

Company	Abkons sh.p.k.
Document title	Final Stakeholder Report in the framework of Environmental and Social impact Assessment - ESIA

PROJECT TITLE	Environmental and Social impact Assessment – ESIA on GPP Korca
DOCUMENT TITLE	Final Stakeholder Report in the framework of Environmental and Social impact Assessment - ESIA

REV.	purpose of issue	REMARK/ DESCRIPTION	ORIG.	DATE
0A	Review	Scoping Phase	E. Shuli	01 June 2018
0A	Review	Disclosure ESIA	E. Shuli	15 Sept 2018
0A	Review	Final ESIA – Public Hearing	E.Shuli	21 Nov 2018

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## Abbreviations

SSES	Sample Socio Economic Survey
SEAP	Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan
ESIA	Environmental Social Impact Assessment
GM	Grievance Mechanism
PAP	Project Affected People
SE	Stakeholder Engagement
MoM	Minutes of Meeting
EIA	Environment impact Assessment
BID	Background Information Document



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### **Annexes**

Annex 1 – List of Participants from Scoping ESIA phase 29.05.2018

Annex 2 – List of Participants from Disclosure ESIA on 17.08.2018

Annex 3 - List of Participant from Final ESIA on 26.10.2018

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

One of the requirements of the EIA process (from now on called Environmental and Social impact Assessment (ESIA in line with IFC terminology) Abkons shpk is undertaking the Scoping Phase and EIS study report.

In this framework the Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan (SEAP) has been prepared in order to provide a framework to guide the establishment of a broader and continuous engagement process between the company and those who potentially would be impacted, or have any kind of interest in the Project (different level of stakeholders).

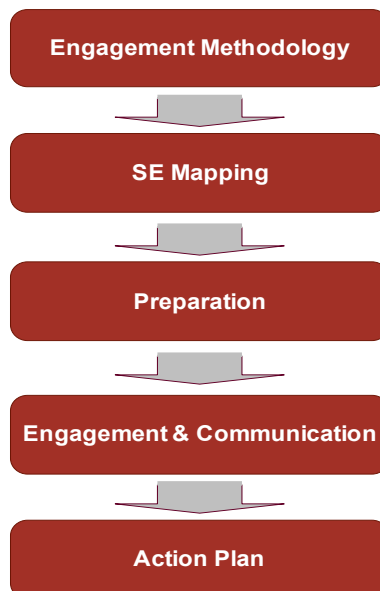
The project will conduct the EIA as per IFC Performance Standard PS 1

*The proposed actions in SEAP<sup>1</sup> are in line with the national legal requirements as well and have been developed taking into account the previous relevant experience of Abkons, as well as best international practices required by the IFC.*

*PS1 - Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts: The nature, frequency, and level of effort of stakeholder engagement may vary considerably and will be commensurate with the project's risks and adverse impacts, and the project's phase of development*

Accordingly, Abkons had set out a stakeholder strategy, prepared and implemented a stakeholder engagement plan respectively. This report will provided all the activities on engagement with national, regional and local stakeholders. The purpose of this report is to show the realisation of the whole process of the communication tools regarding to the community meetings and the information given to the all members of the communities who would potentially be affected by the phases of construction

The methodology used by Abkons to conduct the stakeholder engagement is as:



Stakeholder engagement is an on-going process of sharing project information, understanding stakeholder concerns, and building relationships based on collaboration

Stakeholder engagement during the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) process was completed in three phases to ensure that a consistent, comprehensive, coordinated and culturally

<sup>1</sup> *Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan* - The requirements of the IFC for stakeholders' consultation and engagement have also been considered as a guideline for the development of the Stakeholder Engagement

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appropriate approach was taken for consultation and project disclosure. These phases comprised the following:

- Scoping ESIA
- Disclosure ESIA
- Final ESIA

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## 2. **SCOPING PHASE**

### 2.1 **Project study**

In order to fulfil the objectives for stakeholder engagement, Abkons has developed a plan for engagement with stakeholders throughout all the Project lifecycle. This plan established key issues for the project and defined the full scope of the ESIA and mapping of stakeholders. The stakeholder engagement in the framework of the ESIA study is defined to start with the preliminary studies in order to gather basic information and additional knowledge for the social context of the study

#### - **Desktop Review**

In order to define the phase's baseline it was important to understanding the nature and significance of project impacts and in feeding back to project technical team. For these pre-study activities has been carried out by Abkons.

#### - **GIS, Mapping and Indicators**

The affected area and villages location is integrated to an interactive tool by using GIS. Abkons has developed maps for useful interpretation of data collection in analyzing and presenting relevant information on maps and charts of the study area. That was being used during the field activities for the stakeholder engagement activities.

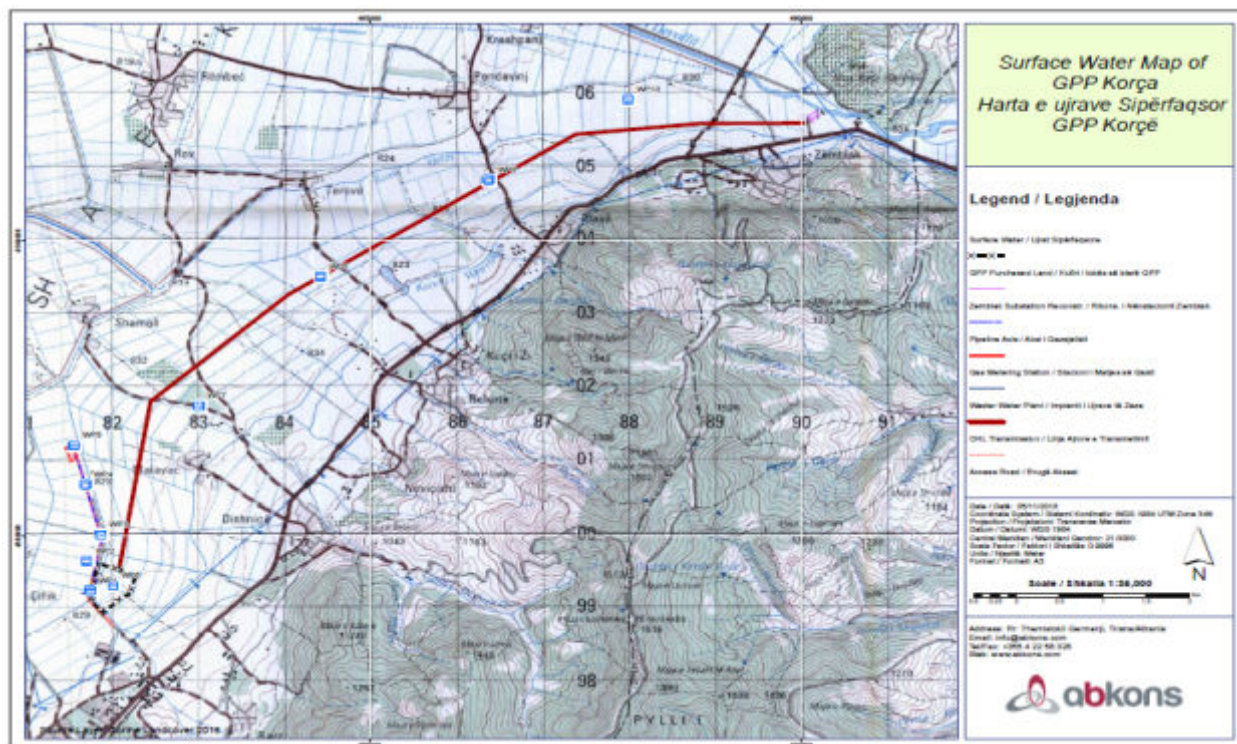
The Project is located at the north-eastern side of Korça city adjacent to the existing wastewater treatment plant of Korça. The site is situated and surrounded by agriculture land. The proposed project will be using an estimated footprint of 516,591 m<sup>2</sup> with stretch to Korça region, Pojan, Kuç i Zi, Belorta, Dishnicë, Barç, Zëmbllak, Malavec, Neveçisht, for the construction of Combined-Cycle Power Plant, connection to TAP, connection with WWTP and construction of transmission line to SS Zëmbllak. Referring to the total surface of 516,591 m<sup>2</sup>, the surface of permanent land that will be acquired for the construction of Combined-Cycle Power Plant is 266,311 m<sup>2</sup>.

The site will be serviced via existing link roads of the city of Korça which are currently used by the utilization of the wastewater treatment plant. Short sections of existing roads will be reconstructed and used as access road, the first segment is 2,550 m and the second segment are 160 m (new road section).

A topographic map of the proposed project is given below at Fig.1

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Fig. 1 – Topographic map of the proposed project GPP Korça



The location that is subject to this study includes the area within the construction zone of the plant and along the transmission power line. The settlements that were under the social assessment study are:

Municipality andor Administrative Unit	Settlement
Korçë	Korçë
Bulgarec	Barç
	Malavec
	Nevçishtë
	Çiflig
	Dishnicë
	Belorta
Pojan	Kuç i Zi
	Plasë
	Zemblak

## 2.2 Stakeholder Approach and Communication

Abkons has identified the following stakeholder group:

- National Level authority which includes government institution and ministries
- Local Level who will be involved for their support during the field survey, including NGOs and other local organizations that have significant knowledge of the community development
- Focus Groups
- Community

Being a process of comprehensive and culturally appropriate, Stakeholder consultation included the exchange of information and knowledge, to understand the concerns of others and to build relations

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based on cooperation. This allowed interested parties to understand the risks, impacts and opportunities of the project to achieve positive results.

The main objectives of the stakeholder involvement were:

- Ensure the provision of appropriate information in a timely manner to those affected or whom have a stake on the project,
- Ensure that these groups be given an opportunity necessary to express opinions and concerns
- Ensure that the comments made in time so that it can be considered in project decisions.

As the stakeholder mapping was done in all levels of stakeholders, the consultations are prepared and organized by the team as in the table below:

Table 1 – Meeting Schedule – National Level

Authority	Department	Date	Time
<b>Ministry of Tourism and Environment</b>	General Regulatory Directorate And Compliance With Tourism Of Environment	14 Maj 2018	14:00
	Directorate of Deregulation, Permits and Licenses and Monitoring	14 Maj 2018	14:00
	General Directorate Of Policies And Tourism Development	14 Maj 2018	14:00
	General Directorate Of Policies And Environment Development	14 Maj 2018	14:00
<b>National Agencies (as per ministry depending institutions)</b>	<b>National Environmental Agency</b>	14 Maj 2018	10:00
	National Agency of Protected Zones - MTE	14 Maj 2018	14:00
	National Territory Planning Agency - MTE	14 Maj 2018	14:00
	National Inspectorate of Environment, Forestry and Water - MTE	14 Maj 2018	14:00
	<b>(AIDA) – Albanian investment &amp; Development Agency</b>	14 Maj 2018	12:00
<b>Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development MAFRD</b>	General Directorate Of Agriculture Policies, Food Safety And Rural Development	15 Maj 2018	14:00
	Directorate of Water Resources Policies	15 Maj 2018	14:00
	<b>General Directorate of Policies (GDoP)</b>	15 Maj 2018	14:00
<b>Ministry of Infrastructure &amp; Energy</b>	General Directory Policies And Development Industry And Energy	15 Maj 2018	10:00
	Directorate of Policies and Strategies for Development of Industry and Energy	15 Maj 2018	10:00
	Directorate of Program Development for Industry and Energy	15 Maj 2018	10:00
	General Directory of Policies and Development of Infrastructure And Territory	15 Maj 2018	10:00
	Directorate of Programme Development for infrastructure and Territory	15 Maj 2018	10:00
	Directorate of Policies and Strategies for Development of Infrastructure and Territory	15 Maj 2018	10:00
<b>National Agencies (as per ministry depending institutions)</b>	General Agency of Sewage and Water Supply	15 Maj 2018	10:00
	National Technical and Industrial Inspectorate - MIE	15 Maj 2018	10:00
	OST - Transmission System Operator	15 Maj 2018	10:00
<b>National Agencies (as per ministry depending institutions)</b>	Technical Water Secretariat – Government	16 Maj 2018	13:00
<b>National Agencies (as per ministry depending institutions)</b>	OSSHE -	16 Maj 2018	10:00
<b>National Agencies (as per ministry depending institutions)</b>	ERRE – Energy Regulation Association	16 Maj 2018	15:00

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Authority	Department	Date	Time
<u><b>institutions)</b></u>			
<b>Ministry of Culture</b>	Directorate of Strategies	17 Maj 2018	10:00
	Directorate Of Culture Heritage	17 Maj 2018	10:00
	Directorate of Policies and Strategies for Cultural Development	17 Maj 2018	10:00
	General Regulatory Directorate And Compliance With Culture	17 Maj 2018	10:00
<b>Ministry of Health and Social Defense</b>	Directorate of Public health Service	31 Maj 2018	15:00
<b>National Agencies (as per ministry depending institutions)</b>	Albanian National Agency of Natural Resources (AKBN) - MIE	17 Maj 2018	13:00
<b>National Agencies (as per ministry depending institutions)</b>	ASHA - Ministry of Culture	17 Maj 2018	10:00

Table 1.1 – Meeting Schedule – Local/Regional Directorates and Level

Directory	Date	Time
Regional Environmental Directorate Korca	17-May-18	12:00
National Agency of Protected Zones - ARZM	17-May-18	12:00
Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Forestry	17-May-18	12:00
Regional Directorate of Agriculture	17-May-18	13:30
Irrigation And Drainage Directories - Korca	18-May-18	10:00
Regional Directorate of Roads and Transport	18-May-18	9:00
Regional Agency of Development - NGO	18-May-18	12:00 - 13:00
Regional Agency of Public Health	18-May-18	11:00
Municipality of Korca	18-May-18	14:00
Prefecture of Qark of Korça	21-May-18	10:00
AZHR – Regional Development Agency	21-May-18	9:00
Regional Council of Korca	21-May-18	12:00

For all the scheduled meetings, the venue of the meetings was selected in collaboration with the main attendees and the final invitation list was finalized with the concerned regional and local representatives. The notifications were made via invitation package and information to the participants about the meeting.

#### A. The approach

The communication materials that have been used for the information and engagement of the stakeholders have been assessed:

- **Letter to authorities**

Each of the identified authorities (national & regional level) was invited to participate in a meeting through official letter addressed to them. The official letters were delivered to the authorities in a period of 10-15 days in advance of the scheduled dates and times.

		
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Figure 2 – Print-screen of Official Letters



## • The Poster

The poster, which template was approved by GPP Korça, gives noticed about the project implementation and also inviting the community to participate in an open community meeting, was placed in each of the villages identified and taken into consideration for the scope of work. To raise awareness on informing the public for the project phases and also the scope of EIA study, flyers were distributed to the community

		
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Figure 3 – Flyers and Posters & Photos of Posters



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## 2.3 Stakeholder Engagement (SE)

The Stakeholder Engagement is an on-going activity in line with the previous engagements which provides detailed records of consultation, and activities in the framework of the Social Economic Assessment. The table below gives the activities held:

Table 2: Stakeholder Engagement Activity Progress

Phase 6 Engagements Steps	Completed On-going Planned	Timeframe
<b>Step 1: Stakeholder Engagement Meetings</b>	<b>Completed</b>	
Notification of public via poster templates	<b>Completed</b>	
Notification of authorities via official letter	<b>Completed</b>	May 2018
Community Meetings	<b>Completed</b>	
Finalization of all meetings	<b>Completed</b>	
<b>Step 2: Sample Social Economic Survey (SSES)</b>	<b>Completed</b>	
Notification about the survey in the areas covered by SSES	<b>Completed</b>	June 2018 – Jul 2018
SSES implementation - Field Survey	<b>Completed</b>	
Socio-Economic Analyses	<b>Completed</b>	

The following formats of meetings that were organized:

- Face to face meetings with stakeholders at national level. Different representative departments of the institutions were invited to attend at the same meeting;
- Plenary meetings at regional/ district level: meetings are organized at regional/district level in the study area of the alternatives assessment;
- Community Meetings in each of the villages of the area of construction
- Focus Groups Interviews in order to see the impact of this project in their daily life and activities

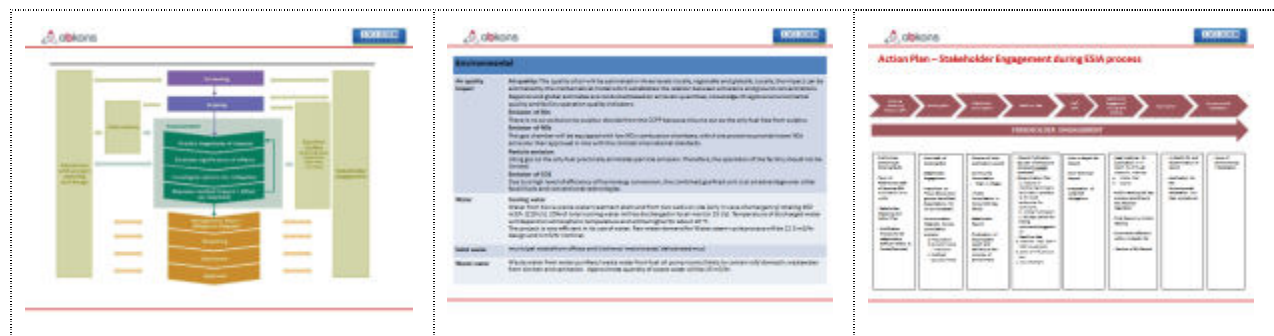
## 2.4 Stakeholders Meeting

### 2.4.1 National level

The national meetings were held within each of the institutional premises with the presence of Abkons, GPP Korca and IVICOM representatives with ministries/authorities teams. For each of the meeting a presentation in regards of the scope of work, project introduction, timeline and the purpose of the engagement was presented.

Fig. 4 – Presentation to the SE scope, impacts & activities

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Each of the meeting commenced with the presentation as above mentioned accompanied with open discussions for every Q&A from all the participants. The presentation was necessary to recap all the stages that the Project has undertaken so far with the objective to fully involve the public in conformity with Albanian SE legal framework, EBRD requirements and GPP Korca approach to Stakeholder Engagement and also serving as a good basis for the subsequent discussions

In addition, forms are distributed to participants to collect the evaluation and the feedback in regards of all the disclosure activities. All participants are registered with a sign-in sheet, where there will be all necessary information, such as position, contact number, email and the signature. All the meetings are recorded in photos and through MoMs of each of the meetings

Some pictures of the these meetings are displayed below:

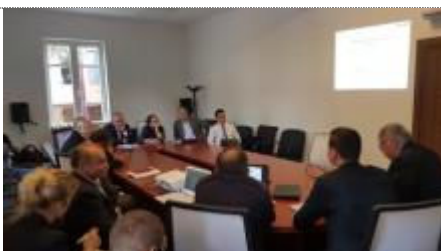
Figure 5 - Photos from the National Level Meeting



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OSSHE - Power Distribution Operator



MIE



National Environment Agency - General Director

More Photos from these meeting are recorded in the photobook (folder for each settlement) specifically with institutions representatives who were identified during stakeholder mapping

#### A. Outcomes of Consultations with National Level institutions and obtaining Opinion

Table below provides the summary of the main issues addressed (comments received) and answers as appropriate.

Table 3 – Outcomes from National Level meetings

Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
Impact on the environment	Has the company submitted any study on environmental conditions (in previous time)	GPP Korca project has conducted several studies in the area where construction of the plant is being proposed. However, an in-depth study of environmental aspects and field measurement will be carried out during Baseline study
Engagement of the community on opinion expression	How will the community and public will express their interest and raise their comments during the Scoping Phase of ESIA	Meetings with state authorities, local and regional authorities and community will be performed starting in this early phase in the framework of the ESIA to continue during the project life
National Energy Strategy and Local development Strategy status of the project	Is the project forecasted within these strategies	The project is assessed as a Strategic Project and also in regards of the local development plans, GPP Korca will verify whether there are specific information
Use of raw water and its emissions impact on the area	What additional emissions will come out by the use of raw waters	The project has forecasted the use of raw water from the wastewater treatment plant. GPP Korca will analyses any potential impacts during further phases of ESIA process
Discharge of the hot water during operational phase of the plant	How the hot water will be discharged and its effect on the environment	20% of heated water will be discharged onto the local river (about 25l/s). IVICOM and GPP Korca will review the technology of the plant and evaluate any potential impacts on the environment, Simulated measurements will be conducted to give a full picture of such emissions and discharges
Chemo - physical parameters during Discharge	What kind of chemical – physical parameters and composition will the discharge water may content	The technology used is one of the modern ones and during the cooling system a low level of such parameters may be released.
Distribution of Steam produces by the plant operation	How the quantity of steam will be managed during summer in the operational phase	GPP Korca and IVICOM will develop further plans on the distribution of steam production
Land category on which the plant will be constructed	What type of land is the proposed area for development	The land of the proposed area for GPP Korça is 100% agriculture land. Lands are classified as category V.

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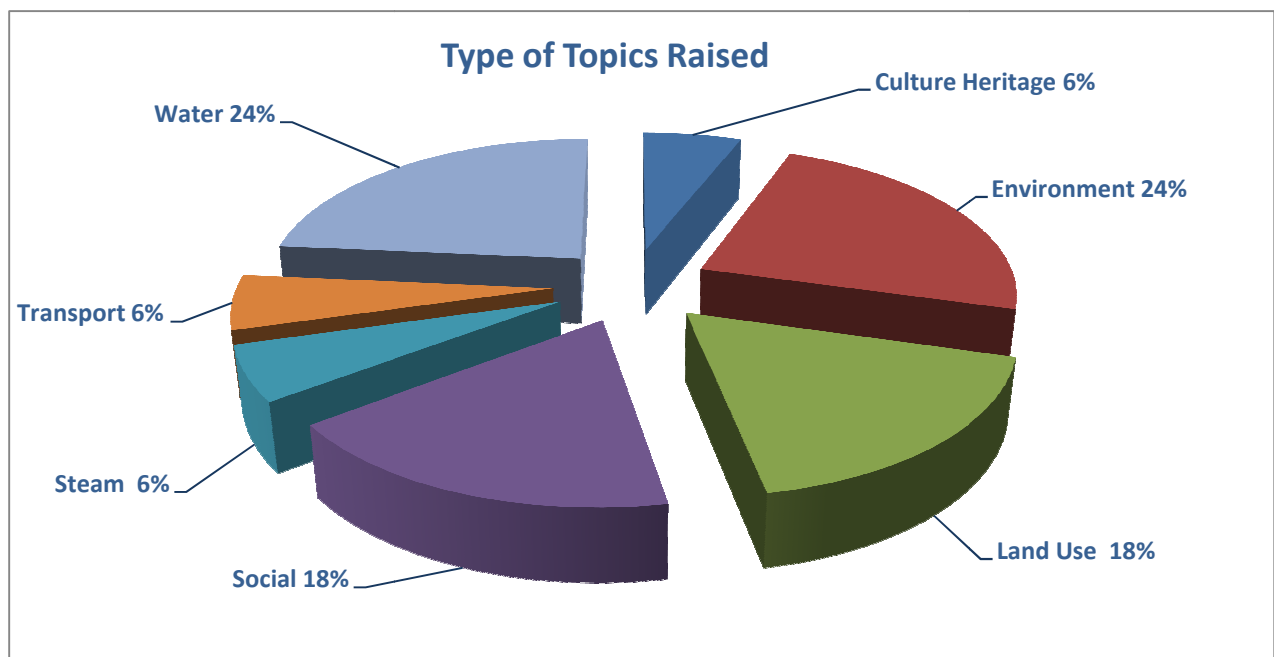
<i>Rehabilitation Works</i>	Conduction of rehabilitation works for land use	Rehabilitation process will be developed by a rehabilitation plans in accordance with BAT and BEP (best environmental Practices)
<i>Permanent Land Acquisition</i>	The land purchase methodology will be based on which reference prices	GPP Korca has valued the reference prices provided by the state and also taking into consideration the market prices and will come with a study and References Price guidance
<i>Irrigation and drainage Channels local use</i>	Will there be any disruption of irrigation channels and drainage channels in the area?	GPP Korca and IVICOM will prepare detailed plans for water-crossing works during construction phase. There may be temporary disruption of irrigation channels and drainage channels during construction works. The Contractor will preserve the functionality of the existing scheme for irrigation channels and drainage of water
<i>Transport and local infrastructure impacts during construction</i>	Will the construction phase will affect the local transport and road disruption	GPP Korca and IVICOM will develop a detailed Transport and traffic movement plan, taking into consideration road blockades and possible road diversion
<i>Feasibility Study Conducted</i>	Any feasibility study conducted by the company	The Feasibility Study was developed last year and was supported by IFC
<i>Social risk and impact</i>	Has the Company conducted any social risk analyses	Baseline study will provide more detailed analyses and features (both in qualitative and quantitative data) to develop a full risk and mitigation impacts. However such baseline studies will be conducted during all the project life
<i>Gender inclusion</i>	How the gender inclusion is ensured during the SE	The stakeholder engagement is built in accordance with IFC standard that strongly require that gender inclusion is considered starting from early phases of the project preparation (including ESIA) and during all the project implementation. Baseline studies ensure focus group with women during the process of decision-making and options' expressions
<i>Local employment</i>	What ration will the company use to employee the locals in the area where the construction will be built	The company will develop (during the preconstruction phase) an employment plan and will be recommended by the Consultant to use the official links for hiring the local habitants in the neighborhood. The collaboration with the regional Directorate of Social Services and the ministry of line (Ministry of Health) must be followed in order to hve the most updated list of residents that has sufficient and meet the criterias determined by IVICOM and GPP Korca
<i>Cultural Heritage</i>	How the process of Archaeological assessment is foreseen	During the baseline studies the archaeological surveys will be conducted to give analyses and assessment as required for ESIA Study and Assessment

All the Minutes of Meetings (MoM) with detailed information questions and answers addressed to the participants were prepared for each meeting.

Most of the issues were related to environment assessment not leaving apart fewer technical questions.

		
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Figure 6 – Chart of issues in percentage



## B. Evaluation Method and Results

At the beginning of every meeting, the participants were asked to raise any question even during the presentation or at the end of sessions. Also a template of evaluation questionnaire was distributed to them to maximize completion of information distributed on this early stage of the ESIA study. The questions were based on whether the meetings were viewed to be:

- Appropriately organized, held in an appropriate format and easy way to disseminate information and processes;

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- Free of manipulation, interference, coercion, and intimidation; and
- Conducted on the basis of timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information in an appropriate format.

The evaluation results of this are shown in table below

Table 4 – Summary of Evaluation methods

Question	Yes	No
Overall, was the process used to seek your comments during this phase of the project (i.e. route selection) adequate?	33 97%	1 3%
In a specific way: was the information provided to you prior and during the meeting enough for you to give your comments	12 Full inf./ 18 Med inf.	1 No inf.
Was the information provided to you prior to and during the meeting presented in a manner that is clear and understandable?	33 100%	0 0%
Have you been able to provide your comments either prior to or during the meeting?	33 97%	1 3%
Was this meeting organized in a manner which made it easy for you to participate and provide comments?	35 97%	1 3%
Have you been in any way intimidated or coerced during this consultation process?	1 3%	35 97%
Have you been unduly incentivized to be supportive of the Project?	1 3%	35 97%

The results of the evaluation demonstrate that the participants found the meeting appropriate from the substantive point of view as well as from the organizational perspective. Further, 97% of the participants found the information provided during the meeting understandable which also enabled them to provide feedback and comments during the meeting.

## 2.4.2 Regional and Local Level

The stakeholder engagement in locality of the project areas established to involve regional directorates and agencies in the timeframe of 3 days and the community meetings in the villages.

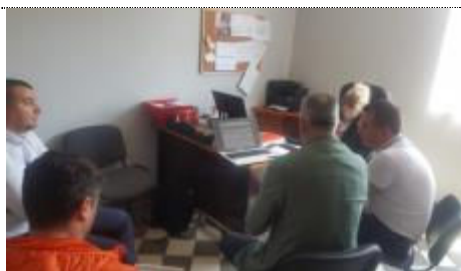
In Regional Levels the institutions were invited to attend the meetings through official letter delivered to them. Each meeting was held within each of the institutions premises with the representatives of Abkons team and the specialist from each regional office. The presentation of the project and ESIA phases were demonstrated via the power-point format giving description of the some technical implementations of the project, footprint of the project area and study coverage area, which is subject of the environment impact assessment, the roadmap of stakeholder engagement and also screening findings in order to evaluate the presence of significant environmental and social-economic values, including potential impacts to ecosystem services and close habitants and livelihood. It was also presented that the stakeholder engagement will be continuously run during all the project life implementation.

In each of the meetings was clearly stated that questions can be raised at any time, in order to build a transparent way of approach and decision making opinions.

Some of the photos are displayed in the figures below:

Figure 7 – Photos of meetings

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*Regional Development Agency*



*Development regional Agency – NGO*



*Municipality of Korca*



*Regional Directorate of Agriculture*



*Regional Agency of Protected Zones*



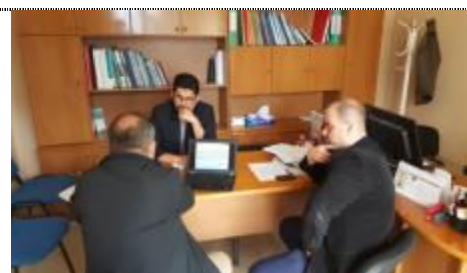
*Irrigation & Drainage Directorate*



*Regional Environment Directorate*



*Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Forests*



*Regional Directorate of Health*



*Regional Inspectorate of Roads and Transport*



*Council of Korca*



*Council of Korca*



*Prefecture of Korca*



*Prefecture of Korca*

Some NGO's, social society and educational institutions like state University were invited as well, which expressed their appreciation to participate in the Open Public Consultation on May 29<sup>th</sup>

#### **A. Outcomes of consultation meetings and obtaining opinions**

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All meetings are recorded via photos and through MoM which gives details of the outcomes for each meetings. Main issues and questions raised are given in the table below:

Table 5 – Summary of Outcomes issues

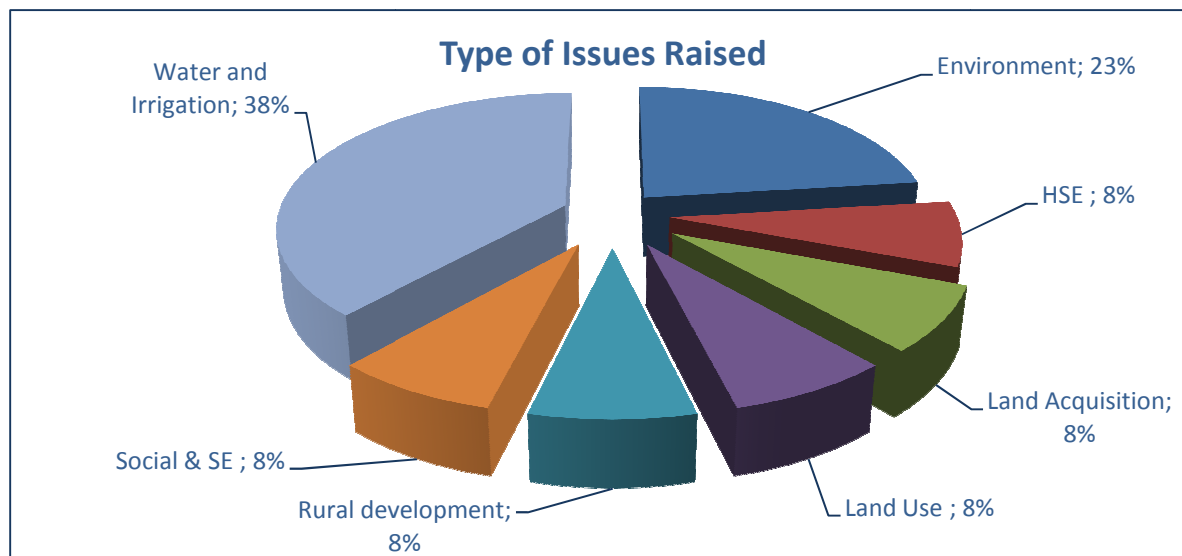
<b>Issue/Question Type</b>	<b>Main Issues Addressed</b>	<b>Response</b>
<i>Impact on the environment</i>	Level of Emission in the air as an impact to the environment	GPP Korca and IVICOM will implement an advanced technology that will produce energy and heat at the same time within allowed levels of pollutions During baseline study there are different measurement to be conducted specifically of air quality, noise, soil quality, water quality, biodiversity (flora & fauna) and other important analysis of environmental and social aspects
<i>Air direction in terms of air emissions and pollutions</i>	Study to be conducted	Baseline study will involve analysing of the impact identified at the scoping phase (preliminary study) to determine risks nature, temporal and spatial scale, reversibility, magnitude, likelihood, extent and effect.
<i>Effects on Vegetation and agriculture land productivity</i>	Based on the emissions on the air and land (through water discharges), what are the impacts expected?	The project will implement such technology that will have minimum impacts on the environment (within allowed international levels of pollutions). Soil quality, water quality, biodiversity (flora & fauna) and other important analysis of environmental and social aspects are some of the parameters that will be under the baseline process
<i>Irrigation and drainage Channels local use</i>	Cross watercourse lack during construction and will there be any disruption of irrigation channels and drainage channels in the area?	GPP Korca and IVICOM will prepare detailed plans for water-crossing works during construction phase. There may be temporary disruption of irrigation channels and drainage channels during construction works. The Contractor will preserve the functionality of the existing scheme for irrigation channels and drainage of water
<i>Discharges of hot Water during cooling process</i>	Discharged hot water Flow	About 20% of the water will be discharged into the local river (about 25 l/s). IVICOM Consulting and Abkons will continuously review the technology of the plant and evaluate whether there will be any potential impacts on the environment
<i>Hot Water use for public</i>	Where to be used this water in terms of sanitary water	As the technology will produce hot water apart of the technology network processes, in the future, the hot water can be used as sanitary water and also can be considered on the development of the green houses productivity
<i>Ground water surface regime affection</i>	Studies conducted before construction	IVICOM and GPP Korca have forecasted to conduct an in-depth survey in the proposed area. There will be measurements on site and sampling of groundwater in the area during baseline study. Also the consultant will conduct an assessment of potential environmental impacts and possible mitigation measures. Also the constructor will preserve the functionality of the existing scheme for irrigation channels and drainage of water
<i>Agriculture Land and Land Acquisition</i>	Type of Land required	The land where the project is proposed to be implemented is categorized as Category V. The overall area of construction is around 24 HA

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Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
<i>Production of Energy to be included in the Albanian sector</i>	Does the Albanian energy sector require such a great amount of energy production	The company is aware that the plant will produce a greater power of energy and steam heating than the real needs of Korça city. The remaining part of energy and steam heating will be exported.
<i>Health and Safety Plan &amp; Emergency</i>	What are the standards to be implemented and scale of security	GPP Korca will develop a detailed HSE emergency plan, however in the preliminary design it is included some functional fire emergency systems
<i>Stakeholder information</i>	Public consultation and public information	As described in the presentation, consultations and public information is started in this early phase of the project preparation and ESIA study in compliance with IFC standards. A meeting on national and regional levels is being performed and also an Open Consultation Meeting in the city of Korca is arranged on May 29 <sup>th</sup> 2018.

Most of the issues were related to environment assessment not leaving apart fewer technical questions

Figure 8 – Chart of percentages



## B. Evaluation Method and Results

Each meeting concluded with the signing sheet and also feedback evaluation formats. The questions were based on whether the meetings were viewed to be:

- Appropriately organized, held in an appropriate format and easy way to disseminate information and processes;
- Free of manipulation, interference, coercion, and intimidation; and
- Conducted on the basis of timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information in an appropriate format.

The evaluation results in regional meeting are displayed in the table below:

Table 6 - Summary of Evaluation methods

Company	Abkons sh.p.k.
Document title	Final Stakeholder Report in the framework of Environmental and Social impact Assessment - ESIA

Question	Yes	No
Overall, was the process used to seek your comments during this phase of the project (i.e. route selection) adequate?	55 100%	0
In a specific way: was the information provided to you prior and during the meeting enough for you to give your comments	23 Full inf./ 32 Med info	0 No info.
Was the information provided to you prior to and during the meeting presented in a manner that is clear and understandable?	55 100%	0
Have you been able to provide your comments either prior to or during the meeting?	55 100%	0
Was this meeting organized in a manner which made it easy for you to participate and provide comments?	55 100%	0
Have you been in any way intimidated or coerced during this consultation process?	0	55 100%
Have you been unduly incentivized to be supportive of the Project?	0	55 100%

The results of the evaluation demonstrate that the participants found the meeting appropriate from the substantive point of view as well as from the organizational perspective

### 2.4.3 Local Community Meetings

The meetings were organized in each of the villages of affected area as follows:

- Barc
- Dishnice
- Malavec
- Korca city
- Commune of Bulgarec
- Plasë
- Kuç I Zi
- Belorta
- Neviçisht
- Zemblak

All these meetings were announced by the posters placed in the center public areas of villages and through flyers with project descriptions. The place to hold meetings was arranged by Abkons team was arranged to be done in one of the bars, with the opportunity to have all the interested residents to feel comfortable in their area of living, as well the opportunity to present and give detailed information about the project and stakeholder engagement phases during the ESIA study. In Ciflig village, due to the fact of missing an open public place, Abkons team has gathered the people in front of the Health center (as the main place to have them all together). Even the fact that the purpose and scope of these engagement was to carry out all the planned meetings, residents of the Malavec village did not appear to participate in. Information distributed with posters and flyers is considered as a starting phase for getting a future approach towards them.

In each of the meetings was clearly stated that questions can be raised at any time, in order to build a transparent way of approach and decision making opinions.

Some of the photos are displayed in the figures below:

Figure 9 – Photos of Meetings

**DISHNICE**

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## CIFLIG

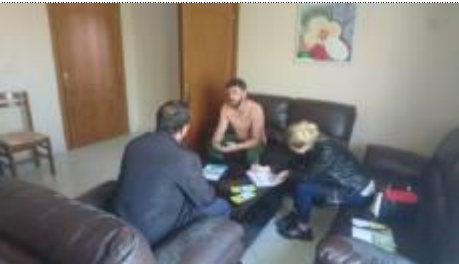


## KORCA CITY

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### **BULGAREC - Administrative Office**



*The Administrator of Administrative Unit (AU) in Bulgarec was met. AU of Bulgarec includes villages of Dlashnic, Barc, Mlalavec which are specified as direct affected zone*

### **BARC**

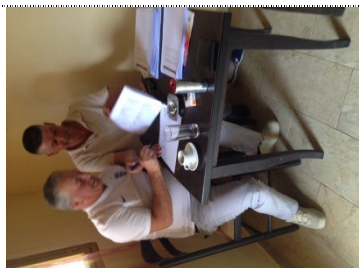


### **PLASE**

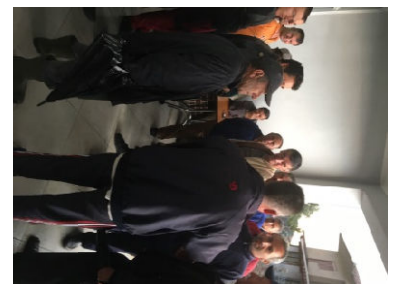
Company	Abkons sh.p.k.
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## ZEMBLAK



## KUC I ZI



### A. Outcomes of consultation meetings and obtaining opinions

In each of the villages, different type of questions was raised. A summary of main issues are given as below:

Table 7 – Summary of discussions and issues

Village	Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
CIFLIG	Impact on the environment	What type of impact this project must have? This comparing with the old plant in Korca	GPP Korca and IVICOM will implement an advanced technology that will produce energy and heat at the same time within allowed levels of pollutions During baseline study there are different measurement to be conducted specifically of air quality, noise, soil quality, water quality, biodiversity (flora & fauna) and other important analysis of environmental and social aspects

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Village	Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
	<i>Impact on their way of leaving</i>	What impact can this construction bring,	The location of this village is nearby the area where the construction will take place but it is the village where the plant will connect with TAP Pipeline. An in-depth study of environmental aspects and field measurement will be carried out during Baseline study. Also it was mentioned that such technology and construction should be consider as an opportunity of a gas source for future gas project in Korca region. The agriculture land that the residents have in possession will not be affected by construction
	<i>Social and employment</i>	What rate of hiring this construction will use	As a foreseen GPP Korca and IVICOM has planned to engage approximate 600 employees in total during the contractions phase. (including specialist and professionals)
DISHNICE (Note 1)	<i>Agriculture Land Use and Productivity</i>	It is a fact that the lands in the vicinity of water treatment plant that are owned and/or used by residents of Dishnice use the water that after treatment process passes through the drainage channel and through water pumps. These are the facilities that farmers use for farming their land.	GPP Korca will review and will come wil a detailed description and plans for water capacity on farming
	<i>Farming products will be reduced due to lack of water source</i>	It is a fact now that for approximate 100 families (self-employed to farming) use this water for land irrigation.	GPP Korca will review and will come wil a detailed description and plans for water capacity on farming
	<i>Environmental and gas emission</i>	What measures are taken to consider the fact of gas emissions	Measurements of environmental parameters will be conducted during baseline study that includes performed measurement of air quality, noise, soil quality, water quality, biodiversity (flora & fauna) and other important analysis of environmental and social aspects.  The main anticipated potential impact is air quality which will be subject to a detailed survey, measurement and air modelling dispersion. In accordance with the results of these measurement will be assessed the potential impacts in air  However, referring to the proposed technology, CCCPPs are proven to be efficient, designed with the best available techniques and produce low emissions in air
KORCA (Lagja Franceze)	<i>Air Pollution</i>	Will the construction will have water well drillings	The project has foreseen that for cooling technological process will use water from waste water treatment plant and in case of emergency

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Village	Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
			the usage of two water wells. GPP KORCA and IVICOM will come with a plan on constructions phases
	Gas emissions	Construction will take place in the neighborhood of Korca city and within habitants area vicinity	It is the initial phase where the measurement for air emissions will be done through laboratory simulations, but strongly stating that the emissions will be at the allowed norms. These are based to the international standards and norms allowed) The measurements will covered all the gas and smokes emissions  GPP Korca will use the newest technology by which one of the sub-production is the hot water that will be available for distribution.
	Local employment	What ration will the company use to employee the locals in the area where the construction will be built	The company will develop (during the preconstruction phase) an employment plan and will be recommended by the Consultant to use the official links for hiring the local habitants in the neighborhood.
	Use of Gas and hot water for residents of Korca city	What is the coverage area that this production capacity in terms of Korca city	This will be the first gas production resource in the region which can be a source for any project in the framework of rural development. The gasification of Korca city belongs to regional development projects
BARÇ (Note 2)	Land Acquisition	Land Acquisition area of affection	GPP Korca representatives quietly described that the surface needed for the construction of the plant is nearly 24 Ha
	Land Acquisition Price	Low price presented comparing with the market and real value of the land	The explanation was done stating that detailed and reference studies have been conducted before the price was determined. As the land category is decided by the authorities to be categorised as Agriculture Land category V, they have done land and soil sampling testing, market price and state reference price
	Environment impact	Radius of the impact during construction and operation of the plant	It was shown that screening studies were done and also the scoping phase of the ESIA study is on the process. In addition to that an in-depth study of environmental aspects and field measurement will be carried out during Baseline study
	Air Pollution	The construction of the plant will bring the additional pollution of the air (winter time especially).	GPP Korca and IVICOM have done preliminary and feasibility studies to determine the location taking into consideration the seasonal weather conditions and also the emissions in the air. In regards of the technology it was explained that construction of such plant will use the latest modern technology that imply less emission and a clean environment level.  Apart of that the simulated measurement of the environment parameters will be conducted during all the 4 (four) seasons of the year, giving best indicators in order to assess the impact

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Village	Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
	Water pollution	Water treatment processes	<p>During baseline study there are different measurement to be conducted specifically of air quality, noise, soil quality, <b>water quality, biodiversity (flora &amp; fauna)</b> and not leaving apart other important analysis of environmental and social aspects</p> <p>As well it was explained that from the technologically treatment processes, the plant will produce hot water (called also sanitary water) which can be a source for developing greenhouses productivity to increase the farming crops</p>
	Local employment	What ration will the company use to employee the locals in the area where the construction will be built	The company will develop (during the preconstruction phase) an employment plan and will be recommended by the Consultant to use the official links for hiring the local habitants in the neighborhood.
Plasë, Kuc I Zi, Belorta Zemblak, (note 3)	Land Compensation	What will be the restriction to land use when the construction of power line towers will be constructed	A detailed design and more information in regards of the affected plots/parcels will be made available by the Company in latter period
		What compensation study will be carried out and what will be the approach towards them by the Company	GPP Korça is the main body that will provide information and the approach to owners and users in regards of the compensation methodology to be used
		Having a previous experience from different project for non being compensated yet, they express skepticism and are concerned about the land use during the construction of towers	
	Use of Gas and hot water for residents	Will the city of Korça benefit from this project	Being the first project in this kind, this power plant is the main production resource in the region which can be a source for any project in the framework of rural development. <i>The gasification of Korca city belongs to regional development projects</i>
Zemblak	Power line disruption	Will be any power disruption occur and what measures are to be taken	A detailed plan and all related issues will be developed by GPP Korca for a smooth flow of risk management

**Note 1:** In Dishnice it is important to be mentioned that their main concerns and problematic issues are relating to the lack of farming water after the construction will start. It is a fact that mostly 100 families that are self-employed to farming. The agriculture crops (annual and perennial crops) they farm are the only source of family incomes.

**Note 2:** During the consultation and discussions, the issue of the water use for farming was raised several times. It was clearly explained that from previous and preliminary studies, the area is polluted such the agriculture land in not 100% free of contaminated production land.

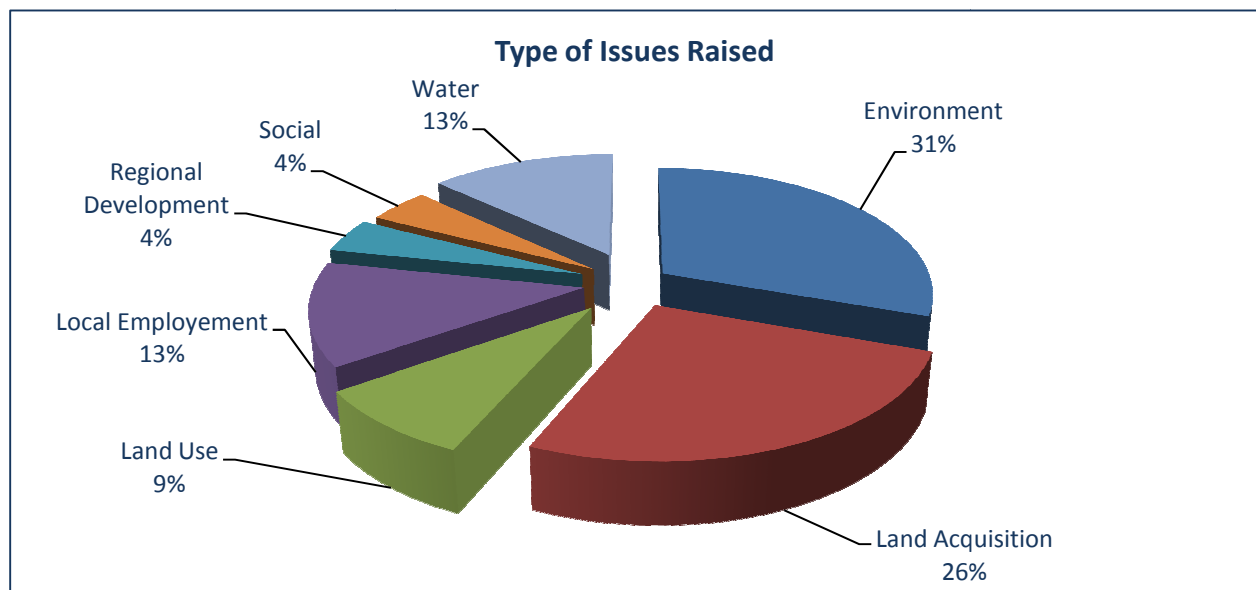
As well it was explained that from the technologically treatment processes, the plant will produce hot water (called also sanitary water) which can be a source for developing greenhouses productivity to increase the farming crops

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**Note 3:** For settlements areas under the transmission line study are, the main concern raised was in regards of the land compensation at the location of each tower. Apart of our effort in approaching people to participate in the community meetings, the participation was considered low. Such another method into target groups was followed during the baseline studies through direct questionnaires and focus groups & key informants interviews

The graphic below gives a summary of main important topics covered, raised and discussed on the local meeting:

Figure 10 – Chart of Percentages



## B. Evaluation Method and Results

Each meeting concluded with the signing sheet and also feedback evaluation formats. The questions were based on whether the meetings were viewed to be:

- Appropriately organized, held in an appropriate format and easy way to disseminate information and processes;
- Free of manipulation, interference, coercion, and intimidation; and
- Conducted on the basis of timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information in an appropriate format.

**Note:** In the meeting of Barç, the residents that attended the meeting did not accept to sing the evaluation format even though we tried to explain that this is part of the process where we should summarize their comments on the study process, and they can leave your comments of any kind, free of manipulation

The evaluation results in regional meeting are displayed in the table below:

Table 8 – Summary of Evaluation

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Question	Yes	No
Overall, was the process used to seek your comments during this phase of the project (i.e. route selection) adequate?	91 100%	0
In a specific way: was the information provided to you prior and during the meeting enough for you to give your comments		
Was the information provided to you prior to and during the meeting presented in a manner that is clear and understandable?	91 100%	0
Have you been able to provide your comments either prior to or during the meeting?	91 100%	0
Was this meeting organized in a manner which made it easy for you to participate and provide comments?	91 100%	0
Have you been in any way intimidated or coerced during this consultation process?	0	91 100%
Have you been unduly incentivized to be supportive of the Project?	0	91 100%

#### 2.4.4 NGO engagement

NGO's are being identified as a key stakeholder in order to seek and to have a proactive and open relationship

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and particularly those who represent communities directly affected by a project can be important stakeholders for companies to identify and engage on a proactive basis. NGOs may have expertise valuable to effective stakeholder engagement. For example, they can be sources of local knowledge, sounding boards for project design and mitigation, conduits for consulting with sensitive groups, and partners in planning, implementing and monitoring various project-related programs. A list of NGO and civil Society were contacted and invited to participate in the consultation discussion.

It was up to them to feel free to choose if they wanted to participate in the Open Public Consultation held on May 29<sup>th</sup> in Korca City.

Name of Representatives	NGO Organisation
Civil Society	
Ilia Dishnica	Dorcas Aid
Genti Mico	Vision Fund
Ereandra Taipllari	CSDS
Aurel Grabocka	ARZH
Ian Loring	Kenedi
Mikel Vllahu	Kryqi I Kuq
Alketa Zalllemi	TAP
Lazjon Petri	Green Action
TBD	Korca Woman Association
TBCD	Association of users of forester and pasture Prespa
TBD	E ardhmja per te shkuaren

#### 2.5 Scoping ESIA Consultation - Open Public Consultation

In accordance to the scope of work plan and also in compliance with IFC Performance Standards, the open public consultation was realized in the City of Korca, within Grand Hotel on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00. Its purpose was to give a presentation on the project in the early phases of implementation, in order to get all

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the stakeholders and community involved in the process of consultation, decision-making and suggestions raised.


There were 51 persons, invited through letters and also by written electronic invitations, which presented Land Owners, (from the direct affected area), head of villages, and members of the Citizen Advisory Committee, representatives of the Protected Area Agency, Rural Development Agency (NGO), NGOs, and other authorities' parties. The list of members is displayed in the Annex 1 and also to the signing sheet folder.

Representatives from IVICOM, GPP Korca and Abkons were at the panel which made a brief description at the beginning, inviting all the participants to pose and raise any question, comment and/or issue to be addressed.

Summary of this meeting is given below:

Table 9 – Summary of Discussions

<b>Issue/Question Type</b>	<b>Main Issues Addressed</b>	<b>Response</b>
<i>Land Acquisition Price</i>	Some of the affected owners (four of them) from Barç village were concerned about land price. They disagreed with land price and refused to sell the land, also they asked that why the company came out with this price	The land acquisition price will be a subject to further consultation and disclosure meetings. It was recommended by IVICOM representatives who explained that this price based on some criteria's. done. Sampling on land analysis in order to define the productivity also is conducted and also an independent land expert has done the land evaluation which is attached at the compensation offer. As well the market price was taken into consideration and another important thing is that the price that the company offered is approximately two times higher than the price which is defined from the DCM which is attached in the offer
<i>Environmental Pollution</i>	Will this project affect in water supply, will the city have 24 hours water after this project implementation? Will this project cause acoustic noise during operation? Will the investor construct even the distribution system? As we are aware the gas high sulphur content, what kind of emissions will be in the air?	The discussion today is based and the panel will welcome any question in concern of the Scoping study so for the emission in the air and other potential impacts we can discuss after the study is completed.  In regards of the potential environmental impacts the discussion can be in details done after the study is completed.
<i>Direction of Wind and study related</i>	Concerned about the additional air pollution during seasons in the city	All the elements that you mentioned like air, water and others that might have an impact were in the presentation and will be studied during baseline Sampling in different sections of the study area which includes a radius of 5 km. After the baseline is completed we will come out with a preliminary report and will meet again in a public hearing/consultation to discuss the potential impacts. As well the gas content analysis and parameters will be included in the final report of ESIA.
<i>Construction surface area coverage</i>	The project will be implemented on a very considerable surface that will affect the economy of the area	The Gas Power Plant will be implemented in a surface of 24 ha (permanent land). I would like to highlight the fact that the company has conducted continuous discussions with government authorities in order to use

		
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Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
		the existing trace/footprint of TAP Project, e.g. grid connection of the transmission line to SS Zemblak. In this way impacts in environment are significantly reduced and the company aims to protect the environment since the first phase of the project, which is the project design
Use of the gas and Hot water for Korça City	Steam heating production and if the Korça city will use this productivity for leaving habitants	Regarding the distribution of heating in the city, a feasibility study is in process and the municipality is discussing with IFC for the possibilities of utilization of the heating source.
Alternatives of location for construction	Different location to construct such Gas power plant.	There are several reasons for choosing the actual proposed location for GPP Korça. The Master Plan of Gas in Albania has defined the place for constructing GPP Korça after several proposals and discussions with relevant government authorities. In addition, the proposed site represents several advantages. Firstly, the new plant shall be near to the pipeline (TAP Project). Secondly, the new plant will use raw water from the wastewater treatment plant of Korça, therefore the proposed location must be near the WWTP. Thirdly, the area is near to the city of Korça, which is an advantage for future investments in the distribution network for steam heating. Lastly, the surrounding area is agriculture land, and the power plant may contribute to the development of greenhouses and future investments in the area. Hot sanitary water could be used for agriculture purposes and greenhouse activities.

The meeting concluded with the distribution of Background Information Document to all the participants as a recording mechanism to be collected and maintained. A print-screen of this document is provided below and the full package of signed forms are collected at the end of meeting session

Figure 11 – Print screen of Background Information Document

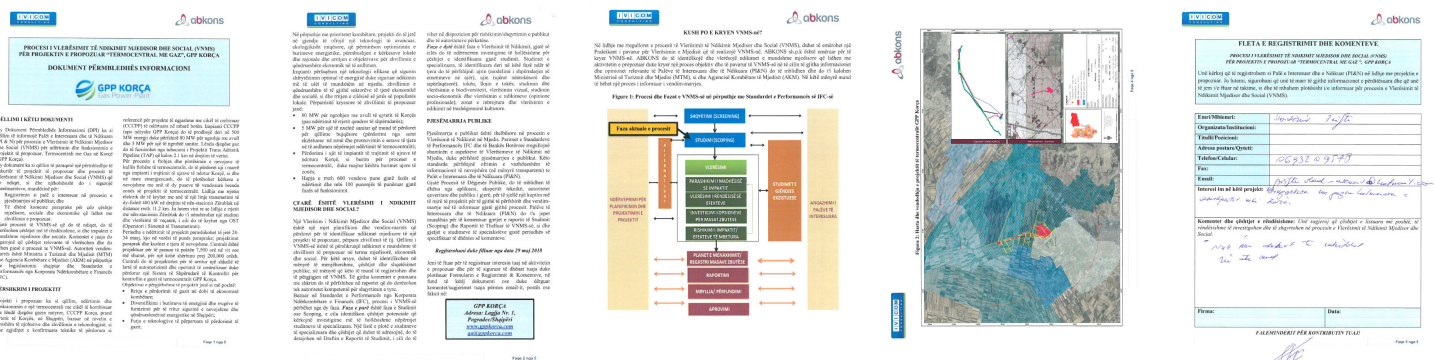


Fig. 11 - Photos from the Scoping Phase meeting:




[illegible][illegible][illegible]

The reporting on stakeholder engagement will be followed with the baseline study phase and field survey which will include focus groups and key informants engagement.



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GPP Korça has designed to perform the stakeholder engagement conform to international standards, and based to the IFC Performance Standards.

		
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### 3. DISCLOSURE OF SCOPING ESIA

Public participation and access to information in project decision is provided by the IFC Performance Standards PS.

According to the GPP Korça's policy to be in line with international best practice on environmental and social impact assessment (such as the IFC Performance Standards), and in order to include stakeholder involvement of all levels during all the scoping and disclosure phase of the ESIA preparation, the Developer and Abkons as Consultant, has offered additional and supplementary information and consultation opportunities for stakeholders and the public on a voluntary basis.

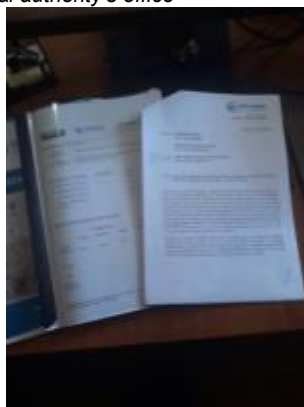
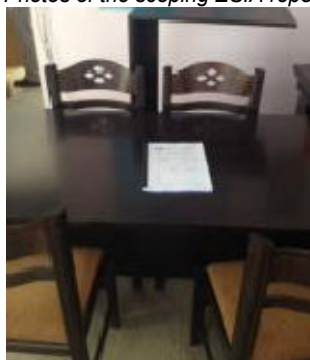
Initial general project information was already provided for stakeholders via GPP Korca website on April 2018 outlining the studies that were planned to be undertaken during the baseline process in order to assess the environmental and social impact. This publication was made available for 6 weeks before the first public consultation held in city of Korça on 29 May 2018.

The outcomes from the first approach to the public and stakeholders, together with the scoping report on ESIA prepared and the report in both languages (Albanian and English) was also made available on the project webpage ([www.ggpkorca.com](http://www.ggpkorca.com)) with a publication date from 06 June 2018.

Albanian version of the report on Scoping ESIA was distributed as a hard copy to the main administrative units affected by the project in order to provide feedback and comments relating to the studies that are being undertaken

The period that reports were published open to public (more than 30 consecutive days) ended with the general public so-called ESIA Disclosure Meeting that was held again in the city of Korça on 17 August 2018.

Fig. 12 - Photos of the scoping ESIA report at local authority's office



#### 3.1 Conclusion on Disclosure of Scoping ESIA

The meeting was organized by ABKONS team collaborating with GPP Korca, and covers the following:

- Overview of the activities performed during the phase of scoping
- Stakeholder Engagement process and outcomes
- Assessment methodology of environmental and socio-economic aspects
- Objectives and future activities and in-depth ESIA steps to be followed

The meeting was announced through letters to the authorities and identified stakeholders, through posters and banners distributed to the settlement areas and also by written electronic invitations, which presented Land Owners, (from the direct affected area), head of villages, representatives from the Municipality of Korça, from Regional Directorate of Environment of Korça, from Regional, Representatives from Qarku Korça, Regional Irrigation & drainage Agency, Agriculture Directorate and other authorities parties.

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Fig 13. - Photos from the poster on disclosure meeting announced



There were 31 participants, invited. List of Participants can be found in Annex 2

Representatives from IVICOM, GPP Korca and Abkons were at the panel which made a description of the stages that the study was being undertaken, the expected baseline data, the measurements to be carried out, the stakeholder engagements activities held and inviting all the participants to pose and raise any question, comment and/or issue to be addressed.

Table 10 – Summary of Discussions

Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
<i>EIA procedures according national legislation</i>	A representative from Municipality of Korça asked about the timeframe when the EIA report will be ready	The presentation gave a description of the timeline and all the processes the EIA preparation must go through. The Assessment of the environmental and social Impact is being conducted in accordance with the IFC Standards Requirements and following the Albanian legislation through VKM nr. 686 dated 29.07.2015 that specifies the steps and the procedures and time required as well. The draft of ESIA that is already distributed to the authorities in this phase is done following the IFC requirements
<i>Environmental Pollution</i>	According to the energy to be produced by the power plant (500MW) including 80MW of district heating, what will be the pollution on the air and its effect to the agriculture?	The air emission and all other related measurements are going to be conducted during the baseline studies and will be made public in the EIA report (on the later phase of the preparation of the EIA). The data and other indicators are going to be included at the final reports
<i>Cooling system and Discharged of hot water</i>	What kind of cooling system the power plant will use and how the discharged of hot water is being foreseen in order not to be a harm for the land and agriculture	As in previous meeting explained the technology to be used is one of the modern one. Referring to the water discharged will be at the temperature max 3-4 Celsius degree above outdoor temperature. The key emissions to the air, influences on local residency and settlements, mentioned the dust emission which will be equal to zero (0). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> will be within allowed rates</li> <li>• Emission to soil will have no influence</li> <li>• In regards of water, the plant will not use the water resources</li> </ul>
<i>Sufficiency of the water need for the technology</i>	Will the water treated from the WWTP will be sufficient to meet the needs of the power plant?	There are long-term analysis done that show the water treated will be sufficient for this project which based to this fact has projected to produce sanitary water and potable water as well.

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Issue/Question Type	Main Issues Addressed	Response
		Further chemical facilitator will be treated within EC norms
<i>CO2 Emission on air</i>	In regards of the CO2 emissions are there any alternatives or any comparison to be considered? (for e.g. at a certain distance is there any indicators or parameters to be measured?)	Gas Power Plant technology in comparison with coal combustion has 2 times lower air emissions. Gas PP proposed in this area will give a big source of the gas provider, no problem of efficiency operation in the regional and local level.
<i>Critical Negative impacts in terms of water pollution and water creatures</i>	Discharge of water into the existing irrigation channels might have critical impacts to the the quality of water used for agriculture activities	As far the studies shows, the water quality does not change, as well the water creatures mentioned, are not affected until the temperature reaches 40celsiiu degrees (which is not the case). As well it is important to mention that the channel has a considerable length being appropriate to normalize the temperature (3-4 grades above the outdoor temperature). The project will give an opportunity to increase the greenhouse buildings by the farmers
<i>Greenhouse effect in the city</i>	CO2, being a heavy gas, will cause the increase of the greenhouse effect in the city of Korça, which will lead to negative impacts in the land productivity, health and increase of air temperatures – making a close ecosystem	The baseline to be conducted via the air modeling will give exact parameters taking into consideration the wind direction. The final report on ESIA will give the pollution and air emissions figures
<i>Determination of Land Category</i>	Which factors are being considered to determine the category of land – especially in Barç settlement	Relating to the settlements in construction area the study was done from GPP Korça that has evaluated and made approach to the official decisions made by the authorities that has categorized the land “as Category IV. Regarding lands along transmitting line they are developing the design and geo coordinates to establish the land and areas to be affected by the project. This will include the land and crops as well. All the affected properties will be reviewed case by case. The compensation will occur for each land/crops taken. The Land Bonity will be reviewed to get the best of compensation rates




**Note:** Municipality of Korça raised their issue on the feasibility study for the heating system of the city (a feasibility study to include either gas or steam heating system). Representatives from GPp Korça explained that the IFC and Municipality of Korça may start a feasibility study for the potential regional project on heating system.

**Municipality** emphasizes the fact that if the study for city heating project is not being developed alongside with CCPP Gas Power Plant the environmental impact will be greater in terms of pollution and air emissions. It was explained that the form of the feasibility study should be established and determined.

Fig. 14 - Photos from the Disclosure of ESIA meeting

*Fig. 15 - List of participants*

[illegible]

		
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#### 4. **FINAL ESIA REPORT PREPARATION – PUBLIC HEARING**

As stated above through the entire document, the stakeholder engagement is considered as a necessity and an important process that aims to maintain an open and constructive relationship with interested parties, which is a process in compliance with Albanian Legislation and to International Financial Corporate.

The public hearing is considered as the final consultation meeting with stakeholders but not the last communication channel with them.

Based on the specific requirements of the DCM No.247 dated 30.04.2014 on information process and public engagement for the preparation of ESIA/EIA, the below listed methods of approach has been followed:

- Announcement of the public hearing through written and audio visual media, on which there were identified:
  - Gazeta Shqiptare *daily newspaper*
  - RTSH Korça *local TV channel* where the announcement was given 6 times a day and during the main News
- Publication of the notification through the GPP Korça website
- Poster and Banners, placed in an open public in each village affected (including construction and transmitting line areas)
- Official Letter

##### 4.1 **Public Information**

In order to realize and be in compliance with DCM requirements, the notification for the public hearing, inviting audience to participate, was published in the website of the AKM (National Environment Agency – [www.akm.gov.al](http://www.akm.gov.al)). Below is the media plan followed for the public notification aiming to draw the attention of the community:

Notification of media spot: **“Combined Cogenerated Gas Power Plant in Korça”**

GPP Korça sh.p.k, proposes to construct and operate a Combined Cycle Cogeneration Power Plant CCCPP KORCA 500 MWe/ 80 MWt/ 6 MWt in the territories of Korça city, exactly in front of the Water Treatment Plant of the City of Korça.

GPP Korça has contracted ABKONS sh.pk. for the implementation of the Environmental Impact Assessment, as a licensed company for expertise activities related to environmental impact.

For this purpose hereby, we are informing that a public hearing will be held in Korca, in order to make public the results of the environmental assessment and to discuss and collect comments and suggestions from the participants.

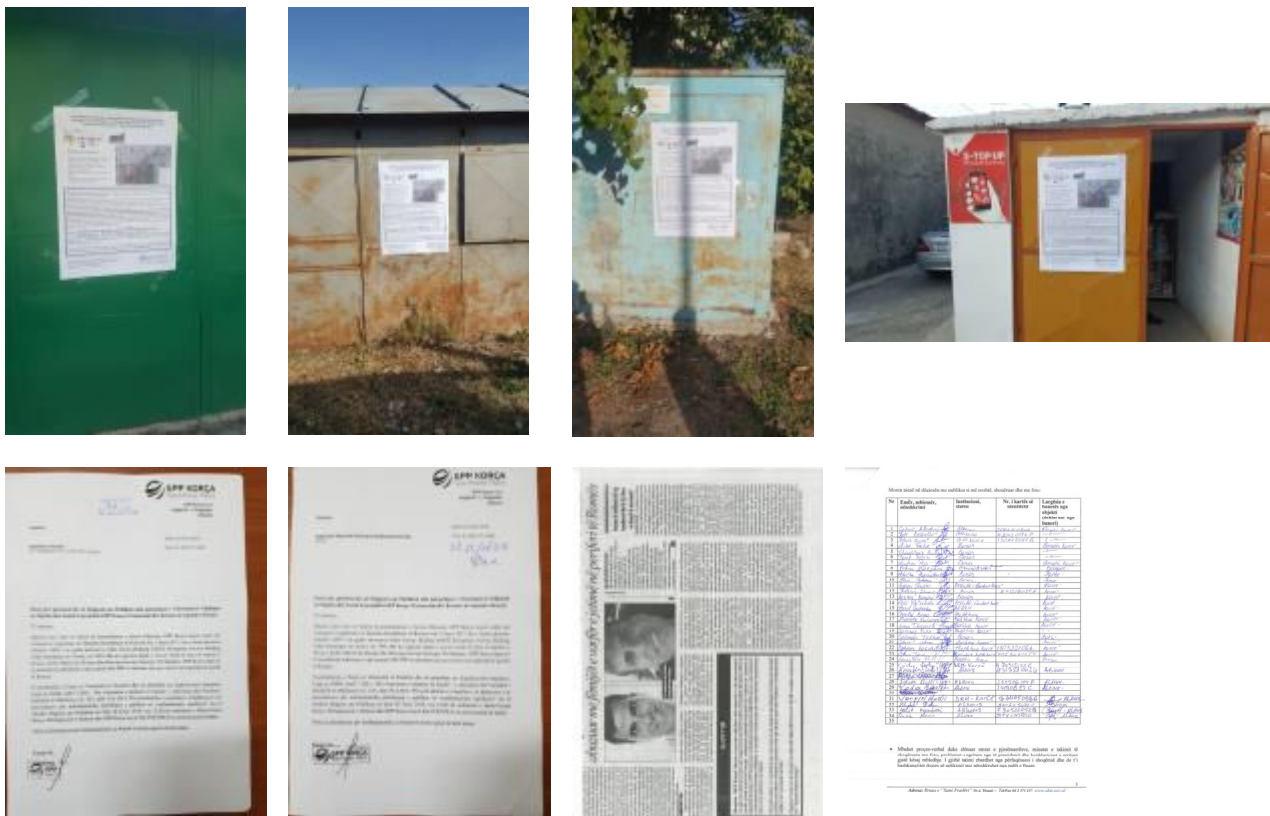
The public hearing will take part on 26 October 2018 at 12:00 in the meeting room of **“Grand Hotel Korça”**

			
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Table 11 - Periodicity of broadcasting

COMPANY:	GPP KORCA														
CAMPAIGN:	Gas Power Plant														
COUNTRY:	ALBANIA														
MEDIA MIX:	Local/National media														
FREQUENCY :	Daily														
TARGET GROUP:	20 - 60 y.o, M/F														
TIMING:	Daily														
Source	Daily	Periodicity	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Spots/ Publication s Nr
			W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Daily newspaper	Y		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	12
Local TV channel - RTV Korça	Y	6 times / day	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	90

Fig. 16 - Photos of Poster distribution and official letters & List of Participants



## 4.2 Public Hearing – Meeting

Representatives from IVICOM Consulting , GPP Korça, IFC and Abkons welcomed the participants which were from local, regional and community members of Korça.

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The meeting was done following the Public hearing plan, prepared by Abkons and referring to the following agenda:

- Registration of Participants
- Introduction of participants and the speakers
- Project Presentation and details of ESIA
- Discussion, Questions & Suggestions

The meetings were focus on the scope of work, presentation of all the stakeholders' engagement through the process of ESIA/EIA preparation, such as the baseline studies and data measurement that were more of the interest from the public.

A short questionnaires "BID format" Background Information Description, was given to the audience aiming to get their evaluation and their reaction for all the activities and data's displayed to them. Fact Sheets and photos were taken during the meeting.

#### 4.2.1 Conclusion of the Public Hearing

Table below gives the brief of main issues and concerns raised at the meeting.

Main Issues & Comments	Response
<i>Referring to the air quality in the city of Korça, which are the alternatives that will be used for air cleaning, considering that Korça has relatively polluted air. (including the quantity of emissions and operation timing of the power plant)</i>	<p>The project will produce thermal energy with a low level of SOx and CO2 lower than what is produced by the current burning of fuel in the city, which is felt by everyone</p> <p>The project will focus all pollution at a single point through the most efficient and high technology that exists. The energy that will be produced, compared to the energy that comes from personal use, will be more efficient.</p> <p>Regarding summer season, through the installation of small boilers and 6MW production, will be provided drinking water heating (about 1200 hours per year). The findings from the field analysis clearly indicates that the power plant will not have emissions to air pollution. The energy that the power plant will produce will not inflate into air pollution. (small emissions in the air from the power output will be at minimum values compared with zero). Including SO2 emissions, which will be at low levels.</p> <p>All emissions that will be produced during the operation of the power plant will be monitored</p>
<i>As per the statement shown from the presentation, why data is taken at a height of up to 5mtr including here, NOx, SOx, CO2 while the amount of gas to be emitted in nature will be many times higher than what is now released by current combustions in the city. From air emissions, it will be created some disbalances that will have consequences in fauna, flora and soil impacts as well having the discharging of waters processes. Will there be filters / instruments and mitigation measures designed to</i>	<p>Setting the 5 mtr border is conditional on the modeling that is made from the given point to get the value of the pollution. Regarding to soil contamination the oxygen that will be used during cogeneration, producing small amounts of gas. This amount of oxygen burning are seen at the global level of the atmosphere and not in closed environments.</p> <p>Relating to fauna SOx gas permeate through the atmosphere and SO3 returns to SO4 which is called acid rain and does not fall into the place that is produced. NOx also form an acid rain in inconsiderable amounts for the environment, which only adds nitrogen to the soil.</p> <p>Water that will be discharged from treatment at the power plant (treated with</p>

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Main Issues & Comments	Response
<i>reduce and amortize the disparities that may be caused by the operation of this power plant?</i>	high standards and latest technology applicable) will be discharged to permissible levels and easily monitorable.
<i>Why the data from Meteorological station of Sheqeras are not taken into account (There are records since 50 years)</i>	The study that was done for air emissions modelling, there were taken into consideration multi annual climatic data from Hydrometeorological Institute as well as field measurements were made to determine the existing air quality in the project area.
<i>Has the company built a management plan and an emergency response to any possible explosion</i>	The construction of this plant will be carried out applying the highest applicable European levels and in compliance with Albanian standards. EIA report includes the possible cases in emergency and/or accidents. There are specific plans for mitigation and measurements to manage the case by case incidents
<i>What standards have been set to carry out the analysis of findings in the field.</i>	As mentioned in the previous meetings with stakeholders, it has been said that for each field there will be experts to carry out detailed studies for each component, where possible analysis and modeling will be conducted. E.g For the air, the study is done within a 25 km radius (ie from 5 km up to 25 km - simulation from 2km 5km to 25km) and the simulation is performed for the whole period of the year.
<i>Taking into account all the issues that the construction of this power plant will brings (including emissions, water use, agricultural land acquisition in Barç, phenomenon of "wind rose" etc.) why other location is not considered? Why we can not considerate the alternative to using gas from the TAP pipeline?</i>	Despite the intensity of housing in the city of Korca, and the amount of gas consumed, is impossible for the city to have many exits and sources for gas from the TAP pipeline. Since the quantity for consumption is below the agreed limit between TAP AP and the Government of Albania the only way to supply gas to the city is through the power plant
<i>Utilization of 25 ha of agricultural land in Barç</i>	Before starting any kind of activity, the Company has applied through AIDA to receive the strategic status where alternative construction site were presented. As well in the discussions with all the ministries , where through the granting the status was very clear that the land to build the power plant can not be by I-IV, which is the category of agricultural production. The 25 hectares of land to be used is categorized in Category V. The land is analyzed in laboratories by measuring its parameters (phosphorus, nitrogen, etc.) and there are no light and non-sandy soils
<i>Since the energy produced by this power plant will be for a period of 4 months, what alternative does the company bring for all the months of the year?</i>	The power Plant will produce electrical energy during all year long. There are three cases on the CCPP Korça operational and function: Case 1 – Power Plant operates with condensed option, no extracts Case 2 – Power Plant operates during winter period, 80MWt Case 3 – Power Plant operates during summer period, extraction of 8MWt (projection point 6MWt)
<i>Regarding the water to be used for the Power plant,</i>	Calculations made, based on the technology used, are those that are shown and do not anticipate greater amounts of use. The amount of water

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Main Issues & Comments	Response
<i>will it be sufficient only the quantity taken from the plant, or will be considered the opening of other wells and will these affect the wells that the residents use for their activities as well as from the sewerage system of the city.</i>	anticipated will not affect the groundwater of the area
<i>Electro-magnetic pollution, is it anticipated that this land, (about 560ha), will be limited by use. Also the surface area that will be needed is very large making the area of great influence and as a consequence will be very close to the villages</i>	Possible electro –magnetic effects are evaluated to EIA/ESIA reports and results that the transmission line will not have any impacts, as the area where this line passes is only agricultural land and does not affect any dwelling or population-populated area. Actually, there is a transmission line in Zemblak and if this cause pollution it is sitting amongs us, and can not be claimed that the pollution will be from the new line. With regard to the land surface claimed by you, the company is unaware that such a large area will be used. We are open to expect any kind of study you have.
<i>The report claims that after construction, the evaluation of population diseases rates will be reviewed. Why this is not being reviewed at this stages as one of the important issues for the neighborhood an population</i>	The investor and Consultant have taken under consideration and reviewed any issues that might come as a result of project implementation. Main study of air quality and air emissions shows that emissions are within international, national allowed levels.  Nonetheless, EIA/ESIA reports have included the plan to be developed in terms of management of all the environmental and social issues. A detailed plan for environmental monitoring and health and safety plan are going to be developed. These measurement and plans aims to prevent timely any kind of problematic or disturbing issues that may results during the implementation and to take concrete actions to improvement

**Important Note:** During the meeting the Major of Municipality of Korça expressed his comments and issues relating to this project.

1. City heating system: He emphasizes the fact that CCPP Korça project was introduced at his early phases to the municipality and the alternative of Korça city heating system was mentioned as a solution for not using the stove wood combustion. This combustion is the main cause of the high level of air pollution and air emissions for the entire city. Referring to the phases and baseline studies and measurements that were presented to this meeting, the project foresee the production of 6MWt heat for hot potable water and no sign of the study to show the city heating network.
2. Regarding to this, the municipality of Korça has proposed to IVICOM Consulting and IFC to carry out a detailed feasibility study for the heating system including the investment costs and the expected price for habitants use.
3. The municipality will agree to CCPP Korça project implementation only if the feasibility study for heating system of Korça will be developed likelihood.

#### Facts:

Consultant addressed all concerns raised from public, such as agricultural land taken, air quality impacts, and water resources; above ground and underground waters, and other environmental elements and indicators

Consultant highlighted that all the public raised concerns and issued are reflected with baseline data and detailed reports within EIA/ESIA reports (issues of irrigation water and air emissions)

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The audience was informed for technical issues of the project, methodology used for environmental and social studies, baseline datas, evaluation of possible impacts and mitigation measurements as well

The presentation and explanation of questions raised, as well the inhabitants from affected communities was clear and was welcomed from stakeholders. List of Participants is found in Annex 3

Fig. 17 - Photos from the meeting

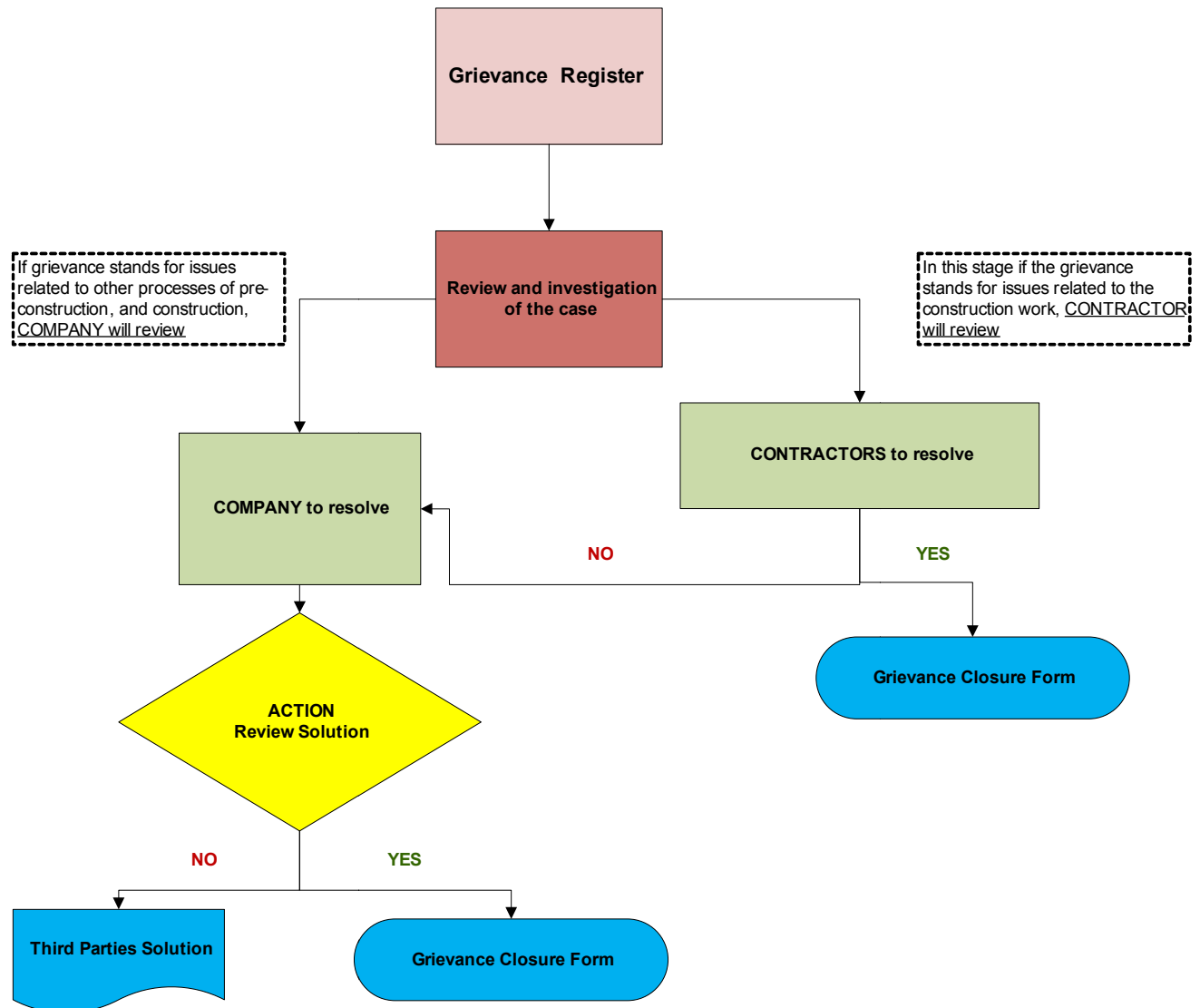


		
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## 5. GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

During pre-construction and construction phase it can be anticipated that the affected people or the community will have grievance against the project. In this way it is important to ensure that these grievance are accepted, investigated and in a short time to be resolved and able to resolve all the open grievances to the community.

The graphic below gives a short description of the steps of grievance levels:



The purpose of the grievance mechanism and management procedure is to address, manage, resolve and document grievances raised by stakeholders in relation to CCCPP KORCA activities. That shall describe the scope, specifies roles and responsibilities and details the steps for the Grievance Management Process.

The level of Grievance Mechanism (GM) has the following objectives:

- ✓ Establish a prompt, consistent and fair mechanism for receiving, investigating and responding to grievances from third parties

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- ✓ Contribute to continuous improvement in social performance through the analysis of trends and the preparation and dissemination of lessons learned.

GPP Korca and IVICOM recognise that its activities will lead to different interaction with stakeholders and as such this procedure is focused on feedback from stakeholders and project affected people (PAPs) received in a form of request, concern or complaint.

However, all issues arising over the life of a project cannot be anticipated and pre-empted during the assessment process. While an upfront comprehensive social and environmental assessment can serve to reduce the likelihood and volume of grievances in the future, the need for a mechanism to address community grievances will always exist

## 5.1 Publishing Grievance Procedure

To ensure that all our stakeholders (including employees and contractors) are aware of how to access project related information or have the knowledge of how to submit grievances (if required), the following grievance submission information shall be available and published on GPP Korca web-site: <http://www.gppkorca.com>