









This document is prepared by Decentralization and Local Development Programme (dldp), with financial support of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

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Executive Summary

American Global Consulting was contract by **dldp** to research the feasibility of developing a sustainable Recycling Championship at Elementary and High School level in 5 Qarks of Albania (Durres, Lezhe, Shkodra, Kukes and Dibra).

The goal of the study was to determine the feasibility of the championship, identification of potential actors to be involved, the willingness of many government bodies to participate, private and public interest, potential cities to be included in the scheme, logistic plan and monetary management, a SWOT analysis, as well as financial projection among many other elements.

The methodology used in this study was a pragmatic approach that combined the quantitative and qualitative methods by analyzing concrete data from the terrain as well as depends on prior information and know-how build in the Recycling Championship in Shkodra held in 2014.

While 5 Qarks were part of the research, findings concluded that a realistic sustainable scheme can only be built in three cities that belong to three different Qarks. The main reason being is that only cities with a critical mass of population, schools and industry can participate. The cities that were studied in detail were the cities of Durres, Lezhe and Shkodra. For comparison purposes, Fushe Kruja was involved and it more than shows that although nearby national infrastructure, unless a critical mass is present, the scheme is unsustainable.

Furthermore, in collaboration with institutions, the study was able to identify positive feedback from authorities at the National Level, however when following through at the local level, the policy and decision makers at this level are skeptical due to their involvement with local elections. On the other hand, there is some enthusiasm from recycling companies - especially in Durres, and NGOs that are becoming more present in the environmental projects.

As for logistics, municipalities and educational directorates have shown their support to allow the development of the tournament.

A key to continuous success will be fund management as it will require to be transparent. There are two alternatives to this by building a platform that is available only to authorized personnel, or use one of the social media platforms to have it public domain at all times.

In the three cities selected, the potential value of recyclable materials is an estimated 380 Million ALL and it is realistic to believe that with a solid effort, students will be able to recycle at least 0.8% per year that will translate to an estimated 3 Million ALL; money that will be spent in school projects decided by the teachers and student bodies..

The SWOT analysis makes a solid case why donors and government shall invest in the development of the league - at least for now at the level of eight cities. An estimated cost for developing and executing this tournament for 2015 is about 47,000 EUR - an amount that also includes the prize money for the winners of the tournament. It is crucial that donors subsidize the prize money in the first year, in order to build the league and motivate the youth.

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1.0 Background

American Global Consulting was contracted by **dldp** to carry out a feasibility study for the development of a Recycling Championship among Elementary Schools and High Schools based on the experience in the Shkodra Municipality.

dldp has approved as subjects of the study 5 Qarks (Shkodra, Lezhe, Diber, Kukes and Durres) that fall under its responsible territories; with an aim for the study to serve as a model to be used at the national level. The study was revisited, and an additional of 5 Qarks with main focus on the main cities of these districts were analyzed (Tirana, Elbasan, Fier, Korce, Berat).

1.1 Goal

The goal of the study is to investigate the possibility of creating a sustainable scheme and motivating tools – such as a monetary value – for the youth to participate continuously in recycling wasteful materials such as paper, plastic, metals and glass.

In addressing these issues, the feasibility study will focus on detail on identifying:

- Actors involved in the collection of waste on 5 Qarks proposed to hold the league
- Identify all the government authorities required to support the scheme to achieve success
- Survey of the desire of these authorities to participate
- Identify all the potential cities that shall qualify to participate
- Develop the logistic scheme to organize the championship
- Develop the scheme of money management
- Analyze the current volumes of collection of recyclable materials in all the cities to be studied
- Identify the volumes that realistically can be collected by the students
- SWOT analysis
- Analyze the financial viability and institutional viability of the project to prove the sustainability of the scheme
- Analyze the financial feasibility to create this scheme.

2.0 Methodology

The methodology used during this study was a pragmatic approach by using mixed methods: Quantitative and Qualitative.

This course was chosen due to the nature of project. On one hand, the quantitative methodology was necessary in order to gather concrete data that started with selecting cities from the 5 Qarks Feasibility study-recycling championship in 5 Qarks

that are subject of the study that shall qualify for a detailed analysis. While on the other hand, a qualitative approach was inevitable, since there is a previous experience in the Municipality of Shkodra that shall help overcome subjective conclusions and help make better recommendations.

The data was collected through face to face interviews, phone calls and e-mails.

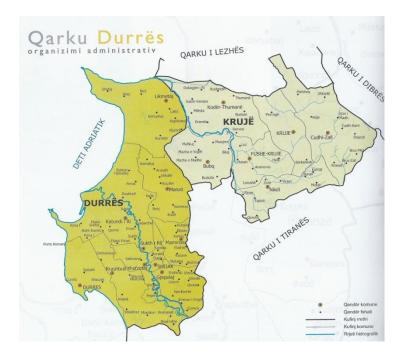
The participants of the surveying ranged from government officials at national and local level, activists that have an interest in environmental issues, groups of interests that will be directly affected financially, educators who are a key component to the implementation of the project, as well as students who will be the subject participant.

3.0 Qarks

Initially, 5 Qarks were selected to be part of the study are Durres, Lezhe, Shkodra, Diber, and Kukes. After a review of the study, an additional of 5 Qarks was added to analyze the potential of a national Recycling Championship. The added Qarks are: Tirana, Korca, Elbasan, Fier and Berat.

3.1 Durres – General Information

Qarku of Durres has a general population of over 410,000 inhabitants. It consists of two counties: Durres and Kruja. The Durres County is composed of 4 Municipalities, whereas Kruja has 2 Municipalities. The only municipality with a critical mass of schools, cleaning service and recycling industry, as well as large number of schools to participate in a tournament is that of Durres.



3.1.1 Durres Municipality

The Durres Municipality is the second largest Municipality in Albania after Tirana with a population over 200,000. The second largest population in the Durres County is that of Shijak with 12,000.

Durres Municipality has a 20 Public Elementary Schools (9 years) and 8 High Schools:

14 Nëntori	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 17; rr: Prokop Sorra, bashkia Durrës	052222694
Abedin Dino	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 13; rr : Pavarësia, Plazh, Durrës	052260849
Bajram Curri	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 13; rr : Pavarësia, Plazh, Durrës	052260249
Bedrije Bebeziqi	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja4; rr: Egnatia (ish Danubi), Durrës	052222325
Demokracia	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 15; rr : Pjetër Bogdani, bashkia Durrës	052227824
E Re	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 17; ish Këneta, bashkia Durrës	
Eftali Koçi	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 7; rr: Hajdar Demiri, bashkia Durrës	052222119
Hajdar Dushi	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 6; rr: Ibrahim Buzhiqi, Durrës	052223063
Hasan Koçi	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 14; rr : Asti Gogoli, Shkozet, Durrës	052264330
Isuf Ferra	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 14; ish NISH Tulla, Shkozet Durrës	052264549
Jusuf Puka	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 3; rr: Egnatia, bashkia Durrës	052222007
Kushtrimi i Lirisë	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 5; rr: Enver Velja, bashkia Durrës	052223146
Marije Kaçulini	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 12; rr: Mujo Ulqinaku, bashkia Durrës	052222290
Met Hasa	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 15; Porto Romano, Durrës	052229706
Neim Babameto	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 15; Spitallë, Durrës	052222491
Nënë Tereza	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 6; rr: Bashkimi, bashkia Durrës	052222412
PLM	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 11; rr: Agostin Serreqi, bashkia Durrës	052222832
Qemal Mici	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 16; rr: Abaz Çelkupa, bashkia Durrës	052223171
Shaqje Mazreku	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 11; rr: Baki Çelmeta, pranë postës, Durrës	052222317
Vasil Ziu	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 6; rr: Aleksandër Goga, bashkia Durrës	052222118

Dom Nikoll Kaçorri	Durrës	gjimnaz	lagjja 17; ish Këneta, bashkia Durrës	
Gjergj Kastrioti	Durrës	gjimnaz	lagjja 1; rr: Bardhyl Shehu, bashkia Durrës	052223323
Leonik Tomneo	Durrës	gjimnaz	lagjja 16; rr: Mujo Ulqinaku, bashkia Durrës	052222054
Naim Frashëri	Durrës	gjimnaz	lagjja 8; rr: Aleksandër Goga (pranë Spitalit), Durrës	052222369
Olsi Lasko	Durrës	gjimnaz	lagjja 14; Shkozet, bashkia Durrës	052264662
Benardina Qerraxhia	Durrës	e mesme sportive	lagjja 16; rr: Mujo Ulqinaku, bashkia Durrës	052223073
Beqir Çela	Durrës	e mesme profesionale	lagjja 14; Shkozet, bashkia Durrës	052264528
Hysen Çela	Durrës	e mesme teknologjike	lagjja 16; rr: mbreti Gert, bashkia Durrës	052223113
+	-			

In addition, there are 13 non-public elementary and high schools in the municipality of Durres.

Frymë Dashurie	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 1; rr: Mbretëresha Teutë, bashkia Durrës	052239334
Hafiz Ali Podgorica	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 14; rr: Martin Camaj,rrugica D.Hima	
Planetary School	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 17; rr: Dalip Ndreu, bashkia Durrës	
Vinçens Prendushi	Durrës	9-vjeçare	lagjja 1; rr: Taulantia, bashkia Durrës	052224074
Dyrrahu	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjja 14, pranë mbikalimit Shkozet, Durrës	052264373
Eneida	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjja 17; rr: Stefan Kaçulini, bashkia Durrës	052222496
Iliria	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjja 13; rr: Pavarësia(pista Iliria), plazh Durrës	052260857
Kasa	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjja 14; hekurudha, Plazh Durrës	052261953
Konica	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjja 4; rr: Skënderbeg, bashkia Durrës	052238307
Migjeni	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjja 5; rr: Dëshmorët,nr 102, Durrës	052229452
Mihal Ekonomi	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjja 3; rr: Tregtare (ish shkolla 16 Shtatori), Durrës	052230587
Pavarësia	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjia 17; (ish URT), bashkia Durrës	052232944
Rilindja	Durrës	e mesme e bashkuar	lagjia 17; rr: Adria,pranë qendrës Galaktik, Durrës	052236130

3.2 Lezhe – General Information

The district of Lezha is composed of three counties: Lezhe, Mirdite and Kurbin with a population of 2112,850. The main city in this district and the largest one by far is the city of Lezhe.



3.2.1 Lezhe Municipality

The municipality of Lezhe has a general population of 28,000. All other cities under this district are all below 20,000 people and can hardly support any sustainable scheme of trading recyclable waste in a meaningful way to financial gains.

The city is home to 5 elementary schools and 6 higher education schools that could potentially participate in the Recycling Championship.

	EMRI	I	NJËSISË		
EMRI I SHKOLLËS	LOKAL	Е		QYTET/FSHAT	LLOJI I SHKOLLËS
BESELIDHJA	LEZHË			LEZHË	9-VJ

GJERGJ FISHTA	LEZHË	LEZHË	9-VJ
GJERGJ			
KASTRIOTI	LEZHË	LEZHË	9-VJ
KOSOVA	LEZHË	LEZHË	9-VJ
NËNË TEREZA	LEZHË	LEZHË	9-VJ
		ISHULL-	
ISHULL-LEZHË	SHËNGJIN	LEZHË	SHMB
HYDAJET LEZHA	LEZHË	LEZHË	GJIMNAZ
KOLIN GJOKA	LEZHË	LEZHË	SHMPROFESIONALE
BESËLIDHJA	LEZHË	LEZHË	SHANSI I DYTË
GJERGJ FISHTA	LEZHË	LEZHË	SHANSI I DYTË
GJERGJ			
KASTRIOTI	LEZHË	LEZHË	SHANSI I DYTË

3.3 Shkodra - General Information

The district of Shkodra has a general population of 332,480. It is composed of three counties: Shkodra, Puke and Malesi e Madhe. The main administrative and largest of the cities is Shkodra.



3.3.1 Shkodra Municipality

Shkodra has a general population of 115,000. Other cities in this county are all below 20,000 and cannot sustain a reasonable scheme of activities based on recyclable materials. Below is a table of the schools that participated in the first edition of the Shkodra Riciklon championship:

Shkollat 9-vjed	are					
			Data	Orari	Klasa	Vendi
Ismail Qemali	-	Azem Hajdari	13/05/2013	9:00	kl,5-6	
Ndre Mjeda	-	Miqesia	13/05/2013	10:00	kl,5-6	Shkolla Ismail
Perparimi	-	Skenderbeg	13/05/2013	11:00	kl,5-6	– <u>emali</u> –
xheladin Fishta	-	Iliria	13/05/2013	12:00	kl,5-6	
Zemra Krishtit	-	Don Bosko	13/05/2013	10:00	kl,5-6	
Branko Kadia	-	Mati Logoreci	13/05/2013	11:00	kl,5-6	Shkolla Ali Lacej
Ali Lacej	-	Austriake	13/05/2013	12:00	kl,5-6	
Martin Camaj	-	Deshmoret e Prishtines	13/05/2013	13:00	kl,5-6	
Shkollat e mes	me					
Gjuhet e Huaja	_	Shkolla Ndertimit	13/05/2013	9:00	kl,10- 12	
Preng Jakova	-	28 Nentori	13/05/2013	10:00	kl,10- 12	Gjimnazi 28 Nentori

Oso Kuka	-	Jordan Misja	13/05/2013	11:00	kl,10- 12
Shkolla					kl,10-
Pyjore	-	Hasan Riza Pasha	13/05/2013	12:00	12

3.4 Kukes – General Information

The entire district of Kukes – which includes Kukes, Has and Tropoja – has a population of 117,000. The entire district is mostly composed of mountains and long distances between towns. The city of Kukes has the best infrastructure to connect the mid and lower parts of the country. While it is about two hours away from Tirana, there is no recycling industry in any parts of the district. Limited recycling in metals as they hold bigger value; however, no industry or interest in recycling paper or plastic. Moreover, this part of the country has among the lowest level of waste production per capita at 0.7 kg daily.



On the other hand, it would be very difficult to develop a comprehensive league in any part of this district, as the city of Kukes has only four elementary schools and two high schools.

3.5 Diber – General Information

The district of Dibra has a population of 177,840 from three counties: Diber, Bulqize and Mat. However, this district has the lowest population density in the entire Republic of Albania. Due to its geographical position and socio-economic situation, this district is very similar to the district of Kukes; if not worse. As such, there is no financial viability to investigate the possibility of developing a sustainable league based on recycling paper, plastic and aluminium.



3.6 Tirana – General Information

District of Tirana is composed of two counties: Tirana and Kavaja. The general population reaches about 1 million inhabitants. Its largest city is the city of Tirana which is also the capital of Albania. In addition, city of Kamza has become one of the larger cities in Albania with a population of about 90,000.



3.6.1 Municipality of Tirana

Tirana is the capital and largest city of Albania. Tirana became Albania's capital city in 1920 and has a population of over 480,000 inhabitants. Below is the list of the schools that can potentially participate in the championship:

	SHKOLLAT DHE KOPSHTET PUBLIKE				
Nr	Emri i shkollës	9 vjeçare	Adresa		
1	1 Maji	9 vjeçare	Rr. Ali Demi		
2	1 Qershori	9 vjeçare	Rr. Hamdi Pepa		
3	26 Nëntori	9 vjeçare	Rr. Nuçi Naçi, Tiranë e Re		
4	28 Nëntori	9 vjeçare	Rr. Lord Bajron, Laprakë		
5	4 Dëshmorët	9 vjeçare	Rr. 4 Dëshmorët		
6	7 Marsi	9 vjeçare	Rr. H.Dalliu		
7	Ahmet Gashi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Lord Bajron, Laprakë		
8	Ali Demi	9 vjeçare	Rr. A. Demi, pas Ministrisë Shëndetësisë		
9	Androkli Kostallari CU	9 vjeçare	Rr. Shemsi Haka, pranë ish-uzinës autotraktorëve		
10	Androkli Kostallari CL	9 vjeçare	Rr. Shemsi Haka, pranë ish-uzinës autotraktorëve		
11	At Zef Pllumi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Robert Shvarc, Kopshti Botanik		
12	Avni Rustemi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Mihal Duri, prapa MAS		
13	Bajram Curri	9 vjeçare	Rr. Niko Avrami		
14	Dëshmorët e Lirisë	9 vjeçare	Rr. Zef Jubani, Nr.1		
15	Dhora Leka	9 vjeçare	Fusha e Aviacionit		
16	Dora D'Istria	9 vjeçare	Rr. Reshit Çollaku		
17	E Kuqe	9 vjeçare	Rr. Qemal Stafa		
18	Edith Durham	9 vjeçare	Rr. Pjetër Bogdani		
19	Emin Duraku	9 vjeçare	Rr. Gjin Bue Shpata		
20	Fan Noli	9 vjeçare	Rr. Q. Stafa, pranë Prokurorisë së Përgj.		
21	Gjon Buzuku	9 vjeçare	Rr. Aleksandër Moisiu, pranë Kinostudios		
22	Gustav Mayer	9 vjeçare	Rr. Frosina Plaku		
23	Gjergj Fishta	9 vjeçare	Rr. Gjergj Fishta, pas shinave të trenit		
24	Hasan Prishtina	9 vjeçare	Rr. Q. Stafa, pranë ish-artistikes		

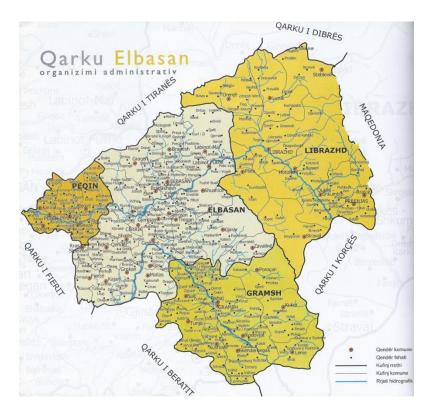
25	Hasan Tahsim	Outeers	Rr. Hoxha Tahsim
25		,,	
26	Hasan Vogli	9 vjeçare	Rr. Mine Peza, pranë Prokurorisë së Tiranës
27	Ibrahim Brahja	9 vjeçare	Sauk i Vjetër
	Instituti i Nx.që nuk dëgjojnë	9 vjeçare	Rr. Dibrës, pranë Medresesë
29	Instituti I Nx.qe nuk shikojne	9 vjeçare	Rr. Dibrës, pranë Medresesë
30	Instituti Luigj Gurakuqi	9 vjeçare	Kinostudio
31	Isa Boletini	9 vjeçare	Rr. Gramozi, Kodër Kamëz
32	Jordan Misja	9 vjeçare	Rr. Elbasanit nr.6
33	Jeronim De Rada	9 vjeçare	Rr. Fortuzi, pranë MAS
34	Kol Jakova	9 vjeçare	Rr. Princ David, Bregu i Lumit
35	Konferenca e Pezes	9 vjeçare	Rr. Him Kolli
36	Kongresi I Lushnjes	9 vjeçare	Rr. Qemal Stafa
37	Kongresi I Manastirit	9 vjeçare	Rr. 3 Dëshmorët, mbi Fabrikën e Birrës
38	Koreografike	9 vjeçare	Rr. Mihal Grameno
39	Kosova	9 vjeçare	Rr. Elbasanit, Nr.6
40	Kushtrimi i Lirisë	9 vjeçare	Mbrapa Maternitetit të Ri
41	Lasgush Poradeci	9 vjeçare	Rr. Haki Stërmilli, Kombinat
42	Lidhja e Prizrenit	9 vjeçare	Rr. Barrikadave
43	Mihal Grameno	9 vjeçare	Rr. Mihal Grameno
44	Misto Mame	9 vjeçare	Rr. Dibrës, pranë Medresesë
45	Murat Toptani	9 vjeçare	Rr. Vangjel Koço,Selitë e Vogël
46	Musine Kokalari	9 vjeçare	Kombinat
47	Mustafa Greblleshi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Shefqet Ndroqi, pranë senatoriumit
48	M.Q. Ataturk	9 vjeçare	Rr. Selim Jemeni, Sauk i Ri
49	Naim Frasheri	9 vjeçare	Rr. Frosina Plaku, pranë Parkut të Autobusëve
50	Niket Dardani	9 vjeçare	Rr. Sitki Çiço
51	Osman Myderizi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Drago Siliqi, pranë Qytetit Studenti
52	Pal Engjelli	9 vjeçare	Rr. Myslym Keta, tek Rrapi i Treshit
53	Pjeter Budi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Myslym Shyri, pranë Gjykatës së Tiranës

	•		
54	Qazim Turdiu	9 vjeçare	Rr. Don Bosko
55	Ramazan Jarani	9 vjeçare	Rr. Njazi Meka, Allias
56	Sabaudin Gabrani CU	9 vjeçare	Rr. M. Gjollesha, kryqëzimi i 21 Dhjetorit
57	Sabaudin Gabrani CL	9 vjeçare	Rr. M. Gjollesha,
58	Servete Maçi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Dibrës
59	Shyqyri Peza	9 vjeçare	Rr. Haki Stërmilli, Kombinat
60	Siri Kodra	9 vjeçare	Rr. Siri Kodra
61	Skender Çaçi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Dibrës, pranë Medresesë
62	Skender Luarasi	9 vjeçare	Rr. Petrit Radovicka, pranë ish-kombinatit "Josif Pashko", Laprakë
63	Vasil Shanto	9 vjeçare	Blloku " Vasil Shanto" pranë Diplomat 1
64	Xhezmi Delli	9 vjeçare	Rr. Ali Baushi
Nr	Emri i shkollës	E Mesme	Adresa
1	Abdulla Keta	E Mesme	Rr. Ali Demi, Uzina e Autotraktorëve, Shkozë
2	Aleks Buda	E Mesme	Rr. Lord Bajron, Laprakë, pranë AMC-së
3	Andon Zako Çajupi	E Mesme	Rr. K i Manastirit, pranë Spitalit.Fëmijëve
			n n i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
4	Arben Broci	E Mesme	Rr. B. Imami, pranë Kishës Katolike
5	Arben Broci Asim Vokshi	E Mesme E Mesme	Rr. B. Imami, prane Kishes Katolike Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës"
<u> </u>			
5	Asim Vokshi	E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës"
5	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja	E Mesme E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini
5 6 7	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja Eqrem Çabej	E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini Rr. Dibrës, mbi QSUT
5 6 7 8	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja Eqrem Çabej Gjergji Canco Elektrike	E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini Rr. Dibrës, mbi QSUT Rr. Xhorxhi Martini
5 6 7 8	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja Eqrem Çabej Gjergji Canco Elektrike Hoteleri Turizem	E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini Rr. Dibrës, mbi QSUT Rr. Xhorxhi Martini Rr. Kavajës, Nr. 50, pranë Tregut Ushqimor
5 6 7 8 9	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja Eqrem Çabej Gjergji Canco Elektrike Hoteleri Turizem Ismail Qemali Jordan Misja Karl Gega	E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini Rr. Dibrës, mbi QSUT Rr. Xhorxhi Martini Rr. Kavajës, Nr. 50, pranë Tregut Ushqimor Rr. Johan Fon Han, Blv. Zhan D'Ark
5 6 7 8 9 10	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja Eqrem Çabej Gjergji Canco Elektrike Hoteleri Turizem Ismail Qemali Jordan Misja	E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini Rr. Dibrës, mbi QSUT Rr. Xhorxhi Martini Rr. Kavajës, Nr. 50, pranë Tregut Ushqimor Rr. Johan Fon Han, Blv. Zhan D'Ark Rr. Elbasanit nr.6
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja Eqrem Çabej Gjergji Canco Elektrike Hoteleri Turizem Ismail Qemali Jordan Misja Karl Gega	E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini Rr. Dibrës, mbi QSUT Rr. Xhorxhi Martini Rr. Kavajës, Nr. 50, pranë Tregut Ushqimor Rr. Johan Fon Han, Blv. Zhan D'Ark Rr. Elbasanit nr.6 Rr. B. Karapici, mbi Tregun Ushqimor
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja Eqrem Çabej Gjergji Canco Elektrike Hoteleri Turizem Ismail Qemali Jordan Misja Karl Gega Koreografike	E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini Rr. Dibrës, mbi QSUT Rr. Xhorxhi Martini Rr. Kavajës, Nr. 50, pranë Tregut Ushqimor Rr. Johan Fon Han, Blv. Zhan D'Ark Rr. Elbasanit nr.6 Rr. B. Karapici, mbi Tregun Ushqimor Rr. Mihal Grameno
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Asim Vokshi Besnik Sykja Eqrem Çabej Gjergji Canco Elektrike Hoteleri Turizem Ismail Qemali Jordan Misja Karl Gega Koreografike Loro Borici	E Mesme	Rr. P. Myzeqari, pranë "Shtëpisë së Fëmijës" Rr. Irfan Tomini Rr. Dibrës, mbi QSUT Rr. Xhorxhi Martini Rr. Kavajës, Nr. 50, pranë Tregut Ushqimor Rr. Johan Fon Han, Blv. Zhan D'Ark Rr. Elbasanit nr.6 Rr. B. Karapici, mbi Tregun Ushqimor Rr. Mihal Grameno Kodër Kamëz

17	Petro Nini Luarasi	E Mesme	Rr. Sami Frashëri
18	Qemal Stafa	E Mesme	Rr. Durrësit, pranë Zogut të Zi
19	Sami Frasheri	E Mesme	Rr. Barrikadave
20	Sander Prosi	E Mesme	Rr. Shefqet Nroqi, pranë Sanatoriumit
21	Sinan Tafaj	E Mesme	Bulevardi: "Zogu I", pranë Cirkut
22	Teknike ekonomike	E Mesme	Rr. Xhorxhi Martini
23	Kostandin Kristoforidhi	E Mesme	Prane Tregut çam

3.7 Elbasan – General Information

The district of Elbasan is composed of four counties: Elbasan, Librazhd, Gramsh and Peqin. It has a general population of almost 300,000 people. The county of Elbasan is heavily industrialized due to past investments in industrial complexes.



3.7.1 Elbasan Municipality

Elbasan Municipality is the largest in the entire district. It has a population of 80,000 with a rich history and tradition. Below is the list of schools within the Municipality limits:

1	FADIL GURMANI
2	ADEM KRASNIQI
3	ALI AGJAHU
4	BARDHYL POPA
5	FEJZULLA GURANJAKU
6	HAMIT MULLISI
7	JERONIM DE RADA
8	JORGJI DILO
9	NAIM FRASHËRI
10	PTOLEME XHUVANI
11	QAMIL GURANJAKU
12	QEMAL HAXHIHASANI 1
13	QEMAL HAXHIHASANI 2
14	SULË MISIRI
15	XHAFERR HAKANI
16	ABDYL PARALLOI
17	SULË HARRI

18	ZËRA JETE
19	7 MARSI
20	ALEKS BUDA
21	DRITA ÇOMO
22	HALIT URUÇI

3.8 Korce – General Information

The district of Korca has a population of almost 260,000 inhabitants. It is composed of the following counties: Korca, Pogradec, Erseke, Bilisht. The epicenter of the district is the city of Korca.



3.8.1 Korca Municipality

The municipality of Korca has a population of 90,000. It is one of the most socially conscious cities in the entire of Albania. People are self aware of living with community rules and easily supportive of innovative ideas to better their lives. The list of public schools (there are two more schools that are not public schools) is as following:

KOSTANDIN SHPATARAKU
MIRANDA BAKU
TOMORR SINANI
SAMI FRASHËRI
KOSTANDIN KRISTOFORIDHI
KOSTANDIN KRISTOFORIDHI
KOSTANDIN KRISTOFORIDHI
DHASKAL TODRI
VASIL KAMAMI
MAHIR DOMI
ANASTAS ÇAKALLI
AHMET DAKLI

3.9 Fier - General Information

The district of Fier has a population of 310,000 and composed of three counties: Fier, Lushnje, Mallakaster. The main two cities of the district are Fier and Lushnje.



3.9.1 Municipality of Fier

The municipality of Fier has a population of 85,000 and a strong economy. The list of schools is as following:

1	JANAQ KILICA FIER	Gjimnaz

2	PERIKLI IKONOMI FIER	Gjimnaz
3	PETRO SOTA FIER	Teknike+Gjimnaz
4	ME KOHË TË SHKURTUAR	Gjimnaz
5	JAKOV XOXA FIER	9-Vjeçare+Mes.Artistike
6	ANDON XOXA FIER	9-Vjeçare
7	KRISTAQ SHTËMBARI FIER	9-Vjeçare
8	JANI BAKALLI FIER	9-Vjeçare
9	LIRI GERO FIER	9-Vjeçare
10	MARK DASHI FIER	9-Vjeçare
11	NAIM FRASHËRI FIER	9-Vjeçare
12	PINELLOPI PIRRO FIER	9-Vjeçare
13	SHEQ FIER	9-Vjeçare
14	LIKO KOSTANDINI FIER	9-Vjeçare

3.10 Berat – General Information

The entire district of Berat is hote to 172,000 inhabitants and composed of three counties: Berat, Kucove and Skrapar.



3.10.1 Municipality of Berat

The city of Berat has a population of 65,000 people and it dates to the 7th Century B.C. While we were not able to obtain a list of schools for this District from the Authorities, through cross interviews, we were able to identify that the city is home to more than 10 schools between elementary cycle and high schools – an indicator that would qualify Berat to be part of the initiative.

4.0 Cities to Participate

Initially, we identified the following cities to carry out the study: Durres (205,000), Shkoder (115,000), Lac (30,000), Lezha (28,000), Kruja (20,000), Peshkopia (18,000 people), Kukes (16,500), Fushe Kruja (15,000), and will include as subjects of the study Shijak (12,000) and Bajram Curri (8,000).

We selected these cities since they were the largest cities in their respective Qarks. While in each Qark there are other cities as well, the cities were selected based on population. In this process, interviews and research was conducted on individual basis. Through direct interviews and data collection, we concluded that not all cities have the capability to organize a sustainable scheme for the Recycling Championship.

In addition, the cities of Tirana, Elbasan, Korca, Fier and Berat were added to the study.

4.1 Conditions

In order to develop a sustainable scheme, a city must have a critical mass of population with a certain consumption level. In addition, participating cities must have a number of elementary schools and high schools. Moreover, a recycling industry must be present or within reach. The cities must be logistically accessible to other nearby Qarks with limited liability and risk of transportation and lodging.

4.2 Cities Qualified

Cities that have a critical mass of population of over 20,000 inhabitants, consumption of 0.9 kg waste per capita and over, a minimum of 8 schools qualified to participate in the tournament, recycling industry and schools are only:

- Durres
- Lezhe
- Shkoder.

All other subjects of this study do not fulfill the minimal threshold of developing a sustainable scheme.

Once the study was reviewed, it showed that a sustainable scheme can be developed also in the cities of:

- Tirana
- Elbasan
- Fier
- Korce
- Berat.

5.0 Stakeholders

The stakeholders in this process are a mix of participants ranging from national level to local level coming with a wide range of background from government, educators, entrepreneurship to civil society.

5.1 Government

Government interest in this process is the key driver and the most interested party to succeed due to political commitment and goals toward EU legislation standards. This commitment is best illustrated by the National Waste Management Plan prepared with the help of European Commision with Ref: EuropeAid/124909/C/SER/AL that lays out the groundwork of achievements and challenges between 2010 to 2025.

The government stakeholders are represented at the national level by the policy makers thru Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Education. Whereas at the local level, government bodies represented by local elected officials in charge of Municipalities have an interest to serve their citizens with a better and more valuable service. On the other hand, the Regional Educational Directorates are key players in helping organize the championship within schools.

5.1.1 National Government

During one on one interviews, cross reference interviews and ongoing discussions, it has been evident and stated that the government supports the innitiative to organize youth to be active in recycling.

In the preliminary meeting with Deputy Minister of Ministry of Environment Mrs. Olijana Ifti, she was readily available and highly interested to support the project through.

The role of the Ministry of Environment is to play and put positive pressure on collection agencies that operate in different cities and municipalities to support the scheme by collecting the recyclable materials from schools and institutions and reward them for the amount of the waste they collect. While this is a difficult task to keep up on daily basis, the driver for the Ministry and all other actors involved under its management to help the operators understand that recycling of the selected materials has a financial value.

Also, meetings with the Deputy Minister of Education Mrs. Nora Malaj have produced the expected results, as she has put her support behind the project by responding positively, communicating with the Regional Education Directorates and advising them to take the proposal seriously.

In this regards, the national government has shown the preliminary commitment and desire to support such a scheme. The actions of both Deputy Ministers have shown the political support necessary for the project.

5.1.2 Local Government

The local government represented by the municipalities, have returned a mixed reaction and desire to participate in the project. For example, the Municipality of Shkodra have fully supported the project based on the previous experience. Also, in communicating with the Municipality of Durres with Adhurim Qehajaj the reaction and support to the project has been extremely positive. Due to the fact that the Municipality of Durres is in the process of finalizing a PPP for the management of the landfill, it is quite an opportunity to improve the implementation of the Local Waste Management Plan for 2010 - 2025 financed by the IFC.

On the other hand, municipalities such as that of Kruja have shown little interest to participate, or raise many concerns and are skeptical.

While all the municipalities contacted have shown some interest to great interest, for the most part the local government have some reserves in the implementation of the project due to uncertainties resulting from the new territorial reform combined with the upcoming local elections - which for certain will impact in different ways the execution of the championship.

Another concern raised is that of continuity once the championship is finished.

5.1.3 Regional Educational Directorates

As proven in the case of Shkodra, the Educational Directorate has a critical role in the development of the league. In personal interviews and phone conversations with Directors and their Deputies that cover the 5 Qarks they have all shown and committed their support. This also coming from up top since it has the support of the policy makers; thus, leaving them only the implementation.

5.1.4 Student Bodies

With the help of the Educational Directorate, interviews with student bodies in the area of Durres and Lezha were held. Their initial response is positive; especially after hearing about financial incentives toward school infrastructure and potential national exposure.

While some concerns were evident in terms of recycling and cleanliness, sharing the experience of Shkodra with them helped them understand the larger picture and turning the tide into a movement.

5.1.5 Entrepreneurship

There are many entrepreneurs that are involved in recycling paper, plastic, metals and lately glass as well. However, their geographical exposure puts limits to the scalability of recycling in the 5 Qarks. While there is interest in the mid section and north-western part of the country, the same cannot be said for the northern or more remote parts of the country.

In Durres, there is interest to be part of the scheme from businesses like Edipack Sh.a. as well as in Lezha and Shkodra. Some of the businesses are not necessarily contracted by the municipality for the collection of the waste, but are in the recycling business for a long time. And they see this as an opportunity to add to their bottom line more efficiently and with social responsibility. The nature of some of these operators is sometimes spin-offs from other industries, as a result committed to make a change.

On the other hand, none have shown interest in other Municipalities. This due to the volumes collected in the more remote areas where population is small and consumption is low. Also, recyclable materials have a low monetary value, and the main factories that deal with their treatment are located in the middle section of the country. As such, the financial viability to collect and transport waste from remote areas is inconsiderable.

5.1.6 Civil Society

There are a few organizations that are interested in promoting recycling. Organizations such as Une Ricikloj, the Door and Recycle Jeans have shown interest to participate and contribute in the development of the project. While Une Ricikloj would like to contribute with workshops on how to enhance imagination and innovation through recycling, Recycle Jeans would like to participate with their denim bags for the collection of waste through their initiative of collecting denim to be thrown out.

6.0 Logistics

Logistics are an important part in the implementation process. The logistics are important in two parts: The infrastructure where the championship will take place, and the second part is the traveling of the teams within same cities as well as cross cities.

6.1 Infrastructure

Based on the interviews with Educational Directorates as well as Municipalities, before the championship starts, each city can allocate particular fields that are under the management of the schools that fulfill the requirements of the tournament.

6.2 Traveling

Traveling of the teams between cities, can take place with school busses or mini-vans that are certified and qualified to transport children based on government safety rules and regulations.

6.3 Organizing

The Championship scheme is as following:

- 1. The winner of the League will come out of the finals between city team representatives.
- 2. Three Qarks will be represented in an championship match where Durres and Shkodra will send the top three teams, and Lezhe will send its top two teams.
- 3. The league will be divided in two tiers:
- 1. Elementary Schools
- 2. High Schools
 - Each school shall hold a inner-school play-off of at least 4-8 teams, and the winning team will reach the finals of the city league.
 - The team shall comprise of 7 players 6 on the field and 1 substitute.
 - Teams will qualify after the game.
 - Winners of the divisions within cities play against one another to provide the winning team.

6.4 Game Regulations

- All games must be played in standard venues as approved by the Municipality and Educational Directorate.
- Games will comprise of 2 halves at 30 minutes each.
- Teams will be comprised of 6 players on the field and 1 substitute a coach is preferred.
- In case of a tie, two halves of 5 minutes each must be played.
- If no winner, the game shall go to penalties.
- The winner goes on to the next stage until the winner of the league.

6.5 Executing the Tournament

The tournament shall be held at the same time within a time interval of 5 days. The four top winners for all categories will be awarded a prize.

6.6 Registering Rules

For teams of the elementary school shall be as following:

- Announce the championship for 4-8 teams for classes 5-6 and 7-9.
- One week to register.
- Initial registration of 50 kg of recyclable waste per team
- The tournament shall take four days to conclude.
- One elimination game.
- Winners play until one champion is selected from both tiers of 5-6 and 7-9.

• The winning teams of both tiers must collect 200 kg of recyclable materials to participate in the city league.

The league within high schools:

- Announcement of the league for 8 teams per school
- One week to register.
- 100 kg per team to register.
- The tournament shall take four days to conclude.
- One elimination game.
- Winners play until one champion is selected from both tiers of 5-6 and 7-9.
- The winning teams of both tiers must collect 500 kg of recyclable materials to participate in the city league.

The league between the Qarks:

- Announcement of the finals.
- Two weeks to prepare for registration.
- 750 kg to register.
- The tournament shall take two days.
- One elimination game.
- Winners play until crowning the Champion.

6.7 Prize

Any prize over 100,000 ALL shall be sufficient to motivate schools to participate in the tournament. A relatively healthy pool of money shall be raised by the students themselves by registering for the championship. However, that amount will not be sufficient to reach the necessary amount. Therefore, it is important that outside donors finance some of the prize money.

7.0 Money Management

The transparency of pricing and managing the money is one of the most important elements of motivating or discouraging the participants. With the experience in Shkodra, one apparent result was the inability by the waste collection company to keep transparent and up to date records and volumes. In many instances technological solutions were offered, but the management of Borshi Sh.p.k. resisted any innovation in this aspect.

As such, it is important to set up a system that provides transparency in order to offer maximum transparency and motivation to participate.

7.1 Pricing

In discussions with recycling companies, the following prices are reasonable prices that they are willing to purchase. However these prices are subject to change on market conditions. Feasibility study-recycling championship in 5 Qarks

• **Paper** 3.5 to 4.5 Lek ranging from location to quality

• Plastic 23 to 28 Lek

• **Aluminum** 70 to 80 Lek depending on market demand supply

7.2 Money Management

There are two different alternatives that one can achieve effective money management in a transparent way.

- The first alternative would be to use a balance sheet that is accessible online such as Google docs or development of a simple software by authorized users such as teachers that will follow the development of the league, members of the student governing bodies, and the collection companies. While this alternative provides the transparency needed, it is limited to public view and has limited motivation value.
- The second alternative would be to develop a public sheet that whilst it has limited administrators of people who enter the data, it is open to public to view at all times. This can be achieved either through a public website or through a social media such as facebook. By allowing the full transparency of volumes collected, as well as the financial gains by each institution individually and collectively, can serve as an enhancer driven by competition.

7.3 Use of Funds

The schools need to set up a board made of students and teachers that would set goals and projects that benefit their schools.

By building a fully transparent platform that registers the amount of the recycled materials, it can help student bodies and educational boards set goals and eventual investments in common interest projects. Also, it can serve as a motivation tool to attain its goal by marketing milestones to the students, as well as the general public in order to gain continuous traction.

8.0 Market Analysis

Waste production differs from city to city depending on its population, industrialization and service economy. There seems to be a direct correlation of more consumption of cities with larger populations than smaller cities. As a result, the argument can be made that the league can function better in places where economies of scale can motivate for a sustainable scheme; whereas, in smaller cities, it would be nearly impossible to develop a sustainable league based on recycling.

8.1 Market Data

The table below is an illustration of the average consumption of all waste in all cities. While Durres, Lezhe and Shkoder present some of the larger cities with somewhat consolidated Feasibility study-recycling championship in 5 Qarks

cleaning services, and a recycling industry already built, Fushe-Kruja was included to offer a comparison of how a small city – although heavily industrialized and strategically positioned – compares in consumption, size and sustainability to larger cities.

Additionally, the cities of Tirana, Korca, Elbasan, Fier and Berat were included in the study.

City	Population	Waste	Waste	Waste	Waste
		product kg/da	product Ton/	product kg/da	product To
		y/person	day	y/year	n/year
Durres	127,851	1.1	136	388	49,640
Lezhe	21,150	1.1	24	414	8,760
Shkoder	75,097	0.9	71	345	25,915
Fushe-Kruje	12,154	0.6	7	210	2,555
Tirana	468,000	1.5	703	548	256,595
Korce	57,000	0.9	50	322	18,250
Elbasan	78,446	1.1	88	409	32,120
Fier	52,000	1.3	67	465	32,120
Berat	37,000	0.9	24	311	8,760

Table: Shows the consumption of waste per day and yearly basis.

8.2 Recyclable Materials Consumption Daily

To illustrate furthermore, consumption per capita per day of recyclable material in the study are as illustrated below where Durres consumption of recyclable materials per day is almost twice that of a city such as Fushe Kruje.

City	Paper in Kg	Plastic in Kg	Glass in Kg	Metal in Kg
Durres	0.143	0.154	0.055	0.011
Lezhe	0.143	0.154	0.055	0.011
Shkoder	0.117	0.126	0.045	0.009
Fushe-Kruje	0.078	0.084	0.03	0.006

Table: Illustrates consumption of recyclable materials per day.

8.3 Recyclable Materials Consumption Annually

The table below shows the consumption per capita in annual basis in the four cities under the study.

City	Paper in Kg	Plastic in Kg	Glass in Kg	Metal in Kg

Durres	52.1	56.2	20	4
Lezhe	52.1	56.2	20	4
Shkoder	42.7	46	16.4	3.2
Fushe-Kruje	28.5	30.6	11	2.2

8.4 General Consumption of Recyclable Materials

The table below makes a generalization of the amount of recyclable waste produced annually in the four cities under study. It is clearly evident that larger cities have a much larger consumption of waste by size and volume.

City	Paper in Ton	Plastic in Tons	Glass in Tons	Metal in Tons
Durres	6673	7186	2566	513
Lezhe	903	972	3473	69
Shkoder	3919	4221	1507	301
Fushe-Kruje	346	372	133	26

8.4.1 Estimated Volumes for Additional Participating Cities

The table below will make a generalization of the recyclable waste produced annually with the addition of the new cities to the study:

City	Paper in Ton	Plastic in Tons	Glass in Tons	Metal in Tons
Tirana	44391	33614	12830	3079
Elbasan	4304	4243	1847	363
Berat	1139	1226	569	88
Fier	3228	3182	1385	272

8.5 Estimated Monetary Value

This table makes an estimate of the potential monetary value of the recyclable materials if not deposited in the landfill, but put back into the system. As one can see, the savings from waste in a city like Durres could potentially reach 244 Million ALL; a significant amount considering the budgets of the city. However, it would be unrealistic for anyone to expect in short to medium term that significant savings will come from recycling, but it is a good start for the new generation to treat this waste as a commodity and start benefiting from it.

City	Value of Letter in Albanian Lek	Value of Plastic in Albanian Lek	Value of Glass in Albanian Lek	Value of Metals in Albanian Lek
Durres	26,690,000	179,650,000		38,500,000
Lezhe	3,610,000	24,310,000		5,210,000
Shkoder	15,675,000	105,500,000		22,610,000
Fushe-Kruje	1,385,000	9,310,000		1,990,000
Tirana	177,563,740	840,348,625		231,085,556
Elbasan	17,216,320	106,076,300		27,239,388
Berat	4,555,200	30,660,000		6,574,269
Fier	12,912,240	79,557,225		20,429,541

Table: Illustrates the financial value of waste if fully recycled.

As such, it would be realistic that the organizing of a league in major cities can produce a sustainable scheme. With the right motivation, students in a city like Durres or Shkodra can achieve to recycle an estimated 0.8% that could potentially put money into school infrastructure or programs as much as 3 Million ALL annually.

9.0 Student Collection Goals

Based on the previous experience in Shkodra, one can expect a similar trend in other cities as well; and that is the participation of the students in this initiative. While it is hard to put a hard cap on the amounts that students can recycle on daily basis, the league can be the generator to achieve a 0.8%. Translated into average recycling per day during the entire year, all the schools in Durres for example would have to recycle an estimated 150 kg of paper per day.

9.1 League Goals

Considering that the league will be a first for the students, but its main goal is to create a sustainable culture for the future, the goals shall be as following:

Each participating team during the registration procedure shall collect a total of 100 kg of recyclable materials mainly of paper and plastic that will have a monetary value of about 1,000 ALL.

Once the registration of the team is done, and each school has created a tournament within its school with at least four participating teams, it means that a fund of 4,000 ALL has been created.

While this amount is symbolical, it is a cornerstone for the continuity of the league.

On the second stage of the league, the amounts to be collected must double, and as such the money pot will double.

However, even in the best case scenario when one team is collecting 500 kg of recyclable materials – combined of paper and plastic, the money put will be no more than 4,100 ALL per participating team, and even if all the schools are participating in the league, the winning money will not reach 100,000 ALL in total. This would somewhat be discouraging or will not result to be the full motivation to participate in the event.

9.2 Financial Solution

During the first three years, the solution to motivation of the students to participate and be involved in the tournament and recycling is by bringing promotional funds that will motivate youth to participate. Through the help of international donors with an interest in the field, the central government, waste management companies or direct stakeholders in the industry, as well as companies that follow social and environmental guidelines, in a joint effort they can support the organizing and the winnings of participating teams by matching their collected value, or a pre-set prize for participants.

10.0 SWOT

The project has its strengths, weaknesses, presents opportunities going forward as well as challenges that are the result of outside forces.

10.1 Strength

The main strength of the project is its ability to be self sustainable in the future through self-financing that will come as the result of the recycling. As previously shown, plastic, paper, metals and lately glass as well are commodities that trade openly without any barrier. In this regards, if and when organized properly, students can take advantage of the situation and contribute in the betterment of the environment and schools.

Such a project, will ensure the involvement of youth in school activity, giving them less time to kill outside of school and more time involved, personal enrichment, information, physical education, team building and collaboration.

Also, such a tournament would serve for self-promotion of youth that may find their voice in leadership, taking charge, motivating teammates and classmates to participate, as well as build confidence that things can be achieved. And by taking charge, one would take pride on his/her work to promote self as a doer.

The reward of involvement – other than financial – will be the raising of a new generation with a strong social responsibility background. The youth involved will start to appreciate the difficulty of the society to keep a clean environment, as well as appreciate the hard work of those that work in the industry.

And in being involved, the participants will also be recognized. They will be recognized within their schools for the contribution and will to bring a reward to the school; will also be recognized by the donors, organizers, and from the local and national media, as well as by their peers.

The exposure during this process might sparkle the innovation within youth to come up with ideas from recycling that can translate into commercial success, or an artistic find.

10.2 Weaknesses

When one is organizing a tournament that has a complex mixture of participants, execution stands to be a weakness. The reason being is that all participants have to be in the same page, otherwise the scheme might fail. For example, the support of municipality is necessary in order to have the exposure and infrastructure available. On the other hand, the school leadership plays a key role as they will be in charge of scheduling. While waste collection companies have to be readily available to collect the materials and deposit the funds, as this can mean the success or failure of the project. If one of these actors fails to deliver, it puts the entire effort in jeopardy.

On the other hand, the tournament will have an initial impact in getting students involved immediately. It serves very much like a shot of energy, but to keep the students motivated the entire time is a difficult task.

Whereas execution and motivation are the two main weaknesses, the acceptance factor must always be taken into consideration. For example, in Shkodra the acceptance part was an issue for almost all educators. They feared that high-school kids would be too ashamed to go out and collect recyclable material on behalf of the school. It is true that students took it a step further and even organized and went to factories to collect paper waste, but one cannot conclude that it will be true in other cities.

Another weakness and among the main challenges is the pick up of the recyclable materials from schools. As we have seen in Shkodra, the collection company does not have a great financial interest to organize in a timely manner the pick up school by school. Although, the Shkodra model has proved an 18% retention rate of recycling among schools even after the finish of the championship; the lack of organized pick up has led to de-motivation of the students to recycle in continuation.

The collection company stated as the chief reason for not having interest to pick up the recyclable materials in a timely manner are the high transportation costs. The only solution he foresees is for a donor or the municipality to pay for this cost.

In addition, reaching a critical mass is important. If the teams and schools cannot organize to collect a healthy amount of materials, it is very likely they will quit and find no interest to Feasibility study-recycling championship in 5 Qarks

participate. For example collecting 100 kg of recyclable material mixed ¾ in paper and ¼ in plastic, the monetary value will only be 925 ALL. If this was an amount collected every day would mean a healthy contribution to the bottom line, but if this would be the amount collected after one week or one month, students might find it hard to be motivated.

And last but not least, transparency is a critical issue as well. We live in a culture of distrust, and it is critical that a system is put in place. Otherwise, lack of transparency will bring a shadow to the good work of organizers and participants, de-motivating students and teachers alike.

10.3 Opportunity

The main opportunity in the implementation of this project is the fact that with economic development, the recyclable waste will only grow, and as a result the financial value of this commodity. Moreover, the recycling industry is still volatile in Albania and has shown signs of improvement and consolidation. Therefore, the growth of the industry presents a financial opportunity for youth and others alike.

As the country approaches the EU standards, environmental issues will become a hot topic; and now as good as ever opportunity to start educating future generations to be more conscious toward the environment and more responsible.

On the other hand, the organizing of the city tournament and potentially at the national level will set the way for young leaders to emerge. These leaders will go on to successful careers taking with them the experience from a very young age and be great contributors to the society.

In addition, by participating, student will break the taboo and barrier of negative association with recycling for monetary purposes. The message will serve for population in general that there is no shame on recycling, hard work is rewarded, environmental consciousness is a value, and respect those underprivileged that work in the industry. In other words, the best opportunity is to set the trend and make it cool!

10.4 Threats

The biggest challenge on setting the project on motion in the first part of 2015 is the upcoming local elections; this due to the lack of focus of some policy makers – more specifically the local government – or at times the risk of the project being used for political messaging.

Moreover, support from outside donors is another question mark. While **dldp** has put its full support behind this project, and for the year being it can be sufficient support for the project, it is key to establish long-term ties with actors that can support the league in the years ahead.

Media support would be much needed to promote the activity, but the traditional media is driven more by negative news rather than good feel stories. On the other hand, social media is a great outlet to promote the activity. However, it needs the continuous effort of participants to post and manage the progress and development of the league.

Again referring to the Shkodra experience, it is important that at least two championships are organized in back to back semesters. Since school will end by June, some of the experience that will be accumulated with the spring championship will evaporate by fall as some students have moved on to higher studies. In order to retain and build on the experience, the tournament and the league shall be designed to be sustainable in time as well.

And the last threat can be the stakeholders of the industry. While for recycling companies collection by students will mean better quality recyclable materials, for people that are collecting at this moment might see rising competition. Therefore, one has to take to analyze them as competition and prepare for an open market industry that can limit access to a particular commodity or price strategies.

11.0 Financial Assessment

The development of this league involving different Qarks and cities can be demanding and complex. As such, there are estimated costs that are attached to this project and are presented as following:

	Person	Days	Month	Price/Unit in EUR	Total in EUR
Technical Cost					
Project Manager	1	15	1	190	2,850
Senior Expert	4	15	1	160	9,600
					-
Activity Cost	Units				
Travel	5	15	1	40	3,000
T-shirts	1000			8	8,000
Per dium	400	1	1	10	4,000
Denim collection bags	1000			7.5	7,500
Prize Money	10			750	7,500
Other					4,250
Total Technical Assistance costs					46,700

Referring to the table, there is a technical cost that about 28% of the entire cost of the project. The technical assistance will be in charge of project development, networking, permits and communication, logistics and organization.

On the other hand, a standard fee for travel includes the expenditure of the technical team as well as covers the cost of team travel from city to city.

A total of 200 t-shirts will be printed for the teams, and the price will include the design of the tailored logo for the team of each city.

Moreover, an estimate number of finalists and traveling teams of 192 was made, and a per diem of 10 EUR was foreseen for their food.

Another component that was taken into consideration that will need to be covered at this stage by donors, is the prize money. It was estimated that 8 teams will be the champions and runners-up and they shall receive a money prize of about 100,000 ALL. Some of the money will be raised through recyclable materials, and the rest subsidized by donors.

A 7% contingency fund is applied for unforeseen spending. This is an estimate only and subject to change on further decisions.

12.0 Sustainability

The sustainability of the project is split into components:

- Continued recycling among schools all year around
- Organizing of the championship in continuation.

12.1 Sustainable Recycling

After having analyzed the weaknesses of a sustainable scheme and come to an understanding that collection, critical mass and continued motivation are key; the sustainability depends on the collection model. Due to the fact that collection companies will not have continued interest and economic motivation, it jeopardizes the entire program. On the other hand, it would be unreasonable to project that students will have an interest or that they can participate in transporting the collected recyclable materials from their schools to the collection points.

In this case, the best agent to carry out the transportation would be the introduction of the Roma community into the scheme.

Due to the fact that this community - who is extremely active in recycling, has a low cost transportation method, can very well be the key agent to solve this sustainability questionmark. Since the price the schools sell to the collection company and the open market price has a difference, this gap can serve to provide the necessary profit margins for this transportation agent.

As such, the championship organizer shall enter on city to city basis negotiations with this community, to agree on a price and timeline to collect the recyclable materials from school premises.

This would be a sustainable solution that will keep schools motivated, as well as guarantee the inclusion of a social group into an initiative with many long-term benefits.

12.2 Organizing

The second challenge for the sustainability of the scheme is the continued organizing of the championship that will keep the students involved in long term basis, as well as continue to raise public awareness about recycling.

It is crucial that this initiative is financed and supported in its first three years of implementation by donors and government agencies in order to accumulate know-how, correct itself, and grow. After three years, the event shall be fully independent and self-financing.

However, in order to achieve just this, the organizers shall copyright the event, and build a brand of the championship. By branding, the organizers can create an emotional attachment and belonging for the participants, high visibility, and attract interest from outside actors to participate. The new actors and participants can be the financiers of the championship. On the other hand, the prize money and motivation can be raised through the recycling effort of the schools.

13.0 Recommendations

After having concluded the research, conducted the necessary interviews, gathered and analyzed the data, weight in the know-how from the initial tournament in Shkodra we advise as following:

- A tournament can only sustainable if organized in the cities of:
 - Durres
 - Lezhe
 - Shkodra
- Other Districts and Cities subject to this study, would not meet the minimum threshold for a sustainable scheme
- The Government (at all levels) shall support the tournament from get-go. This support will count as a significant investment toward the future to educate younger people to be more involved, socially and environmentally responsible
- The tournament shall receive the assistance of outside donors for at least three years until it creates its own structure, tradition, continuity and financial means
- An investment at this stage by the donors, will receive a great value for the money spent

- Developing the right tools to identify with the project such as branding and other promotional materials, will develop the culture for this tournament to go national in a relatively short period of time.

Sustainability can be solved through the introduction of the Roma community as the transportation agent; and as such, they will guarantee a timely and economic pick up contributing for continued motivation and participation. On the other hand, a copyrighted event by organizers can guarantee that the recycling championship is continuous in years by bringing new actors as financiers after the initial support in the first three years by international donors and government support.