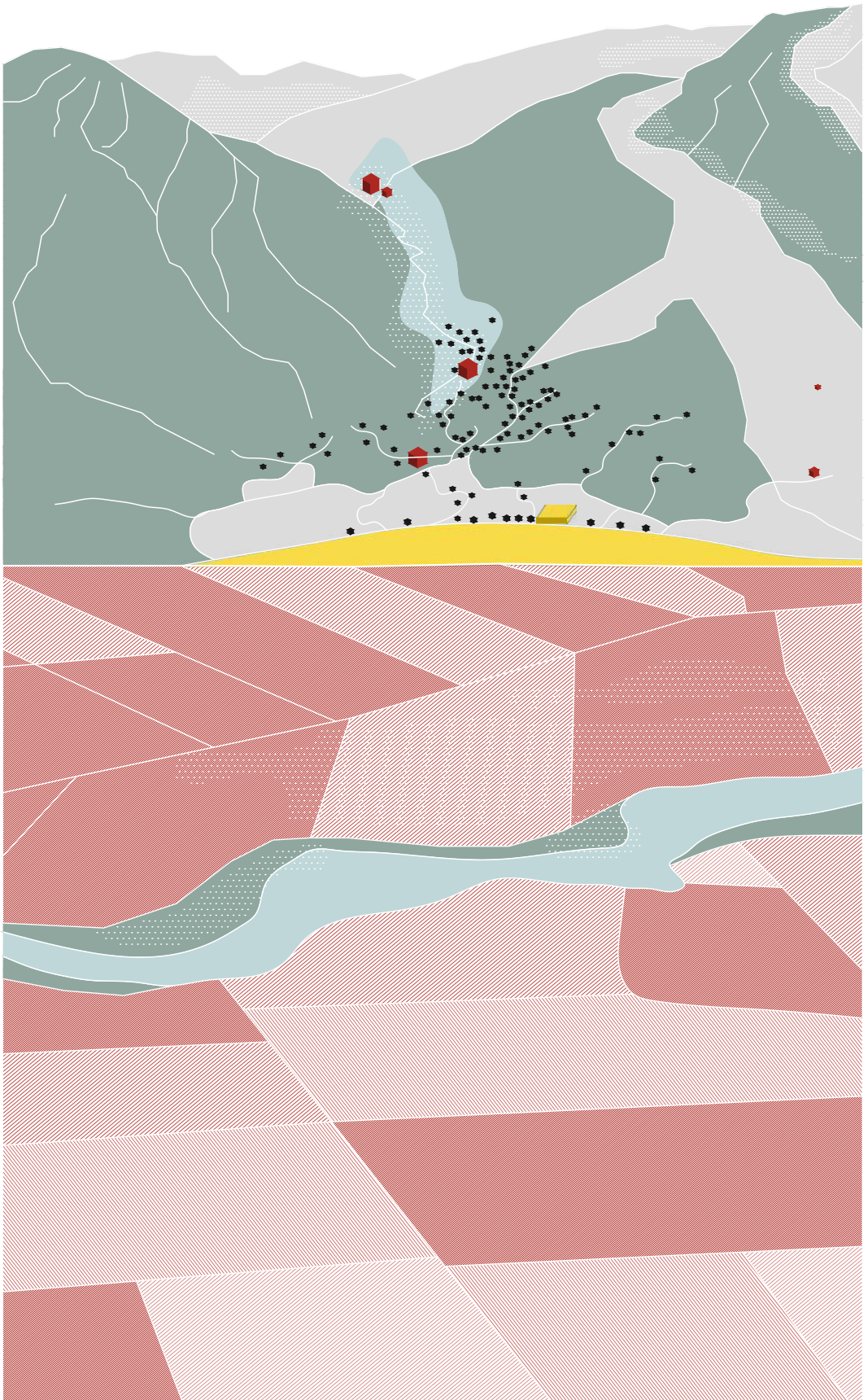
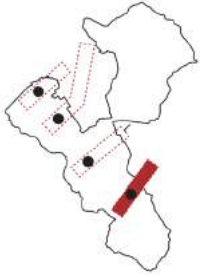


Fig7 / View of Jorgucat and the Valley
Source / Ilaria Fabbri, Laja Gemma Garcia Fernandez, Joan Ikonomi



4 / Vrisera_Tourism Development and Branding

Aida Ciro, Johana Klemo, Laura Boffi

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Tourism, one of the world's most profitable industries, constitutes a lucrative sector in terms of its job creation potential: 1 person in 10 works in a tourism-related job, and in 2017, Travel and Tourism contributed nearly \$7.9 trillion to the global economy, or 10.2 percent of global gross domestic product (GDP)¹. Similarly, the importance of tourism in Albania has also grown in recent years. Increasing numbers of incoming tourists, be it domestic or international, have contributed to both state and other non-state actors, to recognize the potential tourism sector has to drive economic development.

This direct correlation between tourism development and local economic growth has meant that many places, regardless of how the concept of a 'place' is geographically defined, be it cities, regions, nations, or otherwise², have explored and developed tourism ambitions. Because of place-specific traits and limitations, it is important that any places wishing to link their local economic development around tourism activities, adopt bespoke models that make optimal use of existing local assets and decrease dependency from inhibiting/restrictive conditions.

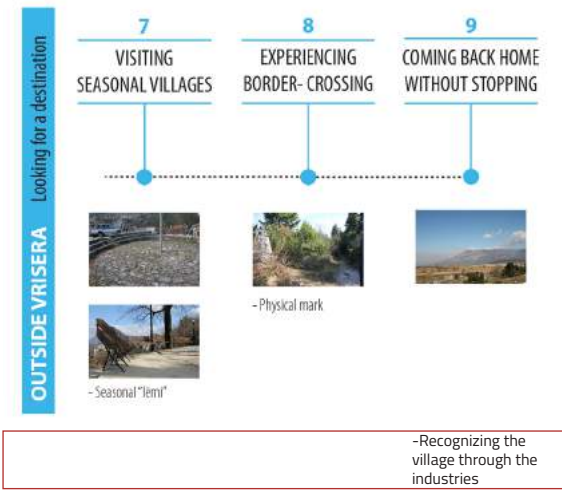
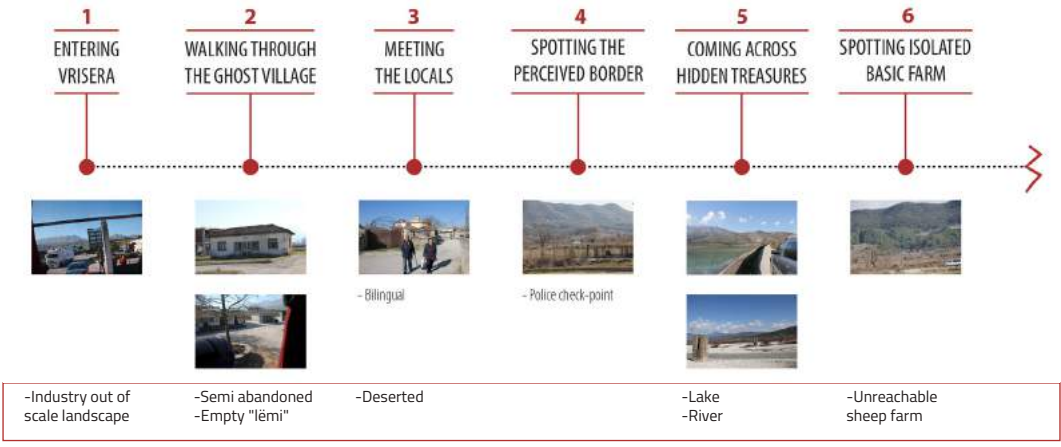
This paper focuses on exploring the potential of branding Vrisera, a village in the Municipality of Dropull, a cross-border area of Gjirokastër-Ioannina, as an innovation park. Vrisera represents an interesting case for an entrepreneurial

system, as it has a strong agricultural and farming potential, and a dominating presence of big businesses, which could be further amplified by the fact that it is strategically situated nearby a planned new high-speed road and a "Development Park". The research question at the core of this paper is "How can we attract more people by exploiting existing businesses and unlimited spaces?". In the process, we examine all the influential actors in the area, and their relationships, blueprint of the touristic tour and work on reproducing that same experience from the perspective of businesses and potentially interested actors who could become part of the proposed Vrisera Innovation Park value chain. Furthermore, the analysis considers strong territorial traits in an effort to offer suggestions that could facilitate and benefit Vrisera in the process of branding itself as an innovation park.

The paper concludes that the territory, cultural heritage, current development patterns, and actors, can play a determinant role in driving a thematic type of tourism to Vrisera. It also offers a concise list of proposed acupuncture interventions and activities organized into a sequential timeline, in support of Vrisera's tourism development and the branding design process. .

¹ / *Coping With Success - Managing Overcrowding in Tourism Destinations 2017.pdf*, n.d.

² / *Entrepreneurial ecosystems*, 2018



AS A TOURIST

How might we attract people to Vrisera by exploiting existing businesses and unlimited spaces?

Fig1 / Blueprint of the turistic tour
Source / Aida Ciro, Johana Klemo, Laura Boffi

VRISERA INNOVATION PARK

> Relationships among actors as users & stakeholders of Vrisera Innovation Park

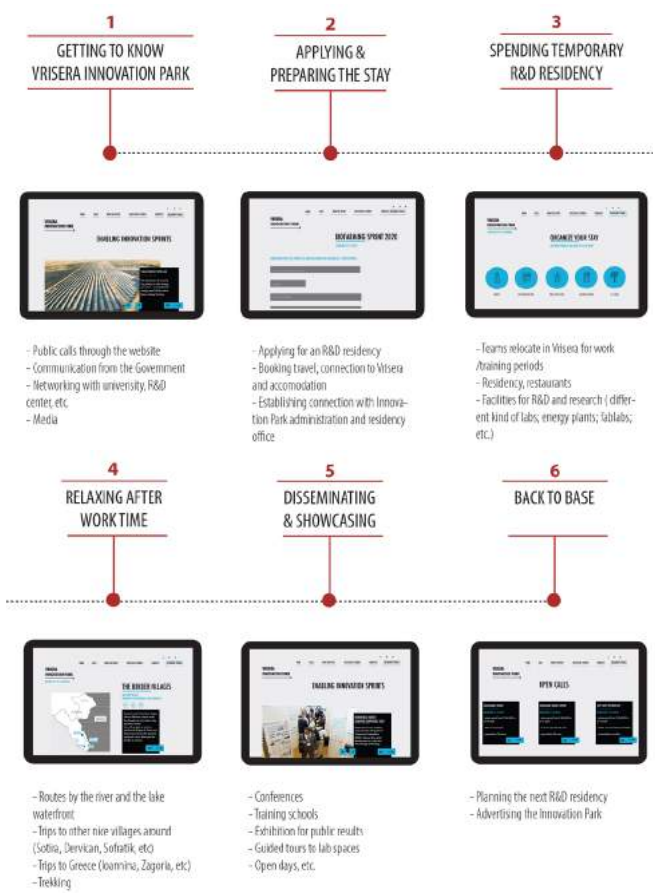


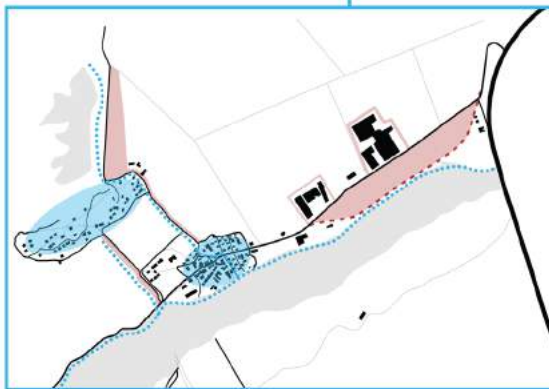
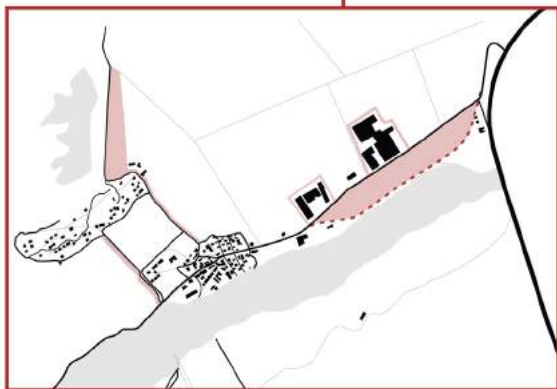
Fig2 / Identity
Source / Aida Ciro, Johana Klemo, Laura Boffi

0- 4 months

5- 6 months

7- 19 months

20- 28 months



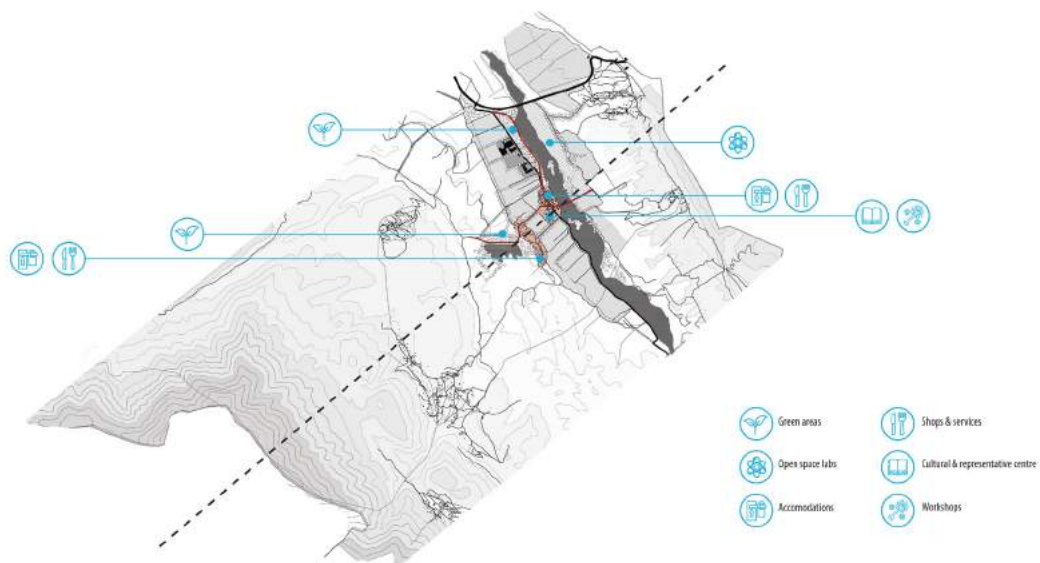
----- New entrance and local road

Green areas and paths

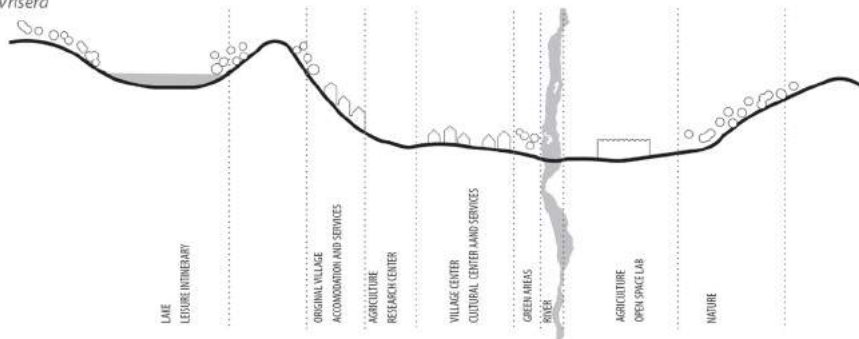
..... Leisure and cycling paths

Accommodations, shops and services

AGOPUNCTURAL INTERVENTIONS



> A cut through the new Vrsera



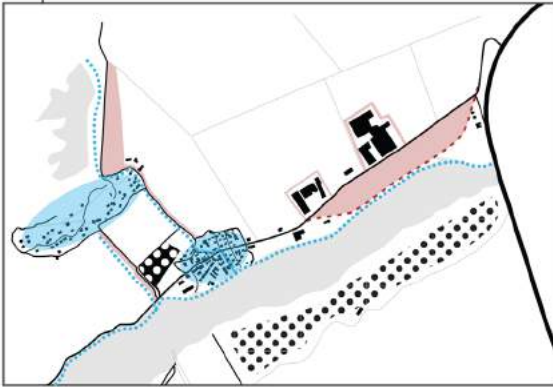
ROADMAP

29- 44 months

Providing the
R&D facilities

on going

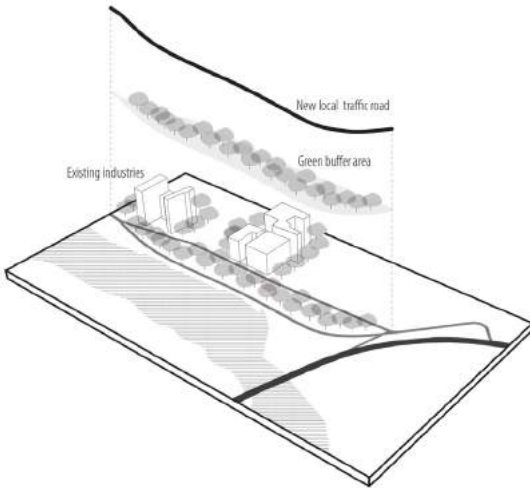
Communication & visibility



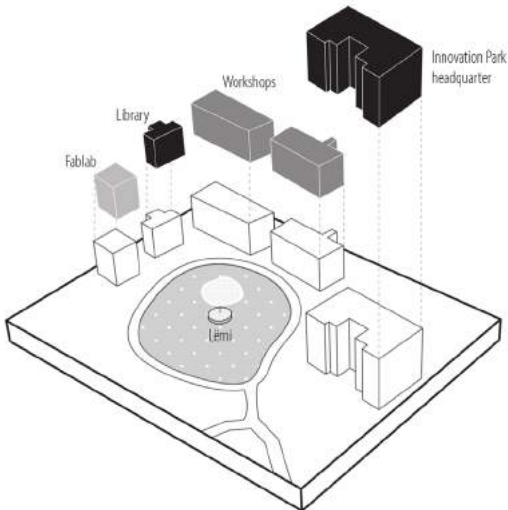
Innovation Lab headquarter, exhibition space, library



Open space labs (energy plants, agriculture, farms, etc)



Agopunctual intervention as green areas to embed the industries



Agopunctual intervention as a new cultural and representative in Vrsera





Sustainable tourism development in Liminal Spaces

keywords / tourism development, liminality, liminal places, entrepreneurial ecosystem

Aida Ciro

PhD researcher / POLIS University

Abstract

A reported 5.9 million foreign citizens visited Albania in 2018 alone (INSTAT, 2019), marking an increase of 15.8% compared to the previous year. These figures show that the importance of tourism in Albania is growing, as have the number of communities adopting tourism development initiatives as a strategy for local economic development, including "liminal places".

This paper focuses on exploring the concept of liminality, and how the latter can be reversed through tourism development initiatives. A number of specific cases ranging from local to national are researched and used to illustrate the relationship established between this state of in-between-ness and the entrepreneurial ecosystem within a tourism development context. The case studies at the focus of this research paper are two distinctively liminal places, namely: the village of Fishtë in the north-western municipality of Lezhë, and the south-eastern municipality of Gramsh.

The aim of this paper is to explore how tourism development can serve to reverse liminality (social, economic), centred around two key questions: What is liminality in a tourism development context? Can liminality be reversed?

Introduction

Progressively increasing numbers have shown that tourism, has become one the world's most profitable industries, constituting a lucrative sector in terms of its job creation potential, with 1 in 10 jobs related to tourism. In 2018, as reported by the World Travel and Tourism Council (2019), tourism contributed a record \$8.8 trillion to the world economy. More specifically, that means that the travel and tourism sector has been growing at a rate of 3.9%, has generated 10.4% of all global economic activity and is responsible for one in ten jobs globally.

Similarly, the importance of tourism in Albania has also grown in recent years, marking the highest growth in the region as shown by the graph. A reported 5.9 million foreign citizens visited Albania in 2018 alone (INSTAT, 2019), marking an increase of 15.8% compared to the previous year. This data shows that the importance of tourism in Albania is growing, as have the

number of destinations and operators in the sector. Increasing numbers of incoming tourists, be it domestic or international, have contributed to both state and other non-state actors, to recognizing the potential tourism sector has to drive economic development.

This direct correlation between tourism development and the local economic growth has meant that many places, regardless of how the concept of a 'place' is geographically defined, be it cities, regions, nations or otherwise (O'Connor, Stam, Sussan, and Audretsch, 2018), have explored and developed tourism ambitions. Because of place-specific traits, limitations, and varying natural-historical-cultural profiles, it is important that any places wishing to link their local economic development around tourism activities, adopt bespoke models that make optimal use of existing local assets, actors and decrease dependency

from inhibiting/restrictive conditions. This becomes particularly important for places that are by nature caught in an “in-between-ness”, or in a state of liminality, such as cross-border areas, due to the associated challenges, be them territorial, economic, social and political.

This paper focuses on exploring the concept of liminality and how the latter can be reversed through tourism development initiatives. A number of specific cases ranging from local to national are researched and used to illustrate the relationship established between this state of in-between-ness and the entrepreneurial ecosystem (model?) within a tourism development context. The case studies at the focus of this research paper are two distinctively liminal places, namely: the village of Fishtë in the north-western municipality of Lezhë, and the south-eastern municipality of Gramsh. The aim is to explore how tourism development can serve to reverse liminality (social, economic), centred around the following research questions: What is liminality in a tourism development context? Can liminality be reversed?

What is liminality in the tourism development context?

The concept of Liminality

Through means of systems, be them social, political, economic, cultural, or religious, humans have imposed upon themselves numerous constraints and boundaries as a means to prevent and manage the chaos. In some cultures, such structural constraints are more pressing. Yet-in-order to live, to breathe as Turner

(1991) writes, and generate novelty, human beings have had to create—by structural means—spaces and times in the calendar or, in the cultural cycles of their most cherished - groups which cannot be captured in the classificatory nets of their quotidian, routinized spheres of action, otherwise referred to as liminal spaces/experiences. (Turner, 1991, p.vii). Coined initially in 1909 by Arnold van Gennep in the “Les Rites de Passage”, liminality refers to moments or periods of transition, otherwise referred to as rites of passage. The concept originates from the Latin (root) word “limen”, and it refers to a state, as Thomassen (2014) defines it as “being in a threshold or in an intermediate condition, also implying a sense of unlimited freedom from any kind of structure, sparking creativity and innovation”. Liminality, as a state, refers to any ‘betwixt and between’ situation or object, any in-between place or moment, a state of suspense, a moment of freedom between two structured world-views or institutional arrangements. (Thomassen, 2014, pp.7) Liminality also implies a sense of relaxation of the limits of the current reality or state, a state of freedom of being able to choose, be it on a thought, conscience or behavioural level. With the destruction of such limits, comes novelty and imagination and the construction of new (however temporary) states and realities. Some examples of liminal (or liminoidal state), or “the middle stage of transition in a rite of passage” as Currie (in Pearce 2012) defines it, include: airports, states and experiences caused by travelling, spaces between two different

typologies, non-functioning structures (such as lighthouses, schools during summer breaks), empty parking spaces/lots, etc. In spatial terms, liminality could be explained as being "between" or belonging to two different places; such could be the case of cross-border areas, or, areas divided by the presence of a strong natural element, such as rivers, lakes, mountain ranges, or even strong infrastructural elements such as national road segments, ring-roads, etc. Because of this perpetual liminal state, such areas, particularly in the case of cross-border areas, represent an interesting case of a natural in-between-ness be it in terms of natural, cultural, historical, language and spatial traits shared in common. Interestingly, such places, although often marginalised and associated with "placed that do not matter" or "lagging regions", can "evoke both nostalgia and fascination" as Shields (1991) puts it.

According to Van Gennep (1909), all rites of passage or transition, are marked by three distinctive phases, namely: separation, limen (or margin) and aggregation. The passage and the passenger are two important concepts in the discourse of liminality. Through each phase, the passenger or the ritual object undergoes visible changes in characteristics and in the relation vis-à-vis the place, state, social position, or age. During the separation (first phase), the passenger has to detach or break from a fixed point or state in the structure where he exists (social, cultural, etc.), or previous practices and routines. Such detachment or pre-liminal rite marks a metaphorical "death" of the existing state, which then leads the passenger, towards the second phase, referred to as limen or liminal period. During this transitory phase, the passenger is encountered with a structure that has very few, if any, of the traits of the previous reality or the upcoming one. In the third stage, the re-aggregation, the passage as Turner (1991) puts it, is consummated. The passenger has reached a new structure with clearly distinctive attributes, rights and obligations, by which the passenger is expected to abide.

Liminality attributes: time, space and subject.

Liminality is a far-reaching concept when it comes to the factors of subject-hood, space, and time. Liminal refers to anything in the spectrum between a single moment and a historical period, a single individual and entire societies, and a specific place and entire regions. Thomassen's grid

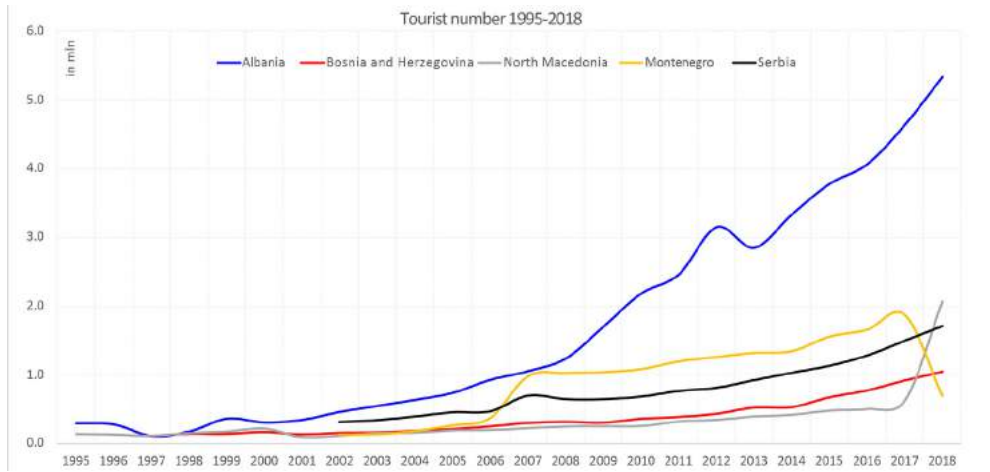
(2014) below provides an example of the multitude of combinations between the dimensions of time and subject, particularly helpful in understanding the two-fold link between liminality and tourism: (a) tourism as a liminal experience, as is the case of individual or group travels, ritualized passage within a cosmological event-calendar, such as New Year, Harvest, Solstice, or other hallmark events, in a place or region ; (b) or tourism as a means to reverse/shift liminality that affects sizeable subjects over lengthy periods (group, society vs. period, epoch) in clearly defined settings, such could be the case of "placed that do not matter" or "lagging regions", with limited socio-economic, cultural activities, and prolonged periods of 'betwixt and between', failing to complete the passage from a current impasse state to a more favourable one.

In fact, most notable authors in the realm of liminality, Van Gennep, Turner, and Thomassen all distinguish the spatial dimension of liminality as a defining one, particularly relevant to the tourism development discourse. Thomassen (2014) views liminal places as specific thresholds, extended areas, or 'borderlands' or, arguably, whole countries, placed in important in-between positions between larger civilizations.

In tourism development terms, this could be understood as groups of people or societies, living in places that are "stuck" in adverse contexts and circumstances, unable to tap into the potential that comes with the proximity to larger civilizations. Such realities are very common for societies in most small-medium sized places in Albania (the subject), that for historical, or socio-political reasons have had to shift away from their existing state, submerging into what started as moments, then-turned- periods, of mass migration, natural resource depletion, collapse of former industries, and mass informal development.

In liminal terms, this means that these societies, once structured and hierarchically differentiated, have transited towards a liminal period, unstructured and undifferentiated, and unable to complete their passage towards a stable, clearly structured state, often identified through socio-economic stability.

Such dormant, under-developed places, including cities, municipalities and sometimes entire regions, are nested between more developed places or in-between borders.



Graph.1 / Tourist numbers in the Western Balkan region. Source / World Bank data and Author's own calculations

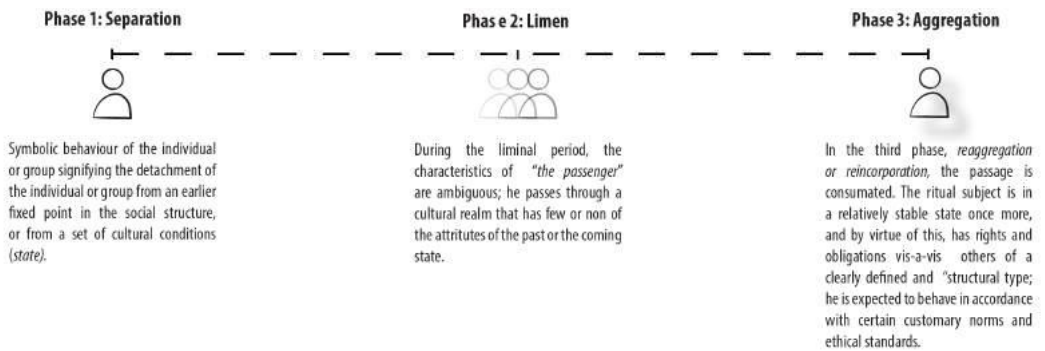


Fig. 1 / The three phases of liminality as defined by Van Gennep and Turner. Source / Turner, 1977 and Author's visualisations)

Time	Subject		
	Individual	Group	Society
Moment	Sudden event affecting one's life, such as death, divorce, and/or illness; or individualized ritual passage such as baptism, ritual passage to womanhood, etc.	Ritual passage to manhood (almost always in cohorts); graduation ceremonies, etc. Ritualized passage within a cosmological event-calendar, such as New Year, Harvest, Solstice, or other hallmark events.	A whole society facing a sudden event such as a sudden invasion, natural disaster or a plague, where social distinctions and normal hierarchy disappear; Carnivals; Revolutionary moments;
Period	Critical life-stages; Puberty or teenage;	Ritual passage to manhood, which may extend into weeks or more in some societies; Group travels;	Wars; Revolutionary periods;
Epoch (life-span duration)	Individuals standing outside society, by choice or designated Monkhood; In some tribal societies, individuals remain 'dangerous' because of a failed ritual passage; Twins are permanently liminal in some societies;	Religious Fraternities; Ethnic minorities; Social minorities; Transgender Immigrant groups; betwixt and between old and new culture; Groups that live at the edge of 'normal structures', often perceived as both dangerous and 'holy';	Prolonged wars, enduring political instability, prolonged intellectual confusion (example: the Thirty Years' War) Incorporation and reproduction of liminality into social and political structures; Modernity as 'permanent liminality'?

Tab.1 / Types of Liminal Experiences: Temporal Dimensions. Source / Thomassen, 2014

Liminality Dimensions	Small scale	Medium scale	Large scale
Time	Moment	Period	Epoch
Subject	Individual	Group	Society
Space	Place	Area, zone.	Country, region.

Tab.2 / Convergence between Liminality and Tourism

Can liminality be reversed?

With one in five new jobs created, owing to tourism (WTTC, 2019), and tourists' increasing demand for new unexplored destinations and new forms of tourism, places with strong liminal attributes, stand a real chance at reversing its (negative) effects. Whether in the form of social media initiated promotional campaigns, private sector-led initiatives, or policy-making at the central level, it has been observed that liminality responds to tourism development processes. Findings from the following interesting case studies¹ show the relationship between liminality and tourism development processes, and the type of effects the latter can have on the large scale liminal subject, i.e. society, and medium-large scale space, i.e. area, zone or region.

Mrizi i Zanave of Fishtë

"Mrizi i Zanave" is an agro-tourism set in the village of Fishtë, in Municipality of Lezhë, in the north-west of Albania. Prior to the establishment, the village of Fishtë, with less than 1000 inhabitants, was only formerly known for two reasons: first, as the birth-place of At Gjergj Fishta, a notable Albanian writer and cleric; and second, as the location of a correctional facility for young offenders. Similarly to other rural areas in Albania, until the early 2000s, the village manifested liminal attributes, particularly spatial, where time seemed to have stood still, unable to transit to the post-'90s times of free-market economy completely. In June 2010, two young entrepreneurs, having just returned from migration, opened "Mrizi i Zanave", a slow-food restaurant, focusing on bringing locally produced based traditional dishes with a modern twist. The business model that "Mrizi i Zanave" introduced was that of "from farm to table", meaning cooperation with local producers was essential. In the beginning, such investment was met with scepticism and disbelief:

- the local community of Fishtë, did not approve of such initiative, and initially "refused" to cooperate, by taking their local products to the market in the city of Lezhë, instead of selling them to the restaurant;
- the banking sector did not view the village of Fishtë as an area with economic potential, hence access to crediting (external financing) was not possible;

- The community at large viewed such investment with little optimism, because of the amount of time it would require for food aficionados to travel from main urban centres to Fishtë; app. 2 hours travelling time from Tiranë and Durrës, and even more so from all other urban centres in the central or southern part of the country. Until "Mrizi i Zanave", it was unconceivable for people at that time to have to travel that long to a restaurant.

In nine years, the mastermind behind the "Mrizi i Zanave" concept, Chef A. Prenga, defied all odds and used all the village of Fishtë had to offer, including its setbacks, to his advantage. He strengthened the cooperation with the local community on two levels: (a) by purchasing all his produce locally, from as many as 300 rural families/producers in 2018 (Besra, 2018), compared to 40 in 2013 (FAO, 2013), therefore creating a microcosm of agro-business entrepreneurship; (b) by employing only local staff, currently 65, from Fishtë and the surrounding villages within a 10km range. The restaurant and the hotel count an average of 100,000 visitors per year, or close to one million since first opening in 2010, of which 30-50% foreign visitors (Prenga, personal communication, May, and October 2019). In addition to tasting the local culinary tradition, the visitors are also exposed to local produce and handicrafts, as well as the landscape Fishtë has to offer, transforming their visit into a touristic experience. In addition to the promotion of the Fishtë as an all-year-round (culinary) tourist destination through direct exposure, "forcing it outside of its liminal state", Mrizi i Zanave has secured Fishtë a consolidated place in the international slow-food scene, through numerous publications, participation to international fairs, exchange experiences and major media coverage.

#EjaNeGramsh

The Municipality of Gramsh, situated in the central part of Albania, represents a typical case of spatial, temporal and subject liminality. Nested between 7 municipalities, of which 4 constitute important urban centres by Albanian standards, Gramsh was at least 3.5 hours travelling time away (by car) from most of them. The local community was

¹ / For the case study focused on "Mrizi i Zanave", the research methods employed were: field observation (6 visits) and 1 interview with its founder, Chef Altin Prenga; For the case study focused on "#EjaNeGramsh", the research methods employed were numerous, including: field observations, interviews, questionnaires, piloting work – for more see "Ciro A., Toska M., Nientied P. (2019) Social Innovation and Sustainable Economic Development: Participatory Tourism Destination Management. In: Finka M., Jaššo M., Husár M. (eds) The Role of Public Sector in Local Economic and Territorial Development. EAI/Springer Innovations in Communication and Computing. Springer, Cham."



Fig. 2 / Mrizi i Zanave. Source / A. Rira 2019



Fig. 3 / The development model used in the case of #EjaNeGramsh. Source / the author, 2018

artificially established in Gramsh in the 1960s, to support the emergence of two key industries, battery manufacturing and arms and ammunition manufacturing. As both industries collapsed following 1992 political developments in Albania, the city was left with increasing unemployment as high as 82.9% (LDOP, 2015), no economic activity, and with the unfavourable image of a post-industrial town. The stable state of the community, initially established in support of the industrial activity, was questioned, and forced into a period of transition (limen), towards a very unclear aggregation phase.

In 2014, the territorial coverage of the municipality grew by 300 fold, as the Territorial Administrative Reform consolidated the administrative units in the country, from 373 local administrative units to 61 municipalities. In addition to the

challenges, the newly added territory and resources, although challenging in terms of access and connectivity, represented an opportunity for economic development. It was not until 2016, that the Municipality was presented with the prospect of economic development through touristic activities, initially through the establishment of the Banja Hydropower Plant and the improved infrastructure accessing the city. In cooperation with a university specialised in matters of spatial planning and development (POLIS University, Albania), and a civil society actor experienced in matters of development and governance (Co-PLAN, Institute for Habitat Development, Albania), in 2016 Gramsh embarked in a process of reinventing itself, shifting from the liminal post-industrial state towards a sustainable tourism destination. This partnership, all in all, served to streamline

the local economic development assessment and planning process (Ciro, Toska and Nientied, 2018), orienting the development priorities of the municipality towards tourism development. The planning process, which later resulted in a number of strategic documents including the Local General Territorial Plan and the Tourism Development Strategy, was complemented by a dynamic branding campaign under the #EjaNëGramsh hashtag.

The campaign was aimed at reversing the poor perception of Gramsh, whilst simultaneously introducing it to the potential domestic demand, in a number of ways: (i) provide support to the community mobilization process by increasing local pride and self-identification; (ii) engage domestic demand particularly among tour operators and domestic tourists; (iii) to document the initiative in a way that is traceable, replicable, and very importantly open to all sceptics to view the progress of the process incrementally (Ciro, Toska and Nientied, 2018).

The hashtag became so popular that its use was no longer confined solely to the promotional process; tour operators and visitors would independently use it when posting or sharing images or posts related to Gramsh, or adopt it for use in other contexts, such was the case of: #EjaNëFshat, #EjaNëTepelene, #EjaNëGjirokaster, etc. Since 2017, Gramsh-based natural and historical resources feature in most tour operator touristic offers operating on a national scale, with very popular destinations, such as the Sotira Waterfall, the Holta Canyon, the recurrent hallmark event "Natyra Fest", the mountain range of Valamarë, etc. The private sector has also tuned in by increasing the number and variety of services available in the area.

Conclusions

The aim of this research was to explore how tourism development could serve to reverse liminality, or any of its attributes, including temporal, spatial and subject-related. Through the theoretical background and the case studies presented, a connection between liminality and tourism development can be established. The case studies of "Mrizi i Zanave" and "#EjaNëGramsh", although different in approach and scale, presented two clear cases of liminality, reversed through tourism development processes. Liminality is reversible – recent sophistication in tourism demand has meant that tourists are increasingly

looking for previously unexplored places or liminal destinations at the verge of the unknown. It is this interest that has unlocked the untapped potential that lies in the liminal attributes of such places, presenting them with a real opportunity to shift from the ambiguous state towards of limen towards a new structural, stable state achieved through a new purpose: that of tourism development.

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Fig. 3 / Gramsh attractive places. Source / #ejanegramsh

TRANSPORTI PUBLIK NDËRQYTETAS GRAMSH

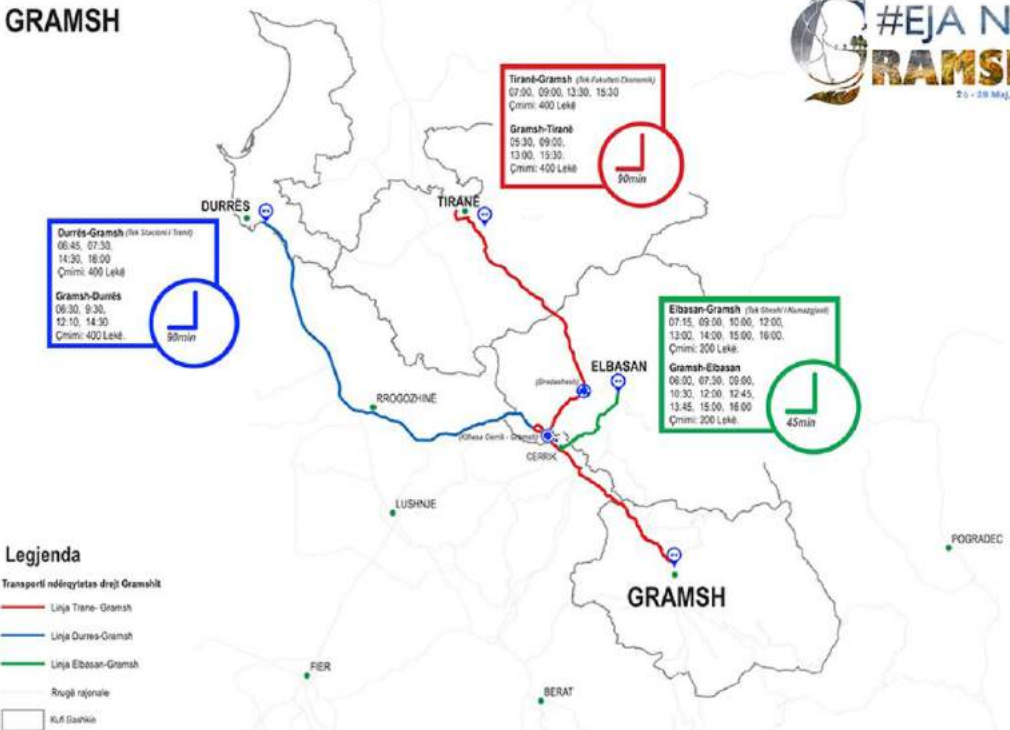


Fig. 4 / Intercity public transport. Source / #ejanegramsh



Source / #ejanegramsh

Inquiries on the liminality in between Raw material extraction sites and urbanized centers.

Study case: The quarry in the outskirts of Sofratikë

keywords / sustainable development, raw material extraction sites, regeneration.

Blerim Nika

PhD researcher / POLIS University

Abstract

Compared to the rest of the urbanized centers along Drinos valley Sofratikë is a particular case since it stands between a natural system, the historic site of Hadrianopoli, and an agriculture system. The former productive areas in Sofratikë have been one of the main sectors of economic growth during the communism period.

The aftermath following the fall of the communist regime was catastrophic for the most part of the productive areas as they suffered major changes due to the abandonment after the closure of many productive activities. Abandoned for almost 30 years these productive areas suffered uncontrolled exploitation. The quarry sites before the 90-s were built in the outskirts of the urbanized center.

With the fall of the communist regime these productive sites were reactivated by uncontrolled informal urbanization. The opportunities these areas present today are now a main objective for urban requalification. This paper aims to analyze and investigate how these former quarries can be repurposed and regenerated. The paper focuses on the relation between the raw material extractions facilities with urbanized centers on the one hand, and the natural system in which these are contained. This paper also measures the extent of the damage these sites have suffered in terms of their disconnection with the natural system.

Introduction

In the Albanian folk culture, the Gjirokastra and the whole valley of Drinos are closely related to the tradition of stonework. This is also reflected in the technological methods of construction throughout the valley of Drinos, where the local population has managed to better utilize the material that the area itself offers. This has led to the creation of almost all the quarries along the valley of Dropull, which respected the environmental system by not exploiting it exhaustively. With the fall of the communist system, these quarries increased the extraction and processing capacities and the time limits for their exploitation. The quarry of Sofratikë is one of those situated in the outskirts of the urbanized area of Sofratikë.

The whole area consists of a natural system combined with other systems such as the agrarian and archeological

ones, creating a complex system that can be read in layers. The dominant system of the entire area is the agricultural system, which is also the least utilized considering the agro-economic potentials of the area.

The archeological system consists of the ruins of the ancient Hadrianopoli, a city of the Roman period, and of the cemeteries which were discovered before the ruins of the city. There are supposed to be the Necropolis of the ancient city of Hadrianopoli. In 2005 the Department of Humanist Studies of the University of Macerata and the Albanian Archaeological Institute of Tirana started archaeological research activities in Hadrianopolis (Sofratikë) and in the territory of the Drinos valley, with particular attention to the site of Antigonea also with the purpose of establishing an Archaeological Park.

The Archaeological Park proposal has

been conceived to offer a service-oriented economic policy. It abandons the idea of the exploitation of the area for the extraction of the stone's raw material as an activity that is widespread in the Dropull area. During the 90-s, because of the massive movements of the local population toward Greece, the local population declined. This justifies putting an end to the further use of the Sofratikë quarry. Being close to one another, both Sofratikë and Terihati are considered as one urban conglomerate. Built by the organic form of the terrain, they are integrated into the natural system of the valley of Dropull, becoming an inseparable part of its natural system.

Quarry processes problems

There is a wide range of potential environmental effects caused by quarries that inevitably create negative externalities. Major environmental effects are the destruction of vegetation, disruption of animal habitats, diversion and blockage of natural drainage systems, soil erosion, noise and vibration, and dust pollution. Furthermore, quarries may also damage or destroy sites of scientific, archaeological, and cultural interest, and can negatively affect the local tourism industry. These adverse impacts created by quarrying vary in their frequency and longevity from occasional short-term low-levels of nuisance to daily ever-present disruptions with cumulative or long-term effects and instances of irreparable damage. They have a direct impact on the countryside by leaving pits and heaps of waste material. The extraction processes can also contaminate air and water

with sulfur dioxide and other pollutants, putting wildlife and local populations at risk. More careful use of natural resources, including recycling, and also restoration efforts after quarrying can help limit these environmental impacts. This impact has led to most of the world's nations adopting regulations to moderate the negative effects of mining operations.

Some of the environmental disturbances created by quarrying are caused directly by engineering activities during aggregate extraction and processing. The most obvious engineering impact of quarrying is a change in the geomorphology and conversion of land use, with the associated change in visual scene. This major impact may be accompanied by the loss of habitat, noise, dust, vibrations, chemical, erosion and sedimentation of the mined site. Some of the impacts are short lived and most are easy to predict and easy to observe.

Most engineering impacts can be controlled and can be kept at tolerable levels, and restricted by aggregate operation by employing responsible operational practices that use available engineering techniques and technology. The air pollution resulting from the activities of mining and mining support companies emanates from high airborne particulate matter, noise and vibration resulting from blasting. Large quarry waste tips or quarry fines stockpiles can be a source of airborne dust which can be exacerbated if they are elevated above the original ground level. Dust may also originate from air filtration units or stacks, haulage trucks, conveyors and transfer points. According

to the International Standardization Organization, dust consists of small solid particles that are usually below 75 µm in diameter, which settle out under their own weight, but which may remain suspended for some time. Dust is carried by moving air when there is sufficient energy in the airstream and is removed through gravitational settling washout such as during rainfall or by wetting and through impaction on surfaces. Settled dust can be re-suspended where conditions allow, either by wind blow from bare surfaces or by disturbance such as vehicle movement. Dust particles are dispersed by their suspension and entrainment in airflow. Dispersal is affected by the particle size, shape and density, as well as wind speed and other climatic effects. Smaller dust particles remain airborne for longer periods, dispersing widely and depositing more slowly over a wider area. The chemical effects of dust, either directly on the plant surface or on the soil, are likely to be more important than any other physical effects. Areas of high ecological value or agricultural resources may be more sensitive to dusts than other areas.

From raw material extraction area to an integrated system

Former "Lustrelle" quarry - Comune di Cutfiano (LE), Italy

The park, which covers about 12 hectares, was built in the late 1990s in a former clay quarry abandoned at the end of the 1970s. During the recovery, 8000 trees were planted along the edges of a gentle slope. Various geological layers of marine origin are exposed in the open pit, some of them extraordinarily rich in fossils. Routes have been traced for visitors, with the intention of transforming the locality into a real tourist-scientific park today called "Fossil Park". The seventeenth-century peasant house that falls within the area and located less than ten meters from the quarry edge became the Malacological Museum of Clay, which contains a collection of fossils of mollusks, even rare ones, recovered in the area during the extraction of the clayey material. Industry scholars have classified the material. The museum is visited every year by thousands of Italian and foreign students and university teachers.

This quarry is located in Piedmont, on the right of the hydric system of the Vermentagna Valley, in a mainly wooded landscape. The present case study offers an example of how environmental recovery increases the biodiversity of the site by reforestation with broad-leaved trees

typical of the mountain plain. The animal's presence is mainly characterized by species related to the forest environments of the mountain plain: the stone marten, the weasel, the honey buzzard, the blackcap, the cuckoo.

The goal of this recovery project, in addition to achieving the gradual reintegration of the area into the territorial context, is to increase the degree of biodiversity and the naturalistic value of the site through a 160% increase of the forest area compared to the current state.

Ecological potential of quarries

If properly planned, some phases of the mining activity can offer an active contribution in the conservation of biodiversity.

Studies conducted in France and Germany in mining areas have shown that some species-protected areas that have become rare in these countries find refuge in the new habitats offered by the old extraction sites recovered. An environmental study conducted on 35 massive rock quarries in France, of which half are still active, highlighted that these sites are home to about 50% of the species of birds, reptiles, amphibians and grasshoppers currently identified in the French territory (UNICEM, 2008). At the extraction sites and in the surrounding areas, species protected under the terms of the Birds and Habitats Directives have also been found. Numerous old quarries or opencast mines have been included in Natura 2000 network precisely because they currently host rare and endangered species of community interest. The old quarries can be colonized by protected bird species, for example the Kestrel and the Peregrine falcon. Even in situations where the mineral deposit is located under well-established forest cover, the opening of a quarry can become interesting from the point if it is restored in accordance with the surrounding area.

From the analysis of the problems that have been pointed out, it is obvious that the Sofratikè quarry can't be used anymore as a quarry. This type of arrangement, generally carried out in areas subject to acquisition by public bodies, is increasingly spreading also due to the need to return, at least in part, to the territory the shares of "naturalness" subtracted from human activities. In this context, requalification and creation of green areas are aimed at creating formations of different conformations and specific variability. These interventions, in fact, play a fundamental role in the conservation

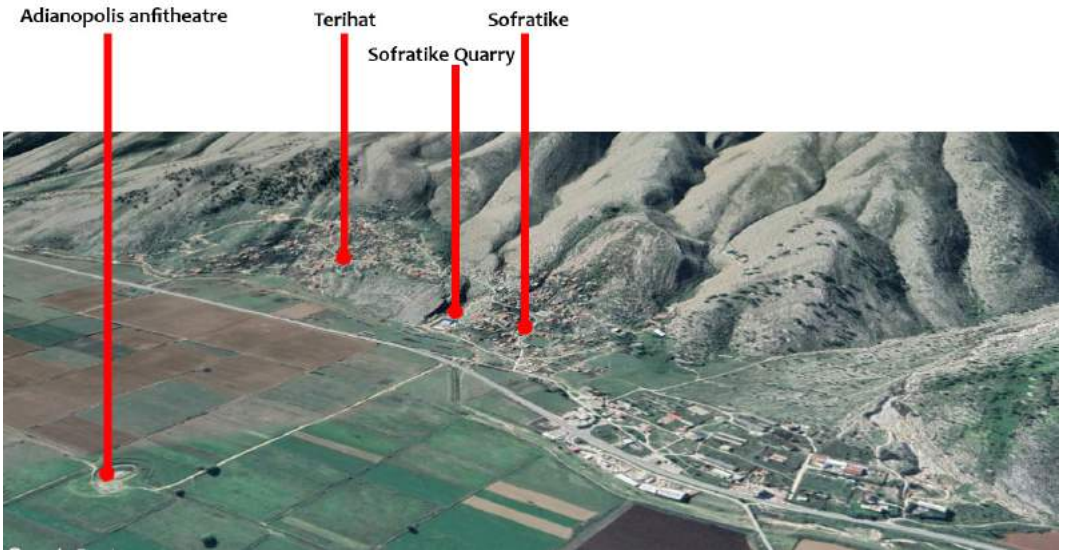


Fig. 1 / Google Earth. Source / the author, 2019

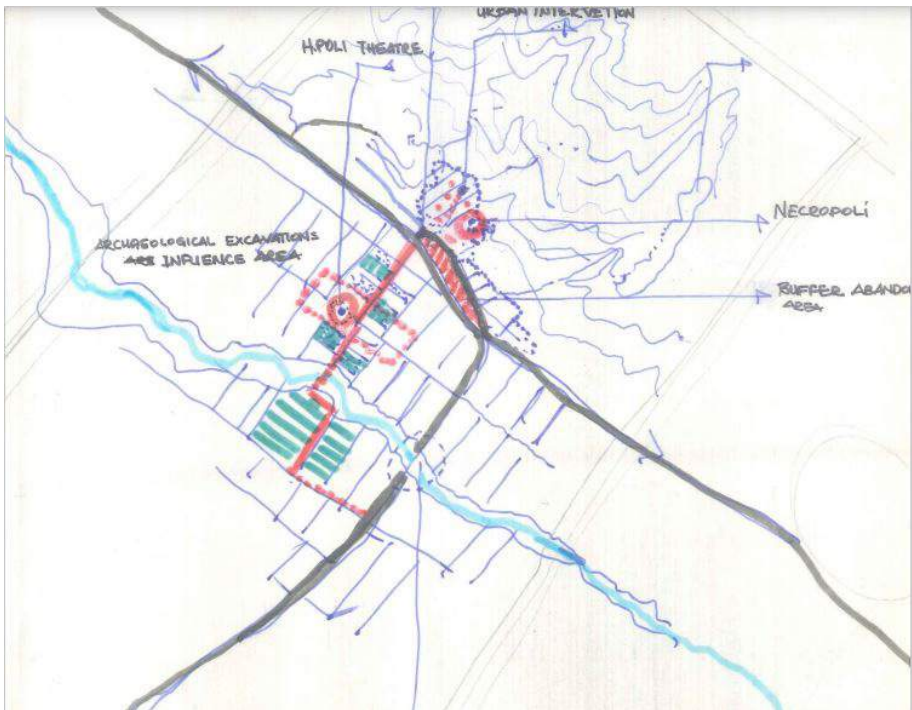


Fig. 2 / Layer System Analysis. Source / B. Nika, E. Petërçi, M. Suppa, 2019

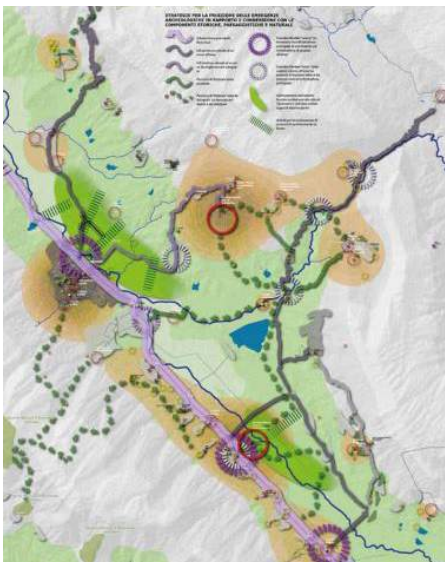


Fig. 3 / Structural framework and strategic plan proposal for the Management Plan of the Archaeological Park of Antigonea-Hadrianopolis and Drino valley. Source / Roberto Perna, 2016.

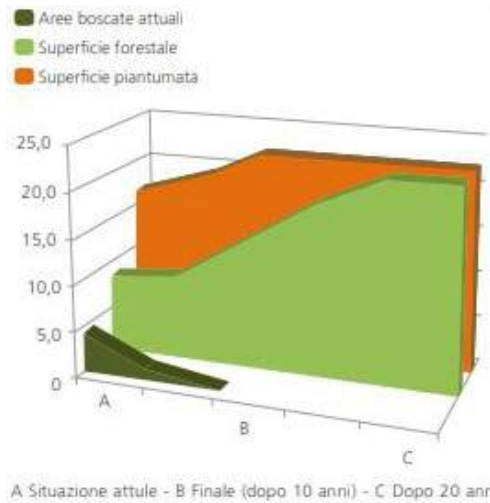


Fig. 4 / Data projection in 30 years. Source / AITEC, 2012



Fig. 5 / Former Lustrelle quarry. Source / AITEC, 2012



Fig. 6 / Lustrelle park. Source / AITEC, 2012



Fig. 7 / Museum of Clay. Source / AITEC, 2012



Fig. 8 / Lustrelle park. Source / AITEC, 2012



Fig. 9 / Piedmont quarry after regeneration. Source / AITEC, 2012

and spread of biological diversity, both as primary places of reproduction and refuge, and as transition corridors for the movement of many animal species in heterogeneous environments.

The main objective of the recovery works is to redesign the structure of the landscape. It is essential that the considerations underlying the design choices to be adopted are supported by an ecological vision. It is therefore evident that these considerations can be based exclusively on the varied and solid knowledge that can only be fielded by environmental specialists.

Conclusions

The recovery of an abandoned quarry area is a complex activity that, by its very nature, requires to be tackled with adequate resources and land use policy. In this case, as in others, man's needs (social, aesthetic, productive) require relatively fast results. The choices that are made at the time of planning are in some way definitive since they presuppose the use of a land that is substantially unchangeable in the medium and even long term. These considerations, added to the intrinsic difficulty of operating in objectively difficult conditions make it essential both in the planning and realization of the works the recourse to the biological and technical competences of which the agronomist is undoubtedly bearer.

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Landscape of historical identity. Exploring Landscapes in the State of Liminality in/and the case of Sofratika

keywords / cultural, heritage, historical, identity, landscape, liminal

Emel Petërçi

PhD researcher / POLIS University

Abstract

The aim of this paper is to examine (the concept of) historical landscape in the state of Liminality, their vague nature and associations to modern landscapes research and practice. Specific consideration will be given to associations of conventional landscapes with the subject of identity, history, cultural and heritage. An unmistakable position in these dialogues is possessed by the so-called traditional or historical landscapes which are specifically accepted to be in the state of liminality - rather stable and slow developing; of pre-modern root; appearing one of a kind cases of historical continuity of local landscape shapes as well as practices; uncommon and minimally protected.

During different periods, the town of Sofratika has been occupied by different regimes that have influenced her landscape. This paper will examine how the state of liminality has affected different elements of the landscape.

Introduction

One of our most profound needs is our sense of identity and belonging. A common denominator of such identity can be the human connection to landscape. The latter is not essentially what but how we see: we see it with our eyes but decipher it with our intellect, and we also attribute to it intangible values that are as much spiritual as they are historical. In this way we can think of a cultural landscape in which our sense of place and memories inhere. Therefore, in this paper, the aim is to recognize and set up a connection between Sofratika and its region (the Dropull region) as precisely and completely as possible in order to tell its history, the way it was built and annihilated, the individuals who lived there, and different activities and happenings. This research is based on the work of Arnold van Gennep 1909 on liminality to explain the process of transitioning from one cultural modality to another. During such liminal states, a society gains perspective on the preceding period while still not participating fully in what will eventually come next. So, an efficient way to derive data is to study

the different regimes that have influenced the image in and of the city of Sofratika and the whole valley of Drinos. These transitional periods have also influenced the creation of the liminal landscape embedded in the construction elements that represent their political power. In this context, we can call these spaces as liminal landscapes. The image of this concept will be conceptualized in the case of Sofratika's Amphitheater in order to explain how the transitional process of the passage of different periods has created an intermediate state.

Meaning of Cultural Landscape

The term "cultural landscape" comes from the German language "Kulturlandschaft", meaning a clearing in the forest with animals, huts, fields and fences. In its beginning has meant a "man-made" trace. In the nineteenth century, the term "landscape" spread in Europe and North America in terms of wilderness or wild nature: something not related with people. Experiencing a landscape was linked with solitude, and traces of people would ruin this loneliness. Some natural heritage

lobbyists, in 1980s and 1990s, linked the term of nature with culture, whereas in certain extremist views, man was not part of nature and the landscape was not seen as a cultural structure. In contrast to this, it gained scientific significance when the geographer's view of the landscape began to be valued as a way of seeing.

The landscape is and will always be a cultural structure full of humanistic meanings and values. In addition with the gathering of physical landmarks on which geographers and others focused until the last thirty decades or so, today it is widely acknowledged that landscapes reflect human actions and are diffuse with social values. Landscapes combine components of space and time, and as they have evolved over time, and as human action has changed, they have acquired numerous layers of meaning that can be decomposed through verifiable, archeological, geological, and sociological thought. The meanings of 'cultural landscape' and 'historic(al) landscape' are sometimes misunderstood and conflated. Cultural Landscape refers to those landscapes that have been influenced, impacted, or formed by human involvement. A cultural landscape can be related with the individual or with the event. It can also be large expanses of land or a modest residence. It can be studding field industrial site, park, garden, cemetery, campus, and more. 'Cultural landscapes are divided into four types: historic places, historically designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes and ethnographic landscapes.' (Jason Wood, 2016) To determine the meaning of historical

landscapes, it risks burdening the reader with the prevailing set of considerations and views. Historic Landscapes incorporate private gardens and community parks, beautiful interstates, country communities, cemeteries, battlefields, and zoological gardens. They are composed of many character-defining highlights that exclusively or collectively contribute to the 'landscape's physical appearance as they have evolved over time. In addition to vegetation and geography, cultural landscapes may incorporate major water points such as lakes, streams and wellsprings, significant sources of circulation such as streets, paths, schools and walls buildings; and decorations, seats, lights and sculptural objects.

What are "liminal" landscapes

The sense of being not here and not there opens up conceivable outcomes of powerful experiences through the arrangements of edges and limits, both physically and metaphysically. The concept of "liminal landscapes" was first introduced by the ethnologist Arnold Van Gennep in 1909 in his book "The Rites of Passage" (Gennep, 1960). This book speaks about the state of "in-between-ness", where, during the rites, one goes through different phases of experience. Interpreted as a tripartite series of ritual observance, a separation state, and accompanied by a transition to the actual re-incorporation experience, it focuses on a sense of disorientation. This sense of uncertainty provides the basis of how the prospect of encountering worlds beyond the present generates liminal spaces.

Thus, liminality refers to the journey of a person experiencing a transition, being neither this nor that, neither here nor there, and at the same time being both or in both. Liminality abounds in juxtapositions. This very "journey" or straddling ambiguous thresholds during these transitional phases, and what affordances landscapes might play, is the essence of this paper.

For landscape architecture, the concept of liminal spaces in landscapes comprises two categories: utilizing liminal spaces as the setting, and the other is the insertion of liminal elements to act as metaphorical reminders. However, both categories collectively offer opportunities to enrich encounters within landscapes, which are tacitly capable of achieving parallel goals of evoking 'contemplative 'departures.' This sense of capability raises another question: how would the landscape be shaped to evoke a critical state of mind "to cross the intermediate state"? Another way to approach this could be found in the past, current, and future layering as a design approach.

Such layering resonates with the concept of the present or presenting of Martin Heidegger. Heidegger says: "a distinction between space and place, where 'spaces' gained authority, not from 'space' appreciated mathematically but 'place' appreciated through human experience." (Sharr, 2007) According to Heidegger's scheme: "it involves an imaginative projection from here and nor, to there, in our minds." This imaginative projection can involve us thinking to seek an unforgettable state, an unforgettable event that happened there, something memorable and even unforgettable fiction made about it.

Between Cultural and Historic (al) Landscapes.

The municipality of Dropull is in the region of Gjirokaster, situated on the highway between Gjirokaster and the Greek border in Kakavija. The villages of the municipality of Dropull are on the mountain slope, arranged one after the other along with the mountain range, and parallel with the leading international road. Among the numerous villages of Dropull, it is the village of Sofratika that combines beauty,

nature, and history. The town lies on the necropolis of the antique Roman city of Adrianopoli (aka Hadrianopolis), built in the 2nd century B.C. Emperor Adrian requested the building of Adrianopoli in order to join together the communities of Drino Valley, which needed a territorial capital after the popular city of Antigonea was destroyed hundreds of a long time ago. The settlement of Hadrianopolis lies within the broadest segment of the valley of the river Drino, west of Sofratikë and 14 km south of Gjirokastër. Hadrianopolis is first mentioned in Tabula Peutingeriana, which places the town on the road from Apollonia to Nikopolis after Amantia¹, while Hierocles² ranks Hadrianopolis among the 12 cities of Old Epirus³.

The latter was chosen as the main road outside Egnatia Road, and allowed a direct link from the Greek mainland to the Adriatic coast through the Drin valley. In the 6th century AD, emperor Justinian I of the Byzantine Empire re-found it as Justinianopolis.

The periods that were studied:

I. Late Classical and Hellenistic period: The data obtained from the archeologist R.Perna⁵, who has studied the history of Drino Valley, evince the presence of settlements in the surrounding villages located on the slopes of the mountains. These data are more detailed for villages like Jergucat, Theriat and Frashtan. While for the village of Sofratika there are no traces of settlements, but there some vague traces with monumental character. However, given that it is in a field, the area could be more easily imagined as a gathering place for the community. The Aeacidaedynasty⁶, the dynasty of Pirro of Epirus, which corresponds to the foundation of Antigonea, controlled the entire valley by creating a complex defensive system with simple fortifications.

II. The Roman Era: After the end of the third Macedonian war, it is likely that the center of Sofratika started to take the place of Antigonea, as a center of the entire valley and served as a control point for the system of thoroughfares. As we can see from the general plan (Fig.2 and Fig.3), this

¹ / (Miller, 1887-1888)

² / Hierocles was a Byzantine geographer and author of the sixth century and is the writer of Synecdemos. Synecdemos contains a table of administrative divisions of the Byzantine Empire and lists of the cities of each.

³ / The Assignment is confirmed in the 6th century; (Hieroclis, 1735)

⁵ / (Paci, 2007); (Perna, Le indagini archeologiche ad Hadrianopolis (Sofratikë) e nel territorio della valle de Drino (campagne 2008-2010), 2012); (Perna, R. and Çondi D., 2010b)

⁶ / Refers to the Greek descendants of Aeacus, mentioned several times in the Iliad of Homer.

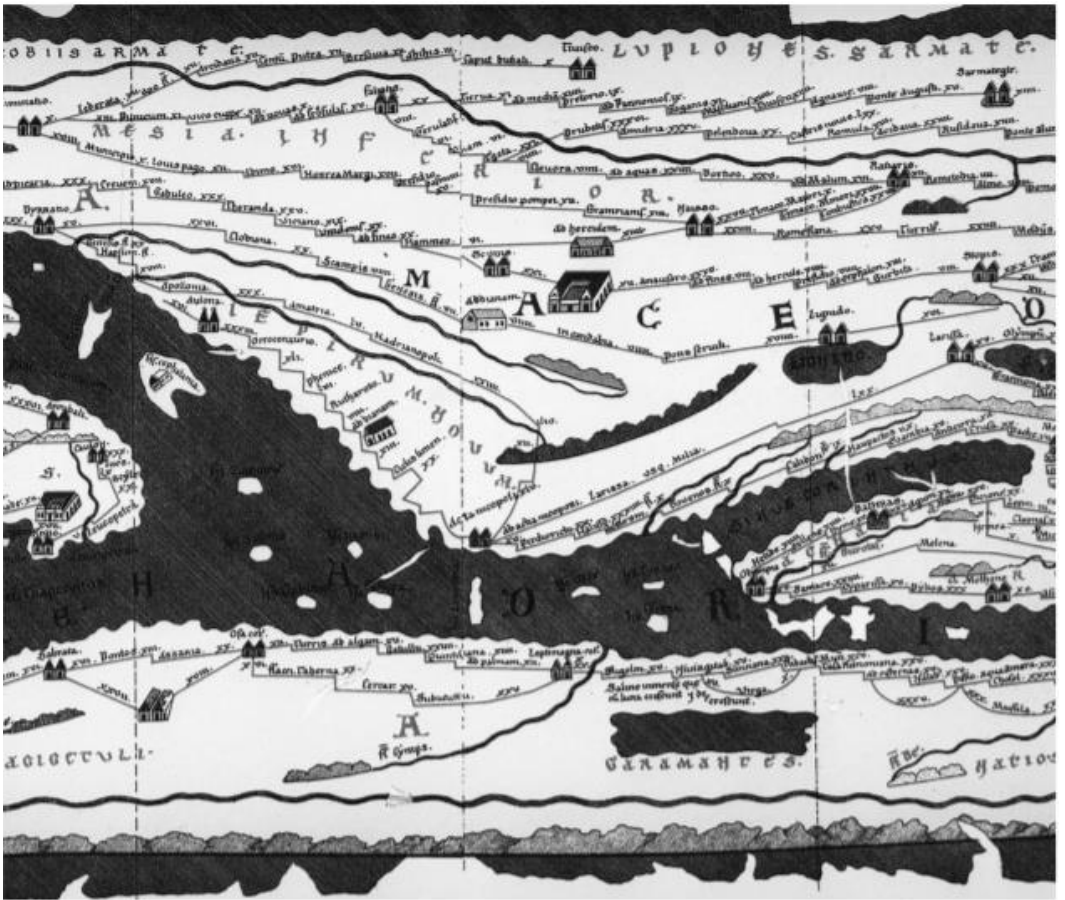


Fig. 1 / Tabula Peutingeriana. VII, 3, evinces the city of Hadrianopoli, between Apollonia and Amantia⁴

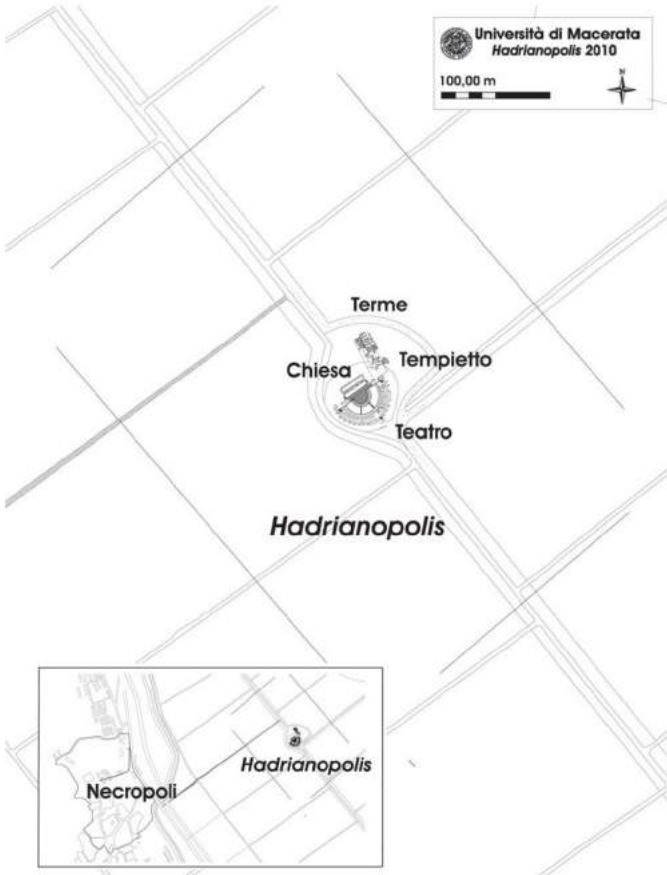


Fig. 2 / Hadrianopolis, general map of the city.
Source / Archaeological research in Hadrianopolis (Sofratika) and in the territory of the Drinos Valley (campaigns 2008-2010) [Author: Roberto Perna; Dhimiter Condi]

⁴ / Photo taken from (Perna, Hadrianopolis e la valle del drino (Albania) Considerazioni sulle Trasformazioni dell'insediamento e del territorio dell'eta Ellenistica a quella Bizantina (campagne di scavo e surveys 2011-2015), 2014)

phase may know the first interventions in organizing the site into a functional site. There is a drainage system above which there was arable land, or maybe a road. However, starting from the imperial age, the settlements started a process of intense 'monumentalization' that led to a series of public buildings, concentrated especially around the building with thermal features. At the Tempietto⁷, the square area was later incorporated into the late complex and theater. Luca Bomardieri, at the Symposium on Mediterranean Archeology, expresses: "Distinct from the drawing it is seen as the establishment of a village without the articulation of a city" (Luca Bomardieri, 2013).

III. The document shows that during the Byzantine period, at the beginning of the 6th century AD, some service buildings were altered without substantially altering their function. What stands out from the excavations is the erection of a small space in the center of the urban area, oriented to the east, which is thought to have been used as a place of worship. At the end of the 6th century, the area underwent extensive abandonment and collapse. Against the barbarian attacks and the crisis of the Imperial system, surrounding walls were built throughout the area. The last documented phase documented is associated with constructing some right-angled walls that may have served as vegetable gardens for the people. So, the next phase was the progressive abandonment of the area.

IV. Some ancient remains, including a Roman theatre, were already known from the reports of 19th-century travelers, but Albanian excavations on the site started only in 1974. The theater structure was unearthed during excavations made by the Institute of Monuments of Culture headed by A. Baçe from 1984 to 1986 (Baçe, 1983; A. Baçe, G.Paci and R. Perna, 2007). During the years 1940-1970, archeologists and historians were more interested in other archeological sites that were more accessible and did not require much excavation. After the end of the Second World War and until the 1990s, Albanian archeologists had no interest in making excavations at this archaeological site. Italian archeologists who came with expeditions to make the excavations said that the whole territory was covered, and it was almost impossible to identify this location. However, this fact is a bit doubtful, as, during the 1960s, drainage

canals were built there for the cultivated lands. As explained in the scientific articles by Prof. Perna, the amphitheater of Sofratika has been completely covered with earth, and it took many expeditions to clean it up and get to the current state. As he explains, there are still many traces of civilization that are buried and require further expeditions. (Perna, Zbulimet arkeologjike ne qytetin antik te Hadrianopolis, 2013).

V. The modern Sofratikë is situated on the slope of the mountain; from its center, there is a beautiful view of the archeological city of Hadrianopolis, a view that could become an integral part of the territory and the inhabitant's historical memory. It is impossible not to mention the fact that everything has stopped there. Adrianopolis-Joustinianopolis and Drinopoli (Dropull) are now valuable archeological sites that open up strong discussions about the following problems such as:

- The abandonment and return to the old centers or the creation of new ones near them;
- City life and the balance between the new inhabited city with the archaeological site;
- The re-use of the space, and how has the space been reused in different periods.

The potential of liminal landscapes

The question remains: for how long will the current liminal landscape phase of Sofratika continue? How can we see the potential beyond this liminal phase? A possible answer may be: as long as the city of Sofratika is part of the Antigonea Archeological Park and preserve the ruins of the most important cities of southern Albania during the Roman Empire. So the fact that the city of Sofratika is in a state between past and future must be viewed positively.

First, there is 'pre-liminal' separation phase which stands at the break of the landscape from the existing modality. This situation has already happened in the case of the ancient city of Hadrianopolis, because in unconscious conditions, the inhabitants of the city are situated along the ridge of the 'Wide' Mountain. In doing so, the "death" of the ancient city of Hadrianopolis took place because the new city left the old one and did not develop on the ruins of the ancient city as it was done in Durres, Berat or other cities. In the second liminal phase known

⁷ / Small Temple

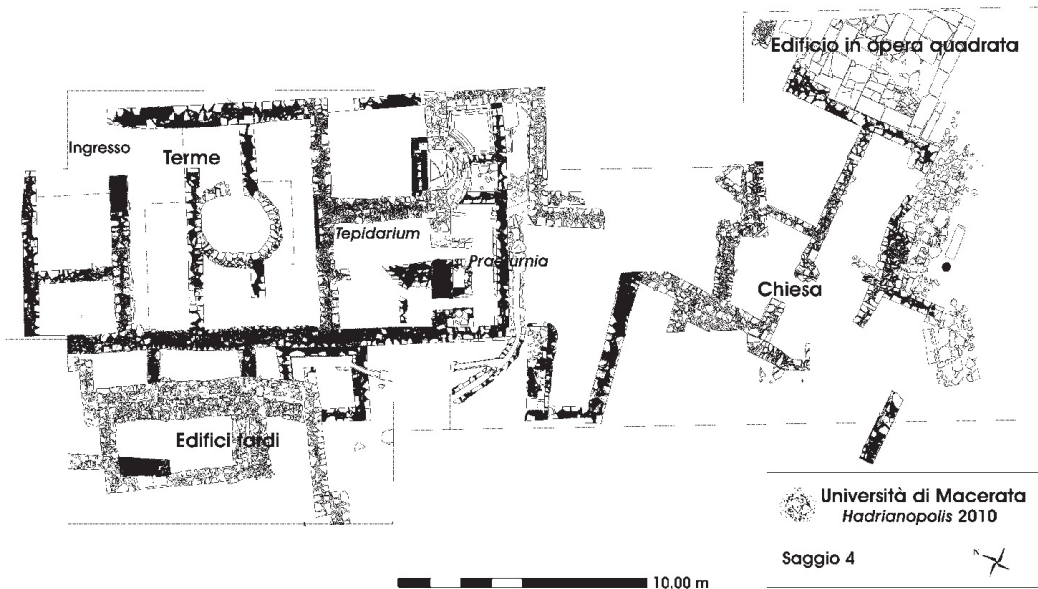


Fig. 3 / Hadrianopolis, archeological plan
 Source / Archaeological research in Hadrianopolis (Sofratika) and in the territory of the Drinos Valley
 (campaigns 2008-2010) [Author: Roberto Perna; Dhimiter Condi]]

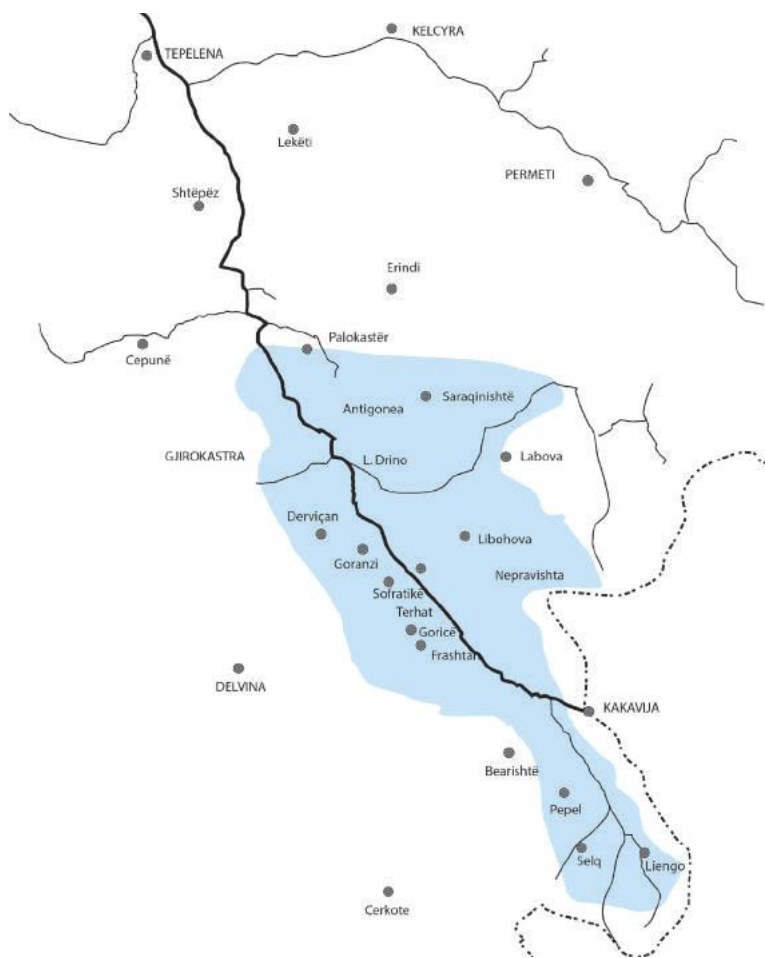


Fig. 4 / Valley of the River Drinos, southern Albania. Source / the author

as transition, the landscape elements lose their meaning, and they are reinterpreted in new ways. In Sofratika, this phase is epitomized by the city's rebirth at the slope of the mountain, taking on elements of the typical constructed buildings of that area.

On the one hand these buildings have their own historical identity, and on the other hand, they cannot remain separate

from the landscape's breadth. In the case of Sofratika, the landscape consists of the mountain, the city/village, and Hadrianopolis. This grouping is part of a reinterpretation process and can be removed in the future if the meanings of each element cannot be interpreted in a way that fits with the future social modalities. In some cases, the remaining most valuable elements are historically

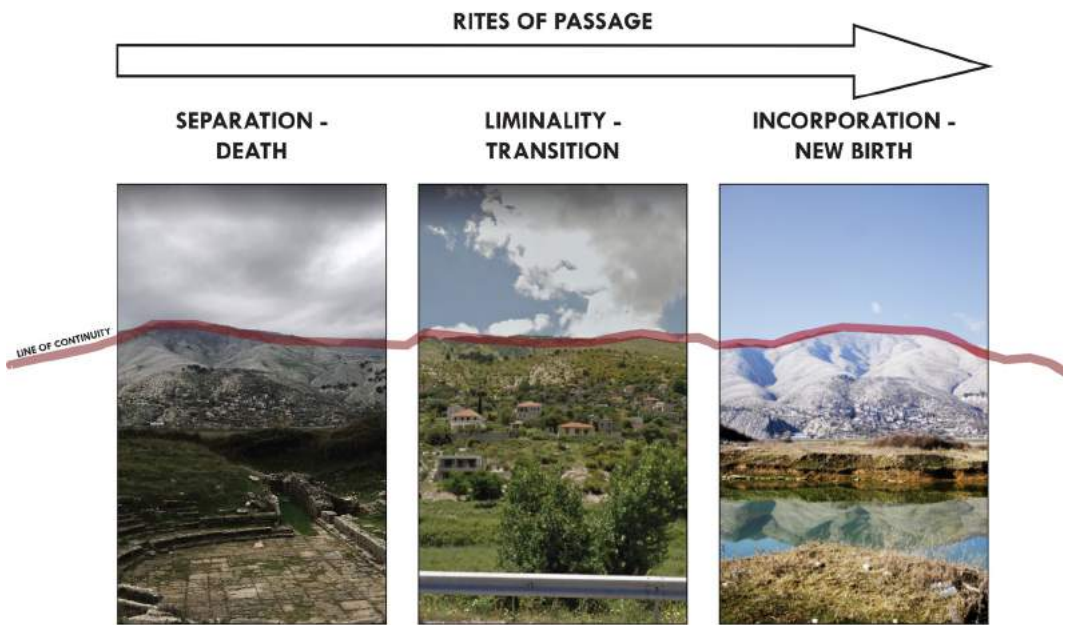


Fig. 5 / Rites of passage in case of Sofratika. Source / the author

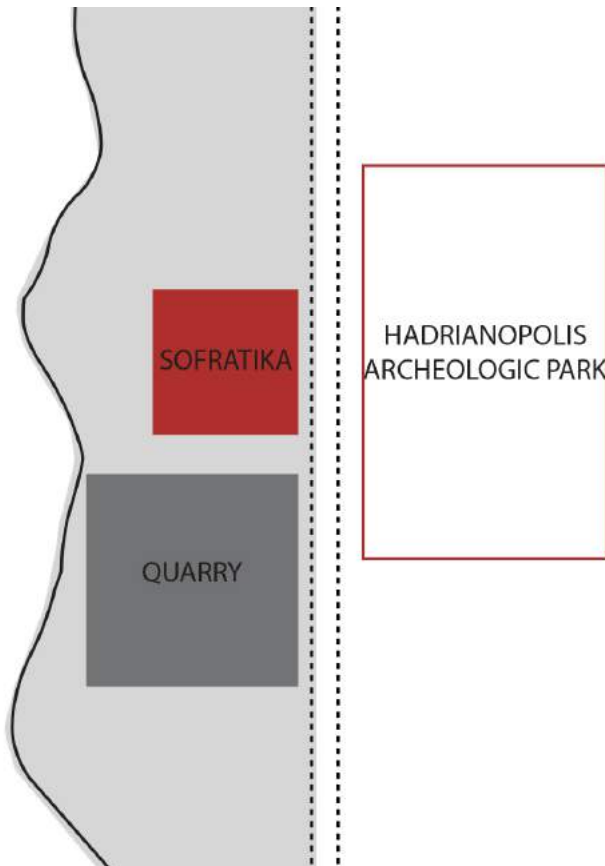


Fig. 6 / Diagram of liminal landscape phase of Sofratika. Source / the author

preserved carefully in order to prevent the former modality from being completely forgotten. Studies of the transitional periods tend to underline that there was a high degree of continuity of the cultural elements during the early historical periods. We have a total disconnection from history and culture during the late periods, losing the landscape's historical identity. Here it is worth mentioning the fact that adjacent to the city of Sofratika, a quarry has been erected, which is gradually destroying that cultural landscape that

has taken thousands of years to be created. However, many elements have been retained and if these elements are reinterpreted, we will be able to fill the gaps we have in interpreting the historical landscape.

Thus, the third phase of "reaction", the post-liminal phase - the "re-birth", will occur when the remaining historical elements of the landscape will be distinguished more than those that damaged it. This means that their activity must be reduced to preserve the landscape. As for how long

this liminal state of Sofratika's landscape will last, attention must be paid to the changes of the city's landscape.

Conclusion

Cities like Sofratika, which have dominant elements like Archaeological Parks, as is the case of Hadrianopolis and Antigone, must have strong laws to preserve the historic landscape. To make the city of Sofratika part of historical and archaeological context, we must pay attention to the fact that the city is unique. The proposed methodology of the cultural landscape offers a conceptual framework by which we can imagine how a built environment reflects the gradual process of historical change. A liminal landscape like that of Sofratika is at the same time backward-looking and forward-looking. In the case of transition of liminal landscape of Sofratika to post-liminal landscape is a slow process without the help of the responsible authorities. I think, as proposed in our project SHTRESEZIM project – part of the Ph.D. workshop, 34th cycle of IDAUP when these damaging elements begin to change function and become indistinguishable, then we can begin to argue that the stage of the liminal landscape has come to an end.

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Community-based rural development

The potential of a shrinking village with agriculture vocation

keywords / rural migration, agriculture, elderly, local community, innovation

Ilaria Fabbri

PhD researcher / Ferrara University

Abstract

Aging population and migration trends raise diverse issues for most of rural villages, from social exclusion to dismissed buildings and decline of public facilities. In particular, those areas that are more dependent on agriculture are facing stronger challenges, as rural exodus has gradually left behind elder residents who rarely have the necessary mobility and motivation for intensive land work are at particular risk for isolation.

The lack of job opportunities and the shortage of agriculture workforce are therefore closely connected: the first one is generally the main push factor of migration; the second one represents the effective consequence of youth massive migration from rural context. The paper investigates the possibility for rural community to be an active player in inverting the trend of shrinking villages. It tries to identify a set of possible actions at neighbourhood scale that, starting with the initiative of local people, can lead to effective rural revitalisation and new social and economic value.

This work takes the form of an exploratory study: the Albanian village of Jorgucat is presented as an emblematic case study that epitomizes the issues of most low dense, depopulated settlements with a land-related nature and agriculture vocation. The proposed strategies have a special focus on community engagement, the introduction of innovative public facilities, the promotion of unconventional uses of the land and new working methods.

Diverse tangible actions are presented: for each of them, the applicability to Jorgucat context is explained and the reference to a similar up-and-running project is described. Finally, the text argues that some valuable initiatives of rural development might start from local people themselves rather than as a response to government policy, and suggests possible opportunities for transformations and innovations at neighbourhood level.

Jorgucat: a model of shrinking village with productive vocation

The problems that many inner territories across Europe are facing due to rural exodus and aging population are well known. From the German forests to the hilltop near Portugal borders, from the inner areas of Italian Apennines to the steep valleys of wild nature in Albania, Europe is affected by a constant haemorrhage of citizens, especially the youngest generation, moving from the countryside to bigger cities looking for a higher standard of life, better infrastructure and varied job offer. Rural exodus is combined with demographic ageing, an important issue in the rural regions of some Member

States, notably Spain, Greece, Portugal and France, where the rural populations are consisted of a higher proportion of people over 65 (Charalambos K., 2010:71). Contemporarily, rural villages face centralisation of basic services like education, healthcare, commerce and public transport, a consequence of aggressive cutbacks that public administrations are often forced to plan because of cost-saving policies.

The European Network for Rural Development Thematic Group on smart villages, set up in October 2017 as a part of the EU Action for Smart Villages, highlighted that many rural areas are locked into a "circle of decline" by two

mutually reinforcing trends: firstly, a shortage of jobs and sustainable business activity; secondly, inadequate and declining services.

For those villages that mainly rely on land production, migration to bigger centres not only leaves behind a greying society with specific needs, but causes a severe agriculture labour shortage, too. The Albanian village of Jorgurcat in the Gjirokastër County features common issues of many depopulated rural settlements with an agriculture vocation: aging population, declining traditional crop production, lack of public facilities and public transport connectivity, influence each other negatively and accelerate the emigration of young residents and the vulnerability of those who stay. The population in the municipality of Dropull, created in 2015 by merging the former municipalities Dropull i Poshtëm, Dropull i Sipërm and Pogon, is 3 503 (2011 census), in a total area of 448.25 km²: an impressive sign of the dimension of rural exodus if compared with the 17 728 persons registered in 2001. Depopulation is much more pronounced in the area of Dropull i Sipërm. In this former municipal unit, including Jorgucacat village, the population according to the 2001 census was 8 830, and it falls by 971 persons in 2011 census. Another remarkable fact from the Census is the relatively high number of buildings, 2 448 units for a declining resident population. On the other hand, many vacant places (schools, factories, houses) are clearly visible walking around the street of Jorgucacat.

Among the villages of Dropull Municipality, Jorgucacat has great potential for dynamism: first, because of its strategic location for movements to Delvine and Sarande, at a cross-road which joins Ioannina and Gjirokaster, and second, for its strong agriculture vocation, as the cultivation crops occupy more than 40% of the total area of the village, with a variety of landscapes, including arable land, orchard, vineyards, pastures and unproductive land. (Sinani A., 2016: 24). Finally, the set of customs and traditions, and the cohabitation over the Albanian population and Greek create an original model of rural community that can be the starting point for rural development.

Adopted Methodology for the case study of Jorgucacat

Based on official sources, field visits and on-site surveys conducted in February 2019 in Albania, the study highlights the correlations between the fabric of Jorgucacat built environment, land use and citizens' needs. The residential and public areas are situated at one side of the national road, connected in two points through an internal ring. Residential agglomeration is mainly nestled along the slopes of the valley, while private cultivated lands, on a flatter territory on the opposite direction, and it has been cut away from the built core after the construction of the municipal road. The pronounced emigration and migration trend of younger generations has been causing a gradual lack of agriculture workforce: the remaining inhabitants, mainly elderly living in the upper part of the village, are less and less able to reach

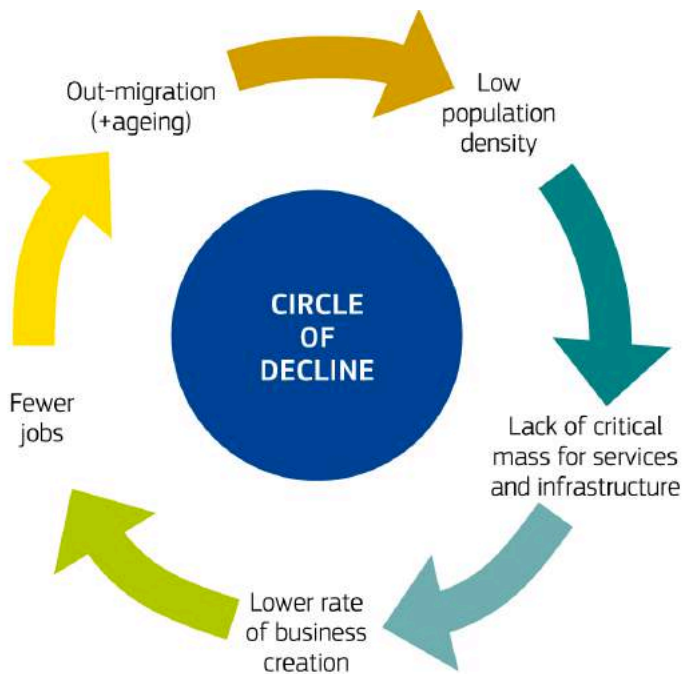


Fig. 1 / The circle of decline affecting many rural areas.

Source / European Network for Rural Development - EU Rural Review n. 26

their crop fields, not at walking distance from home, therefore finding it difficult to provide for its maintenance.

The physical distance of the residential area from the private, underused lands, and the general isolation of most of the citizens, have gradually triggered an uptick of small individual economies, a sort of "backyard agriculture" targeted toward a single family's basic consumption. Residents have developed their own tiny space for chicken coops and self-subsistence production at household level, one next to the others, with no community-based interest.

In addition, inadequate public transport system aggravates the marginalisation of those who do not have private cars, and the uneasiness to reach a food market and their potentially productive lands. The interviewed dwellers have expressed discontent with the lack of public venues (meeting points, food market, sport facilities) and the desire for removing the sense of exclusion from the outside world, whilst endorsing their own traditional values.

Some forms of mutual help among Jorgucat neighbours are already established as long-standing, as found by on-site surveys, but have a lukewarm application:

- Sharing farming tools;
- Truck owners giving their fellows a lift to the crop fields;
- Swapping the surplus of private vegetable garden.

Sharing economy is seldom embraced because of different obstacles: the

physical distance between people, mostly elderly, low density and no infrastructure, and no strong meeting points creating the occasion for peer-to-peer networks. In this way, digital technologies offer a potential instrument of life improvement as they can actually enable connections for a common purpose, better access to services and a creation of innovative jobs, with direct impact on everyday use of public space and life quality.

Not all citizens have the skills and the willingness to manage digital opportunities, regardless of the improvements that could be derived from them, especially for seniors; very few initiatives have been made though to include elderly people in the use of digital tools.

Still, digital technology is not an end in itself, just a useful enabler of connections. A set of actions aiming at enhancing citizens' life quality and creating an attractive environment in such small village could be put forward from the initiative of local people themselves. Effective examples of innovative forms of cooperation and rural development first start from local energy and community engagement, and second, they demand a supportive policy environment.

Integrated rural mobility to fight social exclusion

Relevance and applicability in Jorgucat village

The Population and Housing Census taken in 2011 in Gjirokastër County registered that over a number of 971 persons in the southern area of Dropull, only 73 private households have a car. Given the lack of public mobility options in this rural area,



Fig.2 / Jorgucat central road, on which many dismissed buildings overlook. Source / the author



Fig.3 / A citizen involved in the interview in Jorgucat. Source / the author

the residents' quality of life, as confirmed by the interviews, is badly affected by the mobility and service accessibility. In particular, senior citizens, whose children have migrated because of pressing economic needs, are at risk for social isolation and vulnerability, because of the additional physical limitations they may face moving by foot from the residential upper area to the flatter land.

The social institutions are often inadequate and unprepared to meet the demand for assistance by the increasing number of who are not supported by emigrated children. As a result, many elderly people in rural Albania are forced to live in solitude (La Cava G., Nanetti R. 2000:17).

The target group of this first strategy is mainly people with no car ownership or unable to drive. Most of the transport needs are connected to healthcare, shopping, and socialisation. Reaching private crops and collecting products are extra necessities shared by elderly landowners living in the upper part of Jorgucat. The voluntary sector, which in rural areas tends to be very active, might play a strategic role in replacing or integrating lost public and private services. Through a participatory process involving citizens, local businesses and public services, an integrated model of rural mobility should take into consideration two aspects of rural mobility:

- PEOPLE TO SERVICE: an on-demand rural car sharing service, enabling older and carless people to move around Jorgucat area more freely, therefore fighting social exclusion.

A cooperative-based car-sharing and "pick-up-sharing" service should be created to increase access from the residential downstream to the lands and to the central area.

Furthermore, the physical areas dedicated to shared vehicles might develop as small "sharing depots" where the community can gather and borrow tools and other equipment.

- SERVICE TO PEOPLE, a fleet of electric cargo bikes delivering fresh vegetable and fruits from the private lands where they are cultivated to the residential area on the hilltop.

With the development of a user-friendly mobile application, citizens would easily get an overview of available mobility services and order transport-on-demand rides.

Successful case studies

Sopotniki (meaning cotravellers) is a private non-profit body providing free transport for elders in rural area in 9

municipalities of Slovenia. The service is available 6 days/ week and it is easy to activate: the elderly communicates and specifies the needs for transport by phone; a volunteer will pick him or her up at fixed time and location, wait for the passenger to complete the commitments and drives back home. There are three main financing sources: donations from users, grants from municipalities, and sponsorships. Combining mutual help and technology support is an innovative approach towards the mobility of disadvantaged communities in rural areas where public transport options are often lacking.

Sensing journeys through local communities

Relevance and applicability in Jorgucat village. Dropull Municipality has a strong culture and distinct tradition, where two different cultures and identities coexists: Albanian and Greek ones. The range of niche products, closely linked to the agriculture vocation of the area, are likely to be better promoted. Tea mountain herbs and saffron cultivation, for instance, if valorised, may contribute to a new attracting image of Jorgucat. Taking advantage of its favourable geographic position, a central market selling local products would offer an occasion for a greater engagement of passers-by with local culture. The reuse of vacant spaces for shopping and tasting products would probably match the unsatisfied visitors' desire for on-site experience, authenticity and search for "icon" products, capturing distinctive characteristics of the place. In addition, the physical proximity of the cultivation crops may help exploring new forms of rural tourism, including the involvement of travellers in the production dynamic, which would permit a more authentic and tangible experience. Local producers and farmers, handcraft makers and service providers are encouraged to cooperate since many economic advantages may come from it. Motivating elderly residents seems to be an essential point too, as they can play an important role in promoting traditions and culture, and the conditions should be created for them to actively carry out such role.

Successful case studies:

I Briganti del Cerreto is a successful community-based initiative, recently inserted by the UE among the 20 innovative practices, the only one from Italy, in the tourism sector. Cerreto Alpi is an enchanting village made of chestnut and stone in the Apennine at the border between Emilia Romagna and Tuscany,



Fig.4 / Cotravelling against elder isolation in rural areas. Source / Sopotniki Archive



Fig.5 / Community-based tourism is about direct initiative of rural people. Source / <https://www.ibrigantidicerreto.com/>

suffering from depopulation since the second half of 1900; in 2003 a small group of young residents, instead of moving away, decided to play an active role in stopping the trend and tried to revitalize the social and economic life of the area with the involvement of the entire community.

In 2003 they founded the cooperative "I Briganti del Cerreto" dedicated to promote the territory and its products. The reuse of the dismissed school for accommodation, the reactivation of ancient crafts and traditions (chestnuts collection, cheese productions), as well as the rehabilitation of traditional feasts were the very first

actions. Today Cerreto offers unique touristic experiences deeply rooted in the community including daily activities in nature. Senior citizens are engaged too, telling visitors about ancient brigands hiding over the mountains, and as valuable guides for mushrooms hunting. This authentic model of tourism is having a great success, according to the high visitor turnout all year round. This flow is fundamental in providing job occasions and ensuring the continuity of public services that are otherwise declining.

Healthy villages: longevity tourism and care farming

Relevance and applicability in Jorgucat village

Living in a small village has a number of downsides: fewer jobs and reduced access to basic services and public transport. But it has many advantages as well: pure air, home-grown vegetable consumption, topographic conditions requiring daily natural movement, and a greater sense of community. It is not only a matter of quality of life in itself, which is highly subjective; there are less obvious implications which make rural lifestyle more attractive.

In 2004, the explorer Dan Buettner teamed up with National Geographic and longevity experts to find the regions where people live much longer than average. The group discovered five geographical areas, defined "Blue Zones" from Loma Linda in California to Okinawa in Japan, with an exceptional centennial rate and striking similarities in their inhabitants' lifestyle: moderate and healthy eating habits, regular physical activity, the involvement in the community life and rituals and a close friends network. In this sense, rural village can take advantage of some of their intrinsic life-giving qualities and lead the way for longevity tourism. This new type of health trade has a huge potential, especially for encouraging both outdoor sport activities and the silver economy.

Referring to the case of Jorgucat, this strategy could be put into practice starting from the refurbishment of existing local hiking itineraries. This action is bound to the setup of multimodal transport and e-mobility points. The creation of a digital platform collecting information about the routes is highly recommended, allowing the modern visitor to plan the trip ahead. For rural villages with an agriculture vocation, there is one more possibility for standing out as healing places: care farming, a type of green care intervention, active across much of Western Europe, that promotes mental and physical health through normal farming activity.

On the one hand, people who suffer from mental disorders or stress-related problems might find great benefits through nature-assisted rehabilitation under the supervision of a team of skilled farmers.

On the other hand, this new type of healthcare service can help farmers diversify their business and create new forms of income.

Successful case study:

"Nos Oignons" is an innovative project of social farming in Wallonia funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and awarded with the second prize at the 2015 edition of "Prix de Innovation Sociale" by UNIPSO.

Since 2012 Nos Oignons has supported social inclusion for people with mental diseases or socially disadvantaged by the organisation of collective and individual activities on farmlands. The interaction with professional farmers helps patients fighting exclusion, build new relationships, get re-empowered and gain self-confidence. The results of this initiative have registered tangible reduced healthcare cost for patients, fewer relapses and hospitalisations. The innovation of this project lies in the creation of empowering connections, both for beneficiaries' personal well-being, and for farmers who can develop unexpected skills and explore environmental-friendly agriculture practices.

Conclusions and further work towards rural community engagement

The analysed practices show that small scale interventions and the introduction of innovative services at neighbourhood level may have direct positive outcomes and actually improve the residents' quality of life and

the appeal of rural villages as attractive place to live and visit. Undoubtedly, top-down policies and investments in infrastructures and public facilities are fundamental in creating the conditions for a future for rural areas, but the active participation of the community is vital. How to achieve broad stakeholder and community involvement in the enhancement of rural environment is a complex task: on-site interviews in Jorgucat were meant to be a preliminary step in identifying citizens' specific needs and their general attitude towards topics of social interest. The effective willingness and the ability of the local stakeholders and the community to participate in developing innovative projects should be further investigated by means of participatory process.

Events should be carried out in order to investigate the level of community power, the behavioural patterns of local stakeholders and identify local community leaders who would then promote collaboration between the stakeholder and the community.

The factors that facilitate local community involvement appear to be contextual (Bengi E., Gü K., 2012:24).

This study proposes a set of options in line with Jorgucat potentialities: if further developed, this may be the starting point to design for solutions at different scales, tailored to the Dropull community and more generally those shrinking rural villages with an agricultural vocation.



Fig 6 / Sardinian veterans in Villagrande Strali, one of the five Blue Zones
Source / Senes, Photographic Exhibition, by Daniela Zedda. Milan, 2016



Fig 7 / "Go Eastbelgium" an innovative LEADER project promoting hiking in the Belgian Eifel area by means of an online hiking planner tool, GPS navigation and a smartphone app.
Source / <http://www.experiencebelgium.be>



Fig 8 / Nos Oignons supports social farming with health benefits in Wallonia.
Source / <https://www.bonnescauses.be>

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Digital innovation in rural areas. A vision for smart villages in Dropull

keywords / smart village, digital networking, multimedia platforms, dropull municipality, multi-service hubs

Joan Ikonomi
PhD researcher / POLIS University

Abstract

The rural areas in Albania are undergoing rapid demographic, social and economic changes concerning emigration, depopulation, population ageing, little use of agriculture, livestock, tourism potential, and marginalization due to market and service centralization and poor infrastructure. In the present condition of isolation and rural decay, the creation of an easy two-way connection between territory and the people can open up new opportunities to revitalize rural areas.

The crucial role of these networks is to collect community potentials, create partnerships and offer benefits to the rural community. In this sense, the use of innovative digital technologies can become an important instrument to develop virtual networking through which a smart multimedia interactive platform can provide information, knowledge sharing and interconnection among different sectors.

EU has already launched and promoted these concepts since 2017, through Smart Village initiative (European Commission, 2017), paying particular attention to the use of innovative digital technologies that create a new form of network cooperation beyond the village boundaries, involving the surrounding countryside and towns.

Smart village means effectively and efficiently services delivered to the residents and businesses to improve their economic, social and environmental conditions, in particular finding out solutions offered by digital technologies. Digital innovation based on computing, communication and information technologies can act as an accelerator exploiting the hidden potential in the area. In the case of the proposed smart villages in the Municipality of Dropull, the first step to developing virtual networks through digital tools that support smart development is to provide digital infrastructure, broadband internet and to build a rural digital hub. This multi-service hub structure will be located in Jorgucat village, the municipality center, and it will manage digital services that respond to local needs offering support and training for the community.

The aim is to create a network between the local community and other actors in different fields by facilitating the delivery of public services and offering new opportunities.

Based on community needs, the objective of this study is to create a fast network of information and exchange between the territory and its governance, which enables information sharing and resource access for the people and tourists. In order to create this network, different e-tools (apps.) can be used to support and facilitate the process, focusing on the following vulnerable sectors of this Municipality: 1. Access to e-health, education, training and other essential services 2. Online market and promotion of local products 3. Online booking service, promoting tourism, heritage and cultural activities 4. Mobility 5. Governance. These tools are considered as a catalyst for the proposed network, which serves to reactivate human, environmental and financial resources in these villages and improve the attractiveness and competitiveness of rural areas. Successful networking models and e-tools already used in EU "smart villages" will be introduced to understand the structure of the information system and management. This will constitute the basis for the development of specific networking models inherent to the particularities of the Dropull villages, which can be supported by e-tools.

Introduction

Due to political changes and economic disruption since the early 90's, a rural exodus has been triggered in Albania and is still persisting today. This exodus has caused massive rural depopulation and an increasing median age in the remaining inhabitants in the villages (fig. 1). From 24.000 inhabitants according to civil registration, only 7000 remain in the region. As a result, most of the rural areas in Albania are undergoing rapid demographic and social changes and economic decline.

The situation has become particularly extreme in the remote and mountainous regions, unlike the western lowland areas which gradually became the most populated area in the country. As a result of the emigration to Greece, the Dropull region, particularly the Greek community in the south, has suffered a decrease of population, a partial abandonment of agriculture and livestock activities, lack of education, and a reduction of public health facilities and services – drawbacks that trigger further emigratory fluxes. Moreover, poor infrastructure has created conditions of isolation and internal decay, resulting in aggravated the living conditions of the inhabitants.

In the last years, the rehabilitation of the national road SH4, part of the European Corridor 2C in South-Ovest Europe, which connects the north and south Albania and constitutes the south door to Greece, can be seen as an important infrastructure that provides access to the main cities and services to the entities located along these axes (Universiteti POLIS, Bashkia Dropull 2018). The industrial oriented

administrative units are stimulated by the physical connections, although it is not based on the local potentials and interchange. Secondly, agricultural production, present in all the region (fig.2), although declining, is still a potential to be recovered and used to attract markets and processing industries which are well-known for their quality and long-time tradition in the Dropull area. Due to the lack of an organized market, production is spontaneous and fails to cover even the needs of the locals, who get products from the city.

Agriculture can offer benefits also for tourism, considering the business models connected to agricultural production such as eco-tourism or agro-tourism. Dropull and the Jorgucat Center of Municipality in particular, thanks to the favorable geographical position, constitutes a potential touristic centrality in the cross-border region, between Gjirokastra and Ioannina in Greece, and two UNESCO protected centers (fig.3).

The region presents various natural and architectural monuments, such as forest, castles, churches, monasteries, bridges, which can be part of touristic itineraries and activities. The traditional stone houses, on the other hand, can be used to accommodate tourist and eco-tourism services (fig. 4) Historical and natural monuments in the area are not mapped, there are no wayfinding signs, tracking itineraries or hiking trails, and there is no mobility system or organized guides.

Considering the conditions of a shrinking

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE
MUNICIPALITY DROPULL

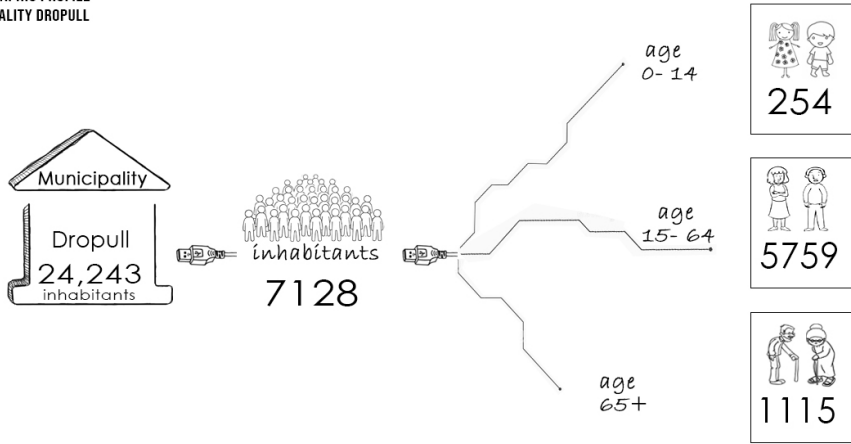


Fig.1 / Demographic profile of Dropull Municipality in 2015. Source / Rëmbeci 2018

ECONOMIC PROFILE
MUNICIPALITY DROPULL

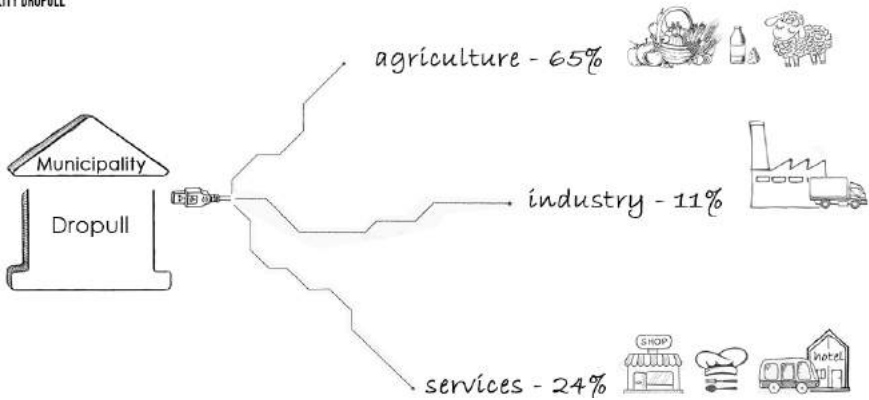


Fig.2 / Economic bases of Dropull Municipality, Region. Source / ISTAT Akademia e Studimeve Politike, 2016; Rëmbeci 2018

MUNICIPALITY LOCATION
SMART VILLAGE DROPULL

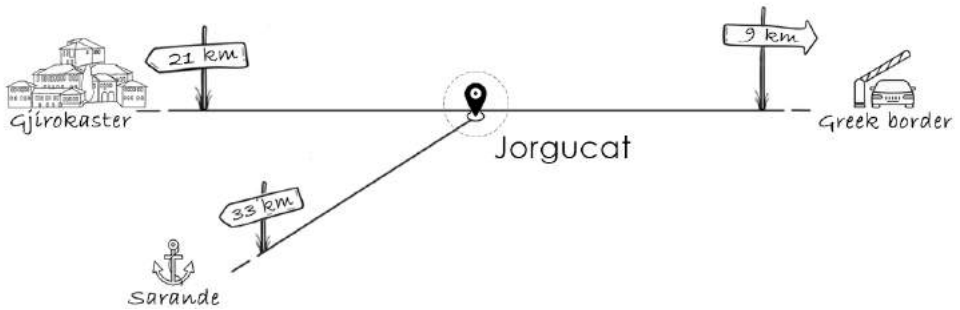
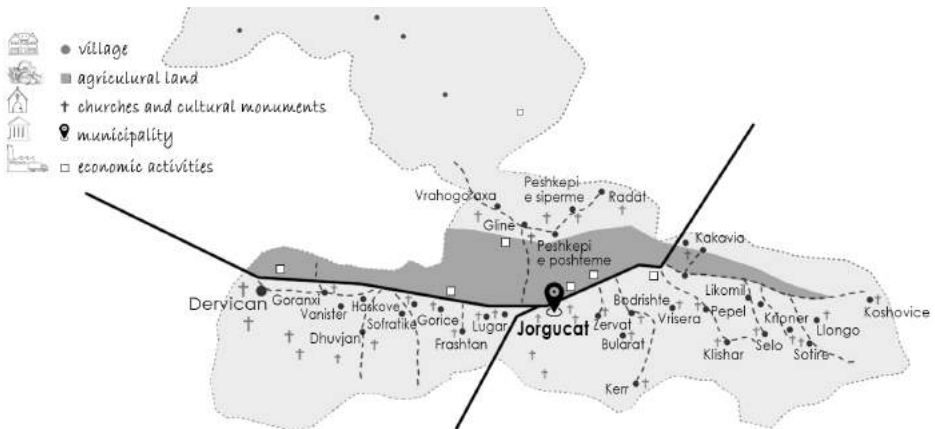


Fig.3 / Geographical position of Jorgucat, the center of Municipality of Dropulli Region. Source / the author



MUNICIPALITY MAP OF DROPULL

Fig.4 / Map of economic and touristic resources of Dropulli Region. Source / the author

rural region, with poor infrastructure and weak social and economic networks, and given the above-mentioned potentials, the use of innovative digital technologies can open up new opportunities to revitalize these rural areas by creating virtual networking through a smart multimedia interactive platform that provides information, knowledge sharing and interconnection in different sectors. Hence, such networking platform becomes a catalyst that enhances and drives initiatives, common engagements, local business opportunities and activities that enable rural villages to build on their social capital inherent in the community by ensuring territorial cohesion and improving access to services, while at the same time reducing the cost of service provisions.

Rural innovation through digitalization. EU initiatives.

Digitalization is considered as an innovative tool that can create a new virtual dimension of spatial constructions in rural areas that enhance traditional networks and develop new networks and services to better serve community welfare. It consists not only in the access and use of (high speed) Internet and digital technologies, but also smart solutions based on the data collection and use that offer knowledge, manage resources efficiently starting from access to health, education, sharing economy, tourism promotion, mobility, governance and other community services (McLaren; Agyeman, 2015). These smart solutions were first used in "smart cities" applications developed to manage urban flows and foster collaborative digital environments that allow real-time responses. Through the use of this technology smart cities enable the connection between citizens, objects and utilities in order to significantly enhance the living conditions of environment.

An extensive literature survey about smart city definition and applications have been studied from twenty years ago (Qi, Shaofu, 2001; Giffinger (2007); Caraliu et al., 2011; Setis-Eu, 2012; Dameri, Cocchia, 2013). According to Giffinger (2007), one of the most-cited authors in the smart city field of study, there are six key aspects that define the smart city: smart living, smart governance, smart economy, smart mobility, smart environment, and smart people. Also, Frost & Sullivan (2014) also includes specific aspects of smart living such as smart energy, smart building, smart infrastructure, smart healthcare,

thus defining eight dimensions of the smart city.

These aspects would also create new opportunities for villages were they able to build upon their physical and human assets and potentials.

A smart village is a concept related to a bundle of services being delivered to a group of residents inhabiting that particular rural area and businesses, effectively and efficiently (Viswanadham, 2011). In the case of business and market, the interspatial dimension of smartness is very important to extend the network and knowledge sharing. Hence villages can be prepared to adequately respond to problems of marginalization, providing the best possible services offered by hyper-connectivity through the use of advanced technology.

The first ideas related to "Smart Villages" were presented in 2016 in the Cork Declaration (Cork, Ireland), named "A Better Life in Rural Areas" (European Conference on Rural Development, 2016). This declaration, which addressed some of the problematics of the rural areas related to shrinking population and youth drain, presented "boosting knowledge and innovation" as one of the main objectives of future policies. It specifically refers to "have access to appropriate technology, state-of-the-art connectivity, as well as new management tools to deliver economic, social and environmental benefits". In this sense, the declaration pushes forward the idea that villages should take advantage of the arising scientific and technological progress. Therefore, they sustain the importance of a Smart Villages agenda.

As a result in EU, Smart Village Initiatives were immediately launched by the European Parliament in 2017. In the same year, in the EU Action for Smart Villages, the European Commission defined smart villages as "rural areas and communities which build on their existing strengths and assets as well as on developing new opportunities", where "traditional and new networks and services are enhanced by means of digital, telecommunication technologies, innovations and the better use of knowledge".

Immediately after that, 'Smart Villages' was initiated as a subtheme within the European Network for Rural Development (ERND). European Network for Rural Development (ERND, 2018) considered five main aspects of smart villages: 1. People/ community 2. Digital technologies, 3. Inter-spatiality, 4. New

forms of cooperation and alliances, 5. Local assets.

In this regard the smart development of a village should be based on local people taking initiatives and proposing solutions to their needs based on local assets and aspirations, considering the territory as a whole and thinking about symbiotic connections in terms of physical, social and institutional forms of cooperation and alliances. The first step to think about the digital renovation in rural areas is to build up broadband infrastructures and take actions in social innovation, in order to tackle the digital divide between the urban and rural areas (European Commission, 2017).

Recently, in April 2018, Bled Declaration (Bled, Slovenia) proposed a series of actions to develop the rural economy by creating shared economy, virtual networks of food supply, rural tourism and offer various e-services through digital tools such as e-learning, e-administration, transport, gastronomy, etc. The above can be a starting point for agriculture and eco-tourism potentially based villages. This hyper-connectivity will improve people relationships with services, enhancing the economy and everyday life.

Case study “Ludgate Hub” in Cork, Ireland

A successful digital hub has been applied in Skibberee, a small rural town of 2700 inhabitants in Cork, Ireland. Skibberee, is the capital of West Cork, and the center for all the agricultural, industrial and tourist activities of the surrounding villages. Moreover, it offers a variety of services such as primary and secondary schools, health and recreational, activities. Just like the case of Dropull, this region is known for tourism, outdoor activities and artisan food (European Network for Rural Development, 2017).

“Ludgate Hub” installed for the first time 1GB of internet connectivity in a rural town in Ireland. This was the basic infrastructure for different smart application tools developed later. This project was initiated and partially founded by a group of entrepreneurs and private business owners and was developed based on a ‘bottom-up’ approach involving the local community since the early stages. Local business and service providers, retailers, teachers, farmers, students and local authority officials were invited since the first meetings to help in shaping the plan of the hub.

The hub was managed by two full-time staff and a board of 11 members skilled in project management, strategic planning,

building management, office design knowledge and to lead specific sectors they recruited specialist in education, retail, agriculture and other experts.

The main activities carried out by the hub were:

1. offering space and facilities for business such as training rooms, conference hall and video facilities.

2. networking activities and services for business. In particular, the hub created an e-commerce community portal (www.estreet.ie), for the local retailer to gradually increase their online sales

3. digital educational for the local community to help them using email, shop online, use e-bank etc. and training services for young people to develop web sites.

4. Re-branding rural areas. Create websites working with the local chamber of commerce to brand the image of the rural area and encourage banks to help young people building startups in the area. Ludgate Hub is a successful example widely recognized at national and EU level for supporting the local businesses through E-Street e-commerce platform, which was an effective response to the economic cycle of decline that was taking place in this rural region.

Case study: “Digital Villages” project in Germany

“Digital villages” project in Germany is focused on the creation of a conventional digital platform for local goods supply, mobility and e-governance. The project gives a concrete solution via the application. One of this apps is BestellBar, where local vendors such as local bakeries, organic farms, vegetable farmer, but also nonfood vendors, such as sports stores, drugstores, pharmacies, laundries, book stores and libraries can sell products online. Likewise, product delivery is combined with the concept of the digital volunteer developed via another application LieferBar, used by locals to deliver goods from local merchants to other citizens (European Network for Rural Development, 2018).

This is an example of the large social impact that the culture of collaboration and shared services between residents and local business provide through an app.

A vision for smart villages in Dropull region

In the case of the shrinking villages in the Dropull region, considering its agricultural, industrial and tourism potentials, digital technologies can play a key role

in increasing the economic and social cohesion between the rural and urban areas, in revitalizing the rural services, in improving the quality of life of the inhabitants, in promoting a sustainable development, and in cutting off the cycle of decline and emigration.

After understanding the local needs given by the inhabitants during the field survey, the first step is to translate them in networking terms, which are inputs for the digital tools development. After the development of these tools in the Dropull region, it's essential to provide digital infrastructures, broadband internet and to build a rural digital hub. This multi-service hub structure will be located in the Jorgucat village, the center of the Municipality. It will manage digital services that respond to local needs by offering support and training for the community of Municipality of Dropull. This multi-hub will create a network between the local community and other customer actors of different fields such as local market, supermarkets, wholesalers, retailers, tourist etc. (fig. 5)

Why is Jorgucat an appropriate place to host a digital hub?

The village of Jorgucat is one of the biggest communities of the Dropull Municipality. With a population of 1550 inhabitants, it is the second after Dervican, which has a population of 2100 inhabitants. Jorgucat, where the offices of the Municipality are located, is a crossroad between Gjirokastër- Kakavi (Greek border) national road and the road to Saranda (access road to sea).

Another important reason why Jorgucat is considered as an important location to host the digital hub is the nearby presence of many industries such as Glina water, Pepsi Factory, herbs factory, Gjiofarma dairy products, furniture factory etc., which can play a key role in funding and supporting the project.

In addition, Jorgucat also accommodates various services which are missing in other villages, such as a doctor and a small sanitary center consisting in one room, a health center of orthodox church with basic medical device, a primary school, a post office, a police station.

The proposed hub will be located inside the exiting municipality building and will be managed by full-time staff. To drive a multi-services hub, you need to install a fast internet connection up to 100mb/s. Based on the community needs, different e-tools (apps.) can be developed focusing on sales, networking, multimedia and

information data.

The digital infrastructure and the e-tools applied in the case of Dropull, while similar to already tested cases in different European villages, has its peculiarities because it builds upon the most vulnerable sectors of the Municipality and the local needs proposed by the inhabitants. Accordingly, the primary areas to introduce digital networking are online market and eco-tourism (fig. 6). These also include services such as mobility, information mapping, e-governance etc.

One of the main potentials of this region is the development of eco/agro-tourism, because of the natural resources that this territory offers, the agricultural and gastronomic tradition which can lead to sustainable development, and the architectural heritage.

This is a rich territory with cultural heritage, historical churches, monasteries and other important monuments. Each village has stone houses which, even if poor and simple, it offers great potential to accommodate visitors for eco-tourism. Moreover, Jorgucat has space for various outdoor activities. In this regard, digital applications can provide an informative map on the historical and natural sites, including itineraries and a list of accommodation houses that facilitates wayfinding in the area.

Secondly, due to the lack of an organized transportation system, a mobility app can connect tourists with local people, who can offer taxi or guide service to facilitate the exploration of and transportation in the area. Moreover, it can also facilitate the finding of accommodation structures.

Another important potential of the region is agriculture and farming developed in the field in front of the villages. According to INSTAT, 65% of the population works in this sector. The proposed network, in this case, is composed of two parts: the first to sell online products among the locals of different villages, and second, to find customers outside the village, by increasing the online visibility and opening to a new market. This approach will serve not only the organization and diversification the production but will also motivate farmers to increase their production.

This application will be connected to the multi-service hub, which manages via CRM technology the sales site and updates it with new data from the farmers when necessary.

This project can also be integrated with

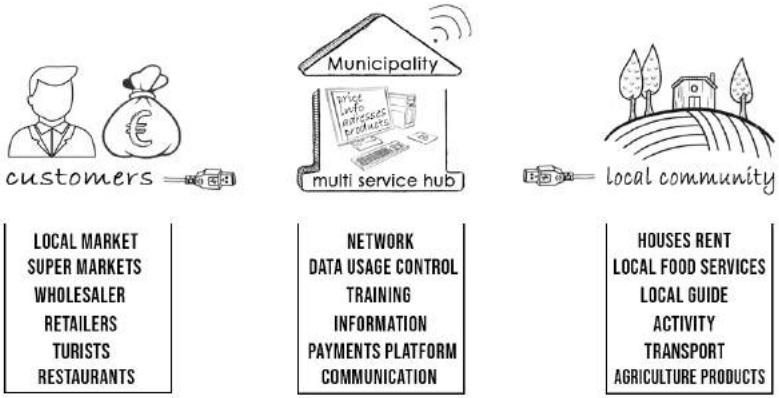


Fig.5 / Model of the digital network proposed in Dropull. Source / the author

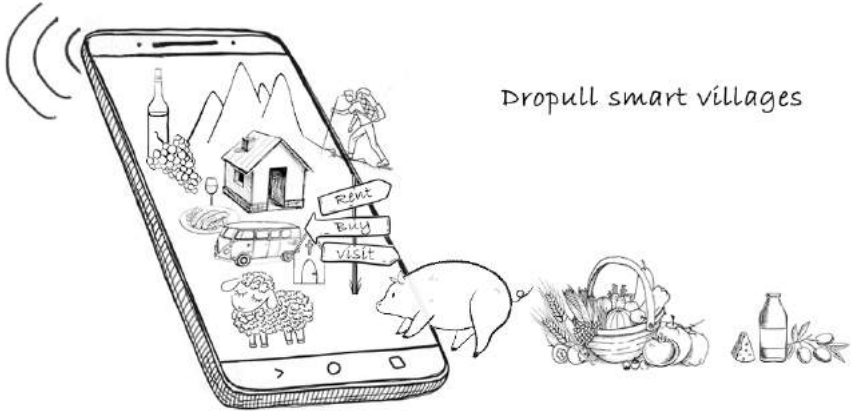


Fig.6 / Dropull smart village vision. Source / the author

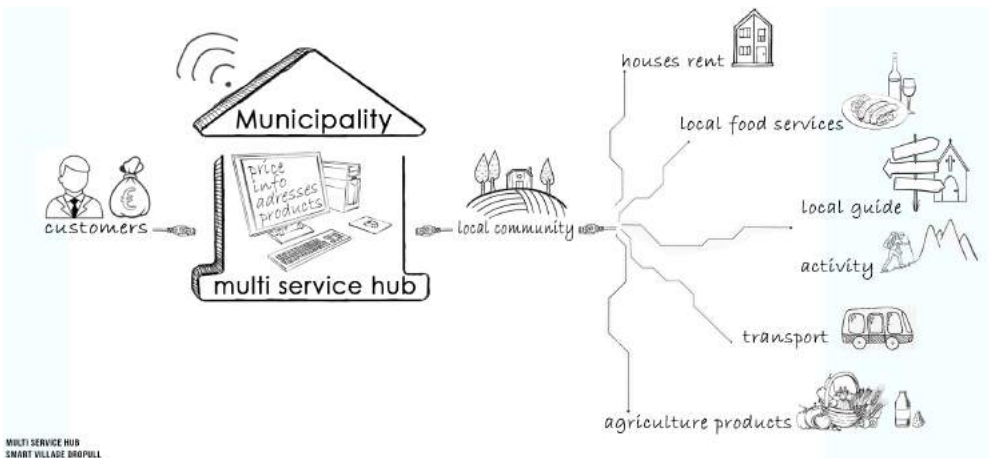


Fig.7 / Model of local community-hub communication in the case of Dropull. Source / the author

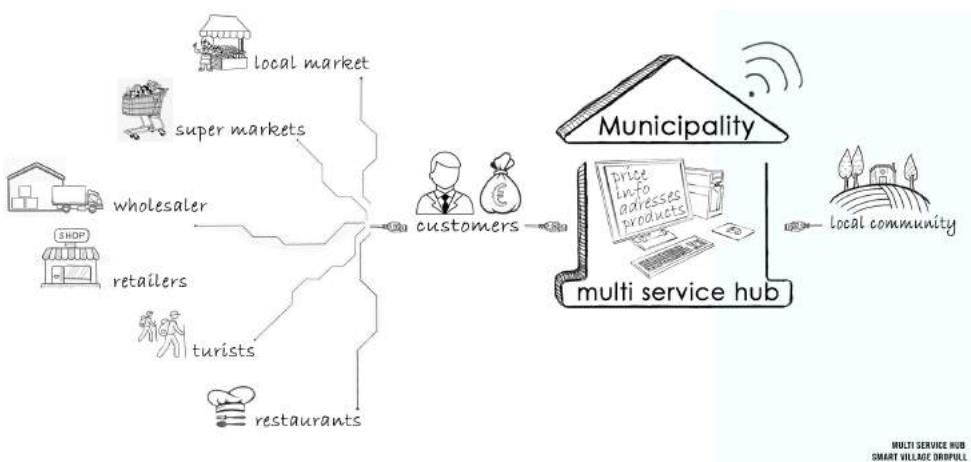


Fig.8 / Model of local customers-hub communication in the case of Dropull. Source / the author

the 'mobility' application used for tourists to move from one village to the other and to easily reach touristic spots. For the inhabitants of the village, it can work on "voluntary" based delivery service (fig. 7,8).

The main steps to follow in order to overcome the rural divide in the region of Dropull through digital innovation are:

1. To understand the rural context and identify local potentials and community needs, and build potential networks serving the community.
2. To create a development vision and plan the digital investment in the area (provide good internet connection between all villages to support future applications)
3. To collect data of all the resources and actors in the area such as (government, economy, and local's inhabitants)
4. To consider multi-sectorial services rather than single sectors separately.
5. To identify qualified people in the village to guarantee the performance of the project.
6. To consider the cost of the project and identify different potential funding sources such as public, private (related to local industries), and EU funding initiatives.

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Liminality components as a response to shrinkage Restoring attractiveness, The case of Vrisera, Dropull

keywords / liminality, depopulation, migration, shrinkage, housing stock

Johana Klemo

PhD researcher / POLIS University

Abstract

More than half of European cities shrank in the period 1990-2010 (Wiechmann 2013). This kind of urban transformation is a multidimensional process. It impacts economic and social domain. Shrinkage is also a phenomenon on several cities and rural areas in Albania. Among others Dropull can be considered a shrinking area as it has notably a smaller population and decline in economy compared with its past. Shrinkage can be seen as a liminality, as a transition phase of urban transformation. Liminality has many fields of study, but this research will examine the urban one. This paper will designate the main components in a shrinking area seen from the perspective of liminality as a threshold in time and place with its material and relational dimension.

The material dimension of liminality refers to the physical consequences emerging during the shrinking process, consequences that might be temporary. Amongst the challenges that migration/depopulation brings is also the housing stock, the abandoned vacant structures. The relation dimension will examine the abandonment of social habitat due to emigration, lack of activity and the deterioration of public spaces. In an effort to restore a sustainable urban settlement, the question of how can the component with liminal character help the process of building an identity emerges?

This paper is part of the research activity organized under the framework of the International PhD POLIS/ Ferrara in Architecture and Urban Planning, which focuses on the liminality state of Dropull's area. The background which strongly impacted the research process during the workshop was the drafting of the Local Development Plan compiled by Polis University. In this document Dropull is seen as a "linear city" with five main centers developed around the five main villages with a rural character and distinct development potentials.

An area in decline

The debate on the shrinkage of the urban/rural areas dates since the second half of the 20th century. The term was first used by Häussermann and Siebel while considering the deindustrialization of the Ruhr area in Germany. The decrease of industry sector productivity in the 80-s

after a prosperous industrialization period in the 60-s and 70-s led to population decline and city shrinkage. Even though many European cities were subject to shrinkage since the 60-s, several studies show that this phenomenon became more prevalent than urban growth in the 1990s (Turok and Mykhnenko, 2007:173-175). More than half of European cities shrank in the period 1990-2010 (Wiechmann, 2013)

Due to the political changes in Albania after the 90-s and the opening of the borders many people emigrated. The transition from a closed socialist regime to a democratic political regime was accompanied by the failure of the factories and industries, which led to a massive loss of industrial jobs. The life of industrial cities/towns was in question. Most state-owned companies had undergone privatization. The difficulties in managing the shift toward a free market

resulted in economy decline, which was the main reason of depopulation in a national scale. Based on the Census data the population of Albania had a negative population growth since 1989 with 318 000 habitants, and since 2001 with 306 800 habitants (INSTAT Census 2011). The social and political changes were an incentive for the shrinking process, which impacted the city organization. Population movements were directed toward major cities where economic opportunities were greater.

Gjirokastra and Dropull are listed as the most affected regions by the population loss. As the demographic analysis of Dropull Regional Plan states, the causes of the demographic changes at the country level are the same with the causes of population changes at the national level: high immigration, low birth rate and mortality. Even though there are wide-spread researches and publications on this phenomenon, the concepts on shirking haven't touched the rural areas outside the big countries. (Pužulis and Kūle, 2016:90) Dropull is a rural region and home of Greek minority. The region developed in a linear way, aligning with the national road where the economical industrial activities are developed. The prolonged extension of the development is strongly determined by the territorial morphology. The four main villages, Dervican, Sofratik, Jorgucat, Vrisera are mainly agricultural and livestock-based, but they also have natural and historical resources that are not exploited yet. The question is how to stabilize the population loss and try make these settlements sustainable.

The dimensions of liminality

The concept of liminality can be analyzed from several aspects, in the context of Dropull. Geographically, Dropull developed in the border, and this proximity has encouraged the emigration toward the neighboring Greece. Demographically, the depopulation process is a liminal situation of transition and uncertainty of passing from one state to another, a state of between and betwixt, as conceptualized in the theories of Van Gennep and Turner. This paper considers shrinkage as liminal situation, with a potential toward transformation. The first dimension of liminality is the material one. This refers to the physical assets that emerge during the shrinking process, the potentiality of which might be temporary. Urban transformation is a multidimensional process. With population declining, it starts a chain reaction of economic decline, a loss of jobs, a decline of public and private investments, and then emigration and so on. But the biggest assets affected by the population movements is housing.

The housing typology in Dropull is the single-family house. A considerable part of the houses are empty due to the abandonment of rural area. It appears that the housing stock is both a burden and a solution. There are different solutions to such dichotomy. Literature shows (Szafrąńska, Coudroy de Lille and Kazimierczak, 2019:43-45) (Wiechmann, 2008:434-436) in Eastern Germany after 1990, the abandoned housing blocks from socialist period were demolished. The situation was different in those post-communist Central and Eastern Europe



Fig.1 / The remains of village bridge. Source / the author



Fig.2 / Drinos River. Source / the author

counties where population decline turned out to have a positive impact due to the shortage of housing from the communist period and the failure to cover the high demand for shelter. While these are urban examples, this dual character of this asset also occurs in rural areas.

The massive emigration of Dropull caused a population decrease of about six times in comparison with that of the early 90s. Data from the demographic analysis,

referring to the General Local Plan for Dropull, shows about 7,200 habitants in the 2015 while the population in 1990 was about 20,000 habitants. Migration created a housing stock, part of which is occupied for a few weeks per year. Census 2011 shows a housing stock of 78%, 3800 uninhabited residences out of 5000 existing. Vacancy posed the problem of maintenance. Degradation is the most common scenarios for the old traditional



Fig.3 / Village upper view from the public center. Source / the author



Fig.4 / The border. Source / the author

structures. For the owners living away, but also for those that live there, maintenance is a burden. The demand for houses is low which can also explain the low number of the new constructions, only 500 houses built after 1990.

Material liminality in housing stock is about the transition from a fully exploited status to the status of abandonment, accompanied with economic uncertainty. The relation dimension is the second

liminal dimension taken into account. It implies the relation amongst the public space and its inhabitants. In the situation of rural shrinkage and economic decline, another problem is the decline or deterioration of service infrastructures. The negative trend of population has an impact on the physical environment. Yet such trend affects differently the public and private investments. The detachment of the emigrants from their original social

habitat results in a lack of activity and alienation of assets. Each dimension deal with a realm. The material dimension is associated with the private sector, housing. The relational' dimension is coupled with public space, the urban void. These liminal dimensions can contribute of the adoption of the built environment to the existing needs but also as a starting point of a more optimistic population projection.

The case of Vrisera

Vrisera is a village lying in the upper Dropull, strongly impacted by the phenomenon of urban stagnation. Territorially, Vrisera is the placement of several typologies next to each other that often do not interact but just 'slide' among them. From this perspective, the village is more a transition space than a destination, thus relating to the concept of liminality as a state of in-between-ness. Visiting this border village, we perceive the depletion of natural assets, a lack of orientation and a lack of identity in the area. Vrisera does not offer any cultural attractions; it lacks the traditional stone buildings that other villages have. Agriculture and farming have been the main economic areas. But in recent years, few industrial activities have developed, taking advantage of the accessibility to the nearby national road and the proximity with the border. However, it is very important to emphasize that the economy of the area is not determined by the number of active companies, but by the employment these companies offer to the local economy. One of the consequences of demographic change which is ageing. Ageing is a social consequence which directly impacts the economy, the labor force and social life. Thus, a wave of emigration took emptied the region from the working-age population. The demographic decline is attributed mainly to the emigration in Greece and in urban areas like Gjirokastra or even further. Few are the families remaining in the village. In 1993 the village counted 311 inhabitants. (Kallivretakis, 1995) Today it has a permanent population of 100-150 inhabitants.

Emigration and migration changed the balance between the housing stock and the demand for it¹. The maintenance of vacant houses becomes an issue when there is no rental or buying demand. Part

of this housing stock has undergone a restoration process from the owners, who live abroad and return to their houses for one or two weeks per year. In economic terms, the low number of habitants is translated into reduced income and reduced budget. Consequently, there are no public investments. This can be easily noticed in the center of Vrisera where there the administrative and public buildings are located. Only a small health center and the fire department are functional². The space around them is neglected. The bridge linking the river shores has collapsed thus interrupting the transverse connection.

What we need to consider when it comes to depopulation, and all its consequences, is the impoverishment of the city, and its competitiveness in the national and international market economy. In order to regain or attract population, a place should offer standards comparable to those of the nearest magnet poles, even if competing them might be difficult. This paper initially argues that the stagnation process and its multiple effects on the urban context raises the question of what are the components of liminality created by this situation, and what might their potential be?

Restoring the attractiveness of the town requires an in-depth analysis of the situation. Two byproducts of stagnation are the housing stock and the deteriorated public spaces, which are identified in this paper as the material and relational dimension of liminality. From the experience of East Germany cities, the response to housing vacancies, when they became a real concern in the shrinking Halle³, was the urban restructuring. (Haase, A., Rink, D., Grossmann, K., Bernt, M., and Mykhnenko, V. 2014:10-11).

Such restructuring meant demolishing needless housing and intervening in downsizing the technical and social infrastructure. The main actors in this process were the housing companies and the municipality utility unit. The answer to the situation in some CEE post-socialist countries is different. Interventions in shrunk areas has been a matter of urban policy, which cannot always be adopted to rural areas. As Hospers and Josefin pointed out in their book: "In academic circles, planning issues in rural environments coping with long term population decline is much less investigated. Consequently,

¹ / There are no detailed data at village level about the demographic movement and housing abandonment.

² / From site visit

³ / Halle has been considered to be Europe's fastest shrinking city for the past two decades. It lost 30% of its total population between 1986 and 2008.



Fig.5 / Abandoned structure. Source / the author



Fig.6 / School conditions. Deterioration of public spaces. Source / the author

parts of the literature on shrinkage have little relevance for rural areas." (Hospers, Syssner, 2018:10-11).

In the case of Vrisera, there is no shortage of housing stock, because the latter are emptied due to the emigration and migration of the population. Hence, the possible trajectory is the reuse, or the adoption to temporary usage, by putting this stock in the market with competitive cost in the area. "Housing can be considered a part of the problem

of demographic decline as well as a part of the solution " cited (Szafranska, Coudroy de Lille and Kazimierzczak, 2019: 444). But this offer must correspond to a demand. The shrinkage phenomenon can be seen from a different perspective, as Marco Bontje explains it when talking about Leipzig. In some cases, it offers opportunities that some cities don't have. He refers to spaces for innovation, green spaces, affordable rents, sub-cultures etc. Similar opportunities like affordable rents, innovation spaces for startup companies,

and land vacancies to host events are important to be taken in consideration in our case.

As mentioned earlier, several companies develop their industrial activities in the village. Upper Dropulli, the administrative unit where Vrisera village belongs, has a concentration of 41% of companies with a significant number of large companies. Brand new innovations and start-up companies are the target groups which may capitalize on the available empty space with easy access to the national road and the village center. The example of Leipzig dealing with shrinkage, underlines the impact of BMW factory construction and also the role of cultural and sports events⁴. The cultural components applied in the village center may help the shift from transition state to opportunity. In order to recover the settlement and restore its attractiveness, it is important to identify the possibilities inherent to community. The liminal nature of business and cultural activities, like the festivals, provides a temporary occupancy by triggering the demand for hospitality, shelter and other basic needs. Such demand necessitates in turn the rental schemes and utilization of renovated infrastructure and services. Empowering the village by constructing its attractiveness related to a specific development will help the social and economic interaction among villages and have an impact in municipal incomes.

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⁴ / Organized in 2002 Turnfest, with about 100,000 participants.

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Actions for sustainable development: A strategy for rural growth in Dropull municipality aiming the improvement of the rural architecture through the promotion of local available resources

keywords / rural development, building materials, community infrastructure, vernacular architecture, environment.

Laia Gemma García Fernández
PhD researcher / Ferrara University

Abstract

The rapid depopulation that is emptying the rural areas around Europe is a common problem that also affects Albania: countryside areas in Albania are facing serious social and economic changes due to the abandonment and decay of the smaller town centres, where the age of inhabitants is unstopably growing due to the centralization of the industries and production services in bigger urbanized areas. The lack of infrastructures and facilities for the community as well as for potential tourists, brings about the necessity of re-thinking how to design a rural development model that satisfies the social, economic and environmental sustainability for the development of rural areas. The overview of villages in Dropull municipality shows how depopulation has given rise to the degradation of vernacular architecture and therefore, the decline of the construction and the local businesses related to building materials. This has led the Albanian government to launch the initiative "100+ village academy", whose main objective is to design tailor-made development models for rural areas, based on tourism potential. Therefore, finding strategies to promote the gradual reactivation of buildings, public infrastructures, community services, monuments and tourism attractions seems to be key to succeed in the development of rural areas in Dropull municipality.

Acknowledging the great contribution that rural and vernacular architecture can give to the development of the area, this work aims to understand the building typologies, uses and techniques, as well as the urban fabric of the Dropull villages, with a focus on Jorgucat. In addition, the current situation of the built environment will be applied to specific building contexts, with the intention not only to build sustainable infrastructure but also promote the economy of the community by the reactivation of rural tourism and businesses. The design and construction as a trigger in the development process of a rural village becomes a key moment to foster the economy, the environment and the sense of belonging to a community.

Introduction

There is no doubt that the current crisis that rural areas are facing is an important issue that our policymakers have to tackle in order to find solutions for the development of those areas. In fact, in Dropull Municipality, several researches have been carried out to quantify how depopulation is affecting the development of the area. During the last 15 years, the population has decreased 60%, and by January 2016 the number of inhabitants was evaluated in 7200, with only a 4% of young people between 0 and 14 years old (ISTAT, Bashkise Dropull Strategjia Territoriale 2015). Due to this massive

migration process, urban centres are growing more and more, receiving thousands of people coming from rural settlements in search of a better quality of life, while in the rural areas businesses are financially depending by remittances of migrants spread all over Europe. In developing countries like Albania, the driving force of the economy is represented by the construction sector, and specifically, in Dropull municipality it contributes to the local economy by 14% (ISTAT, regional accounts, 2015). This means a dynamic building activity, but its consequence is poor planning.

The crisis of rural Dropull affects directly

the built environment and the urban planning of those areas. These effects are translated on abandoned buildings, few infrastructures, poor planning and lack of long-term development strategies.

Most of the vernacular architecture found in rural Dropull are domestic buildings and family houses. Domestic architectures differ depending on the moment they were built. It is very common to still find vernacular houses made out of stone, with big arches in the entrance and with the well-known technique of flat stones roof. Domestic houses have a front open space used for gardening or to give shadow to the building, especially with vines. The use of local materials to build has been very common in rural areas. Benefiting from the resources that could be found in the surrounding environment represents the genius loci of the place (Zaffagnini, T., 1995). Buildings were used not only for the families, but also as a shelter for the cattle and to place agricultural tools in the ground floor. Despite the valuable use of the local knowledge to build, nowadays the influence of urban areas has led to the use of concrete structures, steel and corrugated sheets as part of the modern techniques now applied in rural areas. As a result of this situation, we find a landscape made up of 'informal' architecture that adopts different architectural styles and techniques. While in the past urban houses evolved from the rural houses, as several studies have demonstrated, now the features of urban constructions are being copied in rural areas, resulting in what we know as new vernacular architecture (Pashako, F., 2012).

State of the art

Vernacular architecture in Albania

The architecture of Albania has been greatly influenced by its location in the Mediterranean Sea, as it has been inhabited by numerous civilisations that have led to a very rich cultural heritage, shaping the building styles as well as techniques over the centuries.

The vernacular architecture in Albania plays an important role in the cultural heritage of the country, due to the great expansion that it has on the whole country. While there are significant examples of religious buildings, castles, as well as some commercial buildings and public infrastructures, the most widely spread typology of vernacular architecture is the domestic building or dwelling. Domestic constructions are "characterised by the development of planning and construction models able to make the most of the climatic conditions of the area, with the development of unwritten rules that are extremely effective regarding the orientation, the distribution of the rooms, and the natural hygrothermal control of the constructions" (Di Giulio, R., Zaffagnini, T., Brunoro, S., Longo, D., and Piaia, E., 2013)

Dwellings started to be built around the 15th century, and under the influence of the ottoman empire having a great impact on the typology features, would continue spreading around the country until the early 19th century (Pashako, F., 2012). In the beginning, the traditional dwelling was called the 'House of fire', as the functions of the house were positioned around a fireplace, being usually a two-floor house.



Fig.1 / Typical entrance of stone house in Jorgucat. Source / the author



Fig.2 / Health centre entrance in Jorgucat. Source / the author

The firehouse soon developed its main character adding sometimes a porch or a backyard to increase the relationship with the natural environment. This is a character that we still often see in traditional houses in rural areas, and the idea of using the ground floor for agricultural activities is still very common. Further developments of the dwelling included a balcony on top to receive guests. In some other types of dwellings, as defensive constructions, there were several floors in order to have a predominant view of the territory to protect themselves against attack. The rural landscape in the Albanian countryside is therefore influenced by the

traditional dwelling as a building that is itself surrounded by a private-open-space where agricultural activities or green gardens are the most predominant cases. This leads to low-density constructions and larger use of the land and space compared to urban areas.

The Dropull heterogeneous urban fabric

While there was a slow development during the communist regime due to centralized policies and a long period of isolation (Dollani, A., Lerario, A. And Maiellaro, N., 2016), this contributed to the preservation of vernacular architecture and its building techniques. Nowadays,



Fig.3 / Abandoned building in a local stone workshop. Source / the author



Fig.4 / Local stone workshop in Jorgucat. Source / the author

the desire to express the modernisation as much as possible through different styles and architectural languages has led the gradual loss of vernacular architecture. Therefore, in the Dropull area we can find fragmented and heterogeneous vernacular landscape, where the modern idiom is alternated with the vernacular style of the traditional buildings.

Focusing deeper to define the main characteristics of the two types of constructions that can be found in the area and taking Jorgucat as an example (1200 inhabitants), we find a village that is clearly divided in two areas with different features between them: In the upper part

of the village, the fabric is organic, roads are narrow and the predominant material is stone. The natural boundaries mark the limit of the urbanized area, and the sloped land gives peculiarity to the private plots that are separated by terraces. Each plot has a house, sometimes divided in more than one construction inside the plot, a vegetable garden, a vineyard, and seasonal fruits at the front part of the house, casting shadow during summer and letting light and enabling natural heating during winter months. The traditional material used to build the dwellings is stone, and the main technique to construct the walls is stone masonry, while the roof

structure is normally a timber-frame. For the last layer of the roof, the traditional technique with stone slabs is used. From an aesthetic point of view, these houses have a strong personality, and different characteristics can be found, such as arches in the entrances, colorful timber doors and other decorating items made out of stone or wood.

Analysing the lower part of Jorgucat, new standardized and functionalist buildings have brought a completely different view of the urban fabric, where each owner feels free to build anywhere on the property and in any way. The constructions consist of a single or two-family houses of two or three floors with different architectural styles; a building with architectural qualities is rarely found. The structure of the new vernacular buildings is made out of concrete, with pillars and slabs. The main material used to build the walls is the fired brick. The flat roof is the most commonly used but is also possible to find buildings with a four slopes roof, with ceramic roof tiles.

The crisis of new vernacular architecture

The municipality of Dropull consists of three administrative units, with a total of forty-one villages, of which only one of those (Dervişan) can be considered somehow urban while the rest of the inhabited territory has a significant rural character. According to the census of 2011, the total number of inhabitants in the entire municipality was 8415, while in the 2015 census the population had decreased to 7127 (ISTAT, local elections 2015), which means a loss of 15% of the total population. This data reveals the deep crisis that the area is facing.

When the new trends are not based on a solid foundation of tradition there is the risk of erasing local features and building traditions by replacing them with new contemporary techniques, and thus resulting in places without personality that could be anywhere. Therefore, the conservation of the rural folklore and the building techniques shouldn't get lost. But unfortunately, there are several events and plights which have led to the current situation: Since there is not much invested by the state in supporting agriculture (the main source of income in countryside areas), people have migrated to bigger cities, letting small centres die slowly. Elders cannot face this crisis without the help of the younger. Therefore, the interest in preserving the traditional architecture has been lost, and with it, also the skills needed to restore the old

constructions or build new constructions with local materials. Vernacular techniques like the stone masonry or the typical roof made out with stone slabs require very specialized labor, as well as a high budget due to the specificity of the craft and materials required. As a result, people cannot afford the restoration of their traditional dwellings, which results in unfinished or unrestored buildings all around the municipality. In addition, since the eighties, the incapability and the lack of resources, has given place to the new urban fabric with all the concrete buildings that have completely forgotten the traditional building techniques, depending on external resources and materials. This situation has caused the failure of many local economies, mostly related with the materials and the construction business, and has also led to the loss of the local workforce skills.

But the biggest paradox in this situation appears in relation to its position as a cross-border region with Greece. The neighbors from Greece follow strategic policies toward the preservation of the rural areas, such as the use of local materials and traditional techniques, thus limiting the modification of the built environment and the landscape. Surprisingly, however, the materials and resources used to restore their villages are coming from Albania, specifically from the Dropull municipality. First of all, stones in the quarries on the Greece-side are very hard to work with and therefore are very expensive in comparison with the Albanian stones, which are softer and easier to work with, and equally good for construction. (Interviews with locals, 2019). Moreover, a similar situation happens with wood as a building material. Since in Greece there are very strict policies aiming to protect the forest from deforestation, wood is often bought in Albania and then brought to Greece to be used in traditional timber roofing structures. These facts give a glimpse about the current situation in the municipality of Dropull, where there are no policies aiming for the protection of the environment and the promotion of traditional and local materials as a better solution for building.

Territorial strategy objectives and local actions

The case of Jorgucat is only one examples among the villages where vernacular architecture is disappearing, thus giving place to modern style buildings. This practice should be avoided in order to bring back the interest on this area and promote

sustainable development strategies and the conservation of the building heritage through the use of traditional techniques and building materials. In fact, the Albanian government has launched the initiative 100+ village academy (100+ village academy Initiative, Albanian Government, 2018), to promote models based on the tourism potential villages have.

Territorial strategy

Together with the Dropull municipality and with the support of the national territorial council, POLIS University has conducted research for a territorial strategic plan of the municipality of Dropull (Polis University and Dropull Municipality: Territorial plan, 2018). An action plan for territorial solutions has been developed. Four key strategic objectives have been designed, which aim to be tangible and easily applicable by the Municipality at a territorial level. One of the objectives is the Preservation of the rural character of settlements and the improvement of quality and living conditions, where architecture and construction play an important role. Through specific development policies, the rehabilitation of many areas that are currently abandoned or under critical conditions will be encouraged. The center and main infrastructure of each village must be regenerated in order to improve the lives of its residents and increase the security and quality of the public spaces, thus making all the villages attractive to tourists throughout the year.

Local development actions

To promote the preservation of the rural character and to enhance the living conditions of rural villages, actions that involve construction of buildings are of crucial importance. After having set up a series of territorial development strategies, the next actions have been thought to influence directly on people's life, by taking into account the potential for the revitalization of historical and vernacular buildings. Such actions raise the awareness and community's sense of ownership of the place. These specific actions aim to contribute to the sustainable development of the rural centres based on their tourism potential, and to the understanding of the role architecture and infrastructure in changing and improving the life of the community (Cattaneo, T., Giorgi, E., Ni, M., and Manzoni, G., 2015).

The local actions will be developed in the framework of the next goals:

1. Building and design: The construction of a building is important for the transmission

of the cultural heritage and the traditional building techniques, the enhancement of the history and the local businesses. The design and construction of a building, especially a public one, is key in spreading the knowledge about environmentally sustainable practices and boosting the economy of the area. Adequate building facilities enhance the capacity to attract potential tourism in the area.

2. Environment: This means to be aware about the territory and its importance for the community. It means enhancing the quality of the territory and its natural resources. It means being careful about the use of materials that the local environment provides. These environmental aspects must also be integrated with the local activities.

3. Community: People who actually live in these areas are the ones who makes the place liveable. Being aware of this is important in maintaining the sense of belonging to the community, the village, and the local environment. The sense of community increases when urban centres gather activities, and new public buildings and facilities increase the ability to stimulate the life quality for the neighbours.

4. Economy: It is a difficult goal but equally important to achieve the objective of sustainable development. It is important to consider the economic aspect of buildings, insofar as it implies a set of actions aiming to revive the productive activities and the employment opportunities, as well as local business enhancement.

The actions are:

- Analyse the lack of facilities in every village as a local approach and set up a series of buildings that are necessary to give the appropriate services to neighbours and tourists.

- Support with government funds those who want to restore old buildings in rural areas.

- Organize workshops in collaboration with universities to promote the use of traditional building techniques among those who might be interested, thus creating the context for the skills to be transferred to the younger generation.

- Use of local materials in order to incentivize local economies, to decrease the dependence from bigger cities, and to reduce the environmental footprint of construction

- Use of traditional building techniques

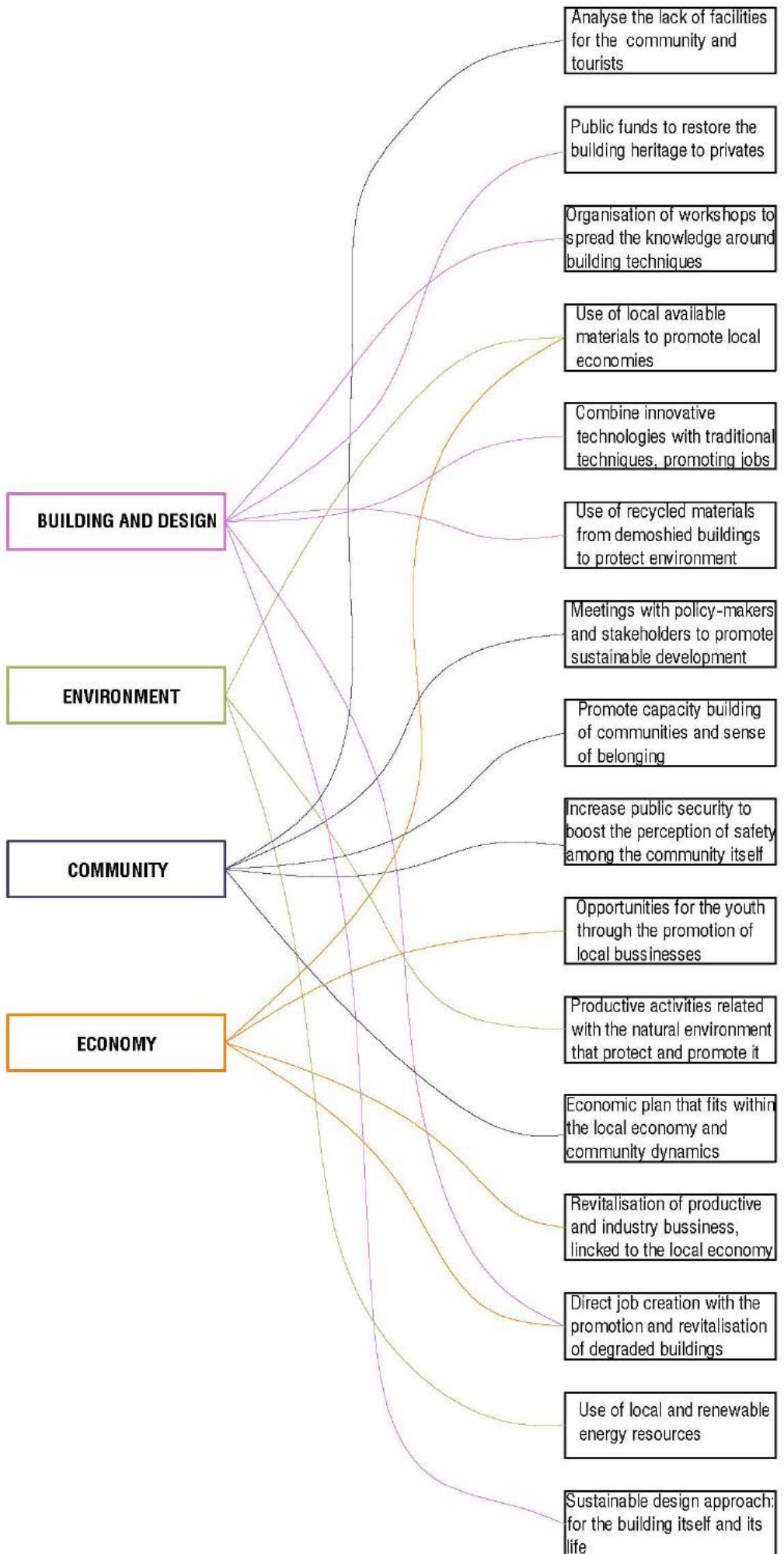


Fig.5 / Table of content: Goals linked to local actions. Source / the author



Fig.6 / Church in the old upper part of Jorgucat and the where community meets during national holidays to celebrate events. Source / the author



Fig.7 / The main road in the new modern part of Jorgucat also the main centre where public facilities are. Source / the author

that comes from tradition, combining them with the technological innovation to employ new workforces that adopt and transmit the building skills (as cultural heritage)

- Use of recycled materials, by taking the materials left from demolitions or abandoned building in order to reduce the ecological impact and create awareness of recycling
- Meet with policy-makers and stakeholders to set an open discussion about the restoration of buildings and the responsibilities of each one in the reconstruction of their villages.

- Promote the community capacity building with interventions that increase the quality of the communitarian awareness and the sense of belonging.
- Improve public safety, by increasing the perception of safety among the citizens.
- Facilitate initiatives to help young people to come back by creating an environment where working, business and residential opportunities can easily develop.
- Suitability of the natural environment, creating productive activities that are suited to the social context and the natural resources.
- Economic sustainability within a business

plan: the economic impact is evaluated as sustainable in terms of a wider economic plan

- Re-use of abandoned productive and service industries by recovering the existing buildings, and renewing them through functional and spatial interventions linked to the local economy.

- Immediate job-creating, new jobs employed with the direct link to the activities hosted or promoted by the building intervention

- Use of local and renewable energy resources beyond limiting the energy consumption during the construction and life phases of the building

- Sustainable design approach: opt for an ecologically-sustainable approach, both for the construction phase and for the building lifecycle.

With the implementation of the above-mentioned actions in relation with the four main goals to follow (Design, environment, community and economy), the objective is to stress the relationship between the revitalization of the villages with the development of those areas themselves. We believe that through actions and the implementation of policies directed to the conservation and re-valorization of building heritage, it is possible to make a gradual and incremental change of the structure of the complex social framework.

In order to make these actions useful in terms of practical application, there is a need for the policymakers to work close to the community and take into account all the stakeholders that may be involved with the process of the development of the area, and acknowledge that involving rural people themselves as partners in research is the most successful way to promote sustainable development (Chambers, R., 1983).

Conclusions

Twenty years after the end of the communism in Albania, after much abuse of reference models in the forms and language of architecture, it is important to ask ourselves how do we want to continue building our cities and villages, and in which direction do we want to develop our knowledge, in order to focus on our history, communities and dynamics of the country and promote a more sustainable way of living and building. No matter what their choice is, both the people living in cities and those in rural areas can have the resources and the possibilities to develop

their skills and knowledge. The specific actions proposed here aim to contribute to the sustainable development of the rural Dropull, with some local approaches that have been tested with other communities, in a constant search to increase the resilience of communities that takes advantage of their traditions, culture and people.

With the implementation of the four goals and further approach to the list of actions that policymakers, stakeholders and the community should cope with, it is possible to start rethinking the development of the area in a wider sense, taking thus into account all the different interrelated aspects related to the design, environment, community and economy. If we look at it in the long term, the projects that will arise from the implementation of the actions are expected to have a positive impact on the local communities and economy by raising awareness, cultural tourism, local investments and the improvement of a juridical instrument on a national and European level.

Looking at the global and local challenge and with the need of constant adaptation to the changes that rural areas face today, the purpose of this work is to highlight the value of vernacular architecture and traditional techniques as part of a suitable development model that contemporary rural areas should have. "Management policies of historical buildings can be reviewed both in theory and practice and the conservation of heritage buildings can be aided through certain forms of economic re-use." (Di Giulio, R., Zaffagnini, T., Brunoro, S., Longo, D., and Piaia, E., 2013).

If we consider the revitalization of the rural vernacular buildings as a trigger, it is possible to start a process in which the very act of 'building' or 'refurbishing' is just the beginning of a series of changes in the local economy, as well as in the community dynamics, in a relation with the environment and landscape, a process that can boost the community processes in all senses. Therefore, in order to continue improving and making those actions accessible to the local government, how could we tackle the depopulation through the lens of the vernacular architecture? How could the action of 'building' become the trigger to reshape the villages in a way that we can benefit from them? All those questions should be the next step in order to implement the work presented here.

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Growing thickness as a research methodology

keywords / liminality, design research, counterpoint, design anthropology.

Laura Boffi

PhD researcher / Ferrara University

Abstract

According to the Cambridge Academic Content Dictionary, 'thickness' is the distance between the opposite sides of something, as well as the quality of being thick. From the same dictionary, as an adjective, 'thick' also refers to the attribute of things growing close together, with little space between them and in large amounts. If an object is thick, it is difficult to see through it. These definitions look respectively at an object from the outside - recognising its opposite borders, and from the inside - appreciating the things populating the distance between those borders. Thickness consists of the opposite borders with the evolving entities growing within them simultaneously.

Therefore, discussing thickness implies dynamic zooming in and out. In the "Inquiries on Dropull's states of Liminality" workshop in Tirana, February 2019, the concept of thickness was appropriated to describe a desired state of liminality in several southern Albanian territories belonging to the Dropull region. At the workshop kick-off, the instructors highlighted liminal spaces as physical thresholds between the rural and the urban, and the teams were asked to work towards growing a thickness from such boundaries. In the following sections, I will describe the methodology enacted to grow thickness and I will draw an analogy with my PhD research project as it sits in a liminal space between disciplines that need to be scientifically positioned and defined.

Cross-sectioning boundaries

In his Manifesto of the Third Landscape Gilles Clément, defines the "third landscape" as "the sum of the space left over by man to landscape evolution – to nature alone. [...] This can be considered as the genetic reservoir of the planet, the space of the future" (Clément: 2004). He also defines the boundaries between the third landscape and human-inhabited landscape as particularly rich environments which most of the time contain much more species than the territories divided by them [Fig1]. Clément invites us to rethink linear boundaries as thickness and interstitial areas where different ecosystems meet and merge. Clément's thinking has been instrumental in the conceptual framing of the Tirana workshop.

As a methodology for the Tirana workshop, operative transversalities

and acupuncture interventions have been suggested in order to enable teams to elaborate customised urban design strategies for each assigned Albanian territory. Operative transversalities refer to the possibility of cross-sectioning a longitudinal territory, such as a Dropull village with its system of the countryside, mountains, rivers, residential and commercial areas, historical heritages, roads. Such cross-sections revealed the limits of each element in the system as transitional, unexploited boundaries which potentially could weave the physical and the social dimensions of the village.

Agopunctural interventions followed cross-sectioning and were meant as meaningful urban design artefacts to populate those boundaries. Therefore, workshop teams were encouraged to "cut & weave" by introducing urban acupuncture. Cross-sectioning is the

first action to be performed in order to zoom in into a system, look between the limits of two boundary objects in the system and design for the growth of the space in between those limits. Clement's boundaries thickness should result from the combined actions of cross-sectioning at the right spot, where more natural, artificial and social elements were contemporary present, and then of expanding the revealed borders into stand-alone areas. I believe that cross-sectioning could be a powerful conceptual tool to grow thickness between the most diverse domains and to enable dynamic exchanges among them.

Cross boundaries research as a counterpoint

As an analogy, I think of my PhD research project standing in a liminal space which needs to be scientifically positioned in between other disciplines. The topic of my PhD is about new social interactions enabled by an autonomous car. Even if it mostly belongs to the domain of interaction and service design, it touches diverse scientific domains such as Human-Computer Interaction, Anthropology, Engineering, just to list a few. In the design research field, my being in a state-less condition is not an isolated case. It has been a temporary high-entropy condition for many researchers which, as far as I see, was sorted out in two different ways. Some researchers came up with original manifestos and situated their work "at the border" within a particular discipline. This can be the case of Tim Brown (Brown, 2008) and Jane

Fulton Suri (Suri, 2001: 1278-1289) from IDEO and their human-centred approach beyond pure ergonomics that made a product design agency mutating into an innovation consultancy (Brown and Katz, 2011). Through their vision, the design objectives and methodology expanded and the design discipline itself evolved. In some other cases, researchers have hunted for new territories where their research questions could be grounded, diverse knowledge could be shared among different disciplines and research methods could be appropriated. This is the case of the Design Anthropology discipline, which, according to Otto and Smith, is "[...] a style of knowledge production and practical intervention that straddles two separate knowledge traditions with markedly different objectives, epistemic assumptions, and methods" (Otto and Smith, 2013: 1-29). In the following paragraphs, I will dig into the constituents of Design Anthropology to understand how such territory has emerged.

First of all, we need to clearly acknowledge that Design Anthropology is not the anthropology of design, and so the design is not the object of analysis. Design and anthropology merged into a new discipline in such a way that design embraced a way of thinking other than setting determinate ends in advance, and anthropology expanded beyond the analysis of what has already come to pass [6]. The entropy of design and anthropology merging at their borders enabled a system of transformation in which design strives for an open-ended

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process and results, being suited to the improvisatory nature of the everyday human life, while anthropology embraces speculative inquiries into possible human futures. Some anthropologists define Design Anthropology as anthropology by means of design (Otto and Smith, 2013: 1-29), and from a designer perspective, which I embody, this can be considered symmetric: Design Anthropology as design by means of anthropology. The key point is that at the boundaries both disciplines rethought each other and came up with a common agenda which turned the distance between the two origin borders thicker and thicker. Gatt and Ingold (Gatt and Ingold, 2013: 139-158) introduced the concept of correspondence as instrumental to this mutual rethinking of the two disciplines which led to the emergence of the new Territory of Design Anthropology. According to their thinking, correspondence is the opposite of facing each other and can be described as the movement of proceeding forward together, sharing the same visual field. It can be assimilated to the action of walking abreast (Lee and Ingold, 2013: 67) or to the action of making music together as a band or a chamber group (Schütz, 1951: 76-97). This kind of interaction implies that all actors move towards the same direction and that they stop very rarely to turn to face one another. Eye-to-eye contact, even if it induces a perfect union between the involved persons in a specific moment, is motionless. Correspondence, instead, allows all parties to move and "[...] wrap around each other like melodies in counterpoint." (Gatt and Ingold, 2013: 139-158). According to Gatt and Ingold, Design Anthropology as a discipline is a correspondence between two parties, design and anthropology, which converse and answer each other like in a counterpointed piece of music. Design and anthropology set up a new territory not to describe each other, but to answer to each other by their own means. Only by looking at the score of a counterpointed music, everybody can recognise that all parties play together [Fig2] and answer to each other, for example by exchanging music themes as in a Bach's Fugue [Fig3].

As stated by Fux and Mann [9], the study of counterpoint might be compared to the study of perspective (Fux and Mann, 1971). Both were important in Renaissance art and both reflect the rise of three-dimensional thought. Instead of merely aggregating parts in a two-dimensional approach, counterpoint conceives its composition by its depth, its

thickness. The word counterpoint comes from the Latin *punctus contra punctum*, which means note against note, as shown in Fig3. Counterpoint compositions are polyphonic music pieces with two or more voices. Its simplest expression is based on a main melody (*cantus firmus*) and its tones, above which, one or more additional voices are set so that to every tone of the *cantus firmus* is added a consonant tone in the other voice/s (Fux and Mann, 1971) (Schönberg and Stein, 1982). As Schönberg states "the only rules demanding the interdependence of contrapuntal voices are these: that the voices should meet at certain points incomprehensible harmonies, and that together they should distinctly express the tonality. Otherwise, they should be as independent as possible. [...] Independence is reduced if they meet too often in primes or octaves [intervals]" (Schönberg and Stein, 1982). If voices are not different enough when they meet, counterpoint is not effective. Harmonies can be read vertically, as a cut through the score, a cross-section of the voices playing together in a particular moment. Harmonies express the tonality of a particular music piece, its own identity. They should not be numerous; otherwise music become monotonous and movement slows down. The maximum expressions of counterpoint are Bach's Fugues. Bach genius is shown by his way of keeping the voices moving forward, without rarely stopping them into harmonies, yet letting them incidentally converging into meaningful harmonies to promptly leave the spot and continue the musical movements as a variation of the theme. Counterpoint teaches us how different voices can independently progress and at the same time dialogue in a dynamic way; how from time to time they come together into meaningful harmonies; how the same voices quickly move out from still harmonies and proceed their movements as evolved and enriched entities. Coming back to Design Anthropology, where the concept of counterpoint was introduced in this paper, it has been growing into a cross boundaries discipline thanks to its contrapuntal structure between Design and Anthropology. Drawing from the analysis of Design Anthropology and counterpoint, the aim of this paper is to define my PhD methodology as a counterpointed research.

Iteration of my research methodology through counterpoint

My initial PhD methodology has been defined as a people-centred design process departing from two initial design



*Fig1. Saint Nazaire garden by Gilles Clément.
Source / <https://www.area-arch.it/en/jardins-du-tiers-paysage/>*

concepts, where no contributing discipline was visualized [Fig4]. The process unfolds through fieldwork, being synthesized into insights and opportunity areas, concept generation through brainstorming, co-creation and prototyping. The process is iterative and thus one can go through the steps "as needed" (Ideo, 2011). In order to inform my project with knowledge from neighbouring disciplines, I started to iterate my methodology. I stepped back from my people-centred design process and I started wandering on the boundaries of several different scientific territories which were already researching on autonomous driving and people interactions, such as: Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), Design Anthropology, User Experience (UX), Philosophy of Mind, Urbanism. Moreover, for each discipline, I pointed out particular research groups as my privileged speakers. Still, in such bi-dimensional representation, those disciplines and my process just face each other and do not converse [Fig5].

Then, I introduced counterpointing as the following operation. I managed to layer the neighbouring disciplines on top of my process and eventually enabled a conversation among my own research and theirs. The iterated research methodology pictures several scientific voices proceeding in parallel and meeting at particular points as temporary harmonies [Fig6]. Meaningful meetings in-between the borders of the different disciplines

have consisted so far of a number of ongoing activities I have undertaken, such as visiting periods, workshops, co-authoring papers, inviting researchers from different disciplines to participate in my fieldwork or prototyping sessions.

Each activity populates the distance between the opposite sides of our respective disciplines and is represented as a cut through the scientific voices. In such a process, my PhD research results to be scientifically positioned at the boundary space of different disciplines, and to be growing thickness as long as me together with others meet to speculate on new little pieces of knowledge that do not belong specifically to any restricted discipline.

Conclusion and next steps

The counterpoint approach has allowed my work to be recognised by the neighbouring disciplines as well as retained its own design-research autonomy. Moreover, the harmonies created with cross-sectioned disciplines have revealed all those pieces of knowledge that remain mainly tacit in design practise and design research (Schön, 1992: 3-14). Building on what Schön defined as designers' knowledge in action, according to which designers know more than what they explicitly are able to describe, the counterpoint approach has enabled the other disciplines to define and position the knowledge produced through my work. This is so far evident in my PhD



Fig2. / Some extracted bars from Canzon Seconda, by Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1617). In the dashed square, everyone can appreciate that the four parties play exactly together. The red lines highlight some possible cross-sections which create harmonies.

Source / [https://imslp.org/wiki/Canzon_II_a_4%2C_Ch.187_\(Gabrieli%2C_Giovanni\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Canzon_II_a_4%2C_Ch.187_(Gabrieli%2C_Giovanni))

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Fuga IV (a 5 Parti)



Fig3. / Some extracted bars from the Fugue No. 4 in C-Sharp Minor, BWV 849, 5 parties. (The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1). Everyone can appreciate the theme, highlighted, which get exchanged by the parties answering each other and proceeding forward all together.

Source / [https://imslp.org/wiki/Das_wohltemperierte_Klavier_I,_BWV_846-869_\(Bach,_Johann_Sebastian\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Das_wohltemperierte_Klavier_I,_BWV_846-869_(Bach,_Johann_Sebastian))

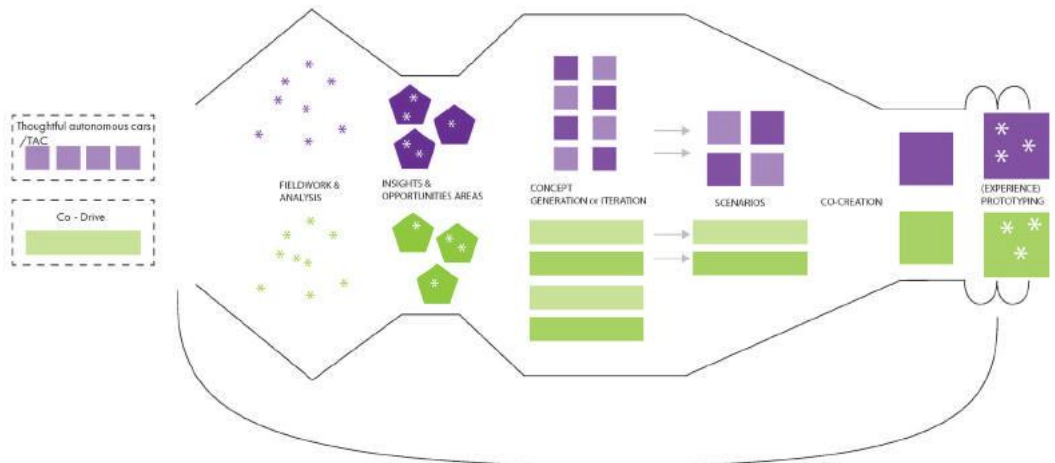


Fig4. / The initial people-centred design process for my PhD research, where no contributing disciplines are visualised. Source / the author.

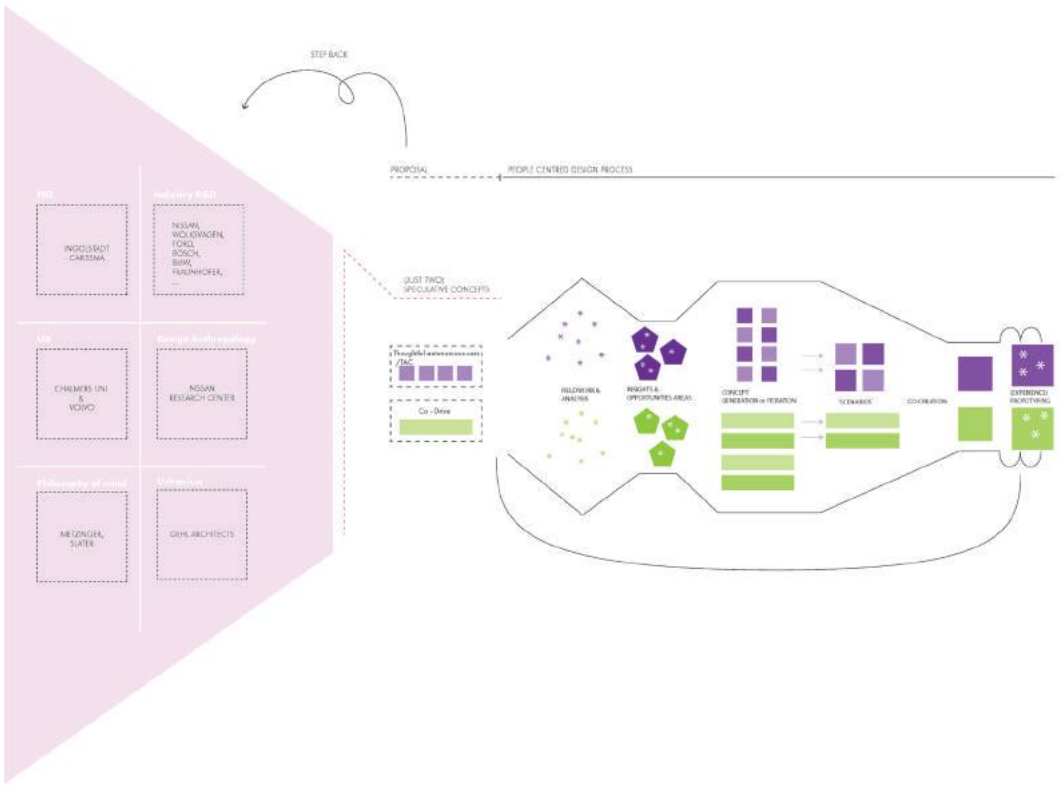
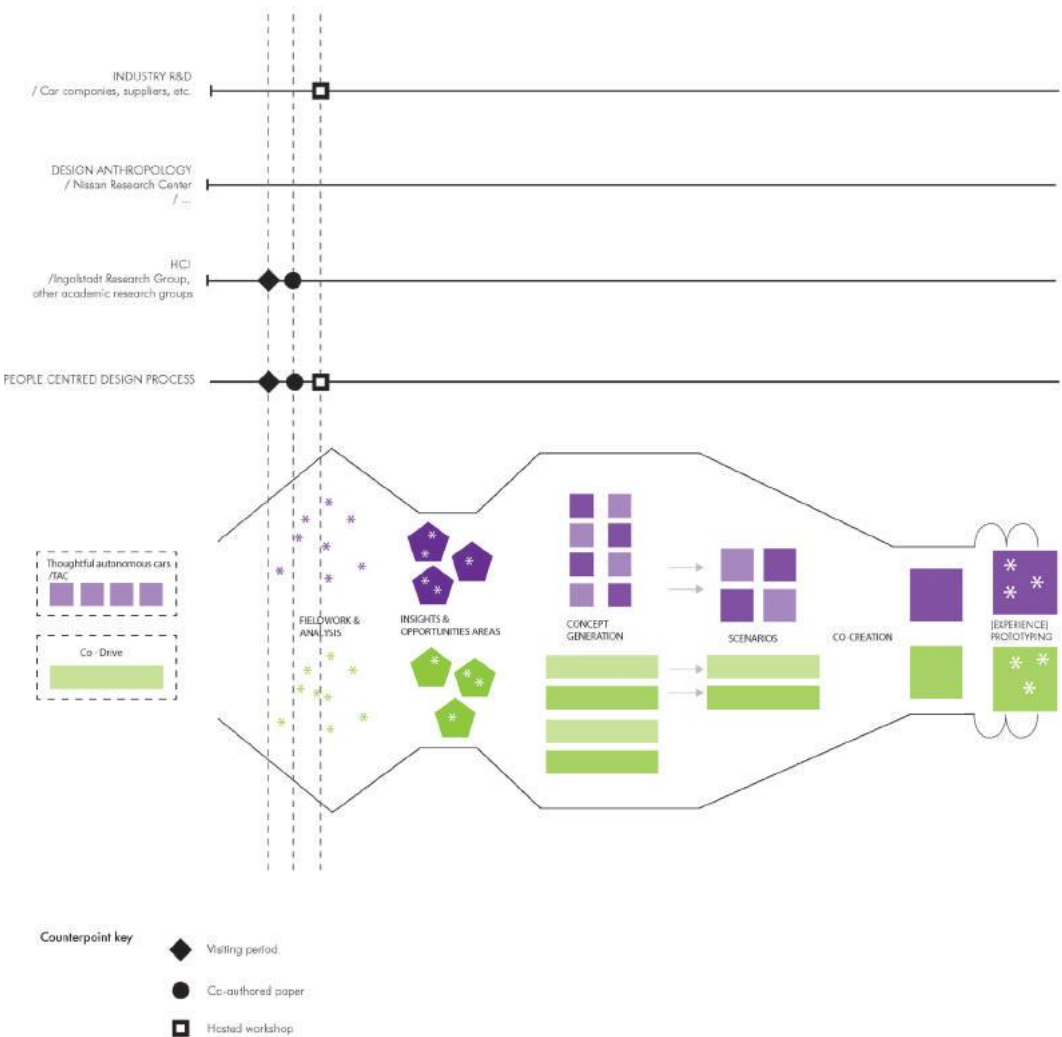


Fig5. / Stepping back and introducing contributing disciplines as an iteration of my research methodology. Source / the author



- Counterpoint key
- ◆ Visiting period
 - Co-authored paper
 - Hosted workshop

Fig6. / Different approaches and disciplines are laid down as in a music score, allowing counterpoint. Cross sectioning reveal harmonies (through a vertical cut) which stand as achievements accomplished while the disciplines/approaches merged. Source / the author.

research through the collaboration with researchers from the HCI community in co-authoring papers: while my contribution focuses mainly to arguments, design concepts and the decisions leading to them, their contribution is to frame such original content within established scientific theories and to support it with relevant literature.

As the next step of my PhD work, I aim to differentiate further the way I populate the distance between my design process and the other disciplines by the introduction of new counterpoint keys, as I defined them in Fig6. A couple of potential new ones could be:

- the “hosted experiment”, which would consist of the collaboration with external research labs to design and run experiments on my design concepts. A “hosted experiment” would aim to probe specific HCI or social science-related research questions raising from my design work;

- the “technology appropriation”, which would consist in making use of pieces of technologies developed by other research labs in my prototypes.

The placement of new counterpoint keys would suit the design phases of the concept generation and co-creation which will be unfolding in the second year of my PhD research, so to keep growing thickness as the design research process interweaves with other different disciplines and research domains.

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Overlapping Layers: a representation and learning landscape code for Dropull

Key words / integrated survey, cultural heritage, stratification, layers, landscape.

Martina Suppa

PhD researcher / Ferrara University

Abstract

This research paper provides a base for drawing up the development of a general strategy and "acupunctural" experiences to identify and record liminal landscape potentialities of the Municipality of Dropull, located in the South-eastern cross border area between Albania and Greece. According to this key objective, the study looks at the liminal characteristics and potentials of Sofratikë, one of the four villages of the valley of the Drinos River, in order to achieve the knowledge and understanding of many positive features related to the liminal dimensions of landscape, metaphysical landscapes, and landscape experience. The analysis moves from two main driver-topics - "Landscape" and "History", to a general strategy that defines acupunctural interventions at a later stage. The acupunctural systems – water, roads, mountains, valley, archaeological area, and Sofratikë village - are those landscape and design strategies aimed at identifying specific sub-areas of intervention in the macro landscape unit. In fact, they are independent parts of the landscape, which - if interconnected - allow an overview of the macro landscape unit. Therefore, the acupunctural interventions become actions of modification and sustainable development of the territory, because of levels of the same landscape unit, or rather of the same milieu. In the order to achieve these aims, the research identifies a specific methodology, by focusing on Sofratikë's landscape' layers, classifying different stratification layers of the area: archaeological area, historic-settlement, rural and agricultural landscape.

A first approach to analyze Sofratikë's landscape is aimed at mapping and – at a later stage - overlapping the main physical layers, which have been defined and distinguished as the following stratification levels: the mountains, Sofratikë city, the quarry, the agricultural fields, Hadrianopoli. Starting from this investigation and after an overall photo screening, a first, possible general strategy has been outlined, focusing on the identification of two main liminal development directions. Within the first direction, the longitudinal liminality has been analysed, connecting Sofratikë's historical and rural city with the archaeological area of Hadrianopoli, through the main physical infrastructure - the national road - and natural systems – agriculture landscape and Drinos River. The second direction highlights the transversal liminality developing the connection between the Sofratikë system (just embedded the historic city, Hadrianopoli, natural, rural and infrastructure systems) with other archaeological sites like Antigonea and Melan. Once this framework has been established, the main acupunctural strategy to achieve the revitalization of this site has been investigated. Four principal clusters have been identified as driver-systems to plan the punctual redevelopment strategy and related following acupunctural activities.

These potentials, which characterize the rural and cultural context, are in contrast to real and current area's conditions, which is mainly abandoned. Therefore, to promote a coherent revitalization of Sofratikë, which could involve the adjacent villages, and to identify appropriate acupunctural actions, this first analysis – that of using the integrated survey approach and procedure would need to be improved. Indeed, this approach can achieve an analytical knowledge of the city system, thorough documentation and data collection (using different devices and methodologies according to the purposes of the survey). Moreover, this

procedure will allow transferring and aggregating the main aspects - "layers"- of the historical, cultural and landscape Heritage using "semantic" models (connecting different information - documentation, plans, historical data, etc. - to survey drawings or models), making possible an increase of landscape's valorisation and the fruition of the whole area. Furthermore, through this methodology, which allows one to connect and overlay different levels of data and information, it's possible to verify the general strategy, while checking and strengthening related acupuncture interventions. The integrated documentation and survey procedures, using a multidisciplinary approach, allows "reading", analysing and explaining the main layers characterizing this area. In fact, involving in this process many actors with different and specific skills, it is possible to open new research avenues towards the knowledge, understanding, conservation, safeguard, redevelopment and valorisation of the architectural, urban and environmental heritage of the whole Municipality of Dropull.

Introduction

The liminal landscape is configured as a morphing space, an overlapping of sedimentary layers in continuous physical, social and cultural transformation. Analyzing a liminal landscape means, therefore, adopting a multi-scalar and interactive approach, precisely because it's possible to recognize different stages of physical space - natural and perceptual, in which the social dynamics, the complex internal and external relations to this specific social-spatial ecosystem play a special role. In this dimension of "limen", the landscape, as a place built and transformed by human action, becomes a flexible and adaptable organism, far from being a linear and deterministic process. It is conceived as a dynamic perceptive process in the representation, organization and classification of space, an element of an order of the community conflict that is reflected in the transformation, or rather in the new definition of the physical, natural and cultural features of a place. From this perspective, analysing the liminality

of a landscape means asking which models of stratigraphic, morphological and geometric representation and interpretation should be adopted. Which are the codes to read and identify the conflicts, therefore, the potentials of the site? Could these decoded and represented potentials be in harmony with information for the planning and development of an entire area and its community?

The landscape dimension contains the concept of limen. In fact, Landscape, as Couquelin states, "is a representation of the unrepresentable, the visible form of the invisible, which is typical of our representation of nature, the prodigy of an invisible for an instant that is seen" (A. Couquelin, 1995). This means that in the landscape all the figurative and cultural signs of traces, sensations, sedimentary lines that find physical correspondence are in harmony with each other. The landscape, as will be also seen in the case study analysed, includes complex relationships, not hierarchically organized and trans-disciplinary - natural, anthropic, historical, urban-architectural,



Fig. 1 / Sofratikë's city landscape. Source / the author

socio-economic. In this framework, it is necessary to define a matrix, a structure, a figurative synthesis, as per Eisenman (L. Prestinenzza Puglisi, 2001, p. 68-69), which can facilitate the understanding of the real dimension. This matrix is composed of signs, which in the current study become layers of the landscape. By representing, classifying and organizing these layers, it is possible to decode the entire system and its features, extending the methodological approach to the other villages of the Municipality of Dropull. Intrinsically, the landscape will be broken down into its characterizing elements: specific layers will narrate the specificity, criticality, and potentiality of the site. Through these components, following longitudinal liminality and transversal liminality, many natural, historic, cultural, economic and social layers are defined. Mapping and overlapping landscape levels, the whole organism of the landscape of Sofratikë will be outlined. This leads to a framework view suggesting guidelines for sustainable social, economic and cultural development and valorisation of the area under investigation.

Strategy: liminal layers

In the landscape "dimension" of the Municipality of Dropull the concept of limit should be understood as a possibility to identify new meanings that raise real possible directions of development of the area. Liminality shall be understood as a mark, an interactive and dynamic container in which all the social, cultural and economic tightness are included and where new landscape frameworks with their identities are built. "Limits are not set as clear signs (...); instead they represent elements of the passage, transitory dimensions, able to mark the difference between what is now, and what, instead, is not yet there or that maybe there will be

tomorrow" (A. Balzola, A. M. Monteverdi, Milano 2004, p. 526).

Considering this context, the first step to analyse the liminal potential of the municipality of Dropull, starting from the pilot case of Sofratikë's village, is to apply an integrated approach. This procedure allows reading and analysing the main factors characterizing the liminal unit of the territory: crosswise and longitudinal liminality. A process of description and representation of the entire complex landscape system aims to decode the main stratigraphic signs, meanings, and signifiers, within the longitudinal landscape and the transverse landscape systems. The longitudinal landscape system holds together the architectural and urban system of the village, with the rural and infrastructural system and the archaeological area of Hadrianopoli. The transverse landscape system connects the described longitudinal unit with neighbouring systems having similar geomorphological, socio-economic and historical-cultural characteristics.

The identification and definition of the layers characterizing the territory is a fundamental action. These levels are physical and metaphysical boundaries, geometric-morphological, historical, cultural, natural, rural and socio-economic signs of Municipality of Dropull. Therefore, a relevant step is defining a matrix of layers allowing the multi and inter-scalar reading of the landscape, translating and interpreting the complexity, in order to decode the stratigraphic limits of the landscape unit and trace the existing spatial-temporal interconnections and interrelationships. This reading and representation approach should help to build a new strategic development view for the community of Drinos valley. Therefore, in order to achieve this aim, it is necessary

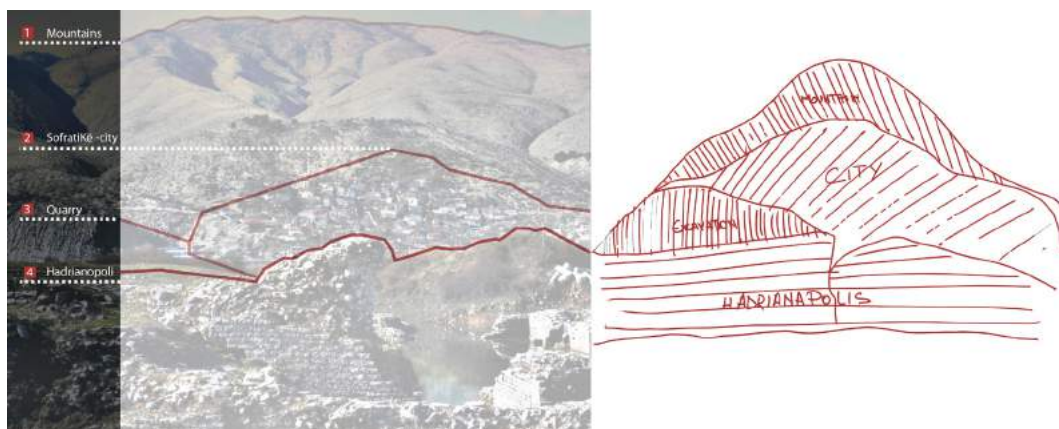


Fig.2 / Sofratikë's landscape. Stratification levels: the mountains, Sofratikë city, the quarry, the agricultural fields, Hadrianopoli. Source / ilmages developed by B. Nika, E.Petërçi, M. Suppa

to start mapping the landscape layers, build a system of overlapping thematic maps, and then restore and interpret the complexity of the liminal components. In this context, it is relevant to use and apply integrated survey methodologies and procedures. The purpose of using integrated surveying systems is to get digital databases, through the use of geo-information systems GIS and three-dimensional models, through laser scanning or digital photogrammetry connected with interoperable and integrated platforms. For instance, BIM platforms allow connecting physical elements (represented as parametric entities) with semantic elements of the landscape. The integrated approach could encourage planning a more efficient restoration, improvement and upgrading activities to revitalize Drinos valley's villages, and promoting more conscious documentation, conservation, protection and enhancement of the cultural heritage and landscape of Municipality of Dropull.

This research, starting from the Sofratikë's case study, proposes to elaborate a decoding and representation code of the liminal landscape. The aim is to support new approaches for the

conservation, preservation, restoration, management of landscape system of the villages of Dropull and, as future steps, to promote all the possible actions to achieve an effective revitalization strategy proposal of the whole territory, and support and enable collaboration among local people and all different actors active in this field. First, the main layers characterizing the territory can be identified: the archaeological stratification in the area of Hadrianopoli, the historical settlement of the urban centre, natural and environmental values in the rural area and the quarry adjacent Sofratikë. These tangible layers are strongly linked to the social and economic productive structure of the place, a structure which, today, is almost completely disintegrated. In this direction, the study will analyse integrated survey methodologies and technological approaches to carry out and apply effective strategies for the conservation, valorisation, and enhancement of a unified vision of the area by interlacing and superimposing its specific identity layers (Fig. 2).

Therefore, by applying survey devices such as 3D laser scanning, digital photogrammetry, GIS system, it is possible to integrate collected data in

an H-BIM environment (Historical or Heritage BIM: parametric modelling applied to Cultural Heritage). These digital data can be structured and fed into integrated platforms, which can then be used to analyse, decode and represent liminal layers surveyed within the area in a diachronic dimension, allowing to collect in one digital model all the information needed to manage sustainable development and regeneration of this Region. To achieve this goal, integrated survey systems and procedures will be adopted; different survey devices will be used during all phases of documentation, acquisition, representation, analytic interpretation and data management, depending on intrinsic specific landscape features under analysis. Through the GIS information systems, it is possible to realize cartographies and map specific layers of the area. They could be identified in four main units:

- the environmental system, which includes the Drino river canal system and the mountain system;
- cultural heritage, namely the system of churches of Sofratikë and the archaeological area of Hadrianopoli;
- historical settlement system, including the consolidated urban fabric with its typical buildings, the traditional terraces and the typical paths built with local stone;
- the productive economic system in the area connecting Sofratikë with Hadrianopoli.

Applying this integrated methodology, it is possible to achieve a first syntactic reconnaissance of the landscape unit, through a thematic map for each of the four main liminal layer and its sub-environments. These layers are liminal levels; in fact, each of them represents a singular system. Therefore, through cartography, it is possible to overlap them and allow the transversal reading of the specific identities - archaeological, historical, landscape, settlement, socio-economic.

GIS cartography allows implementing a multi-scalar reading of all aspects of the territory: different landscapes, described by different layers integrated into single matrix cartography, will be represented and decoded within a single landscape unit.

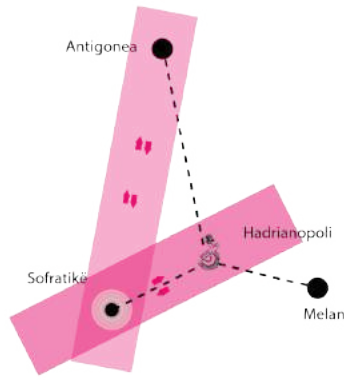
Furthermore, through GIS cartography it is possible mapping a connecting spatial limit and lead it back to spatial objectives that respond to specific cultural and socio-economic needs, which can be understood as starting points for an appropriate strategy of enhancement and regeneration.

This system allows managing the monitoring of the ongoing urban and social transformations and future possible actions of cultural and socio-economic development, defining efficient programs of restoration, valorisation, and regeneration of the whole Municipality of Dropull. Overlapping the maps of the liminal layers, it is possible to identify buffer zones and diaphragm areas where services and activities corresponding to the potential of socio-economic development networks can be inserted. Moreover, by using laser scanning integrated into digital photogrammetry, it is possible to acquire and manage punctual and accurate information on the urban, architectural, archaeological and infrastructural systems. These technologies allow achieving more precise documentation, conservation, protection and enhancement of Sofratikë's cultural heritage and landscape.

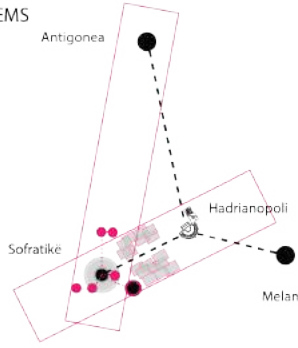
Applying these technologies and integrating them with a topographic survey could allow morphological, geometrical, structural and environmental analysis of different urban volumes, ranging from the architectural to the territorial scale. In fact, by using these devices, an integrated digital database can be carried out: many captured data can be queried, extracted, and used to organize geometrical, morphological typological and technical classification of the traditional cultural and landscape heritage. The role of data captured and processed to support systematic and accurate documentation, representation and interpretation of the cultural and landscape assets is evident. 3D models related to other integrated digital and geographic systems guarantee knowledge and representation of geometry and morphology survey of each landscape element allowing to represent data at the architectural and territorial scale and morphological landscape sections. In this direction, through the 3D model containing laser scanning, photographic, and topographic data, an integrated and implemented database can be realized. The integrated survey becomes essential to support the creation of a comparative model - available in real-time - through which it is possible to decode the architectural, urban, archaeological, infrastructural, sedimented signs of the village's landscape and support documentation, representation, conservation, restoration, enhancement and maintenance projects. Therefore, the laser scanner acquisition methodology connected to the digital photographic and topographical survey

2 STRIPES/ 2DIRECTIONS

Sofratikë → Hadrianopolis
Sofratikë → Antigonea



4 CLUSTER SYSTEMS



archeological system

historic system

economic activities

agricultural landscape



Fig.3 / Developed Strategy: by B. Nika, E.Petërçi, M. Suppa during PhD Workshop 34th Cycle, follow up for PUBLICATION RURBAN SEQUENCES. Inquiries on Dropull's states of Liminality

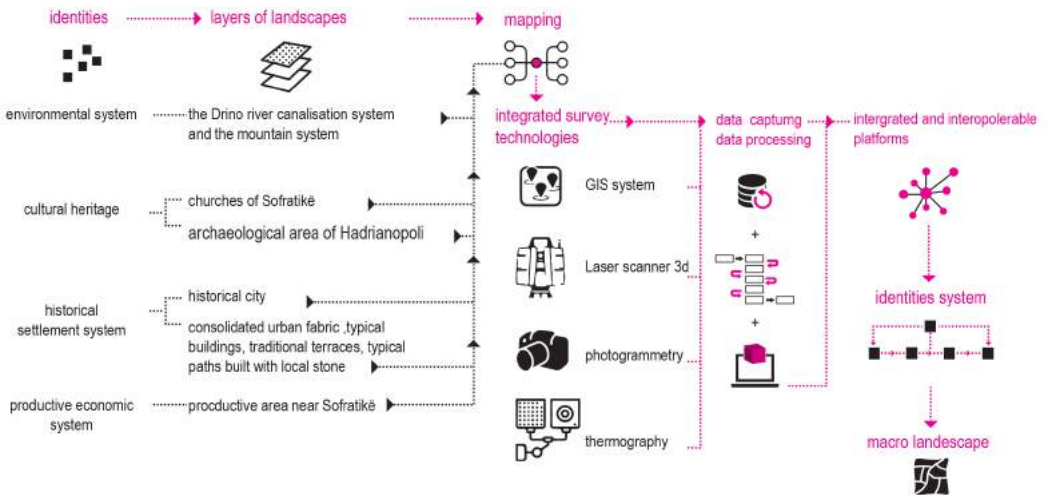


Fig.4 / Integrated survey approach. Source / Methodological diagram developed by the author

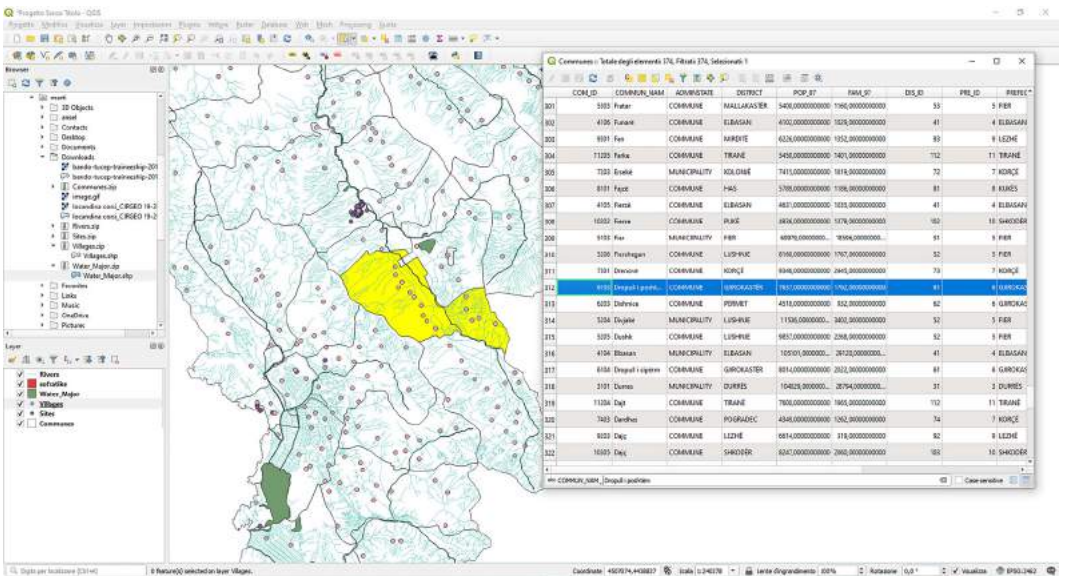


Fig.5 / Example of cartographic elaboration on QGIS of the municipality of Dropull. Source / the author

is aimed at validating the survey process integrated with a complex landscape context for morphology and its accessibility levels, since it allows to decode, define and represent the morphometric information of the landscape context modified over time by human action. Indeed, having an integrated morphometric database allows to identify some liminal layers of the natural, urban architectural landscape and to assess the transformations, losses, processes of degradation, changes. In this context, this methodology could support the enhancement of the archaeological area, both for the documentation of the amphitheatre and as a tool of preventive archaeology for future planning of a new excavation campaign. Working along the liminal diaphragm of the Hadrianopoli archaeological area could trigger processes of enhancement and regeneration pushing both towards Sofratike, and towards the adjacent archaeological areas, such as Antigonea. Therefore, experimentations with the integrated methodology could effectively be used as a resource for regeneration, where universities and higher education schools could, in cooperation with local authorities, open real processes of social and cultural revitalization for this area. Moreover, the database could be the basis for the design of a BIM digital platform, where morphometric layers are related to semantic layers. The aim is to have an implementable and interoperable platform necessary to regulate the restoration, conservation, maintenance and management of the existing cultural heritage, but also to provide an efficient tool for enhancement actions and the inclusive fruition of data and metadata, accessible to different users - from experts to tourists.

Conclusions

The research-based on this approach will be carried out through survey methodologies, integrating existing devices (3D Laser scanning, digital photogrammetry, GIS system) and integrating them with collected data in an H-BIM environment, in the perspective to analyse, decode and represent the liminal dimensions of Sofratikè. In this case, applying integrated survey methods and procedures on the case study of Sofratike could be the first validation step of this approach that could be extended to neighbouring landscape units. In fact, through integrated survey procedures and methods, a protocol of decoding and representation of the entire municipality in a single macro landscape unit can be one

of the main outcomes. Therefore, starting from a mapping of the potentialities inherent in the liminal stratigraphy that characterizes Dropull area, this integrated decoding and representation code, once verified, can be applied as a knowledge tool aimed to documentation, conservation, restoration, monitoring, valorisation and planning of possible scenarios of governance, revitalization and socio-economic development of the overall Municipality of Dropull.

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Fig. 6 / Sofratikë's landscape. Source / the author



Fig. 7 / Sofratikë's landscape. Source / the author

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Structural Assessment and Seismic Performance of Traditional Stone houses in Dropulli region

Key words / Heritage Village, Historic Centers, Stone Masonry, Damage Survey, Structural Assessment, Seismic Vulnerability, Crack Pattern

Nikolla Vesho

PhD researcher / POLIS University

Abstract

The settlement of Dervişan are located next to the important urban center of Gjirokastra, a world heritage of UNESCO. Dervişan is the biggest village in the area and has served as an administrative center for many years. Due to massive emigration and migration trends in the past, there are many abandoned houses which have distinct architectural characteristics and reflect cultural and historical values. The villages that have been abandoned in the recent decades, constitute a serious problem which is all too common in many Balkan countries. As a result, many buildings are in a degraded state, both architectural and structural.

The aim of this paper is to examine the problems in Dervişan's traditional houses and their structures, and to make a technical assessment of the damages prior to a structural repairing strategy in a second phase.

This study will focus on the analysis of old houses and their structures, built with unreinforced traditional masonry, where a lot of problems have been identified as a result of the degradation of material parameters over the years. Initially, there is a need for a detailed analysis of the typology of buildings in this area, and the construction of traditional stone walls and stone tiles without mortar.

After this identification, a matrix will be created with façade and structural damages. The typical damages are cracks in the walls, carvings between the windows, corner damage, wall displacements, and water infiltration and insects. The methodology chosen for this particular context assesses the typical collapse mechanisms. This procedure is also useful to define the seismic vulnerability for other similar regions.

Introduction

Dervişan is one of the historical villages of Dropulli's area. It is unique in terms of its cultural and structural features. Its buildings, however, have deteriorated due to emigration. The potential for restoration, conservation and structural retrofitting is the main motivation in studying the fabric of the village. After the decline of the communist system in 1990, some experts of Albanian's cultural heritage organization did research on the archaeology and history of this village. After 2000, a series of studies were conducted in order to document the cultural heritage and history of this village. The research is documented in handwritten reports and photographs, and it hasn't been published in an integrated and unified manner. There

is no study about the potentialities of restoration of Dervişan, especially that of structural retrofitting. This paper aims to briefly represent the existing potential for restoration and to pave the way for future research.

Extended Introduction

The historical and hand-hewn village of Dervişan is located in the northwest part of the Dropull area, located in the south-end of Gjirokastra's province in Albania, near the border with Greece. The Village is 400 meters above sea level, and it is located at the foot of the 'Wide' Mountain. The stones with which the village is built are made of a sedimentary material. This village, which currently has a population of 211 people, has been constructed in stone

with 2-3 story buildings. The population is mainly composed of Greek minorities. This village is located at the edge of two valleys with a length of about 1 km. In fact, its architectural geometry has been developed through establishing a negative environment in the heart of stone with the required elements and according to the culture of its residents. (Bashkia Dropull, et al., 2017)

Dervişan's houses represent a residential unit ends in a small open veranda with a stove that provides more space for routine activities. Inhabitants used to live in these buildings only in the cold seasons of the year, spending most of the year in the plains and valleys doing farming and animal husbandry.

The houses have small doors and windows with characteristic wood material and low height in order to provide a minimal thermal exchange with the outside (Cuberi, 2015). The preservation of the historical houses from potential earthquakes damage presents the need to make their structures stable and safe. Such preservation is essential to encourage the residents return home. The current state of seismicity and functional inefficiency has caused the abandonment of these historical villages of Dropull.

This region, as part of the southern Balkan region, is one of the most problematic seismic areas. Recent earthquakes in the neighboring areas near the border with Greece have shown that village buildings

with bricks have suffered maximum damage and are responsible for the loss of life. The age of the buildings and the informal interventions made by people, has rendered these buildings vulnerable to earthquakes (Mitrojorgji, 2015). It is therefore important to evaluate the seismic performance of these buildings. Based on this assessment, techniques must develop to strengthen these buildings in order for them to resist potential earthquake damages and other challenges in the future. The buildings that will be part of this study do not have reinforced concrete (RC) columns and beams.

Their main structure is stone masonry. Therefore, they are more vulnerable to seismic action, that is, shaking and seismic frequency activity. It has been more than 40 years since the design and construction of this typology in Dropull from their owners. This time undoubtedly has contributed to the degradation of masonry and reduces its load bearing capacity.

This typology can be found across the whole of Dropull region. Consequently, it may be subjected to different climatic conditions and may have suffered various degradations. In our case study shown below, we estimate and evaluate the selected building in terms of the action of seismic elastic spectrum¹ according to the Euro Code 8. The methodology uses static nonlinear analysis pushover², while the

¹ The period of the communist regime in Albania

² Pushover is a static, nonlinear procedure in which the magnitude of the structural loading is incrementally increased in accordance with a certain predefined pattern.

masonry of the building is modeled with nonlinear behavior³.

State of the art

Case Studies on four historic centers situated in Umbria, Italy (Binda, et al., 2006)

The authors have proposed an investigation procedure to study the vulnerability of the diffused historic building patrimony in the seismic area previously considered as minor, but with a great wealth of historical and heritage. The research provides a monitoring and investigation program, which supports the designers in their projects and interventions. The research gathered information about the history of the buildings, materials data, structural morphology and typology of the wall section, observed damage and failure mechanisms, and the effectiveness of retrofitting techniques. The methodology, calibrated on these four historic villages located in Umbria region (Italy), allowed to define an abacus of the typical collapse mechanisms. This procedure was useful to define the seismic vulnerability and performance for other similar abandoned villages as well, and to critically evaluate the past and future repair techniques.

Second case-study analyzed is "Seismic Vulnerability assessment of an old Stone Masonry building aggregate in San Pio delle Camere, Italy" (Maio, et al., 2014)

The study approaches the seismic vulnerability assessment of a stone masonry building aggregate located in "San Pio delle Camere", which was slightly affected by the 2009 L'Aquila earthquake. The structure was assessed through static non-linear numerical analysis by using the 3muri-software. Moreover, simplified methodologies based on different vulnerability index formulations were applied to compare all these outputs obtained through distinct procedures. Since the nonlinear analysis procedure exceeds the linear stage of the modal analysis we will perform in our study, it is worth noting that we can focus on this study for general aspects of seismic performance evaluation of similar buildings. Also, the most important aspect of studying and analyzing this case is the modeling of the structure in the software, data entry and material parameters,

without forgetting the "static conception" of the way the structural elements work. Referring to the results and "final comments" of this study, we can say that it is a good case and opportunity to make the necessary comparisons among the parameters with our study.

Methodology

At the structural and architectural scale, the study provided a systematic collection of relevant data on the building techniques, stone materials and finish, state of conservation, and seismic restoration. We were focused on the four main technical elements of these buildings, such as walls, ground floor slabs, roofing, wooden doors and windows. Given the fact that most of the buildings in the historic center are mainly residential, in order to carry out some large-scale seismic improvement interventions, it was necessary for the local administrative unit to encourage people to carry out these types of intervention.

The seismic risk class depends on one parameter: that which takes into account the damage and refers to the cost of reconstruction of the building, taking into account the achievement of the limit state for safeguarding life (life safety level)⁴.

Use of ETABS, interpretation of the crack Pattern and their distribution.

The assessment of seismic performance of URM buildings⁵ requires the identification of the damage and collapse mechanisms step by step, activated by the synthetic earthquake (elastic demand spectrum)⁶.

Referring to the current practice in the Balkan region only a limited number of modes of failure has been taken into account, by studying the capacity curves of certain structural typologies.

The modelling of the structure behavior and its safety assessment by the mesh process (finite-elements) can highly benefit of the ETABS, which enables us to create layered walls, considering the non-linearity of each layer that represent materials data. Then there is a very important step: the transformation and conversion of panels in piers and spandrels labeling⁷. The vertical panels working in

^{3/} Methodology for modelling the unreinforced masonry with nonlinearity characteristics for each layer of the wall on ETABS, a possibility to create the wall as close as possible to reality.

^{4/} Second level mostly used for designing civil structures based on seismic performance levels [Eurocode 8]

^{5/} Unreinforced masonry building typology, without reinforced concrete frames.

^{6/} Merging a number of strong short-period ground motions and long-period ground motions. From the merging of these accelerograms, an elastic specter is deduced.

^{7/} pier = column, spandrel = beam. Both piers and spandrels are equivalent panels constructed of shell elements, showing the element way of work according the static concept.



Fig. 1 / Traditional stone house on Dervician, the selected building (February 09, 2019)
Source / the author

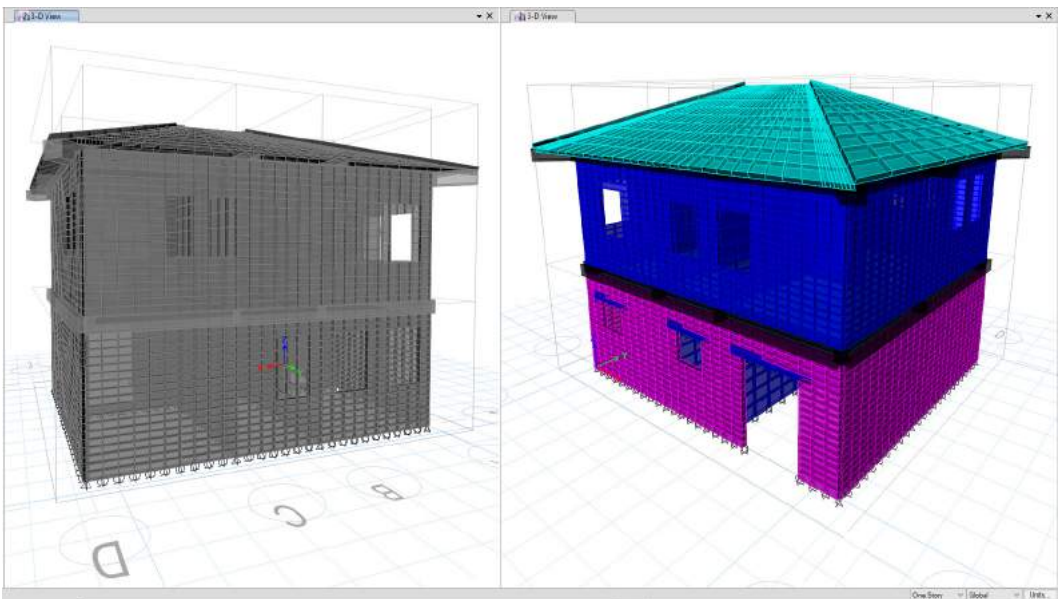


Fig. 2 / The selected house 3D model. Source / the author, ETABSv, 2019

compression are converted in piers (frame elements that work in compression), while the horizontal panels under the openings below are converted in spandrels (frame elements that work in bending) (Pitilakis, et al., 2014).

The methodology for the analytical part was performed on modal analysis (CEN Eurocode 8, 2003).

Case study “Structural evaluation and seismic performance of a traditional house”

Below is two-storey house with stone walls and timber construction under the stone roof. The building has timber-joisted floor and rubble stone masonry foundation.

Stone Masonry structures have large masses due to heavy construction materials. Dead loads consist of the fixed weight of structural members and the weight of any permanent fixtures attached to the structure (superimposed loads). Dead loads always remain on the structure and affect the structure throughout its lifetime.

General Mechanical Properties of Brick Masonry (Mosalam, et al., October 07, 2009)

Material property data: Stone masonry
Directional symmetry type: Orthotropic
Weight per unit volume:
16 kN/m³

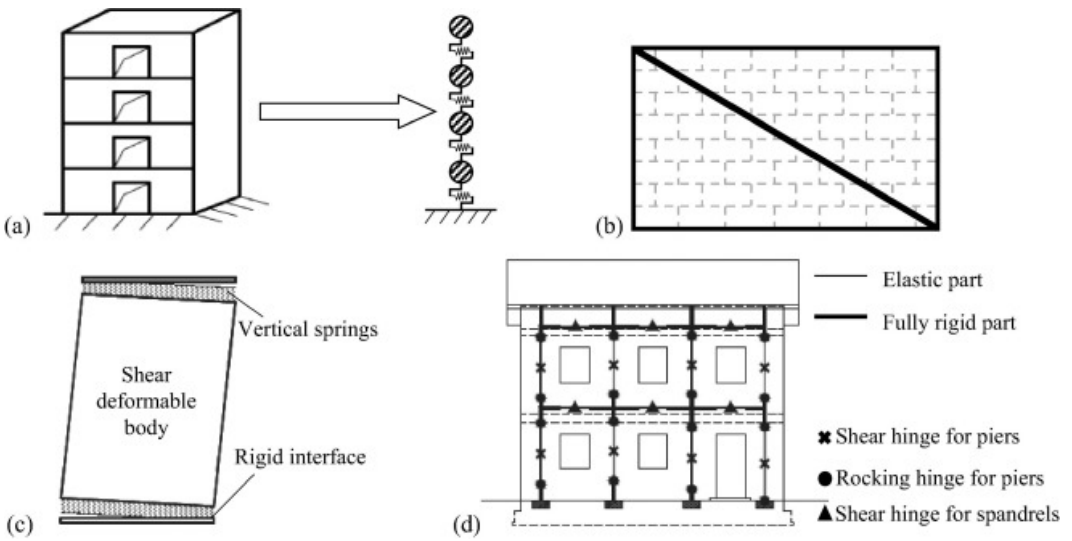


Fig.3 / A unified model for the seismic analysis of brick masonry structures. Source / Xu, et al., 2018

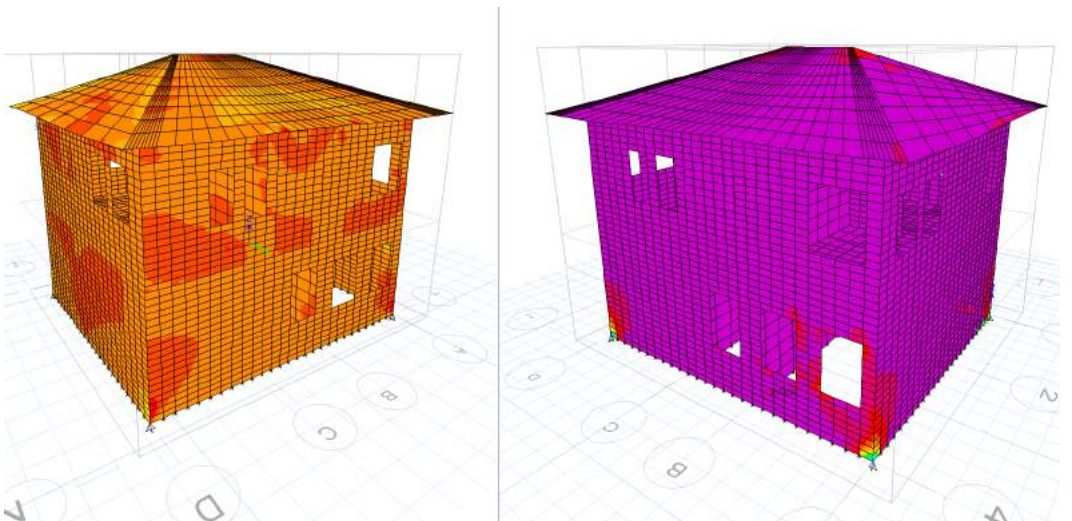


Fig.4 / Deformed shape of the building and displacements. Source / the author, ETABSv, 2019

Mass per unit volume:
1631.546 kg/m³

Mass density:
5 kN/m³

Material mechanical property data:
(Jurina & Peano, 2009)

Material parameters on ETABS are set to the current state, with a lower percentage of parameters considering degradation over the years.

Modulus of Elasticity:
E₁=4167 MPa,
E₂=4167 MPa,
E₃=4167MPa

The masonry behavior is modeled by two different layers accompanied by stress and strain characteristics (Tomazevic, 2007). The layers represent the vertical stresses S₁₁, S₂₂ horizontal stresses and shear stresses S₁₂. It is very important to predict the best possible stress - strain graph for each direction (Baballeku, 2014).

Shear Modulus:
G₁₂=1811MPa,
G₁₃=1811MPa,
G₂₃=1811MPa

Poisson's ratio:
U₁₂=0.15, U₁₃=0.15, U₂₃=0.15

Coefficient of thermal expansion:
A=0.0000081 1/C

Timber mechanical property data:
(Halicioglu, et al., 2014)

The nonlinear analysis Pushover methodology is able to define capacity curves with performance point, the shear resistance and collapse mechanisms. It is able to combine different mechanisms for global seismic performance analyses of buildings with sufficient regularity and limited height, and take into account the type of connection among the structural elements.

Modulus of Elasticity:
E=10.5*10⁻⁶ kN/m²

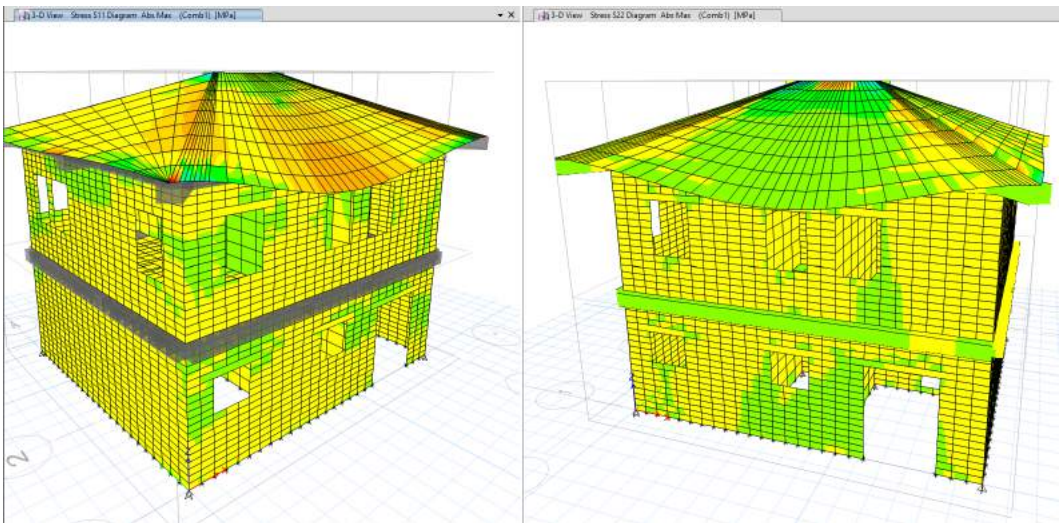


Fig. 5 / The selected house 3D model (ETABS, 2019)
Source / the author, ETABSv, 2019

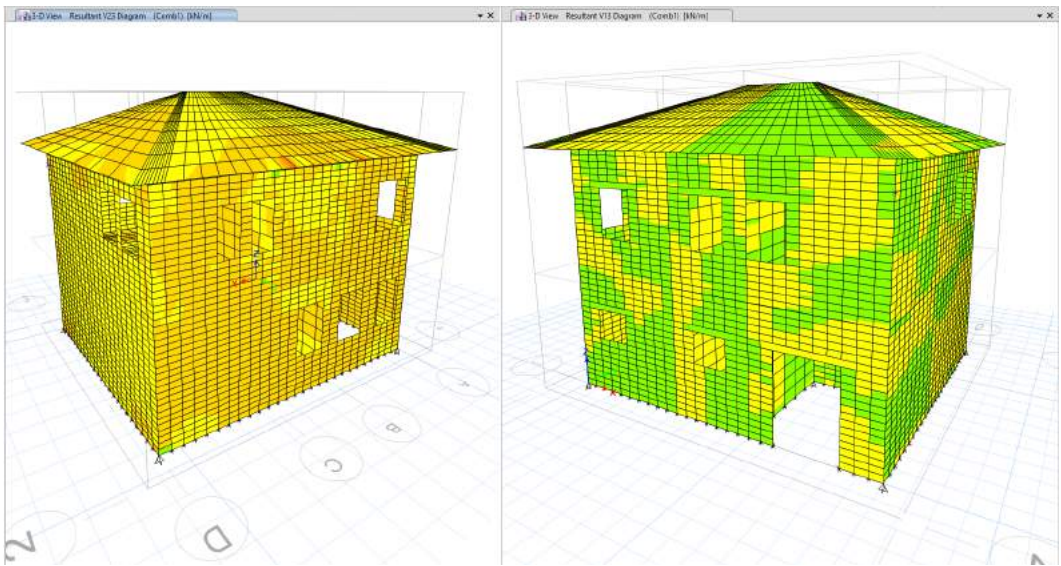


Fig. 6 / Shear force distributed on 2 directions, V13 and V23 (ETABS, 2019)
Source / the author, ETABSv, 2019

Case	Mode	Period sec	Frequency cyc/sec	Circular Frequency rad/sec	Eigenvalue rad ² /sec ²
Modal	1	0.239	9.209	57.8588	3347.6435
Modal	2	0.198	11.037	69.3504	4809.4787
Modal	3	0.179	12.737	80.0311	6404.9764
Modal	4	0.155	18.296	114.9557	13214.8155
Modal	5	0.106	21.648	136.0198	18501.39
Modal	6	0.093	22.999	144.5062	20882.0292
Modal	7	0.072	23.622	148.4242	22029.7463
Modal	8	0.068	26.518	166.6168	27761.1618
Modal	9	0.055	28.257	177.5427	31521.4194
Modal	10	0.043	30.652	192.5904	37091.0649
Modal	11	0.041	32.16	202.0664	40830.8201
Modal	12	0.04	32.876	206.5639	42668.6276

Tab. 1 / Modal Periods and Frequencies
Source / the author, ETABSv19

Analysis and Results

Given the above explanation in methodology, the traditional houses of

Dervican were analyzed to define their load carrying capacity. Minimum principal stresses amount to about 4.77 MPa at

the beam-timbers and they occur in the transition zone between the ground floor and the upper floor (Figure 5). Maximum principal stresses amount to about 3.19 MPa and they occur above the top of the ground floor and at the first-floor panels. The maximum principal stresses also occur at the roof and edges of the windows (Figure 5). Maximum displacements occur at the roof of the structure and amount to about 12.80 mm (Figure 4). Maximal displacement according combination 1 is 18.4mm on X-direction and 32.3mm on Y-direction⁸.

Modal analysis was conducted in order to determine fundamental mode shapes and natural frequencies of the structure during free vibration. The purpose of the modal analysis is to obtain the maximum response of the structure in each of its important modes, which are then summed up in an appropriate manner. Modal analysis of the structure included different modes of vibrations in combination.

Allowed period (CEN Eurocode 8, 2008):
 $[T] = 0.075 \times H_b^{0.75} = 0.207s$

First mode of vibrations:
 $T1 = 0.239s > [T] = 0.207s$
 Translation move on Y-direction

First mode of vibrations:
 $T2 = 0.198s$
 Translation move on X-direction

Third mode of vibrations:
 $T3 = 0.179s$
 Torsion

Conclusions

This study focused on historical stone masonry structures situated in the Dervican Village, located in an active seismic zone. The objective was to analyze the damage mechanisms and seismic vulnerability of these buildings. The modelling one of the most typical traditional houses visualized structural response of these houses to seismic events. A 3D model was prepared in order to show the behavior of the structure and its probable local and global weaknesses under seismic actions. The modal analysis was applied to predict possible damages and seismic vulnerability in the weak zones of the structure under expected seismic intensity.

The static and modal analysis results

revealed that the critical section of Dervican's stone-house is the transition zone between the ground floor and first floor, and the area where the first floor is connected to the roof. The most critical stresses calculated during the static analysis occurred at the timber beams connecting points and slabs.

Results showed that the node interaction between the supports and stone walls played an important role in the dynamic behavior of the structure. It may be considered as risky in terms of creating structural stability problems. The results also show that the structural problems generally occur in the critical stress parts, and these results prove the accuracy of the numerical approach, by verifying the problems that were identified on site.

These computational analyses should be compared to quick vulnerability assessment methods in order to detect possible problems of numerical model environment. To avoid this, scientists should be aware and conscious if the knowledge level and survey related to a generic study gathers all data necessary to obtain feasible results.

When this knowledge requirement is considered insufficient, it is preferable to conduct the analysis through empirical methodologies, which are proven to give satisfactory predictions about both damage predictions and seismic vulnerability assessment of either individual buildings or building aggregates. (Maio, et al., 2014)

The findings of this study can serve as a model for other similar cases in historical villages.

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Dervişan: a morpho–typological development analysis as a tool for its conservation

Key words / cultural heritage, urban morphology, typological analysis, urban lacuna, intervention strategies

Veronica Vona

PhD researcher / Ferrara University

Abstract

The rehabilitation of the rural villages with a strong heritage value like Dervişan pose many questions that need to be addressed in order to find practical answers concerning a problem that is strongly felt in different countries and contexts. We are talking about social and economic issues: how to prevent the risk of depopulation, how to regulate the new expansion, and how to preserve the historical and architectural characteristics.

The most important matter is the knowledge of the morphological development and typological analysis of the urban tissue and, as mentioned by Riccardo Dalla Negra, regardless of the approach whether such knowledge is in the field of restoration or renovation.

The methodological assumption used in the analysis of Dervişan's tissue comes from the school of Saverio Muratori and his students, who sees the typological and anthropization process not merely as a static categorization of building types and building features, but instead as a process that, under certain aspects, it is still evolving in Dervişan.

This analysis aims to identify the rules with which the buildings have changed over time and have adapted to new ways of living.

These resources range from the use of the identified rules for planning the new city development in an organic and integrated manner, to the identification of historical paths with a view to valorisation, not only of the Dervişan village, but also of the complex system of settlements in the Dropull area.

Thus, at a first analysis, it can be affirmed that the village of Dervişan, initially developed as a high promontory settlement near a punctiform polarity, over time turned into a low promontory settlement, attracted by a continuous cross-ridge, a new linear polarity.

This magnetic element, still interpretable, has started to shift, in a more or less planned way, until it turned into the current Highway that leads from Gjirokastër to the Greek border: a new linear polarity, which, due to its characteristics, also acts as a limit to the expansion.

On a closer scale, moreover, the analysis leads to a conscious action on the built, by respecting its identity, but at the same time allowing a transformation that takes into account the modern needs.

The identification of those legitimate changes within the historical building, respecting what Arch. Riccardo Dalla Negra defined as "the physiological limitation of historical building type renovation", represents the analytical method to follow, which aims not to overcome a limit that would involve the loss of the object itself as a heritage.

The relationship between "old" and "new", between what it has been preserved and new functional requirements, is an essential part of every intervention on the historic building. This concept applies both to a single building and to the urban tissue. The key points are generally always the same and they range from

the overall purpose of the intervention to the evaluation of economic issues (e.g., the reason why and what to preserve, the approaches, limits, possibilities, technologies and costs of the project). While dealing with rural areas, we should also take into consideration pre-existing sociocultural and economic issues, which

have been leading the inhabitants to abandon these areas and settle into better ones. There is a contrast between empty and decaying buildings on the one hand and the still inhabited buildings on the other. Those few residents that have remained in the village are neglecting the historic value while indiscriminately upgrading the function and structure of their houses. Such diagnosis accurately portrays of the village of Dervican, one of the inhabited centres of Dropull municipality.

It is quite a difficult challenge to deal with the recovery¹ of valuable rural villages, like Dervican, since we could use a variety of approaches. It is worth mentioning two interesting cases. The first one is Santo Stefano di Sessanio (AQ), a rural village that is known for the cultivation of a special legume, nowadays a Slow Food outpost. In the nineties it was turned into a hotel diffuso (widespread hotel), so the few inhabitants witnessed the recovery of the historic areas and their repurposing, together with the reopening of several commercial activities. Already in 2013 the village came back to life and several activities re-opened, even if the post-2009 earthquake's reconstruction and recovery works were not completed yet. The second example is Craco Vecchia, a rural village known for rice cultivation whose transformation dates back in the seventies. But in this case a different

solution was applied. Having to decide between solving a structural problem - due to a natural collapse - or to abandon the area, they chose the second option. Craco Vecchia was transformed into a ghost town, now used as a filming location and a tourist attraction site for its evocative ruins.

Although the two examples above are quite similar from an urban point of view, they definitely differ in the chosen approaches. The aim of the present study is not to discuss either of the outcomes, or approaches. The former can be criticized only by taking into consideration every single case. The latter specifically addresses the methodological approaches being used, referring here to the "the clear-cut distinction between restoration, that is to say, a particular architectural practice with special conservation aims, and renovation, namely, a way of practicing architecture that sets out to markedly transform pre-existent structures." (Dalla Negra, 20173:39). What lies or should lie behind any analysis related to the recovery of the building tissue is a deep and complete knowledge of the historical development of the area. The same concept should be used to examine Dervican as well. We can do it by examining the historiographic data and eventually matching them with the modifications on the masonry. The aim is

¹It is mandatory to specify some terminological issues. It was intentionally chosen to use the generic term recovery, although it is used here to address cultural heritage. The purpose is to not exclude any kind of approach to urban heritage: restoration, renovation, regeneration, retrofitting, etc. It should also be underlined that the term restoration is used here as defined by prof. Dalla Negra and the Ferrara restoration school. Therefore, the distinction between restoration and conservation is not admitted since any restoration could have a different purpose than the conservation itself.



Fig. 1 / The village of Santo Stefano di Sessanio before the 2009 earthquake.
Source / www.anciabruzzo.it.

to gather information on how the village's urban tissue has changed and evolved over time.

The most useful methodological approach we can apply to analyse Dervişan village comes from the School of Saverio Muratori. Through his studies on the cities of Rome (Muratori, 1963) and Venice (Muratori, 1960) he overcame the concept of building typology as a static classification by approaching a more process-oriented and developmental view. Gianfranco Caniggia, one of Muratori's assistants, considers the 'procedural typology' as its most important aspect and ends up identifying the change of the housing requirements as one of the main factors to boost the developmental procedures in pre-existing buildings (Caniggia, 1976). This process leads to an analysis in which the constant shift from urban to architectural and from morphological to typological investigation becomes the key to identify all the visible tracks in the historical buildings and therefore understand how they developed.

Studies conducted by Prof. Dalla Negra and his students in the city of Ferrara serve as a recent example to show how the changes in scales are essential to understand morpho-typological processes. Dalla Negra's analysis aims at well explain the development of the historic city through the survey and the study of its continuities and discontinuities and it also aims at

assessing and/or eventually exceeding historiographic sources. (Dalla Negra, Zuppiroli, 2012 and Dalla Negra, 2014). A morpho-typological investigation has not only a historic purpose. It can also become a useful tool and great source of ideas in identifying intervention strategies on a different scale – urban, territorial or architectural (Capelli, 1986). The above concept appears to be quite relevant for Dervişan's village with its peculiarities, especially if we look at the current, unplanned development.

A first analysis carried out by using the Muratorian school methodology with the aid of ortho-imagery and cartography showed that the village was founded near an important polarity point, the Church of the Holy Archangels Michael & Gabriel. The first main urban centre can be defined as a high promontory settlement and is located near the church². Traces of old routes – used as mule tracks - of the first settlement are still visible, together with the remains of some buildings. We can identify a first developmental phase after the down-hillside routes - continuous cross-ridge - gained more importance, then becoming a very relevant new linear polarity linking the city of Gjirokastër to Greece. Consequently, several, both old and new, small centres sprung up on the route edges of both sides: Goranxi, Sofratike, Frashan, Jorgucat, Peshkëpi and Poshtme, Glinë, Lagjja and Fushës,

^{2/} Typical attitude in the European Middle Ages – the third cycles-, but we can find several examples in the next Ages as well. The religious orders built their monastery in a new area and became a new attractive point for population that occupy the bordering territory.



Fig. 2 / An example of historical abandoned buildings in Dervişan.
Source / the author.

etc.... Dervişan's city centre gradually came down, attracted by the new polarity and eventually establishing what is currently the city centre, located between the new church and the old settlement – a low promontory settlement. During a second and planned phase the village kept extending itself to the point of reaching the current highway.

Up until recently, the development of the built environment, thanks to the economic, social and political stability, was a consequence of a spontaneous consciousness of man. Men gradually anthropized the territory by replicating and slightly modifying already known typological models and eventually built houses directly on the rocky cliffs. The courtyard house matrix is still easily identifiable in many buildings and, depending on the case, it keeps evolving. The birth of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania marked what it was defined as a 'crisis moment'³ and gave birth to a new planned urban area. Here there is an attempt to create a critical consciousness toward a new polarity, which contrasts with the historic polarity, and whose symbol is the old church. This attempt aims to shift the city centre towards a new area. This expansion area shows a clear dichotomy between the political regulatory framework and the building type of the territory.

From an urban point of view, we see a plan

in full contrast with the past models and values. From a typological point of view, we can still find the typical features of the old buildings or the type. There are many houses that were built with stonewalls, roofs with stone slabs, and windows with the typical arch over a monolithic lintel standing next to more modern buildings. The border of the new area definitely crosses the cross-valley floor, which internally connected all the villages and let Dervişan enter a new phase. This phase is still going on, and if not properly structured, it will be a great missed opportunity in relaunching an economic and social development of the area and a great loss to show Dervişan's cultural value.

It is undeniable that the highway is not only a strong boundary, which is typical of such modern natural territorial routes, but at the same time it is an important linear polarity attracting Dervişan and the surrounding villages. Consequently, the main meeting place and all the new aggregation points are now located at the entrance of this route. First, this new and uncontrolled urban phase has denied old anthropic structures in order to fulfill modern needs. We can see reinforced concrete houses supported by over-sized pillars, which makes the ground floor of no use, standing next to basic buildings, free of any architectural value. Secondly, as identified by Caniggia, this phase established an urban process on historical

^{3/} The crisis moment is the turning point when the equilibrium between a subject (the consciousness) and the object (the existent structure) is overcome and a new development is about to start (Cataldi, 1977 and Caniggia 1979).



*Fig.3 / The mule tracks of Deriçan: interesting routes for the naturalistic valorisation.
Source / the author.*



*Fig.4 / Example of wrong intervention in the cultural heritage of Deriçan: concrete elements replace ancient structure ignoring one of the restoration principles, the material compatibility.
Source / the author.*

buildings in order fulfil modern needs (Caniggia, 1979). The profound change and the depletion of techniques and materials' knowledge following the introduction of reinforced concrete no longer allows us to leave the the historical building in the hands of the inhabitants. Only in this way we can prevent uncontrolled actions that can end up damaging and sometimes even erasing the historical heritage. For example, in Deriçan, extremely perishable wooden pergolas are being replaced with reinforced concrete pergolas, lime mortar replaced with cement mortar and stone roofs with terracotta tiles.

An in-depth analysis which takes into consideration both history and cartography could be a great starting point to identify a strategy for planning and intervention. To know well the history of the routes around Deriçan, even if now abandoned and used as mule tracks, may give useful hints on how to better promote the territory to attract tourism. This strategic plan can be applied to Deriçan and to all the surrounding villages as well, connecting the entire valley. By doing so, historic fords and passes could become relevant connection points. On

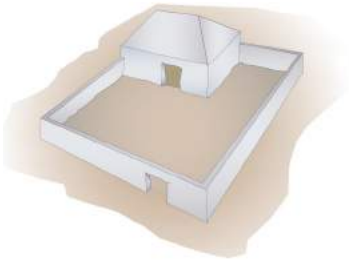


Fig. 5 / The elementary courtyard house permanence: presence in the Dervican tissue of buildings with low specificity level. Source / the author.

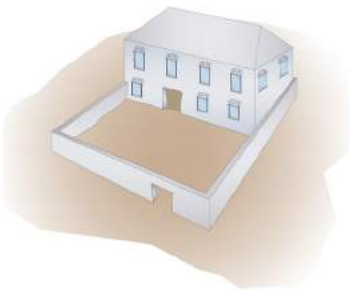


Fig. 6 / Increase of dwelling density in Dervican courtyard house elementary type. As we can observe in the tissue the elementary type and the first phases of insulisation and tabernisation, its development to house several families is present as well. Source / the author.

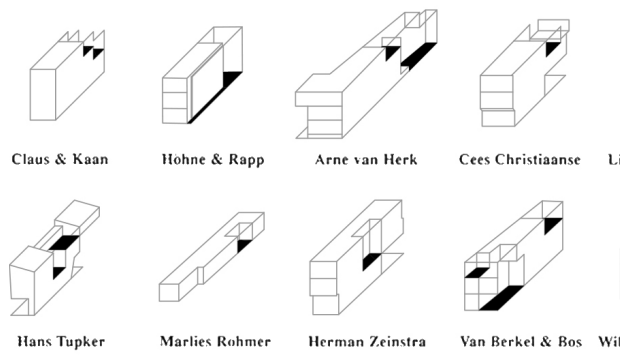


Fig.7 / Example of fixed criteria interpretable in the Borneo Sporenburg neighbourhood. Source / Elaboration of the image taken from www.west8.com.



Fig.8 / New structure and the total reject of the ancient value. Source / the author.

the other hand, on an urban scale, the rules related to the development of the built environment followed so far, appear to be the guidelines for any interventions on urban lacuna⁴. That should go along with pre-existing structures (Dalla Negra, 20171 and Dalla Negra, 20172), e.g.: compatible materials evaluation, buildings lineup, typological respect. However, it should not be used as an excuse to build new constructions trying to imitate the old ones⁵. It should not prevent the technical and intellectual expression of modern architecture but build bridges between modern buildings and historic heritage instead⁶. The analysis should define a masterplan where the order, type and wheelbase are fixed while every unit can

be freely interpreted. The Sluseholmen neighbourhood in Copenhagen is worth mentioning as an interesting example⁷, as suggested by Dalla Negra (Dalla Negra 20172).

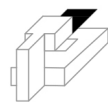
Since architecture is a functional art it is certain that the intervention on historical buildings in order to fulfil modern needs will be eventually implemented, even if it requires more efforts. The awareness of the different phases of building development and of its typological and architectural features is essential to identify "physiological limitations of historical building type renovation" (Dalla Negra, 2009: 109). The solution for Dervican's administration to prevent

^{4/} In the Dervican case we refer to the void areas both in the historical center and in the area planned during Socialist Republic of Albania.

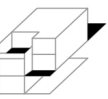
^{5/} We clearly refer to the "Moderno ambientato" defined by Alfredo Barbacci (Barbacci 1956: 230), the approach to construct buildings externally old but internally built in order to accommodate modern facilities.

^{6/} The "...buildings belonging legitimately to the modern world and able simultaneously to coexist with ancient ones" suggested by Miarelli Mariani (Miarelli Mariani, 2002)

^{7/} Sluseholmen is a recent example. Another similar interesting case, which dates back to 1996, is the Borneo-Sporenburg area in Amsterdam (J. Evert Abrahamse et alii, 2006). Even though these are a new formation, the masterplan approach is relevant for the urban lacuna in historical centres as well.



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any indiscriminate and detrimental interventions that cause of the cultural value of the buildings over time is through the evaluation of the possible limits of the intervention, e.g., to repurpose a courtyard house and preserve its historical value. How can we change the building's interior? What masonry must we preserve and what can we re-build? What kind of functions can we insert – the room's purpose (vocazioni d'uso – Dalla Negra, Nuzzo 2008:19), etc. In conclusion, starting from a morphological and typological approach, we mentioned above a series of possible points of view on preventing the abandonment of the houses and help in their rehabilitation. A proper combination of modern needs and historic heritage is key in planning, first, the conservation but also the promotion and enhancement of the historical built.

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5.1

Urban and Territorial Planning
paradigms in transition. Academia
100+ Villages and Dropulli case.

*Llazar Kumaraku,
POLIS University / Tirana*

5
100 Villages

Urban and Territorial Planning paradigms in transition. Academia 100+ Villages and Dropulli case.

Llazar Kumaraku
POLIS University Tirana

Abstract

The following text is part of the research on the discipline of territorial and urban planning by analyzing the planning paradigms and their transformation in the contemporary period.

This paper highlights the shift in spatial planning paradigms from total planning to spatial development planning based on interventions with a limited spatial extent that have a reverberated influence in a spatial radius that extends beyond the surface where they intervene.

This article aims to emphasize the change of this paradigm through the application of territorial planning with polar intervention in the project 100+ Villages in Albania and its replication in the vision designed for the municipality of Dropull from the study conducted within the International Doctorate in Architecture and Urban Planning (IDAUP)¹. It should be noted that the strategy followed by the 100+ Villages Academy to create visions for the development of rural settlements in Albania was not new for Polis University and that for years it has been moving in the direction taken by AKPT for the development of rural settlements.

Introduction

100+ Villages Academy case.

Territorial and urban planning issues have been volatile for years. In many cases the instrument of plan and planning, in general, has been put in crisis: especially general plans that have a period of more than a decade.

The 100+ Villages Academy in the framework of the rural regeneration defined the terms of reference to develop over 100 villages in Albania that have great development potentials from the tourist or agricultural point of view. From these 100 villages divided into 22 main lots, the pedagogical staff of Polis University in collaboration with the third-year students Master of Science in Architecture and

Master of Science in Urban Planning, in the course of Laboratory and Theory of Urban Planning led by Prof. Dr. Besnik Aliaj and Dr. Llazar Kumaraku, built the visions for 8 lots² which included about 40 Villages.

According to the Academy, the goal of 100+ Villages was to design a socio-economic development model for each village that should be based on their touristic, agricultural, or another potential. It was clear that this model had to be designed based on the local potential of the settlement itself.

The objectives of the Academy for these settlements were the 1) improvement of public infrastructure, 2) economic development through the diversification of economic activities and 3) the

¹ International Doctorate in Architecture and Urban Planning (IDAUP) is a double degree Ph.D. program organized by the Research Department at Polis University Albania and Dipartimento di Architettura at the University of Ferrara Italy. IDAUP organizes every year a design workshop where a settlement is selected on which a spatial development model is proposed based on the characteristics of the settlement. In the academic year, 2018 - 2019 IDAUP cycle 34 worked on drafting a vision for the city of Dropull.

² The lots that were led by the teaching staff of Polis University were Lot 1, 3, 3, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, and 20. For each Lot, a working group was built led by two Polis professors with experience in the field of planning and urban design supported by other graphic experts who collaborated with groups of third-year students from the Scientific Masters of Planning and Architecture.

development of social and human capital. These three objectives according to the Academy could be achieved through three strategic projects related to the development of agro-tourism in these settlements; setting up Incubators to support Traditional Products and building a chain of "I love" stores³.

Given the purpose, objectives, and strategies, it was clear that the answer to the development of these settlements could only be the design of visions that intervened in the strategic points of settlements and human resources, emphasizing the potentials and providing solutions to emergency problems.

The proposed visions could not intervene in the entire surface of the territory by providing the image of an ideal settlement that would be achieved after the realization of the project but had to provide a development model based on some polar interventions of physical but also phenomenological character. This approach was not only compatible with the approach of Polis University but since its birth in 2006, Polis has re-adopted this approach and influenced the change from the paradigm of total planning to that of polar planning by practicing this approach, both in teaching practice and realized projects.

From the Total planning to the Polar planning.

After the overthrow of the great ideologies⁴ that ruled the western world which also influenced the way the territory was controlled and managed, it passed from a vision of total control of absolute Newtonian space to process control with strategic interventions that tended to gradually improve space. a residence. This intervention methodology is not new to the world of planning and intervention in a settlement and this is shown by many early cases of modern architecture. Emblematic cases of this methodology that Kumaraku and Hoxha (2018) have defined as antipolar are numerous.

The authors state that "The antipole is a physical or immaterial entity that opposes a physical or a cultural reality and quietly seeks to change it by attempting to improve its quality" (Kumaraku and Hoxha: 2018: 62). This way of conceiving interventions in a space with physical-phenomenological duplicity constitutes the theoretical core with which the intervention strategies were undertaken in the rural settlement projects for the Academy 100+ villages.

This design methodology was used by the University of Polis in other previously realized projects such as the one for

^{3/} Regarding the goals, objectives, and strategies of this project can be consulted the terms of reference given by Atelier Albania where it can be seen that the way they are expressed is confusing and often and repetitive confusing the development of work.

^{4/} On this argument consult Jean François Lyotard with his two publications "The Postmodern Condition" of 1979 and "Il postmoderno spiegato ai bambini" published by Feltrinelli in Milan 1986. In these publications, it is clear how totalitarian and absolute ideologies were fragmented to give way to social behavior organized in local groups and interests.

the Bypass of the city of Gjirokastra⁵ where the project authors selected some critical areas in the city of Gjirokastra and proposed a series of interventions that had a physical character as well as phenomenological. (Fig. 1; Fig. 2)

A clear contribution in the transition from a Total Planning to a Polar Planning paradigm at Polis University has given all the research done at this university and the texts published there. From these texts that are part of the teaching material for students, we can detach from the didactic content the publication of the Habitat series number 2 by Besnik Aliaj. This text that talks about planning movements in the USA at the same time write how when in Europe cities were designed and planned based on total planning, in the USA urban realities developed with polar interventions such as the construction of natural park networks, the urban engineering that had to do mainly with engineering works and with the solution of sewerage problems, the city beautiful movement with polar interventions within urban realities and others⁶.

Visions for the lots led by Polis University at the 100+ Villages Academy.

Of polar character are all the visions proposed by the study groups of Polis University for drafting the visions required by AKPT for the eight lots. None of the visions projected the entire space of the settlement giving a final utopian and perfect solution, but aware of the limited resources and the procedural nature of interventions in a territory, envisioned a series of antipolar interventions where the focus was first on emergency issues and secondly the strengthening of the potentials of settlement.

In these visions, the proposals ranged from the solution of primary problems such as clean water supply, the proposal of the sewage disposal network, to those of accessibility, such as the requalification of a road that connected the settlement with the main roads or the provision of structures for having access to the online world. Other projects touched on the field of

services or that of various festive proposals based on local traditions of settlements. An important place was played by projects affecting the environmental sphere of these interventions. Like paving a water line or creating a promenade along with them; afforestation of forests etc.⁷ Based on the same planning paradigm in the territory was organized the vision for the municipality of Dropull, which has main settlements: Devician, Jorgucat, Sofratike, Vrisera, etc. In this vision, the methodology followed was the selection of some parts of the territory where parts with different characteristics were intertwined, starting from the natural to the rural or urban character, and the proposal of a series of antipolar interventions within these selected areas.

Impacts of polar planning on Dropull vision

Polis University being the main protagonist in changing the urban planning paradigms from total planning to polar planning followed the same design paradigm in the case of the vision for Dropulli. The vision for Dropulli is developed in the framework of the workshop organized by Polis together with the University of Ferrara in Italy within the joint IDAUP. Candidate Ph.D. of 34th cycle led by IDAUP pedagogical staff built a common vision for all the municipality of Dropull consisting of the overlapping visions for each settlement of this Municipality. These visions are composed of the proposal of some interventions and projects in the strategic points of these settlements.

Among these projects we can mention for the settlement Dervican as main projects are :

- 1) on Infrastructure the extension of the existing road next to Goranxi;
- 2) on heritage protection the technical examination of the buildings and Parameters of materials.
- 3) Other foreseen intervention is on facilities and infrastructure for sportive areas and agriculture and finally
- 4) the requalification of the space between the national road and the village. While for

^{5/} About this can be consulted the article written by Llazar Kumaraku; Dorina Papa and Etleva Dobjani entitled "The Adaptation of the Traditional Cities to Contemporary Use Interventions in Historical Areas: The Case Study of Gjirokastra". You can also consult the project published by AKPT on the competition for the Gjirokastra Project entitled "Gjirokastra Organic Loop" which can be found at the link >>> <http://planifikimi.gov.al/index.php?eID=dumpFile&t=f&f=1281&token=ebf5d7142569b472682441e5fea587189d5239b6> (October 2020)

^{6/} On this argument can be consulted the text by Aliaj, B., (2014) *Levizjet e Planifikimit ne Shba*. Polis-Press: Tirane. This text builds a parallel between the reality of urban development in the USA and Albania. For the author of the text, the similarities between the beginnings of planning in the USA and the beginnings of planning in Albania are more, among which the most important is the rampant capitalism that brought an uncontrolled development of the urban form which appears fragmented and fragmented in the various archipelago.

^{7/} To further deepen the proposed visions for the lots led by Polis, consult the Gazette published by AKPT with the work done by all groups, which is available at the link >>> <http://planifikimi.gov.al/index.php?eID=dumpFile&t=f&f=4282&token=212c7ab9e26ca1d24d724bce7144ef1d1f8e0a2b>. The antipolar character of the interventions can be seen in the visions for the villages of Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, 20.

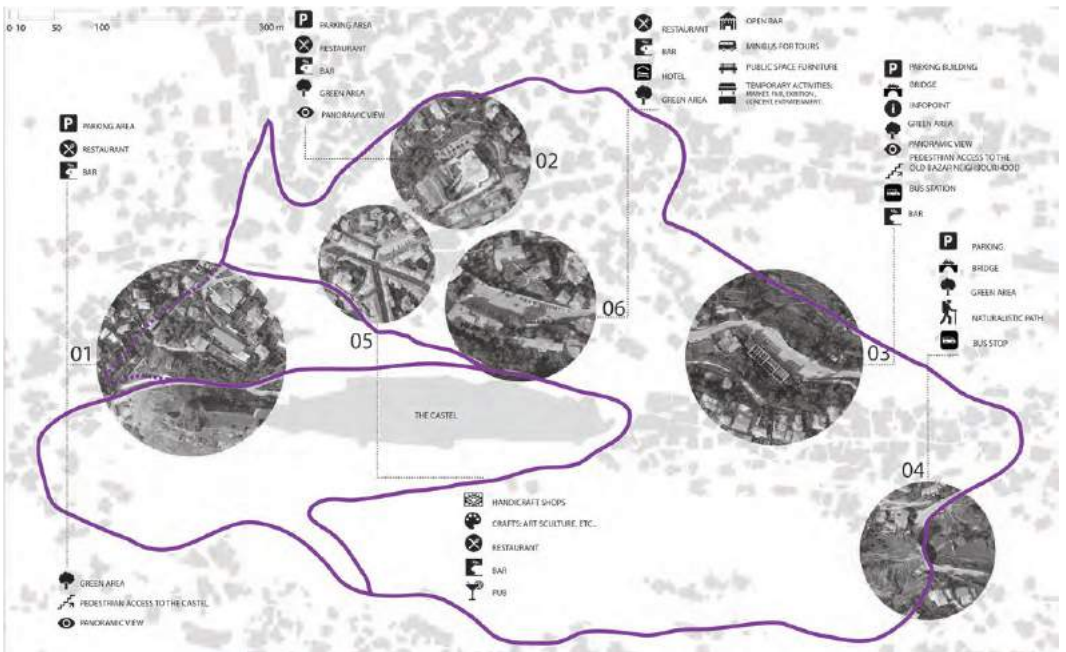


Fig.1 / The figure shows a series of polar interventions in strategic areas of Gjirokastra. This image shows the different approach from a total planning of all the city area. Source / Kumaraku et al. 2016



Fig.2 / The design of the square at the entrance of the city. Ex – Agency. Source / Kumaraku, LL, Papa, D, Dobjani, E, (2016)

the settlement of Sofratike the foreseen interventions are:

1) on Sofratike quarry requalification and an artifact summer school about the stone usage.

2) Archaeological path Antigonea-Adrianopoli.

3) the historic center requalification.

For Jorgucat, the new administrative center of Dropull, the most important foreseen interventions are

1) reactivation of a panoramic point at the entrance of the settlement.

2) reactivation of abandoned buildings through the use of new technologies.

3) transverse urban corridor at the level of the terraces of buildings, activating the abandoned areas.

4) the proposal of a corridor with panoramic points that passes to the most important points of Jorgucat with a focus on religious institutions. And finally, for the settlement of Vrisera the most important foreseen interventions are:

1) an Innovation Park,

2) Open space labs (energy plants, agriculture, farms, etc),

3) Village entrance bypass and

4) a new cultural & representative center.

The overall vision of Dropull arises from the unification of all these settlements considered as the central nucleus in the construction of a vision based on polar interventions in determining points of the territory, leaving aside the paradigm of total planning.

Conclusions

From what was said above in this text it is clear that Polis University has been a protagonist at the international level in changing the paradigms of urban planning and in the transition from total planning to polar planning.

This paradigm has been used in academic activity and urban visions built for various projects implemented by Polis University. Among the projects implemented according to this paradigm we can mention, the vision built for the Gjirokastra Bypass in 2015, the vision for the city of Belsh in 2016, Prishtina in 2017 (Fig.3), the visions for Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, 20 (Fig.4; fig. 5) that were part of the Academy 100+ Villages in 2018 and the Vision for the city of Gjirokastra in 2019.

The changing of planning paradigms from total planning to polar planning accelerates the application of visions in a determined context and makes them more realistic. This paradigm is more realistic because it is

closely linked to the changing political and ideological systems that govern society. The collapse of the totalitarian systems that ruled by making total plans inevitably led to the fragmentation of planning into smaller and polar interventions but capable of regenerating a city.

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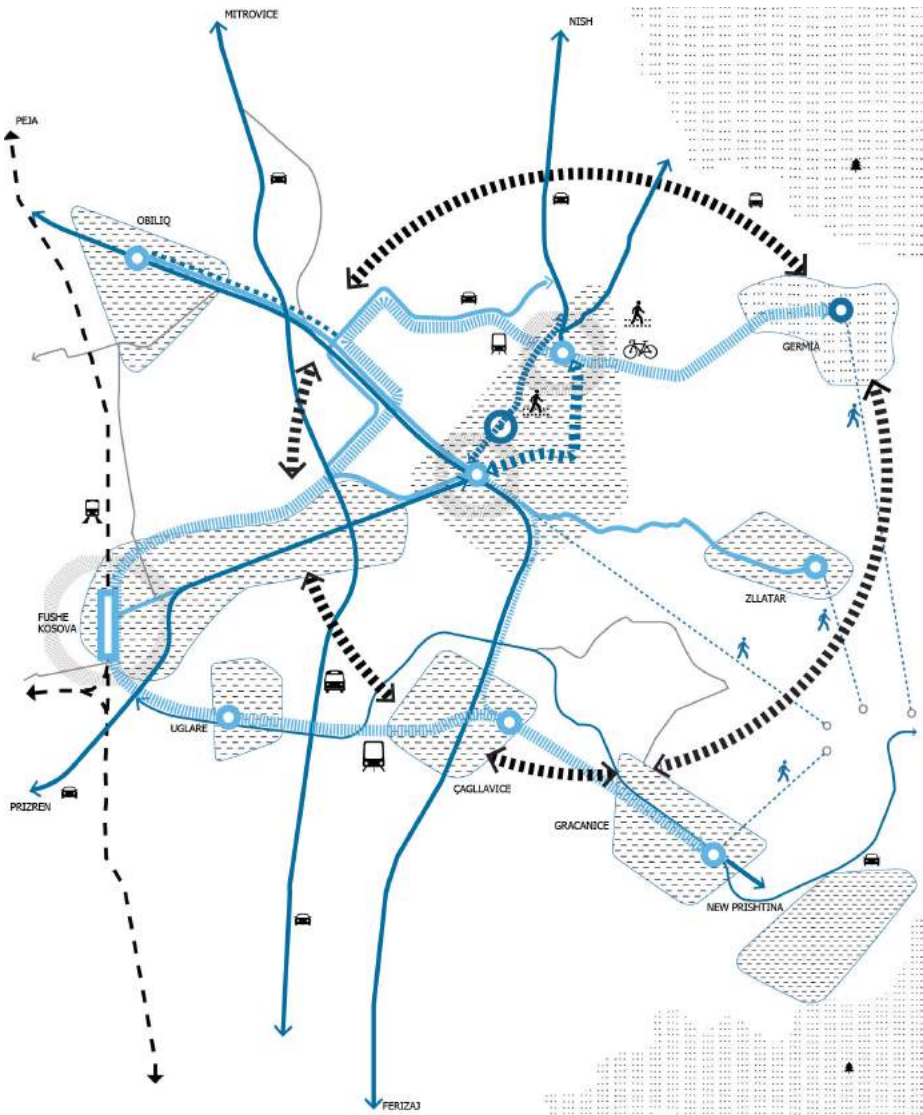


Fig.3 / Vision for Prishtina. This vision is designed by Ph.D. students of the 33rd cycle IDAUP on the workshop of February 2018. In this vision is made by a series of polar interventions that has the capacity to design a new image for the newest capital city in Europe. Source (Cover of "Prishtina New European Capital")

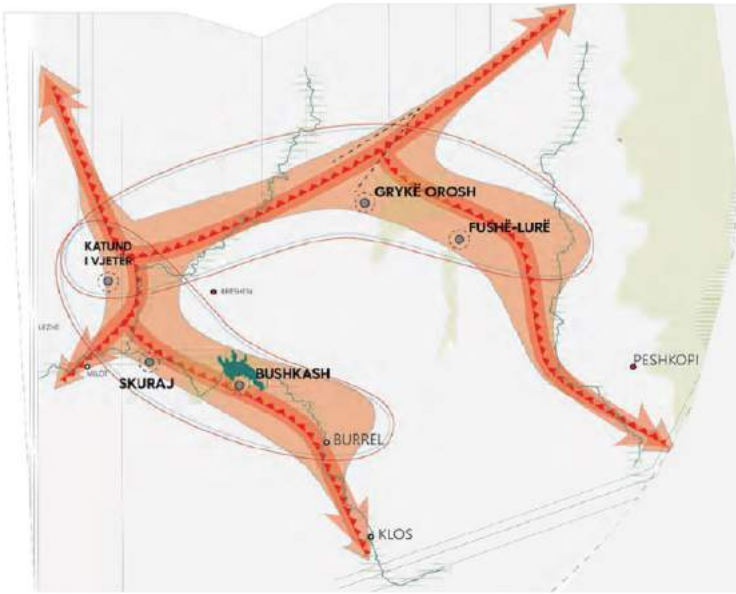


Fig.4 / General Vision of Lot 4 that shows the most important interventions in the villages of Lure, Skuraj, Bushkash, Orosh and Katund I Vjeter. Source / the author.

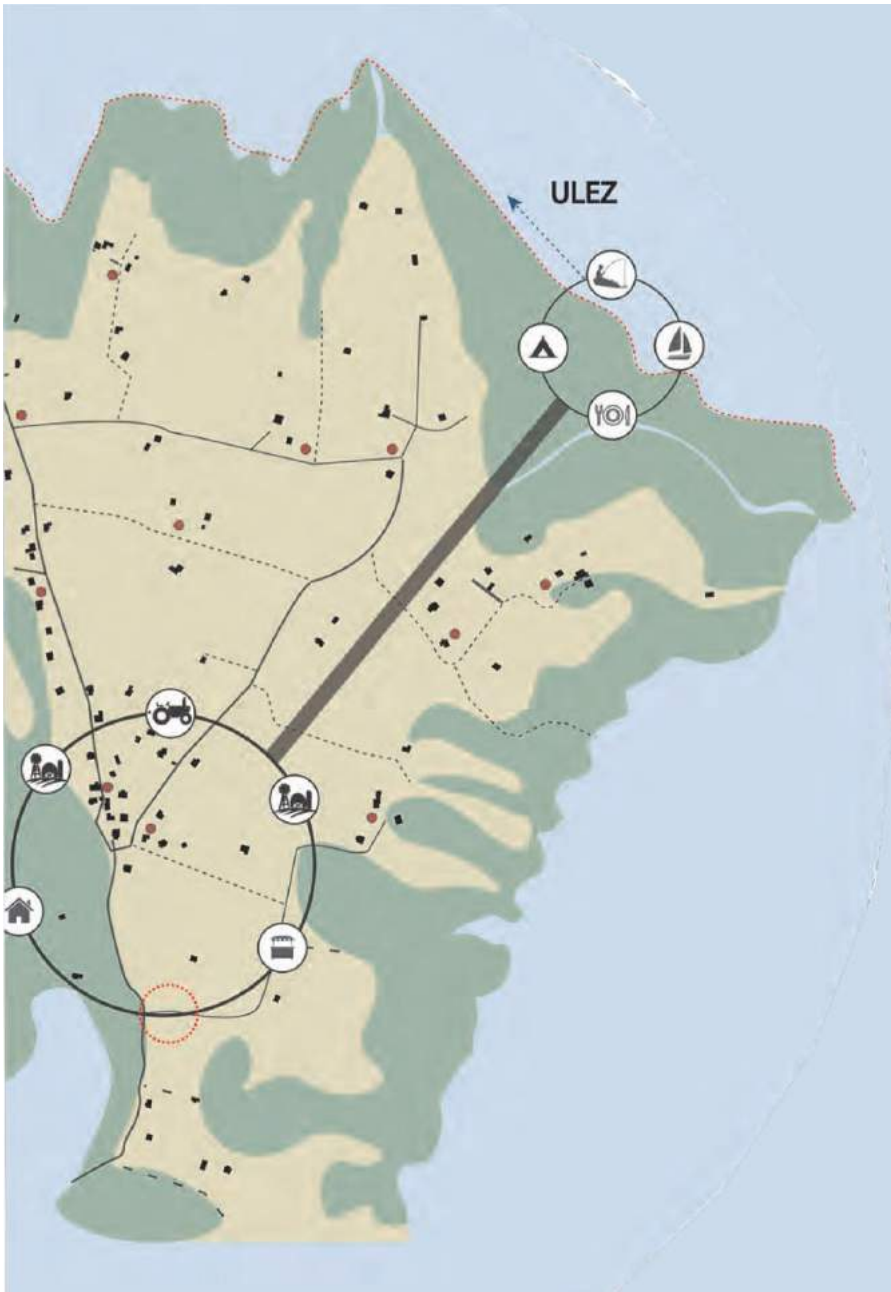


Fig.5 / Vision for the village of Bushkash that shows the most important interventions in the area of the settlement. Source / the author.

6.1

Prof.Dr Besnik Aliaj

Doc.Dr. Sotir Dhamo

POLIS University / Tirana

6

conclusions

RURBAN SEQUENCES

Inquiries on Dropull's states of Liminality

Besnik Aliaj
Sotir Dhamo
POLIS University Tirana

314 "Rurban Sequences: Inquiries of Dropull's states of Liminality!" - is a professional and scientific tentative to develop a new intellectual position towards the failures of aggressive ultra-liberal urbanization and the need for new models of life towards the new rural-urban balances, in the conditions of post-crisis society/city. The case of participatory drafting and the approval of the General Local Plan (GNL) of the Municipality of Dropull in the South of Albania, represents in itself a good example of how the social responsibility of the professionals and institutions must act in the ground, in order to be able to initiate constructive development processes. Of course, it is already clear that it must first all start with the professionals and institutions reforming their own mentalities on the role of the city planning in society. Interestingly enough, such a planning example started with no financial resources, but with the maximal will to work together with people, community and authorities. It also ended up by generating the necessary energy and resources for a successful and useful experience toward the local needs. The work has been further elaborated scientifically by the joint International PhD Program of U-POLIS and Ferrara Universities, demonstrating how research could become useful in planning a sustainable and resilient world.

At the beginning of this project, we stated that the condition of liminality - being an intermediate state, phase, or condition, an in-between, but also a transitional phase - in the context of the sequence of villages in Dropull, Albania, was the main objective

of the research study. We also believed that it can serve very well as an inspiration for the detailed design speculations and strategies that ought to be developed for certain areas, especially after the approval of GLP. We hoped that such logic can generate different research paths and stimulate critical discussion among academics, researchers, students and professionals, thus setting the foundations for further scientific contributions in Albania and beyond it.

Given the rural character of Dropull and the potentials inherent to it, the lack of local reference landmarks (despite the richness of the landscape and its territory,) pushed for a Strategic Objective of the project that aimed to consider Dropull Municipality as a "linear city" with five main centers. The five centers are developed in proximity with the main motorway and around five main villages, which have distinct characteristics and development potentials. Such potentials could be used as energizers for the development of the surrounding areas. Indeed, the concept behind the "linear city" also helps the reading of Dropull as a link between the two main regional hubs, Gjirokastra (Albania) and Ioannina (Greece).

The aim was to transform the role and weight of Dropull's territorial gravity from an area with a mere 'transit status' between two main/bigger cities, to a "complementary network of settlements and services" that uses its own local potentials and regional competitiveness to develop as a whole. This means concentrating exclusively on the

development strategies and investments in the targeted areas and living settlements (villages).

In the end we intended to develop an alternative way of territorial planning that goes against the logic of dominance by means of the strong "urban language" imposed by the practices, instruments, laws, bylaws and guidelines of the traditional territorial planning. Instead, we aimed at developing/adapting new methodologies and instruments of planning for large territories of rural, agricultural and landscaping character as well, where heritage and tourism potential can be highly useful for resilient economic growth.

From a theoretical perspective we can summarize the selected findings as below:

Prof. Arch. Alessandra Battisti – investigates the "2030' UN Agenda for Sustainable Development" and identifies 17 Objectives of SDGs (2015), which implicitly formulate a j'accuse of the current model of the world growth and the respective evolution from an environmental, economic and social point of view, an evolution that overcomes the misleading idea that ... the sustainability is only an environmental issue ... (UN 2017). She refers to rurality and landscaping as potentials for tourism and economic growth, as well as for sustainable development. She points out that currently, about 28% of the EU population lives mainly in inner peripheries and rural areas, 32% in small cities and suburban

areas (intermediate areas), while the remaining 40 % are concentrated in larger cities (Eurostat, 2017). Battisti also refers to the German sociologist Ferdinand Tönnies in 1887, who identified two concepts "Gemeinschaft - Gesellschaft" and translated them into two different spatial notions, in order to illustrate the contrast between the "village" and the "city". From her theoretical reflections, Battisti concludes, regarding the practical case of Dropull, that ... "Despite being considered a symptom and not a cause to the rural decline, due to poor accessibility and lack of economic opportunities, depopulation represents today one of the main factors introducing the need to address and manage the complexity of the change, especially in the inner/cross-border peripheries.

This produces the emergence of the new political visions – that sees such areas (at least in the declarations of principles), less and less configured as of 'agricultural' profile, and increasingly more and more as 'rural', 'touristic' and 'landscaping' one, in terms of potential. In a more incisive way than other forms of design, the one that pertains to the inner/cross-border peripheries tends to present itself as a general approach towards a positive change in society and a constructive framework of life, capable of reading its rich diversities, proposing places "to size" the community that resides there."

PhD. Artan Kacani – elaborates the concept of liminality in terms of territorial development, looking at it as a theoretical research on the bio-politics and property

right theories. According to Kacani, liminality has two main definitions: i) the first definition is related to the position of the planer between the concepts of consciousness / supraliminal, -and- unconsciousness / subliminal; ii) the second, has to do with the definition the planner uses in relation to the dimensions in-between. Kacani investigates the structural articulations of the dimensions in-between and their similarities with the territorial/spatial development. He points out that the territorial development happens with a certain level of human consciousness, and includes all the in-between dimensions of liminality - time, space and subjects on it, from individual to groups, society, and the state. He investigates probabilistically the articulations of liminality dimensions, and consequently the respective results of the territorial development, including its similarities with the property rights theories.

The limits of his research are defined by: i) the liminality dimensions, ii) the number of articulations, iii) and the level of consciousness of the local context. The main conclusion for him is that "the higher the number of articulations is, the higher would the consciousness of territorial development be. Fewer articulations there are, the more authoritarian/centralized would the territorial development be". He points out that such model correlates with the property rights theories and various definitions of bio-politics. The article is a first attempt to catalogue forms of territorial sovereignty, territorial values, and land development models. He invites other researchers to reflect and contribute further on the exploration of a broader number of articulations in order to produce new models of comprehensive territorial development.

Translating these theories into an actual outcome for Dropull, gives such municipality the possibility to play an important integrative role in the region, by: i) providing space for production (development of agriculture and farming); ii) processing of local products (support and expansion of services-and-industry-based economic areas that make use of local produce and contribute to the circular economy); iii) promoting and trading of the local productions in the region and abroad (improvement of infrastructure, facilities, and development of a regional market, connected to five smaller local markets of each of the five main urban centers of Dropull); iv) developing a R&D area of cross-

border importance (which would provide quality assessment services, product based research, experimentation with new innovative products, professional courses fit for the local people and economy, etc.); v) balancing the sprawl and expansion of other neighboring urban areas in the region, into natural and agricultural realms, in order to contribute to a more balanced territorial performance on social, economic and environmental terms; vi) managing Dropull's state of rurbanity and many other states of liminality that characterize the municipality; vii) managing and regulating the production of thresholds within this rurban territory and preserving main natural and landscape features, etc.

PhD Laura Pedata and **PhD Eranda Janku** attempt to understand Dropull via "liminal spaces and thresholds" from several theoretical and scientific perspectives. They define the "Liminal space" or "in-betweenness" as "a space resulting from passage and transition, an area of uncertainty, often also a mobile border, where the concept of liminality facilitates the understanding of the dynamics between the spatial form of the border and the border function of space." They underline liminality as a twofold issue: i) a process of social change, and ii) as a process of spatial production. They see liminality as a conceptual tool and point out the use and meaning of liminality under political and cultural changes. Pedata & Janku distinguish from the anthropological perspective three mentalities: 1) pre-liminal rites, or rites of separation, which consist of leaving a former behavior and breaking with former practices and routines; 2) liminal rites, or the transition rites, which represent the passage through the threshold that marks the boundary between two phases; 3) post-liminal rites, or the rites of re-aggregation, which celebrate the successful completion and overpassing of the transition.

Both authors focus on elaborating the criteria and conditions that produce liminality and thresholds, as they appear to have 'thickness' and reside between different conditions throughout various scales. This includes: i) the geographic terrain; ii) road infrastructure; iii) high fragmentation of agricultural land; iv) vicinity to economic areas; v) provision of day to day services and commuting patterns, etc. They conclude: ... By activating all these instruments, potentials and capacities that Dropull currently has, Dropull would then be able to invite back and host back the migrant population that

has left the place, and even attract new population in the area. This would also make possible what Kacani proposes: the balancing of sprawl, the management of rurality and preservation of the natural and landscape features.

PhD. Saimir Kristo and **PhD. Joana Dhiamandi** give an account of their own experience with other Greek-speaking communities and the encounter and interaction of POLIS University's students and staff with the local residents of Dropull. They document - via site visits, direct interviews, urban charrettes, drawings and pictures - the liminal cultures of Dropull communities. By referring to the theories of Kevin Lynch and Vassilis Nitsiakos they draw a very basic map of the local identities. In the end, they draw three main conclusions related to the concept of a "Border Area":

i) The historical border. Even though the border between Albania and Greece was fixed by international treaties, the lack of correspondence between the national borders and the ethnological context on the ground, continued to be a problem for a long time; as ethnic groups and even families and kin were often divided separated.

ii) The political border. The symbolic and ideological boundaries of the 'cold war' were influenced by the political borders, yet their functions operated differently in each country. This was a result of the contexts and conditions of negotiations between collective and individual identities, a phenomenon which depended on the historical conjuncture and the various social-political situations in each of countries.

iii) The trans-border context. The relations formed due to the trans-border context of the post-communist period, are examined in relation to the "political economy" of the particular mobility. Therefore, the concept of asymmetry, the inequality between the two sides of the border, etc., have been decisive for the actual situation, especially from the current context of the relations between the Western Balkan Countries and EU (of which Greece – the neighboring country - is part of). The very movement of people from one side to the other, is also part of a broad dynamic that develops with the opening of the border. Such dynamics are determined by the tendency and pressure to leave the country because of the present social, political, and economic crisis, and by the general perception of Greece as a "place to live" by many people.

The concrete proposals from: i) the POLIS academic staff and teams; ii) and the PhD researchers of POLIS/UNIFE PhD Program are outlined below:

The first set of contributions comes from the ideas put forward in the approved GLP General Local Plan of Dropull Municipality in 2019.

General Local Plan (GLP) was prepared by a team of experts of POLIS University: Prof. Dr. Besnik Aliaj, PhD. Sotir Dhamo, and PhD. Dritan Shutina led the initiative; Dr. Eranda Janku was involved with the Planning Component on a day to day basis; Prof. Sherif Lushaj led the environmental assessment component; PhD. Amanda Terpo led the GIS component; PhD. Godiva Rembeci led the statistical component. GLP is not a mere local plan. It represents an important bottom-up methodology of territorial planning in the municipal units of strong rural, agricultural and landscape character. Therefore, it is an innovative methodology of planning that reverses the dominant existing logic of territorial planning aimed at municipal units of strong urban character, driven by the construction industry.

PhD Ledian Bregasi is also a member of the POLIS planning team who focuses on communicating the plan to all the stakeholders of such peculiar context. Bregasi believes in "using innovation as a tool for inverting emigration trends in abandoned and depopulated municipalities." He thinks that "digital manufacturing could leap the technological gap and strengthen the connection between the community and its territory." Bregasi concludes that "prior to the planning actions, planners must focus on the education and the governance of innovation, which constitutes an indispensable basis to be able to develop new policies." Although the need for contextually informed and place-based policies are unanimously accepted in countries like Albania, where the capacities are scarce and the inclination towards "global north" models is strong, more often than not, the adopted policies are imported from the transitional/developed countries.

Therefore, a genuine place-based approach counts as novel. In these terms, the recently approved GLP is for him a starting point. Additionally, the deliberate focus of the "project on the place-makers" rather than on the "land policies and instruments" constitutes a welcomed departure from the existing traditional



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BERAT

POGR

LEVAN

VLORE

PESHKOPI

RADHIME

KOTE

ORIKUM

DUKAT

LLOGARA

DHERMI

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QEPARO

BORSH

PIQERAS

GJIROKASTER

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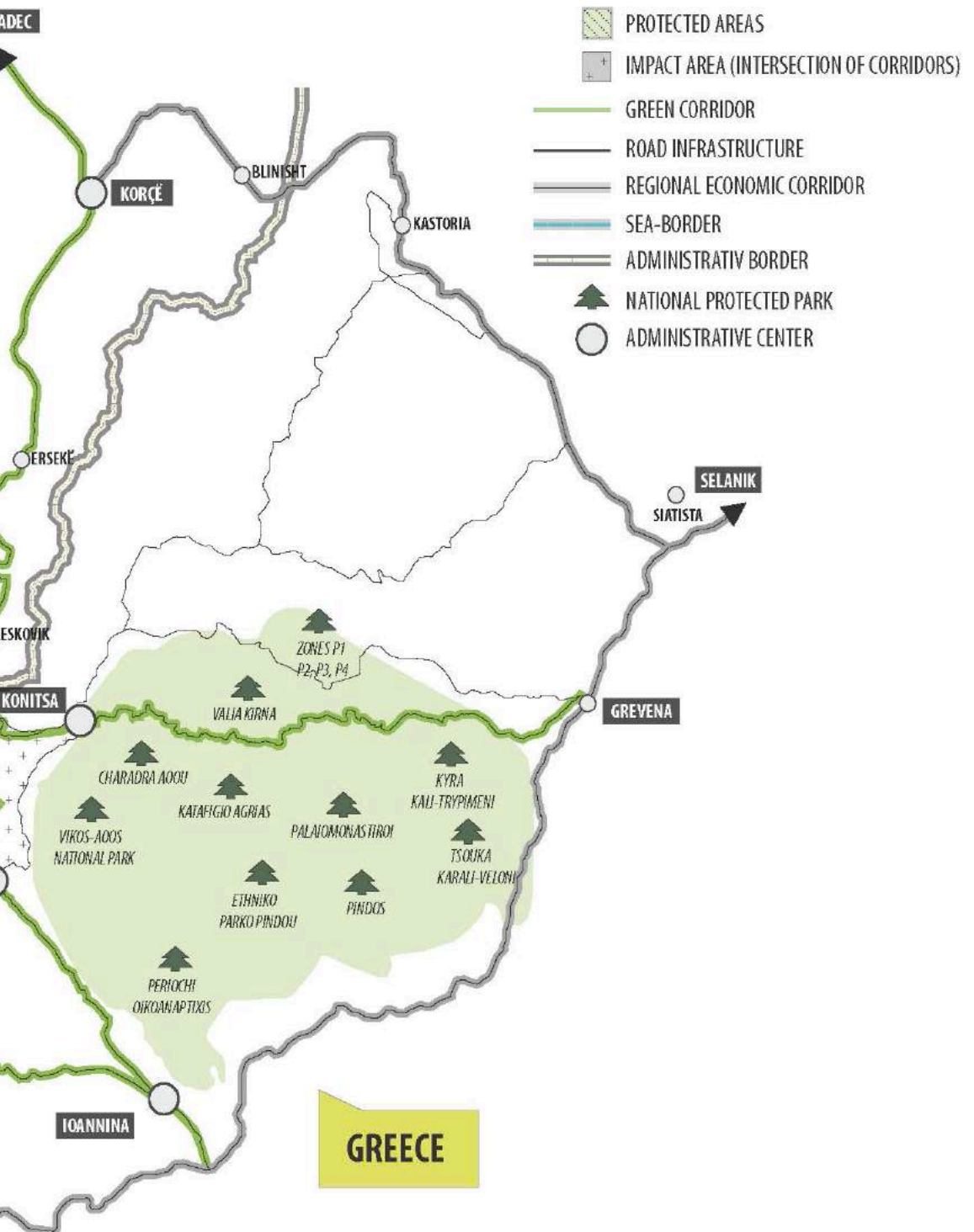


Fig. 1 / Regional Network of Green Corridors. Source / Albania 2030 Manifesto

policies. The ambition to overcome the local scale is also faced with a multitude of challenges. The current size, experiences and capacities of the local actors are such that being competitive beyond the local Albanian scale is highly unlikely. Therefore, the organization into a “network of place makers”, which can also become part of disembodied value-chains with the neighboring territories in Greece, becomes a significant instrument to place Dropull into a cross-border and inter-regional setting.

PhD Amanda Terpo investigates how the planning team of U-POLIS gathered knowledge on the Dropull territory via geographic data, in a situation with practically no data and no capacities to generate them. The establishment of the GIS practice was a two-year process. As the new administrative reform had just taken place in 2015, the drafting of the GLP-s was practically the moment of the “first” plans that the newly established local entities would have. Yet Dropull Municipality was not included into the scheme of public grants for the development of the new plans. It all depended on the good will of the POLIS/Municipal respective staff and leadership. The plan faced many challenges, but Terpo focused on the issue of data gap during the planning process, a gap that was addressed through a mixed methodology. For Dropull Municipality the planning process was challenging due to lack of data, cadaster registration problems, shrinking population (from about 22,000 to about 7,000 inhabitants), not mentioning many property conflicts.

The GIS data-creation process aimed to ensure substantial data not only to facilitate the planning and decision making process, but to also establish sustainable and long-term quality governance. Therefore, GIS system was mainly oriented towards online data record and overlay of information to bring together both quantitative data with its geographical location. The research was the most substantial part of GIS plan-making process. The team had to deal with the interests of the stakeholders and agencies involved, in a coordinated effort to contextualize the planning process for a specific municipality. The use of GIS system was in itself another crucial challenge, since the municipality had no previous experience, and their own cartographic information was mostly fragmented and damaged. The main conclusion and final recommendation for Terpo is “to acknowledge the sustainable

development approaches at a multilevel decision-making logic, while at the same time enrich the territorial information in order to enable a development strategy based to the real context and advantages of the specific municipality.

Dr. Godiva Rembeci points out that statistics are very important in enhancing good governance and appropriate policies. Rembeci says that trustworthy statistics - such as GDP indicators, income per capita, living conditions, inflation rate, unemployment rate, projection of population, etc. - are essential in monitoring the achievement of both national and local development goals. But in order to guarantee better public services to communities, society and government, both at a central and local level, the statistics for finance allocation should be used on the basis of consensual visions and projections, like those used on land use planning, housing, health care, and education facilities. From this perspective, the setting up of the information databases on urban/territorial planning processes, represents an indispensable and imperative tool. The author emphasizes that the warehouse of microdata creates opportunities for compiling various statistics, which should be used to measure and monitor the achievements related to the objectives of development strategies.

While there is no doubt about the role of statistics in the development and monitoring of national and local strategies, the availability of microdata becomes even more essential when we talk about the production of statistics. The lack of data is more likely to occur when we refer to small or remote administrative areas such as local units, communes or municipalities. In these terms, the Dropull case study consists in a difficult but creative planning experience, and a complex but proactive process of data-sources/statistical validation, focused on people and on demographic indicators. It also shows the role of statistical data in defining the demographic profile of a specific Municipality. Therefore, desk- and field-work was combined with data collection from archives, INSTAT and other institutions, while the extrapolation of historic data and present information was combined with a participatory method of data collection and qualitative interviews with people and local administrators. The GLP planning experience for the Municipality of Dropull has been an historic “moment-zero” for the establishment

of the statistical data, GIS data system, and territorial planning in itself, in such a newly established municipality. Therefore, the best thing is adapting to a proactive attitude by doing something, even if not perfect, rather than waiting and 'crying' about 'bad luck'.

Prof. Dr. Sherif Lushaj investigates the methodology of the environmental assessment of the Dropull Municipality. The latter was lately established by the union of three rural entities: i) Upper Dropull, ii) Lower Dropull; iii) and Pogon commune. It all comprises in total 41 villages and a surface of 448.45 km². The emergence of the administrative reorganization pushed for a new planning and development relationship, with a special view to the sustainable development and resilient future.

Among many urgent priorities, the new municipal administration has identified three issues:

- 1) establishing new urban-rural balances;
- 2) protecting the environment and improving community services;
- 3) promoting long-term sustainability, while dealing with growing risks of erosion, fires, flooding, forests damaging, informal activities and other socio-economic crisis.

Despite drafting a new GLP for a strategic development period of 15 years, the municipality also undertook also a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA - locally known as VSM). According to the legislation, both GLP and SEA had to go through a process of public consultations at all stages, including four specialized public hearings on SEA. The assessment was considered as an environmental status analysis, aiming to identify the environmental consequences of GLP plan and its policies, as well as ensuring the implementation of environmental-friendly projects. Throughout the process, the potentials and opportunities of Dropull have been identified; the environmental problems and risks areas were analyzed critically, as well as measures to reduce the negative impacts of the plan and projects were identified, in close exchange with the local, regional and national environmental institutions.

Main environmental considerations and recommendations for Dropull are: i) Topography and territorial systems; ii) Scenarios of the environmental assessment plan; iii) Analysis of the environmental situation in the territory of the municipality; iv) Geo-hazards and natural stressors; v) Compliance with the

objectives and environmental impacts of the plan. The innovative finding for Dropull Municipality SEA is that the team that performs a SEA must also be set up to respond to the interactive and multi-disciplinarity needs that satisfy three main components – 1) the technical process, and communication; 2) the Integration of the environmental and health monitoring systems which would help to either establish or better monitor health outcomes from certain risk factors; 3) the obtainment of better results by ensuring the implementation of the GLP Plan and other specialized/sectoral plans and programs, 4) the identification of the "environmental priorities" and public participation in the process. SEA is an important mechanism that creates increased accountability for the policymakers in enhancing good environmental governance. It also strengthens democratic institutions and addresses potential mechanisms for dialogue and policy influencing.

The second set of contributions comes from the International Workshop and PhD researchers themselves from POLIS and UNIFE:

Aida Ciro starts with the fact that today almost 6 million foreign citizens visit Albania annually, marking also the existence of a stable 2-digit annual increase. This proves that the importance of tourism in Albania is a factor of growth. As result, the number of communities adopting tourism development initiatives as a strategy for local economic development is growing, including the "liminal places" that once were considered 'undeveloped' and far from tourism's interests. Ciro focuses on exploring the concept of liminality, and how it can be reversed through tourism into a development initiative. A number of specific cases ranging from the local to national ones, are used to illustrate the relationship between this state of in-betweenness and the entrepreneurial ecosystem within a tourism development context. The case studies of the village of Fishtë Village, Lezhë (North Albania) and Gramsh Municipality (Central Albania) are two among the used examples. They show a way how tourism development can serve to reverse (social and economic) liminality.

The author concludes that ... tourism development could reverse liminality, or any of its attributes, including temporal, spatial and subject-related. At least the "#EjaNëGramsh" campaign and "#MrriziiZanave" case, although different

in approach and scale, are clear examples of how liminality was reversed thanks to the bottom-up tourism development processes. But liminality as a reversible condition in relation to tourism demand also shows that tourists are increasingly looking for previously unexplored places or liminal destinations at the verge of unlocked the untapped potential that lies in the liminal attributes of such places.

This provides a real opportunity to shift from the ambiguous state of limen towards a new structural/stable state achieved through a new purpose in favor of tourism development.

Blerim Nika focuses on the Sofratika village, as a particular case of Dropull. Sofratika is situated among a natural system, an historic site (Adrianopolis), and a rich agricultural system. Agriculture has been the most important sector of the economic development during the centralized economy period (1945-1990). The aftermath following the fall of the regime in 1991 was catastrophic for most of the productive areas, as they suffered major changes due to the closure of many productive activities, abandonment and uncontrolled privatization. Abandoned or not properly used for almost three decades, the space is left to the mercy of the sprawl of informal/urbanization activities, which increased uncontrolled exploitation. This harmed the local environment and landscape, and it also limited the possibilities of local governments for urban requalification. Nika analyzes how such "raw-material extraction areas" can be repurposed and regenerated in the existing economic situation. He analyses the relationships between the "raw-material extraction" facilities and the urbanized/living centers on the one hand, and the broad natural eco-systems in which such facilities are contained.

Then, he elaborates the extent of the damages of the connection of the place with the natural system. However, he is aware that the recovery of an abandoned quarry area is a complex activity that, by its very nature, requires to be tackled with adequate and long-term resources. It requires obtaining relatively short results, while the outcomes would manifest in time, after hundreds or even thousands of years. Nika underlines that the choices that are made at the time of planning are in some way definitive since they assign land-use function(s), which affect the long-term development substantially. These considerations make it essential both for

planning and its realization via projects that need extensive planning, agricultural and environmental competences.

Emel Petërçi - examines the concept of historical landscape in the state of liminality, as well as their vague nature and associations to modern landscapes, in terms of research and practice. She gives specific consideration to the associations of conventional landscapes with the subject of identity: history, culture and heritage. The answers to such dialogues could be identified within the so-called review of the traditional or historical landscapes. Peterçi sees some of the answers for the existing developing agendas at the pre-modern roots of the local context; often appearing as an historical continuity of the local landscape in terms of shapes and practices. She stresses the fact that during different historic periods, Sofratika and the territory of the Drino valley nearby, has been administered by different regimes that influenced its landscape in different ways.

Petërçi examines how the state of liminality has affected the different elements of such a historic landscape, which, in this specific case, includes a rich Archaeological Park/Area (Adrianopolis as part of the neighboring National Archaeological Park of Antigone). The area is supposed to have had enough strong legislation and practical instruments to preserve the local historic landscape. The question is: how does Sofratika benefit to be part of its own rich historical and archaeological context?

This is possible only when the residents themselves are aware that assets like archeological sites are a unique reality. The proposal of "landscape viewed" methodology of Peterçi offers a conceptual framework by which one can imagine how built environment reflects the gradual process of historical change. Indeed, the liminal landscape of Sofratika allows simultaneously a "backward- and forward-looking approach". The conclusion is that in cases of transition of the liminal landscape in a settlement with rich historic assets (back to its past-liminal landscape), its transformation is a very slow process, if not done with the help of responsible authorities. A "layering" strategy remains the main recommendation of Peterçi: an alerting instrument that helps one understand if the transforming/damaging elements begin to change the landscape functions. This is exactly the moment when it becomes clear that the liminal landscape stage has come to an end.

Ilaria Fabri investigates the issue of the aging population and migration trends as concerns that raise diverse questions about present and future of villages and rural areas on a range of issues, from social exclusion to the dismissed buildings, and the decline of public facilities. In particular, those areas that are more dependent on agriculture are facing stronger challenges, as rural exodus has gradually left behind elder residents who rarely have the necessary mobility and motivation for intensive land work. Indeed, they risk isolation. On the other hand, the lack of job opportunities and the shortage of agricultural workforce are closely connected. The shortage of jobs is generally the main push-factor for migration or emigration. The second one, the shortage of agricultural workforce, represents the real consequence of massive youth migration from a rural context towards big cities and abroad. Fabri investigates the possibility for the rural community to be an active player in inverting the trends of shrinking villages. She identifies a set of possible actions at neighborhood scale that, from the initiative of the local people, can lead to effective "rural revitalization" and "new social and economic value".

She undertakes a kind of exploratory study, where the village of Jorgucat is presented as an emblematic case study, as it epitomizes the issues of most low-dense and depopulated settlements with a land-related nature and agriculture vocation. Fabri's proposed strategies have: i) a special focus on community engagement, ii) an introduction of innovative public facilities, iii) the promotion of unconventional uses of the land and new working methods, etc. Their applicability to Jorgucat's context is explained with similar up-and-running projects. She argues that some valuable initiatives of rural development might start from the local people and entrepreneurs themselves, rather than as a response to government policy. Therefore she suggests possible opportunities for transformation and innovation at neighborhood level, including: 1) small scale interventions of innovative services at neighborhood level; 2) thinking of the rural villages as attractive place to live and visit; 3) top-down policies and investments in infrastructures and public facilities that are fundamental in creating the necessary basic conditions for a sustainable future in rural areas; and 4) active participation of the community as a pivotal agent.

But the main question is: ... How to achieve broad stakeholder and community

involvement in the enhancement of rural environment? Is there a will and ability of the local stakeholders and the community to participate in developing innovative change by means of participatory process? Fabri underlines that it is essential to set up events to foster community power and collaboration, directly engaging with the behavioral patterns of local stakeholders. For her, it remains crucial to identify local community leaders who would promote collaboration between stakeholders and the community. She concludes that ... the factors that facilitate local community involvement appear to be contextual, and therefore proposing a set of options in line with specific settlement potentials is urgent.

Joan Ikonomi investigates emigration, depopulation, population ageing, and the limited use of agriculture, livestock, and tourism potential, thus resulting in the marginalization of the local life due to market/service centralization and poor infrastructure. Ikonomi states that "the present conditions of isolation and rural decay push for the creation of an easy two-way connection between territory and the people, which can open up new opportunities to revitalize rural areas." The crucial role of these networks is to collect community potentials, create partnerships and offer benefits to the rural community. Innovative digital technologies can become an important instrument to develop virtual networking that can provide information, knowledge sharing and interconnection among different sectors, institutions and communities - through a smart multimedia interactive platform.

EU has already launched and promoted these concepts through "Smart Village Initiative", paying particular attention to the use of innovative digital technologies that create a new form of network cooperation beyond the village boundaries, involving the surrounding countryside and the surrounding towns. A "Smart village" presupposes an effective and efficient service delivery to the local residents and businesses, in order to improve their economic, social and environmental conditions. But such logic creates also conditions for "digital innovation" based on computing, communication and information technologies that act as accelerator in better exploring the hidden potentials of a village or a territory. In the case of Dropull, the first step in developing virtual networks is to provide digital infrastructure, broadband internet and a rural digital hub.



Existing



Proposal



Proposal

Fig.2 / Typologies of interventions in the village of Pogon unit, referring to the example of PPV Zagoria.
Source / PPV Zagoria, Gjirokastër



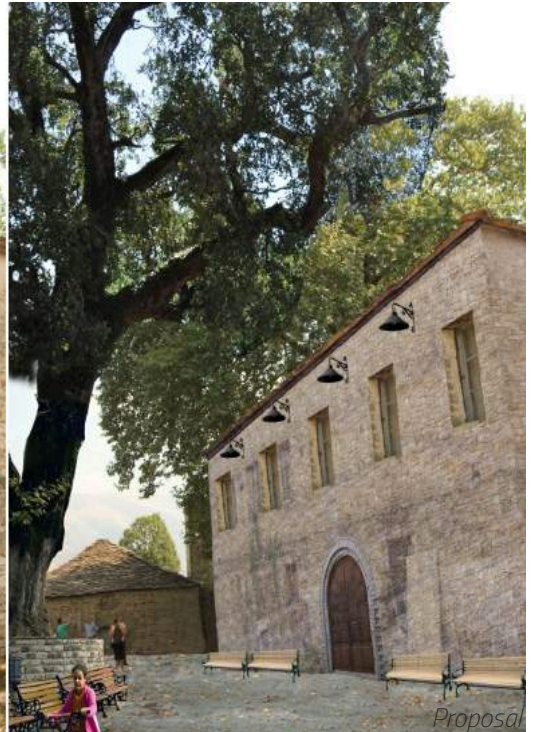
Existing



Proposed



Existing



Proposed

Fig 3 / Typologies of interventions in the village of Pogon unit, referring to the example of PPV Zagoria.
Source / PPV Zagoria, Gjirokastër

Such a multi-service hub structure could be located in Jorgucat, which is also the municipal center. It will manage the digital services that respond to the local needs offering support and training for the community. Ikonomi proposes the creation of a network between local community and other actors in different fields, aiming at facilitating the delivery of public services and offering new job opportunities. Based on the community needs, the municipality can create a fast network of information and exchange among the territory, people, and governance. Such network will inform people, customers, and tourists. In order to create such network, different e-tools (apps) could be used to support and facilitate the process, focusing on the following local aspects: i) Accessing to e-health, e-education, e-training and other essential e-services; ii) Online marketing and promotion of the local products; iii) Online booking services promoting tourism, heritage and cultural activities; iv) Faster mobility of people goods and ideas; v) Promotion of good governance.

The tools are considered a catalyst for the proposed networking, which serves to reactivate human, environmental and financial resources in the villages and improve the attractiveness and competitiveness of rural areas. Successful networking models and e-tools can be introduced in order to understand the structure of the information system and its management. This will constitute the basis for the development of specific networking models inherent in the particularities of the villages.

These steps that need to be followed in order to overcome the rural divide in the region of Dropull through digital innovation include: 1) Understanding the rural context and identifying local potentials and community needs, as well as building potential networks for serving the community; 2) Creating a development vision and plan for the digital investments in the area and providing good internet connection between all villages/businesses/people to support future applications; 3) Collecting data of all the resources and actors in the area such as governmental, business, civic, and on people; 4) Considering multi-sectorial services rather than single sectors separately; 5) Identifying qualified people in the village to guarantee the performance of the project; 6) Considering the cost of the project and identifying different potential funding sources such as public, private (related to local industries), and EU funding initiatives.

Johana Klemo deals with the shrinking phenomena of the living settlement as a reverse process of growth and urbanization. She underlines the fact that more than half of European cities shrank in the period of 1990-2010. This kind of urban transformation is a multidimensional process, and it impacts the economic and social domain. Shrinkage is also a phenomenon on several cities and rural areas in Albania and Western Balkans. Dropulli is a shrinking area, since it has both a decreasing and ageing population and economy, (23,000 residents in 1990, and about 8,000 inhabitants now). While Shrinkage is mostly caused by massive (e)migration, it is also a condition of liminality, and a transition phase of urban transformation. Klemo focuses on the urban aspects and elements of liminality, in terms of the liminal threshold both in its material and relational dimension. The material dimension of liminality refers to the physical assets or consequences of the shrinking process, which might be of temporary nature. Amongst the challenges that migration/depopulation causes, it is also the ruining of housing stock and the abandoned vacant infrastructures. The relational dimension of liminality refers to the detachment of migrants from their social habitat, lack of interests and lack of activities on the origin, and deterioration of public spaces. She concludes with a question, by offering also a path toward the solution for the existing situation: ... In the effort to restore a sustainable urban settlement and a sustainable population number, the question is how the component of liminal character helps the process of rebuilding an identity in the national/international markets?

Laia Gemma García Fernández also deals with the subject of housing and the rapid depopulation that is emptying many rural areas around Europe and Albania as well. The countryside areas are currently facing serious social and economic changes due to the abandonment caused by two decades of wild urbanization and the social-economic decay of the smaller town/village centers. The average age of their inhabitants is growing every year due to migration of young population toward urban areas. The lack of infrastructures and facilities for the community, as well as for potential tourists, brings about the necessity of re-thinking how to redesign a rural development model that satisfies the social, economic and environmental sustainability. The overview of the villages in Dropull shows how depopulation has given rise to the degradation of vernacular

architecture and the decline of the construction and the local businesses. This has forced the Albanian government to launch the initiative "100+ Villages Academy", whose main objective is to design custom-made development models for the rural areas, based on tourism and other economic potential. Therefore, finding strategies to promote the gradual reactivation of buildings, public infrastructures, community services, monuments and other tourism attractions is also the key to succeed in the development of rural Dropull. Fernandez aims to better understand the vernacular buildings, housing typologies and urban fabric of Dropull, by focusing in Jorgucat. She thinks that design and construction are key in triggering economic development, a sustainable environment, and fostering a strong sense of place and community. She asks:

How do we want to continue building our cities and villages? In which direction do we want to develop our knowledge, in order to focus on our history, communities and dynamics of the country? How do we promote a more sustainable way of living and building? Fernandez concludes: No matter what the choice is, both the people living in cities and those in rural areas already possess the resources and the possibilities to develop their skills and knowledge. The proposed actions include some local approaches that aim to increase the resilience of communities that takes advantage of their traditions, culture and people.

Laura Boffi investigates the concept of "thickness" in liminality, as a distance between the opposite sides of something. She states that If an object is thick, then it is difficult to see through it. In light of such definition she looks at an object from the outside, recognizing its opposite borders, and from the inside, appreciating what populates the distance between those borders. Thickness consists simultaneously in the opposite borders of the evolving entities, growing within them. Therefore, discussing thickness as a concept in a territorial context implies a dynamic zooming in-and-out. Boffi highlights the liminal spaces as physical thresholds between the rural and urban areas and works further towards the logic of growing the thickness between the boundaries. The approach allows the author to build a proposal on interdisciplinary. Boffi supports the idea of the designers' and professionals' knowledge in action, according to which designers and professionals are able to

know more than what they 'explicitly' are able to describe and plan. Such counterpoint approach has enabled all disciplines to produce interdisciplinary knowledge that serves the professionals and designer on the one hand and the beneficiaries and stakeholders on the other. The recommendations for Dropull are based on such interdisciplinary logic: 1). The "hosted experiment" consists of the collaboration of a designer with external factors of design; 2) the "technology appropriation" consists of prototyping interventions, drawing from the advantage of being first in the local markets and contexts. The placement of such counterpoint would suit the designer and the plan to generate the "thickness" of the design research process by interweaving it with other different disciplines and research domains.

Martina Suppa investigates "acupunctural interventions" that reveal liminal landscape potentialities in Dropull. She looks especially into the liminal characteristics and potentials of Sofratikë village, in order to understand the positive features related to the liminal dimensions of the general landscape, metaphysical landscapes, and landscape experience. Her analysis moves between two main driver topics: Landscape and History. By employing these two drivers, a first general strategy is designed to define acupunctural interventions at a later stage.

To Suppa, acupunctural systems like: water, roads, mountains, valley, archaeological sites, and villages; are part of landscape and design strategies aimed at identifying specific sub-areas of intervention in the macro landscape unit. Indeed, they are considered as parts of the landscape, which, if interconnected, allow an overview of the macro-landscape units. Therefore, the acupunctural interventions become actions of modification and sustainable development for the territory. In order to achieve these aims, the author identifies a specific methodology that focuses on the layers and stratifications of the village landscapes: i) the archaeological area; ii) the historic-settlement, and iii) the rural and agricultural landscape.

The settlement landscape is initially mapped and, at a later stage, overlapped on the main physical layers: the mountain, the village, the quarry, the agricultural fields, the archeological site, and the river. After an overall photo screening, a first general strategy is outlined, which focuses on the identification of two main liminal directions: i) The longitudinal liminality, connecting

the village and the archaeological area, through the main physical infrastructure (the national road), to the natural systems (agriculture landscape and Drino River). ii) The transversal liminality, connecting the Sofratikë systems of natural, rural and infrastructure systems (which are embedded in the historic city of Adrianopolis) , with other archaeological sites like Antigonea and Melan.

Once this framework has been established, the main acupunctural strategy is to achieve the revitalization of the site. Four principal clusters are identified as driver-systems to plan the punctual redevelopment strategy and the related acupunctural activities. In order to promote a coherent revitalization of Sofratikë, which could involve the adjacent villages and identify appropriate acupunctural actions, an integrated survey approach and procedures are needed. This yields an analytic knowledge of the city system, through documentation and data collection (using different devices and methodologies). The procedure allows transferring and aggregating the main aspects – the layers- of the historical, cultural, and landscape heritage, by using "semantic" models (connecting different information, documentation, plans, historical data, etc., to survey drawings or models). This allows for landscape valorization of the whole area. It also enables the connection and overlay of different levels of data and information, relating both to the general strategy, and the strengthening the related acupunctural interventions.

Using a multidisciplinary approach, the integrated documentation and survey procedures allow for reading, analyzing and explaining the main layers of this area. By involving in this process as many actors as possible with different and specific skills, it is possible to open new research avenues towards the knowledge, understanding, conservation, safeguarding, redevelopment and valorization of the architectural, urban and environmental heritage of the whole Municipality of Dropull. Suppa underlines that such approach will be carried out through survey methodologies, integrating existing devices (3D laser-scanning, digital-photogrammetry, GIS-system, etc.) with the collected data in an H-BIM environment.

This ensures the analyzing and decoding of the liminal dimensions of Sofratikë. In conclusion, applying the "integrated survey methods and procedures" on the

level of a local village/town could be the first validation step of an approach that could be also extend to the neighboring landscape units. Through the integrated survey procedures and methods, a protocol of decoding and representation of the entire municipality in a single macro landscape unit can be one of the main instruments of good territorial governance. Therefore, starting from the mapping of the potentialities inherent in the liminal stratigraphy that characterizes Dropull area, such an integrated decoding and representation code (once verified) can be applied as a knowledge tool for the documentation, conservation, restoration, monitoring, valorization and planning of possible scenarios of good governance. Above all, it ensures the revitalization and the socio-economic development of the overall Municipality of Dropull.

Nikola Vesho focuses on the settlements of Dervičan, located next to the important urban/regional center of Gjirokastra - a World heritage city of UNESCO. Dervičan is the largest town/village of Dropull, and has served as an urban/administrative center for many years. Due to massive migration trends in the past, there are many abandoned houses, which exhibit their own distinct architectural characteristics and reflection of the past cultural and historical values. The villages that have been abandoned during the recent decades present a serious problem which is common all-over Balkan countries.

Most buildings are in a degraded state, both in their architectural and structural aspects. Vesho examines the general problems of Dervičan's traditional houses, with a special focus on their structural aspects. He also makes a quick technical assessment of the present-day damages in order to propose a strategy of structural repairing that comes in a second phase. He focuses, then, on the analysis of the structures of the typical old houses in the village, especially those built with unreinforced traditional masonry, where a lot of problems has been identified as a result of the degradation of material parameters over the years.

There is also a need for a detailed analysis of the typology of buildings in this villages. The buildings made by traditional stone walls, and stone tiles without mortar, are of special importance. Therefore, after site visits and the identification of the structural problems, a matrix with the typologies of façade and structural damages is created. The most typical damages of this typology are: i) cracks in the walls and

carvings between the windows, ii) corner damage and wall displacements, and iii) water infiltration and damages caused by insects. The methodology also contains an assessment of the typical collapse mechanisms, and it is useful to define the seismic vulnerability for Gjirokastra region and other similar regions.

Veronica Vona – focuses the rehabilitation of rural villages with a strong heritage value, like Dervican. by investigating: how to prevent the depopulation risk as well as architectural ones, how to regulate the new expansion, and how to preserve the historical and architectural characteristics. For Vona, the most important matter is the knowledge of morphological development and typological analysis of the urban tissue and, as mentioned by Riccardo Dalla Negra- regardless of whether it is in the field of restoration or renovation. The methodological assumption comes from the School of Saverio Muratori, “who sees the typological and anthropization process not merely as a static categorization of building types and building features, but instead as a process that, under certain aspects, it is still evolving.” The analysis aims to identify the rules under which the buildings have changed over time and adapted to new ways of living, thus revealing numerous resources and potentialities.

The latter range from the application of planning rules in the new cities to an organic and integrated development strategy, and an identification of historical paths with a view toward valorization. It applies not only to the Dervican village, but also to the complex system of settlements in the Dropull Municipality. Thus, from a first analysis, it can be affirmed that the village of Dervican, initially developed as a high promontory settlement, near a punctiform polarity, and over time it turned into a low promontory settlement, attracted by a continuous cross-ridge, as a new linear polarity. This magnetic element is still active and has started to shift to a more or less planned way, until it resulted into the current motorway that leads from Gjirokastër to the border. In other words, this represents a new linear polarity, which, due to its characteristics, also acts as a limit to the expansion. On another scale, the analysis leads to a conscious action on the built environment, by respecting its identity, but at the same time allowing a transformation that takes into account the current needs. The identification of those legitimate changes within the historical building, respecting

what Riccardo Dalla Negra defined as “the physiological limitation of the historical building type of renovation”, is central to the methodology of the renovation or restoration.

For Vona, the solution for Dervican’s administration is to prevent any detrimental interventions on cultural heritage through the evaluation of the possible limits of the intervention, e.g., i) to repurpose a courtyard house trying to preserve its historical value; ii) to change the building’s interior, thinking well ahead on what masonry we must preserve and what we can re-build; and iii) to insert new functions. Starting from a morphological and typological approach, Vona proposes a series of possible strategies to prevent the abandonment of the houses and rehabilitate them. She concludes that a proper combination of the modern needs and historic heritage is the key to both conserve and promote and enhancement of the historical buildings.

Dr. Ljazar Kumaraku, last but not least, gives an account of the interventions in the local villages carried out with the staff and students of Polis University in the framework of the cooperation with the “100+ Villages Program” of the AKPT / Albanian Government. This is a pragmatic research approach on the discipline of territorial and urban planning, based on analyzing the planning paradigms and their transformation in contemporary times. Kumaraku highlights the shift in spatial planning paradigms from the total planning to planning based on interventions with a limited spatial extent. He illustrates such shift through the application of territorial planning with polar intervention in the project “100+ Villages Program” in Albania. More he recommends such methodology for the development vision of the GLP General Local Plan approved for the municipality of Dropull.

This could also be a baseline for the study conducted within the International Doctorate in Architecture and Urban Planning IDAUP by POLIS and FERRARA Universities. It should be noted that the strategy followed by the “100+ Villages Academy” to create visions for the development of the rural settlements in Albania was not new to POLIS University, which used it in the planning exercises for the GLP of Zagori Commune, (South Albania), and the GLP of Has Municipality (North Albania). Such methodology has been further developed by the National

Territorial Planning Agency (AKPT) in Albania as an official planning tool for acupuncture territorial interventions. Kumaraku concludes by saying that "Polis University has been a protagonist at the local, regional and international level in changing the paradigms of urban planning and in the transition from the "total planning" to "polar planning" logic. This paradigm has been used both in academic and practice-based activities for building tangible urban development visions for various projects implemented by the University."

Among such implemented projects he mentions: i) the vision built for Tetova city in Macedonia 2009; ii) the vision for Durana metropolis 2013, iii) the Gjirokastra Bypass in 2015, iv) the vision for the cities of Shkodra, Burrel, Belsh and Gramsh in 2016, v) the vision for Prishtina as new European capital in 2017, vi) the visions for Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, and 20 of the "100+ Villages Academy" in 2018; vii) and the Vision for the city of Gjirokastra in 2019, etc. The scientific brainstorming with the PhD researchers and staff aims to make such experience applicable for local and international applications.

Kumraraku points out that "the changing of planning paradigms from total planning to the polar planning accelerates the application of visions in a particular context and makes them more realistic. This paradigm is more realistic because it is closely linked to the changing political and ideological systems that govern society. The collapse of the totalitarian systems that ruled through total plans, inevitably led to the fragmentation of planning into smaller and polar interventions yet capable of regenerating a city. Here lies the hope of a better future.









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POLIS University
Rr. Bylis 12, Autostrada Tiranë-Durrës, Km 5, Kashar
Tirana, Albania
e-mail / contact@universitetipolis.edu.al
website / www.universitetipolis.edu.al

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