

TAP

Trans Adriatic Pipeline



ESIA Albania Annex 7 – Stakeholder Engagement Data



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7.1 Stakeholder Meetings Main ESIA Phase

Table 7.1-1 National Level Meetings Main ESIA Phase (2011-2012)

Date	Representatives
<i>Government Authorities</i>	
14/11/2011	Roland Olli, Head of Albanian Archaeological Service
02/02/2012	Mr. Adriana Pellumbi, Director of the Institute of Transport
02/02/2012	Mr. Arben Binari, Director of General Directorate of Road Transport Services
03/02/2012	Kujtim Harshova, Director of Directorate of Policies for Road Transport (General Directorate of Transport Planning and Policies, MPTT)
03/02/2012	Mr. Andi Toma, Director, General Road Directorate (MPTT)
08/02/2012	Mr. Bino, Vice Minister MoE (and representatives from key departments)
<i>NGO's</i>	
07/02/2012	Merita Mansaku, EDEN Founder
	Msc. Ermelinda Mahmutaj
	EDEN Executive Director,
07/02/2012	Mr Z. Dedej, INCA Director

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Table 7.1-2 Settlement / Local Level Meetings (June and September 2011)

Region	District	Commune / Municipality	Settlement	Date of Meeting	
Korça	Devoll	Bilisht Qender	Vishocice	19 September 2011	
			Kuç	20 September 2011	
			Trestenik	20 September 2011	
			Progër,	21 September 2011	
			Progër commune meeting	21 September 2011	
			Vranisht	21 September 2011	
			Cangonj	21 September 2011	
			Bilisht	19 September 2011	
			Shamoll and Malavec	22 September 2011	
			Bulgarec	22 September 2011	
	Çiflik	22 September 2011			
	Korça	Mollaj	Drenovë	Mollaj	07 June 2011
				Mollaj	20 September 2011
				Pulahë	20 September 2011
				Ujëbardhë	07 June 2011
Drenovë				08 June 2011	
Korça	Vithkuq	Pojan	Drenovë	19 September 2011	
			Turan	19 September 2011	
			Ravonik	19 September 2011	
			Vithkuq	11 June 2011	
			Pojan	22 September 2011	
Korça	Zëmbllak	Terrovë	Zëmbllak	22 September 2011	
			Pendavinj	23 September 2011	

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Region	District	Commune / Municipality	Settlement	Date of Meeting	
Berat	Skrapar	Qendër	Buzuk/Orizaj/ Arizaj	15 June 2011	
			Çerenishte	15 June 2011	
			Polenë	15 June 2011	
			Osoje	15 June 2011	
			Munishtir	16 June 2011	
			Therpel	7 June 2011	
			Vëndreshë e Vogël	7 June 2011	
			Ustie/Valë	8 June 2011	
			Poliçan	10 June 2011 (<i>aborted</i>)	
			Backë	13 June 2011	
			Potom	13 June 2011	
			Qafë	14 June 2011	
			Berat	Corovode	Corovode, Corovode Municipality
	Otlak	7 June 2011			
	Ullinjas	7 June 2011			
	Guri i bardhë and Ura Vajguore	8 June 2011			
	Berat	Ura Vajguore	Konisbalitë/Vokopolë and Ura Vajguore	Konisbalitë/Vokopolë and Ura Vajguore	8 June 2011
Poshnjë				9 June 2011	
Poshnjë and Çiflik				9 June 2011	
Berat	Vërtop	Vërtop	Bregas	13 June 2011	
			Zgërbonjë	10 June 2011	
			Fushë Peshtan	11 June 2011	
			Mbrakull	11 June 2011	
			Vërtop	11 June 2011	
			Vodicë	13 June 2011 (<i>aborted</i>)	
Berat	Cukalat	Cukalat	Malinat	15 June 2011	
			Cukalat	9 June 2011	

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Region	District	Commune / Municipality	Settlement	Date of Meeting
Fier		Kutalli	Kutalli	10 June 2011
			Sqepur	11 June 2011
			Protoduar	11 June 2011
			Drenovicë	13 June 2011
			Rërez-kumarak	13 June 2011
			Velebisht	14 June 2011
			Duhanas	16 June 2011
			Roshnik	16 June 2011
			Tërpan	17 June 2011
			Berat / Uznovë	17 June 2011
			Mbrostar Ura	7 June 2011
			Petovë	7 June 2011
			Verri	7 June 2011
			Kallim i vogël	16 June 2011
Seman and Kavakli	8 June 2011			
Seman i ri	8 June 2011			
Gryke	8 June 2011			
Sheq i Marinas	8 June 2011			
Fushë	11 June 2011 (aborted)			
Topoje	14 June 2011			
Strum	14 June 2011			
Mujalli	16 June 2011			
Qender	16 June 2011			
Kurjan	15 June 2011			
Rreth Libofshë	15 June 2011			
Dermanas	09 June 2011 (aborted)			
Hoxharë	09 June 2011 (aborted)			
Hamil	10 June 2011 (aborted)			
Fier				

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Region	District	Commune / Municipality	Settlement	Date of Meeting
			Sulaj	10 June 2011 (aborted)

Table 7.1-3 Key Informant Interview Meetings (June and September 2011)

Region	Municipality	Location	Date of Meeting	Key Informant
Korca	Devoll	Bilisht municipality	19 September 2011	Urban Planning Department
		Progër commune	21 September 2011	Urban Planning Department
		Pojan, Pojan commune	22 September 2011	Man from Egyptian family
	Korca	Pojan, Pojan commune	22 September 2011	Agonomist
		Korca	8 June 2011	Regional Forestry Authority
		Drenovë commune, Korca	8 June 2011	Tourism
		The Korca Regional Office	21 September 2011	Road Planning Department
		Korca	21 September 2011	NGO for Forests and Pastures
		Korca	22 September 2011	Director Water & Sewerage Joint Stock Company of Korca
		Bulgarec, Qendër Commune	22 September 2011	Commune Office for Urban Planning and Development
Korca Regional Office	21 September 2011	Urban Planning Department		

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Region	Municipality	Location	Date of Meeting	Key Informant	
Berat	Skrapar	Gafë, Potom commune	14 June 2011	Education worker / teacher	
		Polican	10 June 2011	Education worker / teacher	
		Polican	10 June 2011	Health worker	
	Berat	Berat	Berat	8 June 2011	Education worker / teacher
		Berat	Berat	16 June 2011	Labour Department - Berat regional government
		Poshnjë commune	Poshnjë commune	9 June 2011	Health worker
Fier	Fier	Uznovë, Berat commune	16 June 2011	Health worker	
		Berat, Poshnjë commune	6 June 2011	Health worker	
		Bubullimë, Lushnje Region	16 June 2011	Education worker / teacher	
	Fier	Fier	Fier	6 June 2011	Head engineer of the Technical Office of the Board of Flooding
		Fier	Fier	15 June 2011	Labour department, Fier regional government
		Fier	Fier	14 June 2011	Fishing
		Seman and Kavaklli, Topojë commune	14 June 2011	Health worker	

Table 7.1-4 Focus Groups Meetings (June and September 2011)

Region	District	Commune/Municipality	Date of Meeting	Type of Focus Group
Korca	Devoll	Vishocice, Bilisht municipality	19 September 2011	Elderly
		Bilisht municipality	19 September 2011	Macedonian community
		Kuç, Bilisht municipality	20 September 2011	Farmers
		Progër commune	21 September 2011	Women
		Vranisht, Progër commune	21 September 2011	Farmers
		Trestenik, Bilisht municipality	23 September 2011	Women
	Korca	Ujëbardhë, Drenovë commune	7 June 2011	Elderly
		Drenovë, Drenovë commune	8 June 2011	Health
		Ujëbardhë, Drenovë commune	9 June 2011	Farmers
		Ravonik, Drenovë commune	19 September 2011	Farmers

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Region	District	Commune/Municipality	Date of Meeting	Type of Focus Group
Berat	Skrapar	Turan, Drenovë commune	19 September 2011	Women
		Progër commune	21 September 2011	Women
		Shamoll, Qendër commune	23 September 2011	Elderly
		Vëndreshë e vogël, Vëndreshë commune	7 June 2011	Farmers
		Therpej, Vëndreshë commune	7 June 2011	Elderly
		Valë, Bogove commune	8 June 2011	Farmers
		Zgërbonjë, Polican commune	10 June 2011	Elderly
		Backë, Potom commune	13 June 2011	Women
		Qafë, Potom commune	14 June 2011	Women
		Munishtir, Qendër commune	16 June 2011	Farmers
		Otlak, Otlak commune	7 June 2011	Farmers
		Konisbaltë, Ura Vajguore commune	8 June 2011	Women
		Konisbaltë, Ura Vajguore commune	8 June 2011	Farmers
		Vërtop, Vërtop commune	11 June 2011	Fruit and olive growers
Fier	Fier	Rërez-kumarak, Kutalli commune	13 June 2011	Women
		Malinat, Velebisht commune	14 June 2011	Women
		Velebisht, Velebisht commune	14 June 2011	Fruit and olive growers
		Roshnik, Roshnik commune	16 June 2011	Women
		Dunhas, Velebisht commune	16 June 2011	Fruit and olive growers
		Uznovë, Berat commune	16 June 2011	Landowners
		Mbrostar, Mbrostar commune	7 June 2011	Farmers
		Mbrostar, Mbrostar commune	8 June 2011	Roma community
		Topojë, Topojë commune	13 June 2011	Local development department
		Kavaklli /Seman, Topojë commune	13 June 2011	Fishing community
		Kavaklli /Seman, Topojë commune	13 June 2011	Farmers
		Kavaklli /Seman, Topojë commune	14 June 2011	Women
		Rreth Ilbofishë, Libofshë commune	15 June 2011	Serbian community
		Fier	15 June 2011	Tourism

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Table 7.1-5 Traffic Survey Meetings (February 2012)

<i>Region</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of Meeting</i>	<i>Stakeholder Group</i>
Tirana	Tirana	Tirana	2 February 2012	Stakeholder Consultation with Transport Authorities
	Tirana	Tirana	2 February 2012	Traffic Assessment Stakeholders - Institute of Transport
	Tirana	Tirana	3 February 2012	Traffic Assessment Stakeholders - General Directorate of Transport Planning and Policies
	Tirana	Tirana	3 February 2012	Traffic Assessment Stakeholders General Road Directorate

Table 7.1-6 Approach to Appropriate Assessment for Protected Areas (Natura 2000 & Emerald Sites) Meetings (February 2012)

<i>Region</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of Meeting</i>	<i>Stakeholder Group</i>
Tirana	Tirana	Tirana	7 February 2012	NGO - Institute for Nature Conservation in Albania - INCA
	Tirana	Tirana	7 February 2012	EDEN Environmental Centre
	Tirana	Tirana	8 February 2012	MoEFWA – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Water Administration

Table 7.1-7 New Potom Route Meetings with Local authorities (July 2012)

<i>Region</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of Meeting</i>	<i>Stakeholder Group</i>
Berat	Potom Commune	Potom	20 July 2012	Head of Potom Commune/Settlement Head of Potom Commune Council Head of Village (Backe) Head of Village (Staravek-Sulejmana)
	Potom Commune	Helmesi	21 July 2012	Head of Village Helmesi

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Table 7.1-8 Northern Area Stakeholder Meetings (September 2012)

<i>Region</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of Meeting</i>	<i>Stakeholder Group</i>
Durrës	Durrës Municipality	Durrës	14 September 2012	Head of Durrës Municipality
	Durrës Municipality	Durrës	14 September 2012	Deputy Head of Municipality/Head of Planning and Development
	Rrashbull Commune	Rrashbull	14 September 2012	Durrës Port Authority
Tirana	Synej Commune	Synej	17 September 2012	Head of Rrashbull Commune
				Head of Synej Commune

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7.2 Detailed Review of Stakeholder Issues and Voices

Table 7.2-1 Detailed Review of Stakeholder Issues and Voices (June and September 2011)

Issue Title and Sub-Categories		Types of Issues Raised		Examples of Comments / Questions Raised by Stakeholders	
<i>1. Loss of Livelihoods and Land Compensation (25% of issues raised)</i>					
Type of land loss and seasonal land loss;	Concern regarding compensation related to TAP access to land to block valve stations.	Concern regarding compensation related to TAP access to land to block valve stations.	Type of land loss: TAP should use the edge of the valley close to the river where the land is unproductive. At each side of the river is a 50 metre strip where trees are not planted because of the risk of erosion and flooding. Other crops are grown within the 50 metre strip where the land is good, such as peppers, tomatoes, etc. - Focus group meeting with farmers in Vranisht (Progër commune, Devoll district).		
Legacy issues;	Timing of compensation – communities asked if it will be provided before or after construction;	Timing of compensation – communities asked if it will be provided before or after construction;	Legacy issues: Regarding the development of electricity transmission lines constructed by an Albanian company to support the concession of the HEC project. The local community were not compensated for land acquired for this project. They are still angry and do not trust TAP to provide compensation. – Community meeting in Polenë (Qendër commune, Skrapar district).		
Compensation process and eligibility;	Consistency of compensation process across all countries affected by the TAP Project;	Consistency of compensation process across all countries affected by the TAP Project;	Consistency of compensation process across all countries affected by the TAP Project. They are still angry and do not trust TAP to provide compensation. – Community meeting in Polenë (Qendër commune, Skrapar district).		
Funds invested in land;	Consideration of land ownership under law 7501 in which farmers were allocated land by the government, some of which do not have ownership documents;	Consideration of land ownership under law 7501 in which farmers were allocated land by the government, some of which do not have ownership documents;	Funds invested in land: Compensation for damage caused by incidents related to the pipeline;	Compensation process: How will we be compensated if TAP needs to access land to manage the block valve stations? - Community Meeting in Buzuk / Orizaj (Qendër commune, Skrapar district).	
Compensation for damage caused by incidents related to the pipeline;	Concern for how compensation would be provided to communes for loss of forested areas;	Concern for how compensation would be provided to communes for loss of forested areas;	Compensation for damage caused by incidents related to the pipeline;	Compensation process: Will compensation be given before or after construction? – Community Meeting in Mbrakull (Vërtop commune, Skrapar district).	
Land ownership / documentation;	Uncertainty that TAP will compensate based on past experience / legacy issues;	Uncertainty that TAP will compensate based on past experience / legacy issues;	Land ownership / documentation: Government involvement in compensation process;	Compensation process: The pipeline will cross the forest under administration of the Commune of Mollaj- how will the commune be compensated? – Community meeting in Mollaj Commune (Korca district).	
Government involvement in compensation process;	Compensation for loss of land development potential not permitted to plant trees over the pipeline;	Compensation for loss of land development potential not permitted to plant trees over the pipeline;	Government involvement in compensation process: Loss of communal land;	Compensation process: The Ministry of Agriculture encourages the planting of trees. If the pipeline passes through my land how is TAP going to manage this? – Community meeting in Trestenik (Bilisht commune, Devoll district).	
Loss of communal land;			Loss of communal land: Sense of identity; Distrust in compensation process;	Compensation process: If maintenance or repairs are required on the pipeline during operation how will TAP get to the pipeline and will they compensate for damage to crops. – Community meeting in Duhanas (Velabisht commune, Berat district).	
Sense of identity; Distrust in compensation process;			Sense of identity; Distrust in compensation process: Dependency on land	Compensation for damage caused: People are concerned that their houses (that are not yet legalised on the farm lands) will be destroyed / damaged and no compensation will be received. They are	
Dependency on land			Dependency on land	Compensation for damage caused: People are concerned that their houses (that are not yet legalised on the farm lands) will be destroyed / damaged and no compensation will be received. They are	

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Issue Title and Sub-Categories

Types of Issues Raised

Examples of Comments / Questions Raised by Stakeholders

for livelihood;		also concerned about the proximity of the gas pipeline to their houses. - Focus group meeting with landowners in Uznovë (Berat commune, Berat district).
Restrictions to land use;	Consideration of agricultural plantation schemes / EU subsidiaries;	
Agricultural activities.	Time and financial investment in production of fruit trees, also related to sense of identity and tradition;	Sense of identity: Land take is a sensitive issue given the land taken by the communist regime. Albanians have only recently regained their land. Their sense of identity and pride is linked to their land. – Community meeting in Vëndreshë e Vogël (Vëndreshë commune, Skrapar district).
	Restrictions to increase productivity through expansion of agricultural areas / orchids and olive groves;	Loss of livelihoods: Residents depend 100% on their land, the loss of land will dramatically affect their livelihoods. – Community meeting in Ustjë and Valë (Vëndreshë commune, Skrapar district).
	Restrictions to access land for cultivation, land maintenance and other agricultural activities;	Investments: Farmers would like to know in advance of the construction phase of the project if their land is going to be affected as they invest money, time and effort between October and June. – Petovë community meeting (Mbrostar commune, Fier district).
	Concern for loss of greenhouses;	Investments & restrictions to land use: The main problem in the commune is the fruit trees in the 40 metre corridor. There needs to be clear communication between TAP and the commune as the cost of compensation could be high because of the planting restrictions as well as reduced access for agricultural machinery in the construction strip. There are 8 villages in the Commune – 6 villages are close to the pipeline meaning that 80% will be directly affected by the Project. - Key informant interview in Progër commune – urban planning department (Devoll district).
	Where settlements depend 100% on land, there is concern for their livelihoods.	
		Restrictions to land use: What if I want to plant trees within the 10 metre corridor? You are preventing me from planting more trees. – Community meeting in Progër (Progër commune, Devoll district).
		Restrictions to land use: During construction the area of the pipeline will be fenced. How are you going to allow access through the area? – Community meeting in Progër (Progër commune, Devoll district). ¹
		Restrictions to land use: The area is full of greenhouses and community was concerned if they would be able to continue their greenhouse cultivation within the 10 meter corridor – Community meeting in Drenovicë (Kutalli commune, Berat district).
		Restrictions to land use & loss of livelihoods: Land is being used to its full capacity; there is no space for expansion of land under cultivation and therefore production. As such there is a focus on improving the

¹ The pipeline working strip will not be fenced

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Issue Title and Sub-Categories

Types of Issues Raised

Examples of Comments / Questions Raised by Stakeholders

technology used as a means of increasing the levels of production. Land take would further limit the capacity of the farmers to increase production and incomes. Concerns about land loss and security. - Focus group meeting with fruit and olive growers in Velabisht (Velabisht commune, Berat district).

2. Potential Benefits (21% of issues raised)

Employment	Many questions regarding opportunities for employment on the Project.	Employment: 95% of population is unemployed and the community asked about employment possibilities. – Community meeting in Çerenishte (Qendër commune, Skrapar district).
Infrastructure	Participants wanted reassurance that taxes would be provided to Albania and fed down to the community.	Employment: What percentage of employment will be local? - Bilisht municipality (Devoll district). Employment: The community would be happy for the pipeline to pass through their village and they want employment for the young people. - Focus group meeting with the Roma community in Mbrostar (Mbrostar commune, Fier district).
Community investment	There is an expectation that Albania should see benefits because of the impacts of the project.	Infrastructure: Hopes that the project will bring benefits such as infrastructure in roads in order to increase accessibility and encourage other families to send their children to this school. - Key informant interview with an education worker / teacher in Qafë (Potom commune, Skrapar district).
Economic development / tax	Expressed needs for infrastructure developments such as roads, and infrastructure. Perception that local communities will not see any benefits due to past experience.	Infrastructure: The sewerage system is poorly maintained. The community has raised their concerns to the commune but nothing is being done to improve the conditions. - Focus group meeting with the elderly in Ujëbardhë (Drenovë commune, Korca district). Community investment: There have been numerous companies working here before exploring for gas (one American and one Italian oil company). They also promise benefits but nothing ever arises and we are left in the same position as before. These companies never come back. – Community meeting in Tërpan (Tërpan commune, Berat district). Economic development: Is it possible for tax to be paid directly to the local government in order that the local administration can manage the needs and make appropriate improvements? – Community meeting in Vëndreshë e Vogël (Vëndreshë commune, Skrapar).

3. TAP Project (15% of issues raised)

About TAP:	Questions relating to the experience / credentials of the companies	About TAP: Do the three companies investing in the pipeline have joint experience of working
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Issue Title and Sub-Categories

Types of Issues Raised

Examples of Comments / Questions Raised by Stakeholders

<p>Credentials and Presence;</p> <p>Positive approach to the project;</p> <p>Implementation process ;</p> <p>Project Definition</p> <p>Block valve stations, compressor stations, construction, pipeline, labour camp, tunnel, river crossings;</p> <p>Route / Detailed Map:</p> <p>Exact route;</p> <p>Interference with local infrastructure/ roads;</p> <p>Location of camps and yards;</p> <p>Project Standards / legislation:</p> <p>Consistency of standards & legislation.</p>	<p>that makes up TAP.</p> <p>Queries regarding compliance with local legislation and consistency across countries.</p> <p>Timing and process of constructing the pipeline.</p> <p>Location of block valve stations and camps.</p> <p>Distance between the gas and water pipelines.</p> <p>Many settlements asked for a detailed map to see if their land would be affected.</p> <p>Confirmation if the route was fixed and agreed.</p>	<p>together or is it the first time? - Community meeting in Trestenik (Bilisht commune, Devoll district).</p> <p>Credentials: Concern about TAP's experience and credential of working on similar project and their track record. Lack of clarity about TAP's credentials to build the road and pipeline. – Community meeting in Strum (Strum commune, Fier district).</p> <p>Construction: Asked if the pipeline will be constructed step-by-step i.e. Korca, then Corovode, etc or if it will be constructed simultaneously through the regions. – Community meeting in Backë (Potom commune, Skrapar district).</p> <p>Pipeline: Will there be material under the pipeline to keep it stable? – Community meeting in Trestenik (Bilisht commune, Devoll district).</p> <p>Project facilities: Stakeholders wanted to know the location of the Project facilities i.e. labour camp, control points and also wanted to know the Project's starting date. – Community meeting in Poshnjë and Çiflik (Poshnjë commune, Berat district).</p> <p>Exact route: Has the final route been selected and exactly who will be affected? – Community meeting in Drenovë (Drenovë commune, Korca district).</p> <p>Exact route: People are frustrated because they have asked for a detailed map a number of times to TAP but have not received one. – Community meeting in Ujëbardhë (Drenovë commune, Korca district).</p> <p>Project standards: TAP must apply the same high standards in all countries; Albanians must not be subject to their relatively poor legal requirements. – Community meeting in Bogove (Bogove commune, Skrapar district).</p> <p>Project standards: Are the standards the same across all countries? – Community meeting in Progër (Progër commune, Devoll district).</p>
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Types of Issues Raised

Examples of Comments / Questions Raised by Stakeholders

4. Health & Safety (15% of issues raised)

<p>Gas leaks/explosions;</p> <p>Changes to community health;</p> <p>Emergency response;</p> <p>Management of H&S;</p> <p>Air emissions;</p> <p>Safety and security during operation;</p> <p>Wild fires;</p> <p>Water quality;</p> <p>Backë tunnel construction.</p>	<p>Fear of gas leaks and explosions;</p> <p>Safety of the pipeline during and after construction;</p> <p>Health and safety concerns regarding the Backë tunnel construction;</p> <p>Concern that the water quality will be affected by chemicals during construction;</p> <p>Communities asked if the pipeline would be buried as this would be a safety concern for those going among their daily activities;</p> <p>Risks caused by wild fires;</p> <p>Lack of confidence in emergency response procedures especially in isolated villages;</p> <p>Workforce a security threat to women.</p>	<p>Gas leaks: The land is unstable and has collapsed in an area where a water pipeline was constructed, near the village / bridge. The residents fear that the land will subside and the gas pipeline will break and leak gas – Community meeting in Zgërbonjë (Vërtop commune, Skrapar district).</p> <p>Explosions: Will the pipeline be safe and is there a risk of explosions? - Community meeting in Zgërbonjë (Vërtop commune, Skrapar district).</p> <p>Explosions: What would happen if houses are affected by an explosion? - Community meeting in Cangonj, Progër commune, Devoll district).</p> <p>Emissions: The residents did not have information about the project. They were concerned that the gas pipeline would cause air pollution. The community has already been impacted negatively by air emissions from the battery factory (now decommissioned). They say that the soil is still polluted from the emissions and continues to impact their health. – Community meeting in Duhanas (Velabisht commune, Berat district).</p> <p>Management of H&S: How safe is the pipeline during construction and after? – Community meeting in Pulahë (Mollaj commune, Korca district).</p> <p>Wild fires: There are often wild fires in the area caused by the herders who light small fires for cooking and warmth. These regularly get out of control. Will this affect the pipeline and potential cause safety risks? – Community meeting in Tërpan (Tërpan commune, Berat district).</p> <p>Emergency response: Biggest concern is related to safety and security and the fact that often the villages are isolated due to the lack of a bridge. If there is an emergency with the pipeline they fear that they will not be able to get away quickly. – Focus group with farmers in Valë (Bogove commune, Skrapar district).</p> <p>Security: Security issues could be mitigated by staying away from the populated areas and the workforce should be employed from the local community to minimize security risks. – Focus groups with women in Konisbaltë (Ura Vajgurore commune, Berat district).</p>
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Project Title: **Trans Adriatic Pipeline – TAP**

Document Title: **ESIA Albania - Annex 7 - Stakeholder Engagement Data**

AAL00-ERM-641-Y-TAE-1009

Rev.: 03 / at01

Area Code	Comp. Code	System Code	Disc. Code	Doc. Type	Ser. No.
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Issue Title and Sub-Categories

Types of Issues Raised

Examples of Comments / Questions Raised by Stakeholders

5. Purchase of Gas (9% of issues raised)

Access to Gas;

Origin of the Gas.

Many communities rely on electricity and firewood as a source of energy;

Access to gas to prevent the forests from further degradation and preserve the environment;

Gas would enhance the quality of life through the provision of improved heating, hot water and reduced energy costs, especially in the winter in mountainous regions.

Access to gas: Keen for the communes surrounding the municipality to invest in the installation of gas pipes in houses to be used for central heating and hot water. Gas to communities will reduce forest use and degradation. It will also improve the quality of life by making living conditions more comfortable during the winter. – Meeting with sub-head of municipality in Corovode (Skrapar district).

Access to gas: How can the commune buy gas transported by the TAP pipeline for their local villages? – Community meeting in Mollaj (Mollaj commune, Korca district).

Access to gas: Why isn't the government already negotiating for the gas so they build pipelines to each village now? – Community meeting in Pulahë (Mollaj commune, Korca district).

Access to gas: Will people be able to access gas? The community is keen to obtain gas in order to relieve pressure on the forests. Currently the community uses the forest close to the Greek border as the rest of the forest in the area is too degraded. – Community meeting in Bliisht municipality (Devoll district).

Access to gas: It would be great if the community could get access to the gas since this is more sustainable than cutting the trees. The company could take all the necessary precautions to apply some standards in preserving the environment. - Key informant interview - education worker / teacher in Bubullimë (Lushnje region, Fier district).

Access to gas: The women support the project as long as they have access to gas as it would improve their quality of life. - Focus group meeting with women in Progër (Progër commune, Devoll).

Origin of gas: The community was keen to know where the gas comes from. – Community meeting in Seman I Ri (Topojë commune, Fier district).

6. Impacts and their Management (9% of issues raised)

Disturbance:

Block valve Stations;

Noise;

Concern regarding damage to cultural heritage sites;

Concerns that construction would disrupt access routes to land,

Cultural heritage: There is an old castle near the village, in the neighbourhood of Vojak. This should be protected. – Community meeting in Zgërborjë (Vërtop commune, Berat district).

Waste management: After construction, how will the waste be managed? – Community meeting in Progër (Progër commune, Devoll district).

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Conflict between communities;	markets and other villages;	Environment – water quality: It is important that TAP stays away from the main water supply which supplies the region. – Community meeting in Terrovë (Pojan commune, Korca district).
Effect on the environment;	Potential for conflict between local residents and villages if they perceive the benefits to be unequal or the process unfair;	Environment: The Seman River runs to the sea and it changes its course/location every couple of years. TAP should be aware of this when building the pipeline. – Seman and Kavakli (Topojë commune, Fier district).
Respect for local property and assets;	Concerned about damage and contamination to local water supplies;	Local developments: There is a need to align the local tourism strategy with the TAP project in terms of upgrading infrastructure and making these available to local population. – Community meeting in Mollaj (Mollaj commune, Korca district).
Local developments / spatial planning;	Waste management following construction;	Local developments: Concerned that the gas pipeline will interfere with the much needed water pipeline that is being planned. - Focus group meeting with fruit and olive growers in Duhanas (Berat district).
Cultural heritage;	Disturbance caused by compressor stations;	Local developments: Has TAP considered that the pipeline route will limit the growth and expansion of the villages/towns? – Community meeting in Uznovë (Berat commune, Berat district).
Disruption to access routes;	Consideration of planned and pending regional and local development plans such as roads, water pipelines, urban expansion and irrigation;	Local developments: The proposed pipeline route (as mapped) is going to pass right through the current and planned development area. This will cause problems for the commune and the project. It is suggested that the pipeline move towards the river as this area will not be developed any further. - Key informant interview with the Commune Office for Urban Planning and Development in Qendër (Korca district).
Forestry;	Impacts to soil quality, reservations regarding land restoration and timing to restore productivity to pre-Project standards;	Respect for local property: In the past the community used to welcome foreign companies into the area to explore and we looked forward to the benefits. In reality, they have trespassed onto farms without permission, destroyed crops and fences, abused our trust and disrespected our processes. We will not allow this to happen again by TAP. – Community meeting in Tërpan (Tërpan commune, Berat district).
Deforestation and protected areas;	Disruption to fishermen using dragnets.	Fishing: If the project disrupts the dragnets then this will be a big problem. The dragnets work for three hours going up the coast. If this is disrupted it will cause problems and they won't be able to use the dragnets. - Key informant interview - fishing - (Fier district).
Infrastructure;		Forestry: The pipeline may damage the forest near Corovode, which is state owned. This area is rich in species as there are about 80 different types of wood. - Key informant interview with NGO for
Soil quality.		

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Examples of Comments / Questions Raised by Stakeholders

forests and pastures (Korca district).

Soil quality: How will TAP restore the land so that the quality of the soil is not affected? There is a special ingredient in the soil called alluvionale which comes from the reservoir. The soil in this area is different to any other regions along the route such as Fier and Skrapar. – Community meeting in Progër (Progër commune, Devoll district)

7. Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure (5% of issues raised)

Consultation	Some communities fear that decisions will be made without their consent.	Community involvement & distrust: The local municipality is the main decision maker. People fear that decisions will be made without their consent i.e. affected villages will not be properly consulted. – Community meeting in Therpal (Vëndreshë commune, Skrapar district).
Information provided	Clarity was required regarding the negative impacts of the project.	Community involvement: The community would also like more involvement during the operational phase. – Community meeting in Strum (Strum commune, Fier district).
Community involvement	Articulated that much of the information provided was the same as in previous meetings.	Information provided: The community want the pipeline to be constructed as soon as possible. They have been provided with the same information a number of times. – Community meeting in Verri (Mbrostar commune, Fier district).
Government engagement	Concern regarding the role of the government in the Project related to distrust.	Information provided: The information that has been provided is good for a first step and they hope to be provided with more detailed information in the future. - Focus group meeting with the elderly in Shamoll (Qendër commune, Korca district).
Capacity to participate in the consultation process	Questions regarding opposition to the project and how it will be managed.	Distrust: Overall there is a general distrust in the process and the consideration of comment and input into the final decision-making process. – Community meeting in Uznovë (Berat commune, Berat district).
Distrust in consultation process		Government: Stakeholders were concerned about the role of the government - they are keen for TAP to take the lead on the entire process of communication and implementation. – Community meeting in Sqepur (Kutalli commune, Berat district).
Project opposition		Project opposition: What if someone opposes the project and does not want it to proceed, what can they do and what will TAP do? – Community meeting in Duhanas (Velesisht commune, Berat district).
Next steps in the engagement process		

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8. Government Role (1% of issues raised)

Compliance with National Regulations	Compliance by TAP and the Government.	Compliance: What will happen if the government does not comply with national regulations regarding the management of this Project? – Community meeting in Drenovë (Drenovë commune, Korca district).
Tax/funds gained from the project	Use of taxes and distrust of the Government / corruption.	Tax/funds: Concerns were expressed that the government is going to obtain all the funds earned from the pipeline and it will not be fed down to the local community. – Community meeting in Petovë (Mbrostar commune, Fier district).
Role of the Government		Tax/funds: If TAP wants to undertake any form of construction in the commune, they will require permission from the commune. A tax must be paid locally and is required in terms of our legislation. – Community meeting in Tërpan (Tërpan commune, Berat district).

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