

An example for the rural area of Gjirokastra The case of Zagorie territorial and tourism plan

Work Group:

Besnik Aliaj, Sotir Dhamo, Ledian Bregasi, Ledio Allkja Mario Shllaku, Eranda Janku, Dea Buza, Blerti Bajo Figali Dardha, Gerdi Papa, Kejt Dhrami

Zagorie Municipality: Arqile Mekshi Andon Pango

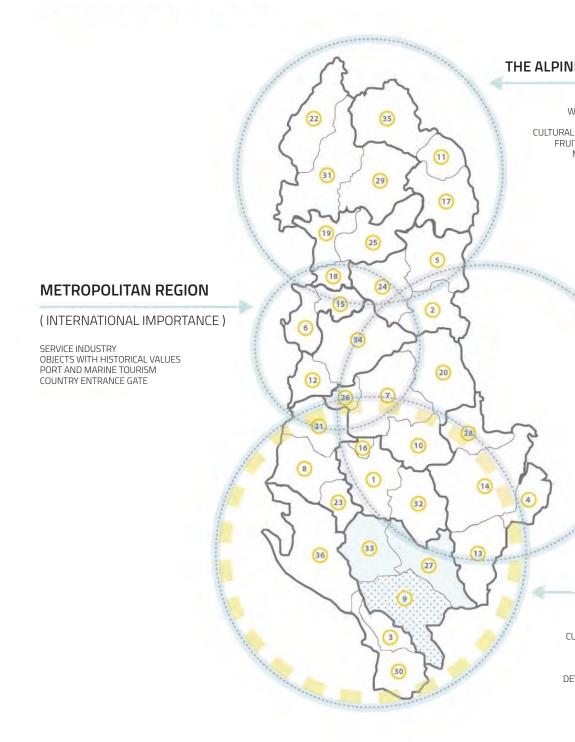
This part of the guide will contain:

- Historical and landscape values of settlements of the municipality of Zagorie;
- Land use;
- Resources and potentials of relevant settlements;
- Objectives to be achieved;
- First ideas for requalification of settlement centers;
- Suggested materials for intervention in the structures of settlements.





ALBANIA REGIONS



E REGION OF ALBANIA

ENERGY AND MINING

EALTH OF TRADITIONS AND HABITS NATURAL AND LANDSCAPE VALUE **OBJECTS WITH HISTORICAL VALUES** CULTURE, VINEYARDS AND OLIVES MECHANICAL AND WOOD INDUSTRY LIGHT FOOD INDUSTRY

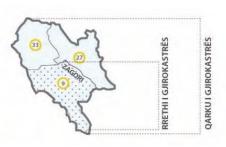
EAST-WEST GATE

REGIONAL COUNTRY GATE CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER NATURAL AND MINERAL RESOURCES PETROLEUM PROCESSING INDUSTRY FOOD INDUSTRY
CULTURAL OBJECTS & HISTORICAL VALUES
TRADITIONS IN WOOD AND STONE PROCESSING
FRUIT CULTURE, VINEYARDS, OLIVE

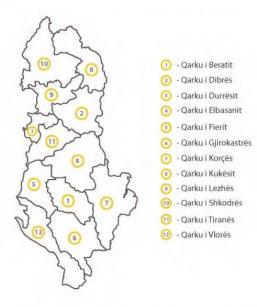
ALBANIAN RIVIERA

(ECONOMIC ENGINE) NATURAL AND LANDSCAPE VALUE PORTUAL ECONOMIC-TRADE CENTER ILTURAL OBJECTS & HISTORICAL VALUES FRUIT CULTURE, VINEYARDS, OLIVE PROPERTY & MINERAL WATER LIGHT FOOD INDUSTRY VELOPED AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

ZAGORIE LOCATION



DIVISION OF ALBANIA IN REGIONS



DIVISION OF ALBANIA IN DISTRICT

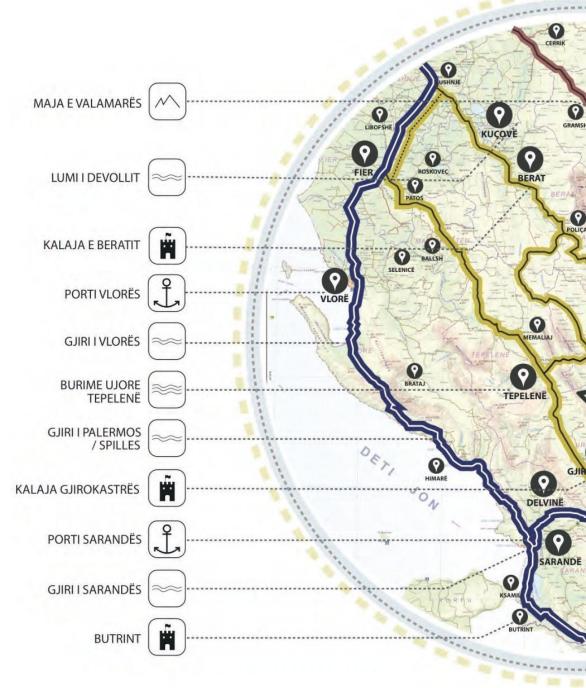
- 1. Rrethi i Beratit
- 2. Rrethi i Bulqizës 3. Rrethi i Delvinës
- 4. Rrethi i Devollit
- 5. Rrethi i Dibrës
- 6. Rrethi i Durrësit
- 7. Rrethi i Elbasanit 8. Rrethi i Fierit
- 9. Rrethi i Gjirokastrës
- 10. Rrethi i Gramshit
- 11. Rrethi i Hasit 12. Rrethi i Kavajës
- 13. Rrethi i Kolonjës
- 14. Rrethi i Korçës
- 15. Rrethi i Krujës
- 16. Rrethi i Kuçovës
- 17. Rrethi i Kukësit 18. Rrethi i Kurbinit

- 19. Rrethi i Lezhës
- 20. Rrethi i Librazhdit
- 21. Rrethi i Lushnjës
- 22. Rrethi i Malësisë së Madhe
- 23. Rrethi i Mallakastrës
- 24. Rrethi i Matit
- 25. Rrethi i Mirditës
- 26. Rrethi i Peginit 27. Rrethi i Përmetit
- 28. Rrethi i Pogradecit
- 29. Rrethi i Pukës
- 30. Rrethi i Sarandës
- 31. Rrethi i Shkodrës
- 32. Rrethi i Skraparit 33. Rrethi i Tepelenes
- 34. Rrethi i Tiranës
- 35. Rrethi i Tropojës 36. Rrethi i Vlorës

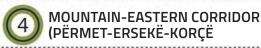
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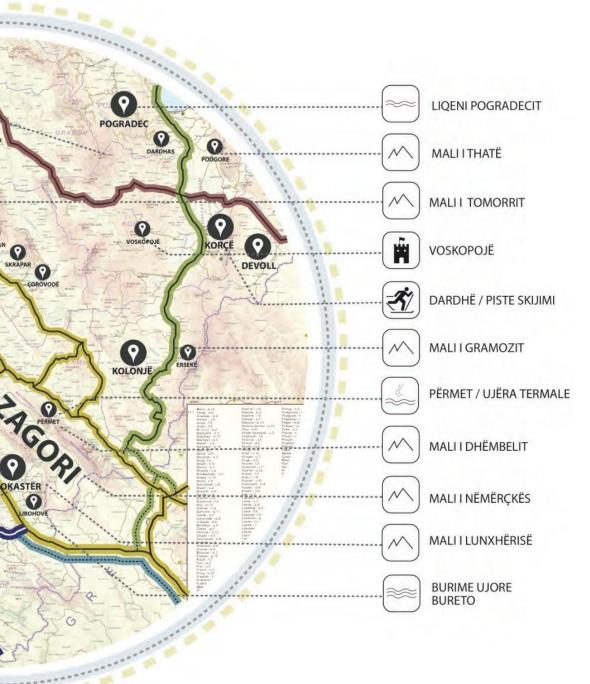
MAIN SOUTHERN CORRIDORS







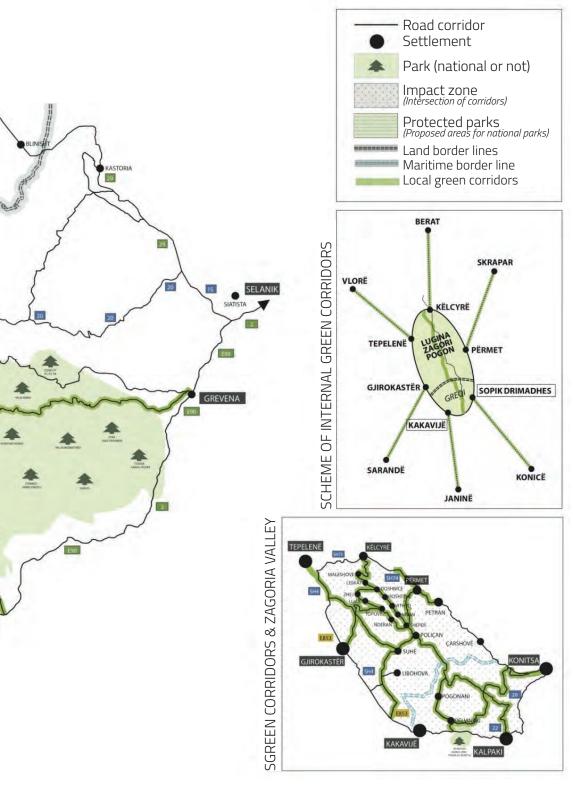




GREEN-TOURIST CROSS-BORDER ITINERARIES

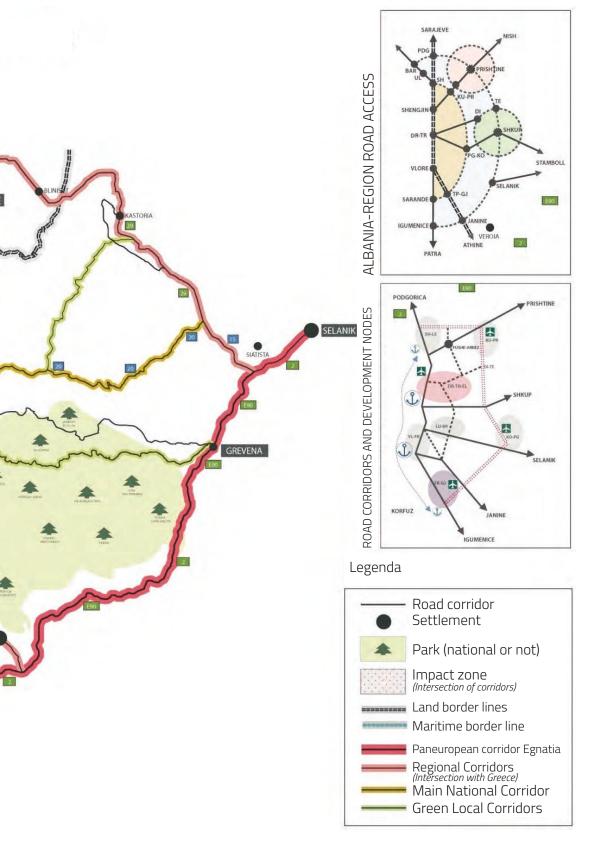


Legenda

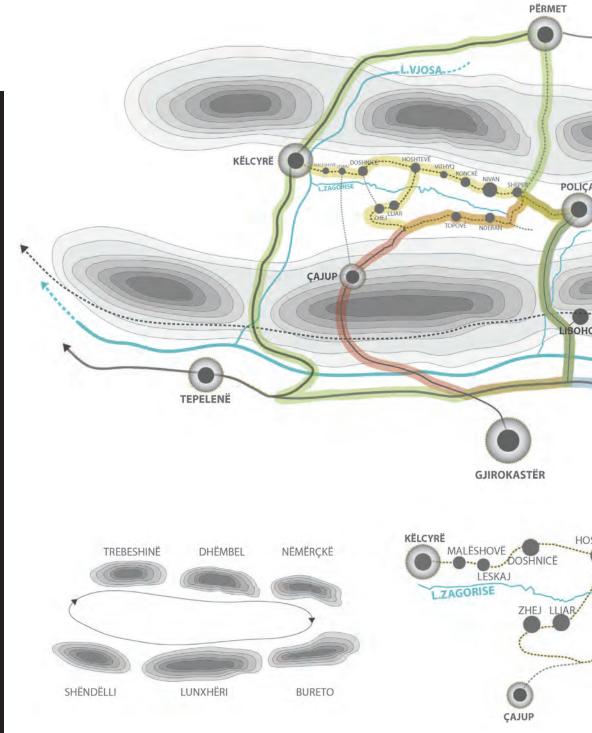


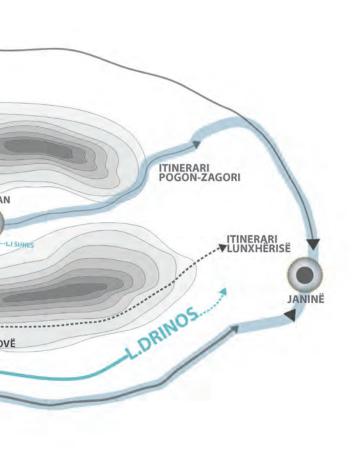
THE MAIN NATURAL AND ECONOMIC CROSS-BORDER CORRIDORS



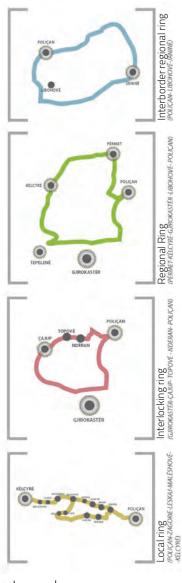


SYSTEM OF TERRITORIAL RINGS

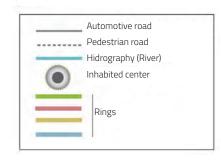


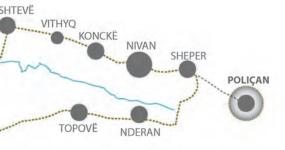


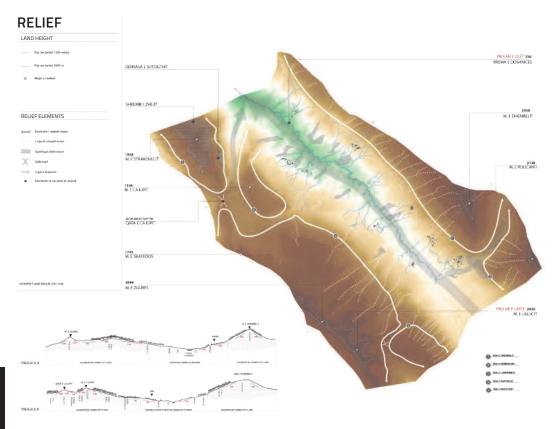
Rings



Legenda

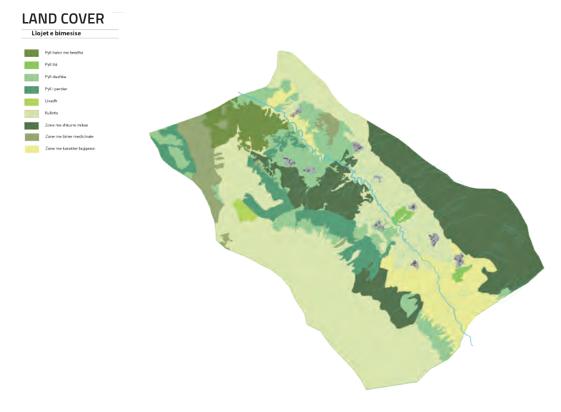


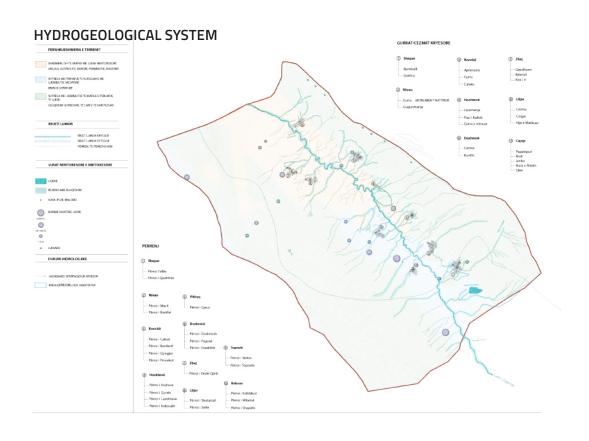


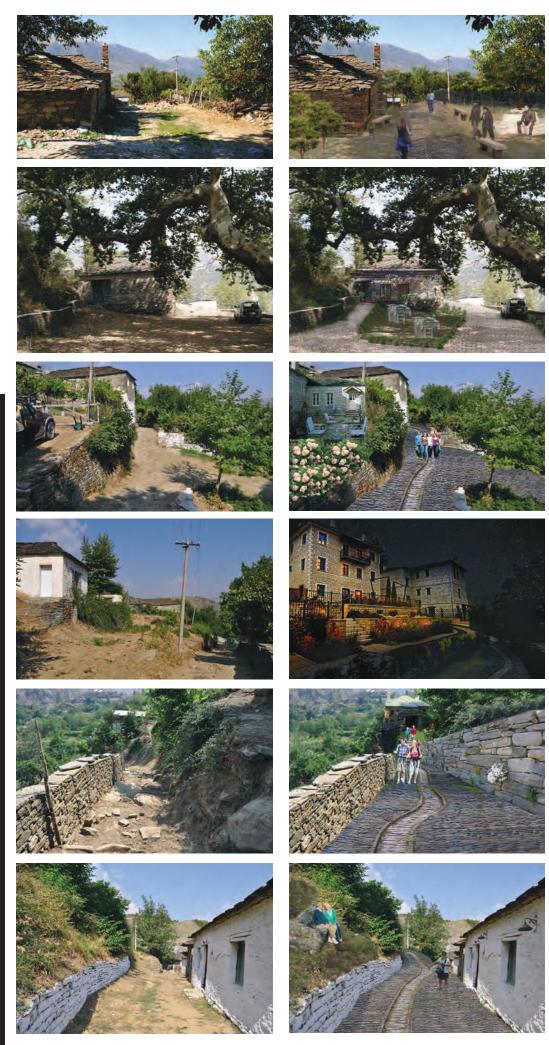


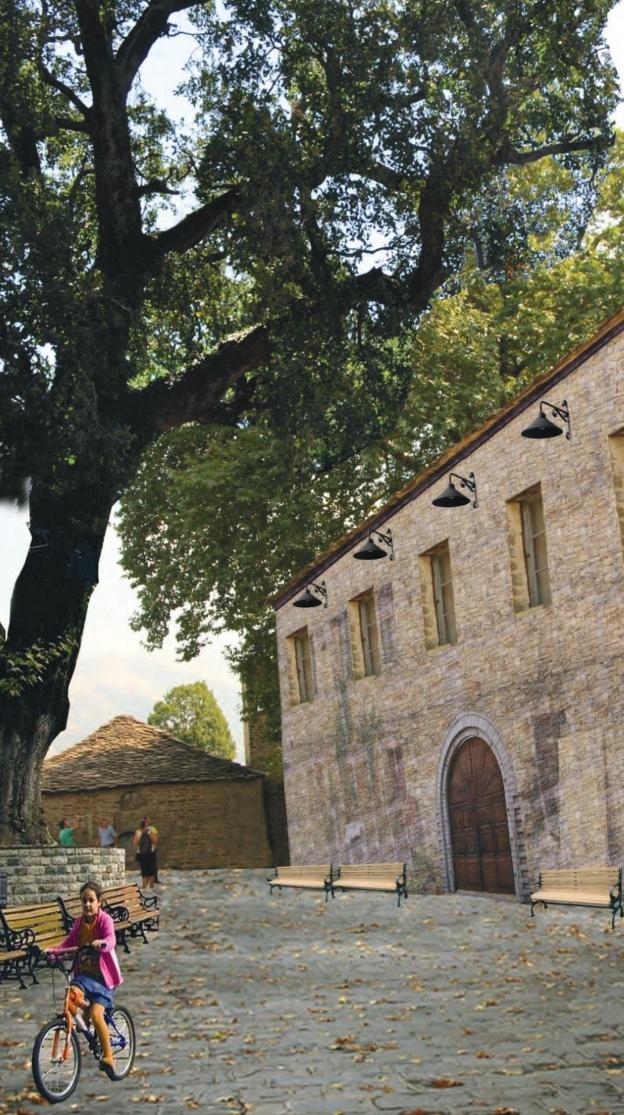
LANDSCAPE SYSTEM











Hoshteva

Between earth and sky. Elevated at the foot of the mountain, where rare landscape values stand out.

Village at an altitude of 750 meters, located downstream of the river Zagoria, on its right side. It is an old settlement and this is evidenced by the first findings in the Monastery of St. Sotir in the century. X. and in Plesha in the c. XV.

It is mentioned in the Ottoman documents of 1582-83 with 19 families and 1826 with 50 houses. In 1890 there were 120 houses, in 1927 - 467 inhabitants.

After the liberation Hoshteva had 400 inhabitants. On April 22, 1957, the Agricultural Cooperative was established, in 1959 it merged with Vithyqi and in 1960 with Zheji. In 1969 the village was electrified and telephoned. Also during

this year, 12 socio-cultural works were erected in the service of education, culture, health and social life, such as: the Konckë-Hoshtevë highway was built, an 8-year school was opened, a cultural center, a kindergarten, an ambulance, a bakery and bread, others.

Vithyqi, village at an altitude of 500 m, located about 1 km to the right of the lower course of the river Zagoria.

The locals call it Bythyq or Small Village. Mentioned for the time being first in 1852 with 15 houses, in 1913 with 94 inhabitants, in 1927 with 93 inhabitants, and in 1961 with 12 houses. The main direction of the economy is livestock, orchards and bread grains.







View from the church of St. Peter, as well as the center of the village.







History, Culture, Traditions and Customs of Hoshteva.

Hoshteva, is an old settlement and its beginnings are evidenced around the X century. The inhabitants of Hoshteva are autochthonous, but during the Ottoman rule (XVIII - XIX century) came some families from the provinces of Korca, Kolonja, Përmet, Labëria and Sul (Greece). In the church of St. Friday, in the 20s of the century. XVIII, the assembly was organized, where the pledge was made to fight against the Ottoman invaders.

Representatives from all over Zagoria and the surrounding villages participated. Hoshteva was the main supporter of Ali Pasha Tepelena and defended him from Kurt Pasha of Berat and bey Tepelena, so Ali, as a sign of gratitude, built the house of Kristananja and Kostara, two bridges over the Hos stream, and the bridge over the river Zagorisë.

Monastery of St. Sotir

To the east of the village of Hoshtevë, about 500m away, the ruins of a church of the Monastery of St. Sotir, a cult monument surrounded by centuries-old oaks, attract the attention of passers-by. This cult

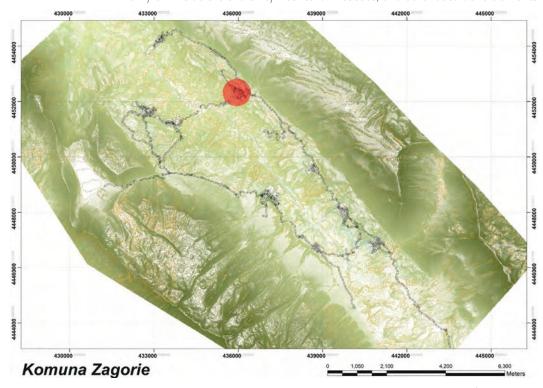
object hides inside its ruins a history of over a thousand years, a fact that makes it the oldest cult monument to date in Zagorie. Hoshteva's remarks. Lonely coniferous forest pile with an area of about 6 ha. It lies next to Gjurmëmushka and serves for boring data in summer. It is protected by law from the state, but unfortunately it has recently been damaged by the state, being cut for construction materials.

Even in the North-East of Doshnica Plank, between the coast of Bazhura in the North and the Udin Pass in the East, there is a considerable pile of dense ridges with a lower height than those of Hoshteva.

In 1967, during the movement for the eradication of religious prejudices, backward customs and the material basis of religion, which exploded throughout the country, the 3 main churches of architectural and artistic value, that of St. Peter, St. Kolli and St. Sotir, were destroyed and returned. in cooperative warehouses. Hoshteva had 20 churches. During the years 1870 - 1940, 6 priests served in them. The first Albanian school was opened in 1919 with 29 students.



View from inside the church of Hoshteva. Frescoes, and other decorative elements



Hoshteva Center



The creation of a local internal ring is one of the main objectives of general interventions in the area. This ring not only unifies the connection of settlement systems within the municipality, but also creates opportunities for the realization of shorter and faster connections of these systems. One of these connections is that of Hoshteva with Lliari, as well as the strengthening of the existing connection with Doshnica. In addition to the creation of the internal regional ring, priority is given to the improvement of the existing road infrastructure inside the village of Hoshteva, which will enable not only the

passage of vehicles, but also the creation of pedestrian routes.

Another objective is the creation of the village center and the furnishing of a square, which will welcome the main public activities. Part of this square will also be important objects such as. the church of St. Paul; guest house that will also serve as a bar and restaurant; ambulance, as well as the school, which will be reactivated and will host other services such as: summer camping area, vocational training center, information center and also space for nursing and medical service.

Koncka

Story of amazing nature, and not only.

A place of rare natural beauty; rich culture, and with early tradition in trade relations. Village at an altitude of about 800 m on the right bank of the river Zagoria, at the foot of the mountain Biseit.

About the history

Its existence is mentioned in the Ottoman documents of 1431 with 27 families, but the first archeological discoveries made of ceramics show that Koncka is an even earlier settlement. In 1852 there were 30 houses, in 1913 - 156 inhabitants and in 1939 - 200 inhabitants. Its inhabitants have distinguished themselves in anti-

Ottoman resistance, especially for the preservation of the Christian religion. Koncka is distinguished as an area based on economic development, small livestock, bread cereals and vegetables. In Koncka is the church of St. Mary, which is preserved as a cultural monument. Every year, in the spring, a large fair was organized near it, which was also attended by residents of Përmet and Pogon. There has been a Greek language school in the village since the 1970s, and in the meantime Albanian language education was offered in other neighboring villages in the Zagorie Commune.









The concept of development of the center of Konckë village.

As described above, each village will have a separate building, which will provide space for the provision of various services to the villagers. Alternatively, this building will welcome medical, postal, guide information and tourist accommodation, as well as a space dedicated to meetings and recreational activities for young people and other residents. Konckë village square will aim to include not only the Church of St. Mary, as a cult object of great importance for the area, but also the above-mentioned building and the road

that leads to these two important objects. By giving this public space this form and character, ie of a itinerary-square, it is intended to create a special identity where the local architecture, traditions and customs of the inhabitants are promoted, since along this itinerary there are different houses and paths connecting with various residential and natural areas.

The stone is a characteristic and representative material of the area, so the roads will be made of cobblestones and along this itinerary-square and connecting paths, rest places will be created equipped with greenery and benches.



The metal seal of the village

Land use, Koncka has in its use, vacant land, mainly pastures and shrubs, housing, cult objects, and agriculture.





Lliar

Special hospitality and cuisine

Village at an altitude of 720 m, about 2 km on the left bank of the river Zagoria, in its lower course, at the foot of Bucelth mountain. Mentioned for the first time in Ottoman documents of the century. XV and XVI with 15 families as well as those of the century. XVIII. Lliari opened the first school in the Greek language in 1848, which continued until the beginning of the century. XX. There was also a church (Holy Trinity) built on the foundations of an old church by the Patriarchate of Istanbul (1884) It had architectural and artistic values, but was destroyed in the 60s of the century. XX Lliari according to the census in 1852 had 25 houses, in 1899 - 350 inhabitants, in 1913 - 272, in 1927

- 219 and 1939 - 300 inhabitants. During the last 30 years of the century.

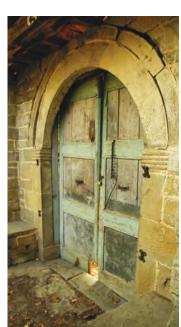
XIX is populated with inhabitants coming from Labova e Zhapa, Progonati and the province of Kardhiqi. During the century. XVIII - XIX the inhabitants of Lliari processed the stone and traded it in Northern Greece. This is also evidenced by the existence of a pebble factory on the rock of Rec. The inhabitants of Lliari started emigrating in the first years of the century. XIX and especially at the end of it and 1900 - 1918. In Lliar there is an old house of Koçaj with a bold special architectural construction, built in the 60s of the century. XIX and had a magnificent screw 90 m high and 3 m in diameter.



Detail from inside the church of St. Triadhës Local













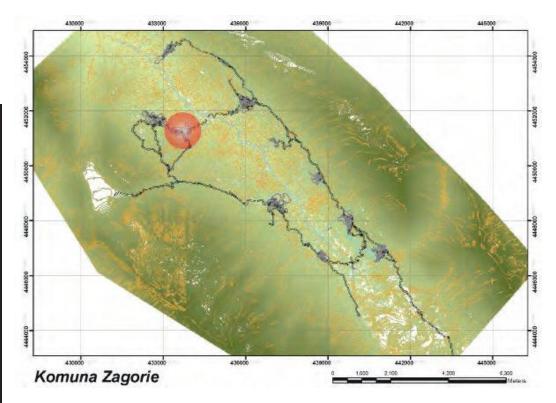
Church of St, Triadhës; Local house; Characteristic wooden gate Local food products

Development of Lliar village center.

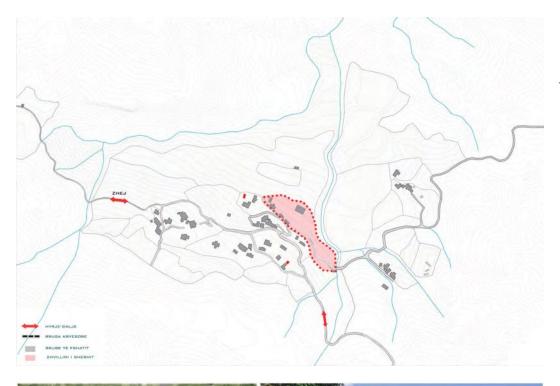
The village of Lliari will have a square, part of which will be the church of St. Triadha, the multifunctional building of the village, as well as the spaces around these buildings, with all the natural elements that are located there. Another important element of the village is the stream, which passes near the square. Protection from pollution and the creation of a green belt around it, are the two main objectives of the intervention in the village of Lliar.

Other services will be provided in the area, and here we mention the multi-functional building, which as in any other village in the municipality, here too will welcome various services, such as medical,

postal, information point, and space for recreational and educational activities. An important part of the village will also be the development of cuisine, as Lliari is known not only for citrus, fruits and products obtained from their processing, but also for cooking meat and preparing and preserving food for cold months.









Zhej

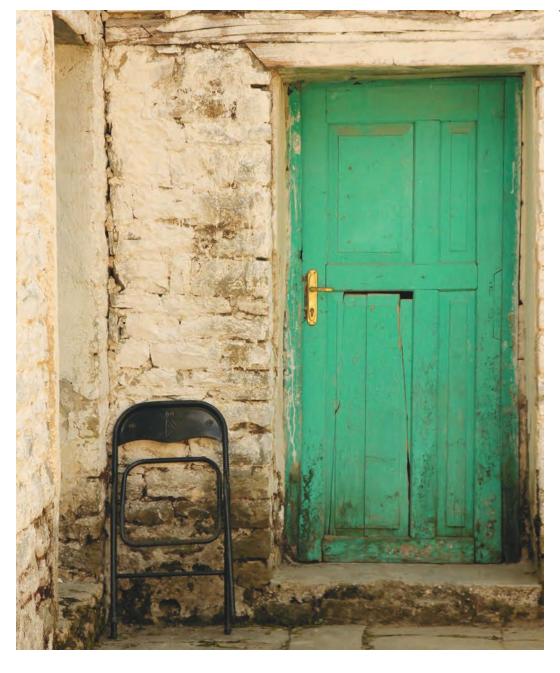
The cradle of culture and education

Zheji has always been a beautiful village, with cobbled streets.

Houses surrounded by protective walls and decorated gates, where the color scheme is extremely sweet .. You have to look at Zheji from a high point to enter his labyrinth, but again with great difficulty. Village positioned east of Bucelth Mountain, with an altitude of 700 m. It lies at the foot of Belenat and is surrounded by low hills. It is connected to Çajupi by two footpaths, one passing at Buza e Rripë (between Strakavec and Bucelth) and the other on the south-east side of the latter. According to the data it

is an ancient settlement. This is confirmed because in Belenat and Vërri i Zhejit tombs and pottery of the ancient period have been found. The 9-year school is a great asset of Zheji, in which many students have started their active life, who then, following the other high schools of the country, have managed to excel in all fields. Zheji has had 12 churches and celebrates Holy Friday every year. There was a folk group, which was distinguished in folk and national festivals. The main direction of the economy are bread grains, orchards, vineyards, livestock and especially small livestock.







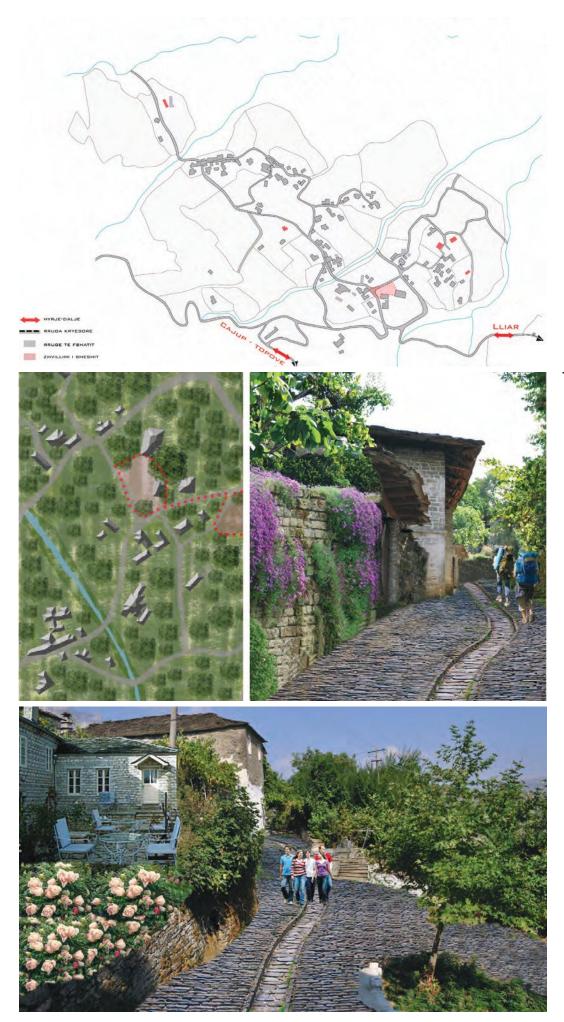












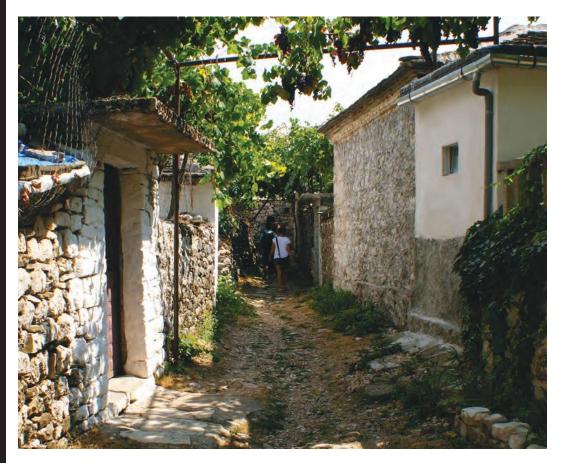
Ndëran

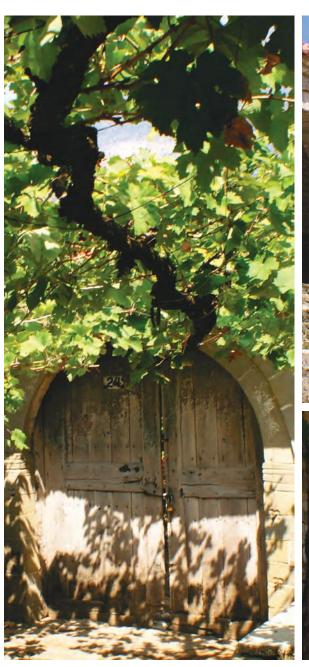
The hearth of Zagorie history

Village at an altitude of 740 m, on the left bank of the river Zagoria, in its upper course. Mentioned in Ottoman records of the century. XV, XVI and it is said that before these centuries it was by the river, together with Nivan. In 1952 it is witnessed by 18 families.

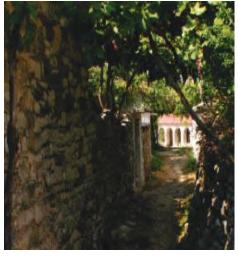
At the end of the century. XVIII and at the beginning of the century XIX, inhabitants from Panariti of Korça, Erseka, Picari, Progonati, Luzati of Tepelena, Kuçi of Vlora and Central Albania settled in Ndëran.

During the '80s and' 90s of the century XVIII was a safe base of Ali Pasha Tepelena, who was sheltered and guarded by a local family. In 1852 there were 65 houses and in 1899, 400 inhabitants. At the beginning of the last century began the mass emigration of the population, mainly to Kavala and Larissa (Greece and Macedonia) and the number of inhabitants dropped to 286 in 1913, 261 in 1918 and 200 inhabitants in 1939. The earthquake of 1913 destroyed Milaria's neighborhood.





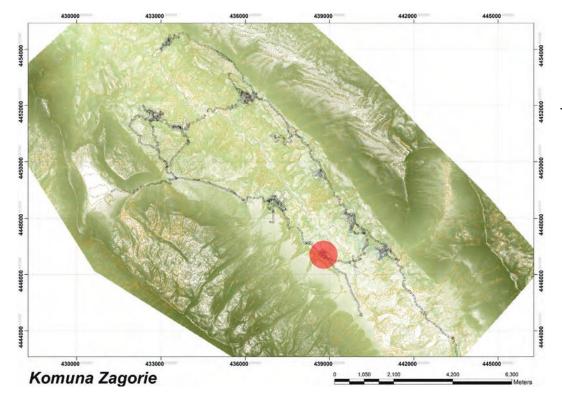






The concept development of the center of Ndëran village.





The center of Ndëran village will consist of two main squares, that of the village church and that of the multifunctional building, and the connecting space between these squares. In this way, it will be possible to give life not only to the respective squares, but also to the space between them, which also integrates residential areas.

Regarding the multi-functional building, as well as in other villages of the Municipality, it will welcome various functions, such as medical, postal service, information center on tourist itineraries and potentials of the village, as well as space other dedicated to various recreational activities.

Nivan

Municipal Institutional Center.

Village at an altitude of about 800 m, on the right bank of the river Zagoria, at the foot of Biseit. It is the center of the municipality of Zagoria which includes 10 villages of the province. It is mentioned as an ancient settlement and it is said that, before the Ottoman conquest, it was located near the river, together with Ndëran. According to Ottoman records in 1431 there were 28 families and paid the annual tax 2007 axes; in 1582 42 families. While in 1852 the Upper Nivani is evidenced with 40 houses and the Lower with 20. In the second half of the century. XVIII, 9 wealthy families of the village, were put in the service of the Ottoman rulers and some of them embraced Islam. Nivani became famous for his Monastery of St. Mëhill, in which many meetings, assemblies, fairs and religious festivals have been held

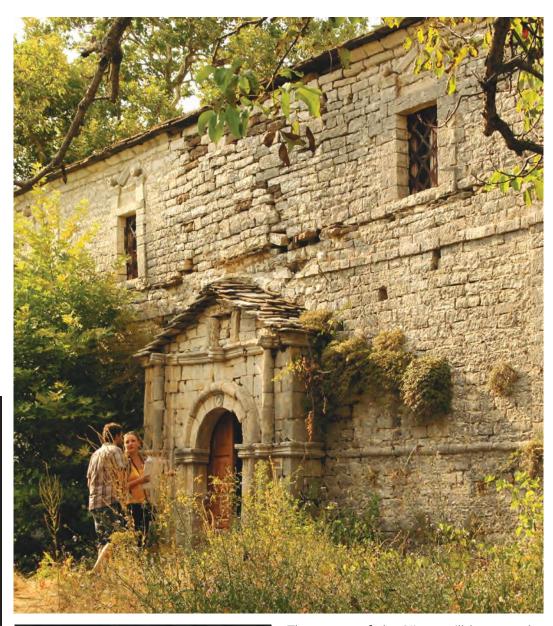
since the century XVIII to the present day. Near this monastery is opened the central school, the middle half of Zagoria. During the second half of the century XIX Nivani is populated with inhabitants coming from Përmeti, Erseka and Kurveleshi. In the Monastery of Nivan in these years many efforts were made to turn the Greek school into an Albanian school. It opened in 1899 with 65 students. The Albanian school was opened in 1922. It was closed within the year and reopened in 1925. After the liberation in Nivan the Health Center was opened, the agricultural high school was established, the center of the locality, the cooperative and the other United Council were established. The main direction of the economy is the production of bread grains, vegetables, small livestock and fruit crops.













The center of the Nivan will be near the source of the village, which provides a considerable space, which is also located near the building which will have various functions, mentioning spaces for recreational activities, bar and restaurant, a mini library, and space for various meetings and gatherings. Equipped with greenery and space to relax, the Nivan fountain will return to its former state, when it was the only place where residents could organize their meetings.









Sheper

A place not only with rich history, but also with culture, traditions and customs known throughout the Municipality

Village at the foot of Dhëmbelit, in the middle of the road Gjirokastër - Poliçan - Përmet, at an altitude of 800 m. It was previously located in its West and was referred to as Tërrovë.

It is an old village; is proved for the first time with this name in the Ottoman registers of 1431 with 38 houses. In the second half of the XVIII century had 300 houses and 3 inns for trade caravans, which passed on the road Korça - Përmet - Qafa e Dhëmbelit - Dropull - Saranda.

In 1852, according to the Greek historian P. Araventinoi had 150 houses and in 1898 - 1200 inhabitants. Shepher had a school in the Greek language in 1874; also many

students attended Nivan school in the '80s of XIX century. While in 1898 Sheper's school had 65 students and 2 teachers. At the beginning of the last century, many efforts were made for the Albanian school.

In 1906 there was a secret walking school for learning the mother tongue, while in 1910 the "Orthodox League" was established. In the first decades of the XX century began mass emigration; about 40 families settled mainly in Macedonia and Greece.



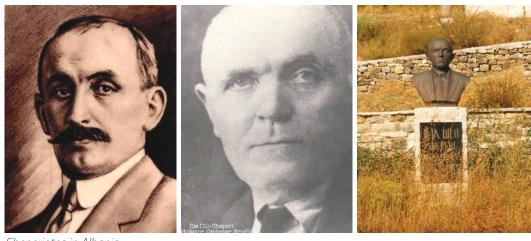




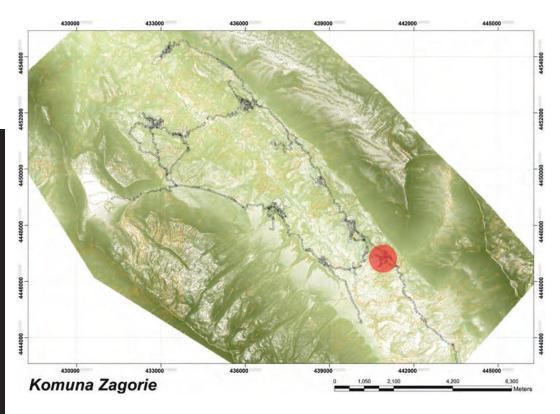


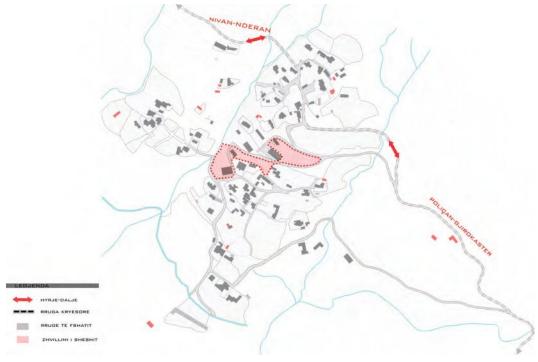






Sheperiotes in Albania







The concept of development of Sheper village center.

The center of Sheper village will also be a space lying between the village church square and the square next to the multifunctional building. Along this space that will be considered as the center of the village, are located the most important buildings for the village, where we mention the buildings that provide various public services, as well as houses, which are of special architectural importance. From this part, considered as the center of the village,

various paths are connected, which lead to other attractions in the village, as well as inside the inhabited neighborhoods. Various tourist itineraries will traverse these areas, offering tourists not only amazing natural views, but also elements from local traditions and customs, as well as the opportunity to stay in inns or visit the houses of the village, where you will can taste local food products and of course homemade brandy.



Image that shows how can to look this square.

Topovë

Tradition and culture in the processing of citrus and fruits.

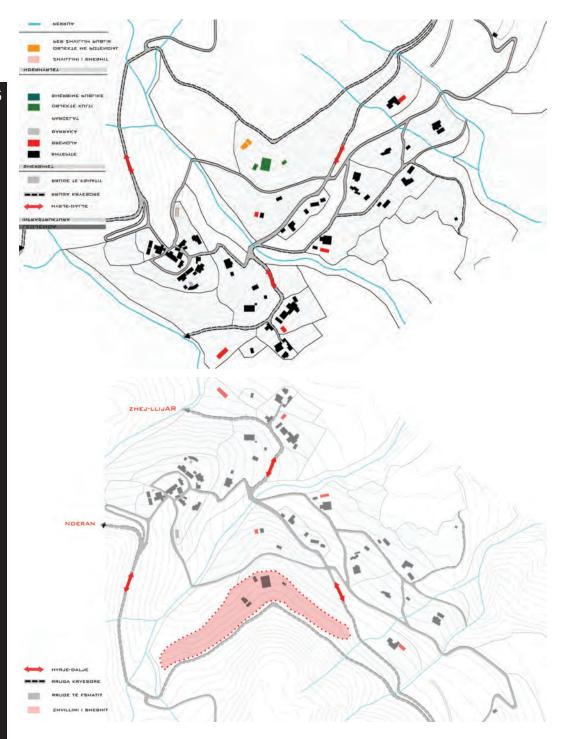
Village at an altitude of 600 m, about 2km. To the left of the upper Zagoria River, it lies in a pit on both sides of the stream of the same name. It is an old residential center. Centuries ago, it was located by the river. There were four churches, of which that of St. Mary was older than that of St. Kollit, which is preserved as a cultural monument. Topova School was opened in 1874 in Greek and in 1898 had 30 students. For its maintenance the villagers gave 500 grosh per year. The population has a fighting tradition: it has supported Ali Pasha Tepelena to secede from Turkey. According to the census of 1913 it had 287 inhabitants and in 1927 - 300. In this period, it was for several years the center of the municipality. After the liberation, it was the center of local government in Zagoria for several years. The maternity hospital and the hospital of the province have been set up here. In 1962, as a result of heavy and torrential rains, Topova suffered major landslides,

which destroyed its urban line. Today there is a primary school, 16 families with 40 inhabitants. On July 18, 2002, the church of St. George was inaugurated.

WHITE STONES. In the place called Gurdë e Bardha, about 700m south of the village, in the arable lands, during the arrangements with mechanical means, ceramic fragments came to the surface. Even in the years that followed the locals during the agricultural works continued to encounter such findings. According to the descriptions of these fragments, they have been heavy stones in large quantities (over 100 pieces), and fragments of ceramic vessels. The area in question is bordered on the south by the stream of Gurra i Bardhë, on the east by the place called Fshate (according to the data there was once a village), on the north and northwest by the pit of Lëmi and streams and on the west by St. George.







The creation of a local internal ring is one of the main objectives of general interventions in the area. This ring not only unifies the connection of settlement systems within the municipality, but also creates opportunities the realization of shorter and faster connections of these systems. One of these connections is that of Hoshteva with Lliari, as well as the strengthening of the existing connection with Doshnica. addition to the creation of the internal regional ring, priority is given to the improvement of the existing road infrastructure inside the village of Hoshteva, which will enable not only the passage of vehicles, but also the creation of pedestrian routes. Another objective is the creation of the village center and the furnishing of a square, which will welcome the main public activities. Part of this square will also be important objects such as. the church of St. Paul; guest house that will also serve as a bar and restaurant; ambulance, as well as the school, which will be reactivated and will host other services such as: summer camping area, vocational training center, information center and also space for nursing and medical service.



The concept of development of the center of the village Topova

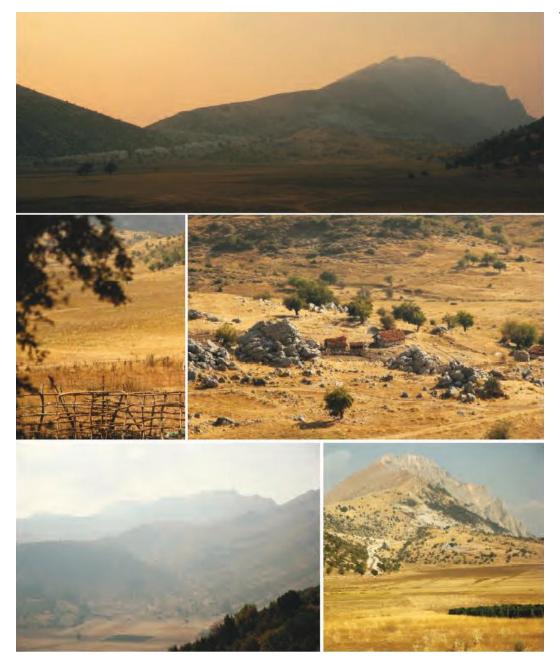
Field of Çajupi

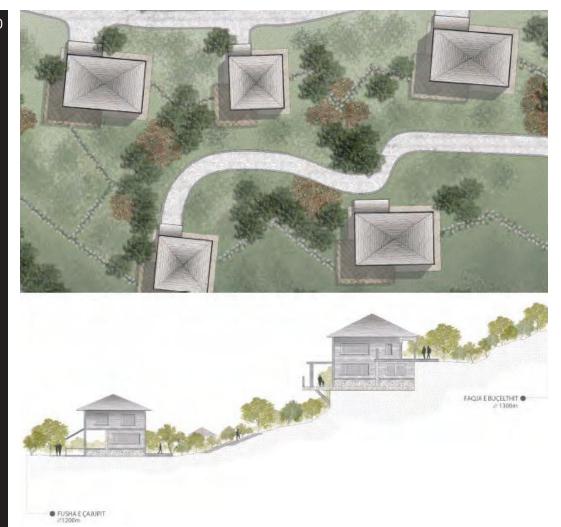
Rare natural wealth for the area, with special relief that stimulates not only landscape tourism, but also winter tourism, horseback riding and various walking routes.

The Çajupi field about 1200 meters above sea level and about 30 kilometers from the city of Gjirokastra is a rare natural monument, not only for Zagoria, but for the entire region and beyond. A place where nature has generously forgiven fresh air, cold water, flowers and trees, which like nowhere else complement an almost fabulous panorama. And not only that, but if you are going to be in the Çajup field, you are very close to the Çajup Pass, which is also considered a Natural Monument. The

central part of the field during the winter is covered by floods, but still during the warmer months of the year, it is planted with different products, which not only give it more value, but also make it more beautiful and colorful, which contrast with the deep green of the surrounding bushes and pastures in the mountains. Numerous water sources, scattered in the territory, add even more to the values of the Çajupi Field.











We have considered Fushë e Çajupit as the entrance gate of the Municipality of Zagoria, the point from which every itinerary through the villages will start and continue. Among other things, to support this goal, at the entrance of the Çajup Field there will be a parking space, from where you can then move with local tourist cars, horses or on foot. Also at the entrance of the field, an information point will be located, which will provide data on the activities that will take place in the Çajup Field, as well as beyond it, in the villages.

Favored by the relief, it is thought that the main service that will be provided in Fushë e Çajupit, in addition to being a gateway, is the establishment of a ski resort, which will create two tracks of beginner and intermediate levels, a basic service building, a series of small holiday villas, camping development space in the southern part of the plain, as

well as a series of natural itineraries for both pedestrians and horseback riding.

Holiday villas will be small accommodation spaces, which will welcome not only family vacationers, but also working groups for organizing workshops and projects. One of the most important goals is to create a spirit of cooperation of different authorities, to bring to the Municipality working groups in the field of restoration. Given that a good part of them are organized in the neighborhoods of the city of Gjirokastra, it will be simple to move part of this flow through the villages of the Municipality of Zagorie.

The base building of the resort will be a 2-storey structure, with wood and stone base, which will offer various services, where in addition to the hotel, restaurant and bar, there will be shops, a swimming pool, sauna and a meeting room and conferences.