

Functional Area Programme

Functional Area Lezha

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List of Abbreviations

LGU	Local Government Unit
DLDP	Decentralisation and Local Development Program
INSTAT	Statistics Institute
LIM	Local Issues Minister
NCR	National Civil Register
JS	Joint Stock Company
VAT	Value Added Tax
WSC	Water Supply and Canalizations
FA	Functional Area

Introduction

This document is drafted under the DLDP 3 framework which is implemented by Helvetas with the support of the Swiss government.

The main objective of this document is the assessment of the development potential of the functional area by identifying the main features of its economic development and the possibility to create added value to development through cooperation between and unification of resources of existing local units.

The functional area concept was at the heart of the territorial reform implemented in Albania during 2014 through which new and bigger local units were determined and great expectations toward a more consistent development and more efficient use of the public sector resources as well as utilization of the private sector energies were created. The concept of the functional area is built on the features of the economic and social structure of the territory and is mainly identified through the working migration, economic potential and value chain, services at disposal and physical infrastructure network.

This document was drafted in the period of October – February 2014 and it is based on several consults with local actors as well as data derived from existing sources. Primary data are obtained by local government units which constitute Lezha's functional area as well as Lezha district. Data on population are obtained by INSTAT from the 2011 census and are compared against administrative data of the population contained in the Civil Registry. In each case the source of data used in the text is cited.

This document is an initial overview of the sources available to get to know the functional area and the identification of the development potential. Based on this initial assessment and in close consultation with local actors including local communities, business community, employees of current local administrations and representatives of local government organs at district level, a preliminary proposal will be drafted indicating to the new local unit of Lezha the topics where it could focus in order to support the sustainable development of the area providing special attention to the internal economic and social cohesion and to the mitigation of inequalities among local units.

1 Territory of Lezha Functional Area

1.1 Geographical position, Borders, Composition of LGUs

Lezha district is composed of five municipalities, 16 counties with 9 cities and 170 villages with a population of 134,027 residents¹.

The surface of Lezha district is 1,588.4 km² and is confined in the north by Shkodra district, in northeast, east and southeast by Kukes and Diber districts, in the south by Durres district and it extends along the Adriatic seacoast in the west with a seacoast line of 38 km. Lezha district territory is mountainous in the east side (65%) and flat in the west side (35%). Most of the population lives in the rural area (around 60%), while 40% lives in urban centers.

Figura 1 Lezha Functional Area

Source: MLI



Lezha Functional Area (FA) is situated in Lezha district and is one of the three functional areas of this district. It extends to the northwest of Albania with a latitude of 41°47'14.32 and longitude of 19°38'42.94".

Lezha FA's surface is 456.8 km² (28.8 percent of the territory occupied by Lezha district) and is confined by 5 Functional Areas (FAs of Shkodra, Vau Dejes, Puka, Mirdita and Kurbini) and the Adriatic Sea. Compared to other areas of the country Lezha FA occupies a small

surface within the territory, around 1.7 percent of the overall surface of the territory of the area.

In Lezha district are situated 21 Local Government Units (LGU) (16 counties and 5 municipalities) from which Lezha FA includes under its administration 10 LGUs (1 Municipality and 9 counties). Therefore Lezha FA is positioned in the first place as for the number of LGUs compared to the other 2 functional areas of Lezha District. Lezha FA covers around 28.8 percent of the territory covered by Lezha District and it constitutes 49% of the overall population of the district.

Figure 2 Physical Map of Albania

Lezha FA extends to the northwestern part of the country, starting from Shkodra wetland in the north up to Mat riverbank in the south, from Puka-Mirdita highland in the northeast up to the Adriatic Sea in the West. Lezha is an area of different landscape features. Lezha's territory is constituted by hilly mountainous and lowland territories. The hilly mountainous territory includes areas such as Kashnjet, Kreshta, Vela Mountain, Lezha Highlands which are part of the central mountainous region at the district level of Albania. Lowland territory includes Zadrime field (32% of which extends to Lezha district where Dajç and Blinisht counties are situated).



¹Population pursuant to 2011 census by INSTAT. Administrative data provided according to registration of the population by the Civil Registry show a population level of 212,781 residents for the same year.

1.2 Access to the Functional Area

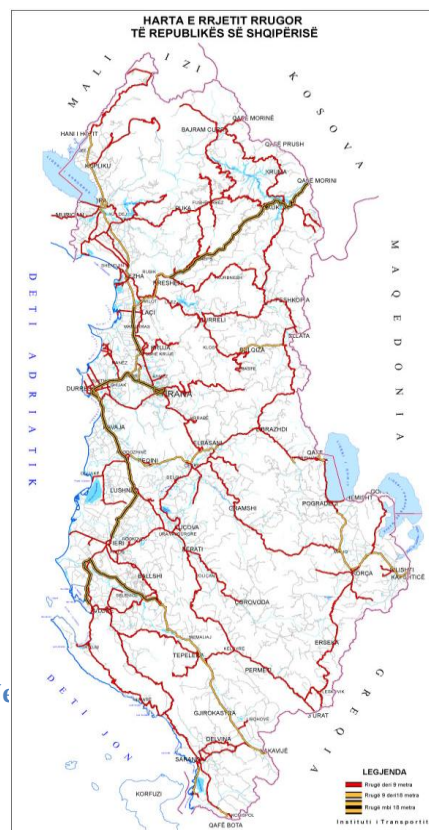
Lezha functional area is situated in a very favorable position. It is placed in the center of the main transport roads connecting the north to the south and the east to the west. It is permeated by all kind of transport means: roads, railways and sea transport. The proximity of FA to the major naval ports makes the area very attractive and easily reachable not only at national level but also at regional and level for neighbouring countries such as Italy, Montenegro, Kosovo, Macedonia and Greece.

There is a good road network and there is a railway connecting Lezha FA with Shkodra, Tirana, Durrës and Pristina². In this area is also situated one of the three main ports of the country, the Shengjin port. There is also an airport the Gjadri airport³.

Distances are noticeably shortened not only inside the district and in relation to border districts but also with Montenegro, Kosovo and Macedonia. This was realized through the highway Shkoder-Hani i Hotit and the motorway Durrës-Kukës-Morinë. Construction of these road networks helped not only to shorten distances and decrease the traveling duration but also to increase cooperation in commercial exchanges, number of tourists, economic development etc.



Figure 3: Map of Railway Network



Lezha AF is pervaded by 130.45 km of national road (or 44.5 percent of the national network which pervades the district), 80 km of regional roads and 282.5 km of county roads (or 68 percent of the county network of the district). The road infrastructures (regional and county level) as well as related services are under the ownership and administration of the local government. LGUs are the decision making bodies with regards to their maintenance and improvement.

Lezha functional area is pervaded by the Vora-Shkodra railway segment which is one of the five railway segments of Albania. It consists of two lines: Railway line Lac-Lezha of 20km length and railway line Lezha-Shkodra of 34 km length. There are two intermediate stations in between this line, specifically between Lezha and Shkodra the station Bagel and Mjeda. This station is located in the valley of Vau i Dejes only few kilometers away from the hydropower plant of the same name⁴.

Shengjini port is also situated in Lezha FA. This port is located 60 km north of Durrës port and is the only port of the area. The port is under development process with the aim of increasing the capacities of ship

²It is situated only 55 m far from the Albanian capital. The distance Lezha-Shkoder is 35 km, Lezha-Durrës 70 km, Lezha-Rinas 40 km and the distance of Pristina-Kukës-Lezha is 220 km..

³Currently out of order (note of the authors).

⁴http://www.t669.net/hekurudha_shqiptare.html

boarding, cargo and navigation safety. There is an increase of the cargo volume of this port compared to the first years of the 90s. Many commercial exchanges are realized through it which significantly affects economic development. Several activities are organized in Shengjin port such as: fishing, transport of passengers, loading and unloading of different commodities. The finalization of the road Kukes-Morine provided the port with strategic importance transforming it into an important junction enabling Kosovo to reach the sea.

1.3 Climate and Environment

Lezha FA extends within a territory which has a diverse habitat made of rich water resources, rivers (Drin and Gjader), close to the Adriatic Sea, close to mountains and hills, with rich flora and fauna. This qualifies it to be of high economic and touristic potential for Albanian and foreign citizens.

1.3.1 Climate

Due to its geographical position consisting of wide access to the sea and a generally low relief, Lezha FA is characterized by a mild climate of the Mediterranean type. Lezha district is characterized by hot and dry summer and mild and wet winter in its low parts and in the city. While in the mountain area winter is wet and cold. The average annual temperature is 15 degrees. The average for January is 7 degrees while the average for July is plus 24-25 degrees. There is an average of 1700mm of rainfall each year.

1.3.2 Environment

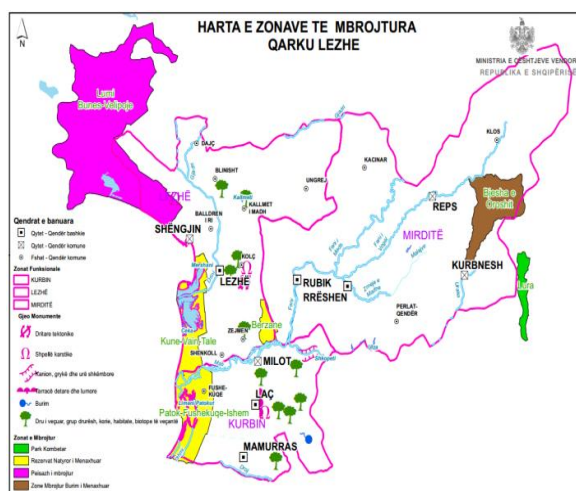


Figure 3: Protected Areas in Lezha FA (MLI)

Lezha district has multiple water resources. There are two rivers flowing in its territory, Drini River and Gjaderi River. Drini river starts flowing in lezha close to the village named Mjeda of Shkodra district. It joins the waters of Gjaderi River, it passess aside Lezha and it flows into the Adriatic Sea. Gjaderi River crosses Lezha district for 10km length. This river is 10.45 km long and its water basin is of 120 km². The average water flows are 8.8m³/sec. There are also several streams⁵ flowing within the FA territory and some artificial reservoirs⁶ are situated as well which greatly increase development potentials of agriculture of this area.

The protected area Kune-Vain-Tale with a surface of 4,393.2acres⁷ lays in the Drini River estuary. There are many sea birds around this area and two lagoons are also found: Ceka lagoon with a surface of 235 acres and Merxhani lagoon with a surface of 77 acres. The most exciting surprise for tourists is Kuna Sandy Island with a surface of 125 acres situated on the right side of Drini River's delta. Kuna Island is covered by hydrophilic lush vegetation. There are green Mediterranean bushes, lianas, osiers, ash-trees growing all over the Island. 227 kind of plant are known in this region. Regarding the fauna specifically related to type of birds we can mention wild ducks, pheasants,

⁵Lushia and Qershia Stream in the county of Kallm; Troshani Stream in the county of Blinishti; Manatia Stream in the county of Kolsh.

⁶Troshani Reservoir, Blinisht County, Fishta reservoir; Kallmet; Patalej Reservoir in Kolsh and Kashnjeti Reservoir in Ungrej.

⁷Protected area of IV category through DCM no.432, dated 28.04.2010.

woodpeckers, herons, red headed great duck etc. The lagoon eco-system bears 92 bird species, 22 reptile species out of 33 species found in Albania, 6 amphibian species out of 15 species found in Albania and some species of mammals. Lezhe's lagoons are very attractive therefore they could be a suitable place for nature walking and sport hunting.

Coastal wetland ecosystems of Kuna-Vaini are established as natural protected areas by law. In Lezha FA⁸ are also situated natural monuments which are protected by the State (Casted Sand; Gorge Plane tree; Kolshi beets; Huti Cave; Suka e Vogel Cave; Drini shores; Straw Slough; Piraja plane tree (Blinisht); Marktomajt Oak; the Forest of Saint Eufemia in Kallmet of 1 acres (oak, ash tree, hornbeam).

Lezha FA has inherited important natural resources. On the other hand it should be stressed that the main environmental issues faced within this area are: improper waste management, misuse of agriculture land, the caotic urban development, high soil erosion, over exploitation of underground waters, degradation of natural protected areas and the impoverishment of biodiversity.

Erosion constitutes a potential problem for Lezha district. It manifests itself in different forms (sea erosion, river erosion and surface erosion). Climate change is affectin especially coastal areas of Shengjin and Shengkoll where the sea is more and more covering soil ground. Sea erosion is also active along the coastal area of Kuna and Vain lagoons as well as in Buna's River estuary.

Along the coastline of Lezha's area the coming forward of the sea is calculated to be in the average of 2,5 m per year. Among the main causes of the sea erosion in Lezha's area is the block of alluviums coming from Drini River. Average losses in soil are around 12 tonnes/acres/per year in the low area (Lezha) ⁹. These changes will have their impact on economy and will affect sustainability and development opportunities within the area.

Arable soil degradation due to erosion and flooding continues to constitute one of the greates problems in Zadrime area¹⁰. Decrease of vegetation, failure to use the land for agriculture purposes, inappropriate irrigation methods are some of the factors which accelerate the erosion phenomenon of the area. Contrary to any criteria, protected areas are used for grazing, stimulating the better use of vegetation consequently increasing erosion and damaging the landscape.

Climate changes are expected to noticeably affect the area in the future. The coastal area lying among the estuaries of Drin and Mat rivers is identified as one of the most vulnerable areas in Albania¹¹ toward climate change. Ecosystems of this area are expected to be greatly affected from climate change with the consequence of their dissaperance or fragmentation and the inability to replace them. This phenomenon would bring along the loss of services rendered by ecosystems.

Climate change will consistently exacerbate existing risks such as flooding due to storms and sea hurricanes. Other risks related to climate such as increase of the sea level, penetration of saltwater into groundwaters, drought, changes in temperature regime are expected to become the most serious threats to food, water, energy procurement and to people's health. Climate change will affect biodiversity at all levels: gender, species, habitats and ecosystems.

Lezha FA is one of the districts with great potential in the renewable energy sector. Wind energy could be used as an energy source. This is favored from the given landscape consisting of low hills situated close to greatly populated areas such as the Dajç hill as well as from the existence of abundant wind streams in the

⁸⁸http://www.planifikimi.gov.al/sites/default/files/Ligji%20Nr.8906,%20Dt%2006.06.2002_Per_zonat_e_mbrojtura_.pdf

⁹Environmental Status Report 2011, pg. 11

¹⁰Envrionmental Regional Action Plan, pg.16

¹¹**RNM** Managment Plan of Kune-Vain-Ishëm 2012, Pg.7

area which are present up to 120 days per year¹². In addition, given that Lezha's area has a Mediterranean climate and there are up to 226 sunny days per year, solar energy (through solar panels) constitutes a good potential to be widely employed by businesses, tourism operators and local institutions.

Waste management (collection, transport, processing and disposal) is a fully exercised practice especially in the proposed center of Lezha FA. Collection and transport of urban waste is organized in Lezha Municipality (80 percent), Shengjin county (85 percent), Zemjen county (70 percent), Shenkoll county (70 percent), New Balldren county (70 percent), Kolç county (50 percent) and Kallmet county (50 percent). Lezha Municipality started waste collection and deposit separated in two categories. Residents of the counties of Dajç, Ungrej and Blinisht are not covered by this service. In these counties individual composting is mainly applied. DLDP financed the construction of two plants providing waste separation in the city of Lezha and in Dajç county in Lezha¹³. In rural areas where there is no waste collection service offered to residents, waste is deposited in canals, lagoons or in the side of the roads and lastly they are also discharged in rivers.

Disposal of urban waste is mainly conducted in Bushati landfill (Lezha Municipality and Balldren and Shengjin counties). While in several cases waste of counties such as Shenkoll, Zejmen and Milot are deposited in Berzani landfill of Zejmen County. Even though Berzani landfill is currently not functional wastes are still being deposited in the latter. This landfill is situated close to Mat river delta thus the filtering of rain water and groundwaters constitute a serious problem with regards to the pollution of this river. Part of urban wastes including solid waste of constructions and demolitions are thrown along Drini river or on Knalla lake.

1.4 Demographic Tendencies

1.4.1 Population, Movement Tendency, Migration

Lezha district population constitutes less than 6% of the population of the country and it is placed in 21 local government units organized in three regions: Kurbin region (4 units with the center in Laç); Lezha region (10 units with the center in Lezha) and Mirdita region (7 units with the center in Rreshen). In year 2011 the population of Lezha district was 134 027 residents, 49 percent (65 633 residents) of which lived in Lezha region, 16 percent (22 103 residents) in Mirdita region and around 35 percent (46 291 residents) in Kurbin region (INSTAT, Census 2011).

The population of Lezha FA is 65 633 residents or 49 percent of the population of Lezha district. It is distributed in 10 local government units. Lezha FA has the greatest population number compared to the other two functional areas of this region. The population of Lezha FA is approximately 3 times bigger than the population in Mirdita FA (22 103 residents) and 1.4 times bigger than the population in Kurbin FA (46 291 residents) (INSTAT, Census 2011). The number of females is 9.2 percent lower than males.

Table 1: Population changes in Lezha FA

¹²Environmental Regional Action Plan, pg.15.

¹³ Local Plan of Waste Management, DLDP pg. 66.

Local Units	DEMOGRAPHY								
	Surface km ²	Residences	Population 2001	Population 2011	Population changes 2011/2001 (%)	Males	Females	Urban	Rural
	456.9	22874	67714	65633	-3.1	32947	32686		
Lezha	5.5	5968	14420	15510	7.6	7659	7851	15510	24835
Shengjin	53.4	4080	6807	8091	18.9	4073	4018		
Balldre	91.2	1778	7203	6142	-14.7	3096	3046		
Dajc	35.2	1300	5183	3834	-26.0	1907	1927		
Blinisht	38.1	1142	4238	3361	-20.7	1638	1723		
Kallmet	18.1	1487	5493	4118	-25.0	1976	2142		
Kolc	38.1	1282	4923	4228	-14.1	2080	2148		
Zejmen	42.2	1422	6713	5660	-15.7	2794	2866		
Shenkoll	32.4	3637	8894	13102	47.3	6890	6212		
Ungrej	102.7	778	3840	1587	-58.7	834	753		
National	28748	1012400	3069275	2800138	-8.8	50.1	40.9		

Source: Lezha District statistics 2014

Most units have lower density compared to the average density of the FA (133 residents/ km²): four out of 10 LGUs are under the level of 100 residents/km² while the average density of the population for counties is 123 residents/km². The urban part of the FA (city of Lezha) has the highest density (3,102 residents/ km²). The smallest unit is Ungrej of 1587 residents.

Pursuant to 2011 Census data the population residing in Lezha FA is 65 633 residents. In the meantime official data of the 2013 Civil Registry show that the registered number of the population is 62 percent higher with a similar density of local government units as reported in the 2011 Census.

Based upon data of the 2011 Census the urbanization level is extremely high in Lezha municipality. The density of the new functional area will be 133 residents/km² thus decreasing the extremely high differences regarding population density (minimal and maximal) among rural areas of this unit. Currently only four local units (Zejmen, Shenkoll, Shengjin and Lezha) are above the average of the functional area. The number of females is 9.2 percent lower than that of males.

During 2011 rural population represents for the first time less than half of the overall population at national level¹⁴, while in Lezha FA the situation is different. If we look at the distribution of population pursuant to residences it is noticeable that only 31 percent lives in the urban area while the other part lives in the rural area (69 percent). Nevertheless it is necessary to stress that approximately 56 percent of the population lives in three units of this area (Lezha municipality and Shengjin and Shenkoll counties). These units faced an increase of residents number (Shenkoll 47.3 percent, Shengjin 18.9 percent and Lezha 7.6 percent) while all other units faced a decrease of residents number. Three units faced an increase of 78.8 of the population which was the loss in population number of other units. The great concentration of population in these units is related to the fast development of tourism in these areas.

The difference between 2011 Census data and Data of Civil Registry is very large. The population number registered in the civil registries is 43 percent higher than the one resulting from 2011 Census. LGUs with the greatest difference are Ungrej County (49 percent) and Dajc County (44 percent). The county with the lowest difference is Shenkoll county (14 percent).

Table 2 Population difference according to INSTAT and NCR in 2011 for Lezha District

Unit	2011 Census	2011 Civil Registry	Population difference	Difference in %
------	-------------	---------------------	-----------------------	-----------------

¹⁴ INSTAT, Type of counties and municipalities pg.48.

Ungrej	1,578	3,103	-1,515	-49%
Blinisht	3,361	5,512	-2,151	-39%
Dajc	3,834	6,895	-3,061	-44%
Kallmet	4,188	6,883	-2,765	-40%
Kolsh	4,228	6,649	-2,421	-36%
Zejmen	5,660	9,090	-3,430	-38%
Ball dren i Ri	6,142	10,392	-4,250	-41%
Shëngjin	8,091	11,551	-3,460	-30%
Shenkoll	11,102	15,302	-2,200	-14%
Lezha	15,510	27,415	-11,905	-43%
FA Total	65,633	102,792	-37,159	-43%

1.4.2 Population structure and movement

Immigration process, decrease of births and deaths had its impact on the structure of Lezha FA population. 21.4 percent of the population is under the age of 15, while the group age of over 65 constitutes 11.5 percent of the total population. The coefficient of dependency-ratio of the population number at the group age of 0-14 and 65 is high compared with the population number at the active group age of 15-65. Expressed in percentages it results at the range of 49 percent. At national level this indicator results to be 47 different from the indicator of 1979 which resulted in 73. This implicates a substantial reduction of the burden of dependent persons within family households and on the economy in general¹⁵.

The overall dependency coefficient may be distinguished between the dependency coefficient of youth and dependency coefficient of elderly which respectively represent the population ratio for group ages of 0-14 and those of over 65 against population of the group ages of 15-64. For Lezha FA these indicators are respectively 32 and 17. This division clearly shows and aging population given that the dependency coefficient for youth compared to 1979 has decreased (it used to be 64 percent at national level) and it is gradually compensated by a growing dependency coefficient of elderly, increasing from 9 to around 17 percent for the same period¹⁶. The dependency coefficients of Lezha FA are the same with coefficients at national level.

Table 3 Internal migration (Census, INSTAT)

Tabela 2: Matrica e migracionit të brendshëm

Qarku 2011	Qarku 2001											
	Berat	Dibër	Durrës	Ebasan	Fier	Gjirokastrë	Korçë	Kukës	Lezhë	Shkodër	Tiranë	Vlorë
Berat		283	154	673	2.123	398	636	450	59	58	418	2.852
Dibër	569		154	774	1.168	816	280	205	173	102	265	140
Durrës	3.098	10.064		4.772	2.045	1.066	2.055	3.649	2.160	1.978	2.791	381
Ebasan	664	534	362		1.418	194	2.320	717	345	1.384	1.141	278
Fier	3.023	588	339	2.084		2.384	808	1.685	225	443	1.626	2.832
Gjirokastrë	401	177	69	134	529		220	92	65	85	780	287
Korçë	609	624	241	2.258	964	194		430	190	427	589	463
Kukës	102	255	117	95	212	99	102		181	409	326	73
Lezhë	1.152	1.936	868	2.230	315	161	392	356		4.016	2.241	143
Shkodër	421	1.046	1.881	416	718	581	475	945	1.356		869	462
Tiranë	9.811	21.279	6.048	10.120	13.968	7.527	10.985	13.965	5.230	8.159		5.088
Vlorë	1.405	248	825	2.200	2.002	521	623	272	552	894		
Gjithsej	21.255	37.034	10.481	24.381	25.660	15.422	18.794	23.117	10.256	17.613	11.940	12.999

Source: INSTAT

¹⁵ INSTAT, The population and its dynamics in Albania, pg.33.

¹⁶ Ibid. pg.33.

Lezha is an interesting case because its movement rate is 18 percent. Both incoming and outgoing migration rates contribute to the overall movement rate. In some places there are important migration outgoing flows while other areas of the Adriatic coast and close to Lezha city are even attracting migrants from other regions¹⁷.

In Lezha FA the other phenomenon can be noticed. Migration does not occur only in the center of the FA (Lezha municipality) but also in adjacent suburban local units (Shengjin and Shenkoll). Migration toward Tirana was only 5% while Lezha is the preferred district in the northern side of the country and it attracts internal migrants coming from Shkodra (29 percent), Dibra (14 percent), Elbasan (16 percent) and Tirana (16 percent). Lezha is the fourth district of Albania with regards to migrant's destination¹⁸.

The majority of internal migrants (75.5 percent) moved out of these districts¹⁹. Lezha also attracts a considerable number of Albanians returning from Italy, even though the number of the ones coming back from Greece remains higher than the former which is also true for the other districts of the country. More than half of internal migrants in Lezha district changed at least once the district of residency²⁰.

¹⁷ INSTAT, Migration in Albania, 2014 pg. 18

¹⁸ INSTAT, Migration in Albania, 2014 pg. 22

¹⁹ Ibid. pg. 25.

²⁰ Ibid . pg.24.

Table 4 Resident population pursuant to gender, group ages and municipality/county

Municipality/County	Gender and group ages											
	Total				Males				Females			
	Total	0-14	15-65	+65	Total	0-14	15-65	+65	Total	0-14	15-65	+65
Balldren I Ri	6 142	1 355	4 087	700	3 096	713	2041	342	3046	642	2046	358
Blinisht	3 361	634	2 232	495	1 638	331	1 074	233	1 723	303	1 158	262
Dajç	3 834	704	2 567	563	1 907	378	1 263	266	1 927	326	1 304	297
Kallmet	4 118	819	2 683	616	1 976	436	1 247	293	2 142	383	1 436	323
Kolç	4 228	882	2 834	512	2 080	460	1 396	224	2 148	422	1 438	288
Lezha	15 510	3 314	10 702	1 494	7 659	1 779	5 180	700	7 851	1 535	5 522	794
Shengjin	8 091	1 786	5 358	947	4 073	961	2 671	441	4 018	825	2 687	506
Shenkoll	13 102	2 937	8 829	1 336	6 890	1 555	4 689	646	6 212	1 382	4 140	690
Ungrej	1 587	322	1 056	209	834	174	558	102	753	148	489	107
Zejmen	5 660	1 278	3 679	703	2 794	650	1807	337	2 866	628	1 872	366
Total	65 633	14 031	44 027	7 575	32947	7437	21926	3584	32686	6594	22101	3991

Source: INSTAT, Census of Population and residencies. Lezha 2011

1.5 Social development

According to the 2012 LSMS the poverty level in Lezha's region is 17.5%, poverty depth 4.3% and poverty severity 1.7%. These indicators are relatively high compared to national values.

The above table shows the funds issued for 2013 in Lezha FA consisting in economic aid and aid for disables.

Unit	Economic Aid in 000/leke
Dajc	605,1
Kolsh	8.955,0
Lezha	24.575,1
Zejmen	7.673,7
Shen Koll	9.615,8
Shen Gjin	5.792,8
Balldren	3.207,6
Kallmet	2.386,1
Ungrej	30.760,8
Dajc	1.642,9
Blinisht	340,6
Total FA	95.555,4
Total Region	298.378
Total Country	4.095.214

Unit	Funds for disables (in 000/leke)
Dajc	25,067
Kolsh	5,344
Lezha	90,337
Zejmen	30,496
Shen Koll	59,343
Shën Gjin	38,137
Balldren	37,199
Kallmet	24,144
Ungrej	9,911
Dajc	21,758
Blinisht	14,754
Total FA	356,490
Total Region	9,507,166
Total Country	15,272,086

Source: Data base ISB

The number of disables of the whole district represents 5.3 % of the population of the region. The number of persons in difficulty (disables, sick etc) in Lezha municipality constitutes around 3% of the population of the municipality where 2% consists of working disables and 1% of physically and mentally disables.

In order to provide help to disables Lezha Daily Development Center was created since 1996. This social care center for disables acts as an institution with delegated funding under the dependency of the Mayor. The center has a social-educational character and offers services for disabled children and youth through the following activities: orthophony, practical independence, food service, physiotherapy, transport, domestic activity, pedagogy, music, painting, laundry services, various recreational activities etc. 29 persons attended the center during 2013. With regards to public spaces only 7% of those offer the necessary standards for disable persons.

There is also the Third Age center functioning in the Municipality. It was first opened in 2008. There were 70 elderly persons participating in the activities of the center during 2013.

1.5.1 Education

Two sectors are offering education in Lezha FA: public sector and private sector. 86% of education institutions are public institutions.

Data obtained from the Regional Education Directorate of Lezha show that in 2014 there are 55 pre-school education institutions (kindergartens), 59 schools of the 9-years system, 13 schools providing general middle education and 1 school providing professional education operating in Lezha FA. The overall number of

students is respectively: 2 345 pupils in pre-school, 9020 students in the 9 years system, 2 724 students in general middle school and 559 in middle professional school.

For years 2014-2015 the number of kindergartens is 8.4 for every 10.000 residents. This indicator is very much close to the national indicator²¹. The number of children for each teacher is on the average of 20 children. The number of 9-years schools is 8.9 for 10.000 residents. The number of students for each teacher is on the average of 15.6 students.

The number of middle schools is 2.0 for 10.000 residents. The number of teachers for 10.000 residents varies from 12-40 with an average of 24. The number of students for each teacher is 15.7 students. Public education institutions are distributed all over Lezha FA. All counties are provided with 9-years schools and middle schools.

In the city of Lezha the school named “Kolin Gjoka” offers professional education. It was first opened in September 2003. The school provides students with education in five main profiles: (business/economy, office administration, ICT, English-french and pedagogy). 53.9 percent of the students are females nevertheless the table can easily show gender stereotypes of professional schools. In this light in the TIK area there are only 13.9 percent female students, while in pedagogy there are 94.6 percent female students.

Table 5 Students number according to study areas (academic year 2012-2013)

No.	Study area	Total students	Female students
1	Business-Economy	204	106
2	Office Administration	89	33
3	TIK	86	12
4	English-French	119	95
5	Pedagogy	56	53
	Total number	554	299

Source: <http://kolin Gjoka.vet.al/statistika/2012>

There is need of further evidence regarding lack of professional education under both lights of receiving capacity and the development of offered curricula which should address not only theoretical aspects but also practical ones.

The above map represents the distribution of educational institutions (kindergartens, nine year schools, middle schools and professional schools) within the area. They are showed by the light blue circles for the city of Lezha, while for the other units red circles were used.

²¹ Anex-Education Indicators

Figure 4 Map of educational institutions in Lezha's Functional Area



- Source: Ministry of Education, Local units, 2014

With regards to students transport the above table presents a list of the schools for which transport is provided (or should be provided). It is not known whether all schools of the list provide transport to the students.

Schools students of which will be transported by vehicles (through public funding)	Receiving school
Ndrec Nikolli	Kalivac
Gjobardhaj	Kalivac
Kaluer	Ungraj
Sukaxhi	Ungraj
Berzana	Pllanë
Gryke-manati	Manati
Balldren	Koder Balldren
Lagja e Re	Closed school
Gocaj	Kakariq
Baqel	Blinisht
Koterr	Dajç
Piraj	Blinisht
Kodhel	Blinisht
Fishte+Krajen	Troshan
Merqi	Rraboshte
Vrosh	Gjergj Kastrioti

Source: DCM No. 709, dated 05.10.2011 "On the use of public funding for the transport of teachers and students who work and study outside their residencies".

1.5.2 Health

Health service is offered through primary healthcare and hospitals.

There are 3 hospitals with 319 beds, 92 sanitary centers and totally 155 doctors in Lezha district. The distance from the closest sanitary center/doctor in urban areas is 23 minutes, while in rural areas is 19 minutes.

Primary healthcare in the municipality is offered through a sanitary center and four ambulances. Primary healthcare service provides specialized health service which covers: (i) family doctor services; (ii) pediatric services; (iii) maternal and child health consultancy; (iv) cardiology; (v) micro surgery; (vi) mini laboratory services (two labs); and (vii) emergency medical services.

The regional hospital situated in the city of Lezha offers healthcare services in the areas of pathology, obstetrics-gynecology, surgery, infections, pediatry, resuscitation, radiology and lab services. The number of employees consists in 35 specialized doctors, 104 nurses, 17 medical staff (lab technician, pharmacist) and 100 staff members consisting of helping and administrative personnel. This hospital currently has a capacity of 162 beds. Bed number for 10.000 residents is 55. Number of hospitalized patients during 2013 was 7.031 among which 27% were residents of other localities of Lezha district.

Table 6 No. of general doctors and specialists in Healthcare Centers of FA

Unit	Total Family Doctor	Total Specialist	Doctors in Total
Q.SH. Lezhe	9	3	12
Q.SH. Shëngjin	4	1	5
Q.SH. Zejmen	4	0	4
Q.SH. Shën Koll	6	0	6
Q.SH. Balldren	5	0	5
Q.SH. Kolsh	3	0	3
Q.SH. Dajç	3	0	3
Q.SH. Kallmet	3	0	3
Q.SH. Ungrej	1	0	1
Q.SH. Blinisht	2	0	2
Total FA	40	4	44
Total Region	81	11	92

Source: Data base ISB, DRSKSH Lezha

1.6 Features and interactions in the Functional Area

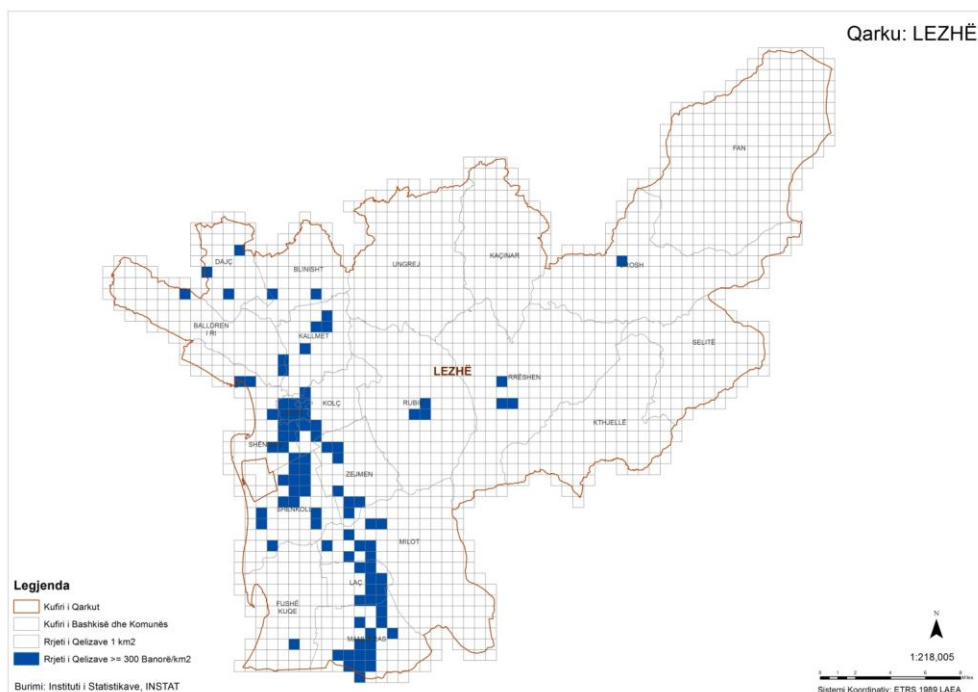
The term “*functional area*” refers to a particular space (independently of the level, municipality, region and so on) which is not determined from its administrative or historical borders. It is mainly formed of various interactions occurring in the area such as: interaction among residents due to work or trade exchanges, government entities and economic units within the territory. Under the framework of this assessment the concept of “*Functional Area*” is used in order to determine a space where interaction among residents, public and private structures are dense and frequent.

The map of Lezha district given below is a breakdown of the map of urban clusters in Albania which was published in the last edition of INSTAT: “A new urban/rural rating of the Albanian population”, May 2014. This method also used in EU countries is a new rating method of urban/rural territory which considers as basic rating unit the cell network of 1 km²²². The district surface is divided into cells/squares of 1 km². The

²²Approach also used before by OECD. (OECD, 2011 and Jonard et al. 2009)

places where population is concentrated (more than 300 residents for km²) are highlighted with blue. If we look at the ongoing blue points, meaning the population concentration, and there is a total number of residents of at least 5.000 residents, that area is named a urban area.

Figure 5 Map of population density in grids of 1 km² provided with borders of existing LGUs



Source: INSTAT

Lezha's region is mainly a rural region because rural population is over 50% of the overall population (37, 8% urban and 62.2% rural). The less dense units in Lezha Functional Area are Balldreni i Ri, Blinisht, Dajç, Kallmet, Kolsh²³, Ungrej and Zejmen. They are considered of low density because more than 50% of their population resides in the rural network cells. Units with average density are Shënkoll, Lezha and Shëngjini because less than 50% of the population resides in rural network cells and less than 50% of the population resides in agglomerates of higher density. This rating shows that in 5 out of 8 units with lower density (Balldren, Blinisht, Dajç, Kolsh, Ungrej), all population resides in rural areas. For instance in Zejmen and Kallmet respectively 98.8% and 95.6% lives in the rural area. The three most urbanized areas of the functional area are Lezha where 99.3% of the population lives in urban areas, Shënkoll (62.8%) and Shëngjin (54.7%).

The above map provides a clear view of the population concentration in Lezha functional area. These demographic features of the area combined with the indicators regarding "commuters" or the persons traveling from their residencies toward another place for work purposes, both show the density of interactions within the area.

²³In the study regarding urban typology of INSTAT, Kolsh was confused with Shënkoll.

1.6.1 Number of persons commuting for working from/to the Functional Area

From 2011 Census data, INSTAT processed the data regarding persons with a fixed job far from their residencies²⁴. In both tables below are represented the work movements among local units in Lezha and toward other units in the country. The tables make it easier to understand interaction dynamics, movement directions and main employment centers.

Table 7 Flow of persons moving from their residence center to work in other units

Functional Area	Municipality/ County	Daily exits from the unit ²⁵ (a)	Daily entrances in the unit ²⁶ (b)	Net daily influx (b)- (a)
Lezha	BALLDREN I RI	198	31	-167
	BLINISHT	59	13	-46
	DAJÇ	42	39	-3
	KALLMET	122	3	-119
	KOLÇ	278	9	-269
	LEZHË	506	1523	1017
	SHENGJIN	534	381	-153
	SHENKOLL	268	188	-80
	UNGREJ	6	11	5
	ZEJMEN	189	77	-112

Source: INSTAT

The following can be noticed from the tables:

- **Lezha Municipality** has the greatest net number of persons entering for working purposes (1017). This especially in the units of Kolsh, Shengjin, Shengkoll and Zejmen²⁷. In all other units (excluding Ungrej) the majority of persons leave their units in order to find employment elsewhere, inside or outside the functional area (ex. in Tirana, Kruja etc.).
- **The units with the largest number of people commuting for working purposes toward other local units are:** Kolsh (-269), Balldren (-167), Shengjin (-153), Kallmet (-119), Zejmen (-112).

²⁴ Albanians Commuting from Home to Work, May 2014

²⁵Persons leaving their unit for working purposes in other local units.

²⁶Persons entering from other units for working purposes.

²⁷Refer to table 5 below.

Table 8 Commuting direction of residents in Lezha FA

Unit of residence	of Total	BRADASHE SH	LAÇ	BALLDREN I RI	BLINISHT	DAJÇ	KALLMET	KOLÇ	LEZHA	SHËNGJIN	SHENKOLL	UNGREJ	ZEJMEN	DERJAN	SHKODRA	TIRANA	ZALLHERR
		0702	1802	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	2403	3212	3414	3418
														52	14093	143715	1597
BALLDREN I RI	255			57		5			74	19	*				*	*	
BLINISHT	220				161	*			28		21				*		*
DAJÇ	129			*	*	87			*	*					*	*	
KALLMET	146			7	*		24		72	9	14	*	*		*		11
KOLÇ	296	*		*		*	*	18	214	19	*	*	18	4	*	4	
LEZHA	3566	16	*	12	9	22			36	22	47	5	32	*	13	42	16
SHENGJIN	1095	9	*	5	*	6	*	*	438	561	21	*	5	*	7	13	
SHENKOLL	475	17		*	*			*	175	16	27	*	17	*	*	12	
UNGREJ	114								6			18					
ZEJMEN	435	*	5					*	133	8	26		246		*	5	

Geographical distribution of businesses of the area is also strictly related to the access to goods/services and employment as well as to the high level of concentration of population in urban centers. According to INSTAT data the number of active enterprises exercising in Lezha FA is of 1.696 businesses distributed in the following LGUs as shown below. The city is also the center of banking and financial services of the area.

Around 80% of businesses are placed in three LGUs, those of Lezha, Shengjin and Shenkoll. It can be derived from the table that the private sector is more dynamic and developed in the sectors of trade, services and industry.

The largest number of businesses for 1.000 residents is noticeable in Lezha (62) and Shengjin (43) while the lowest number is found in Ungrenj (6) and Kolsh (9).

Table 9 Distribution of active enterprises pursuant to LGUs

County/ Municipality	Agriculture and Fishing	Industry	Construction	Trade	Services	Total	Busnisses for 1,000 residents
Ballidreni i Ri		8		42	27	81	13
Blinisht	4			19	11	37	11
Dajç		6		23	13	44	11
Kallmet		9		18	12	42	10
Kolsh		4		15	15	37	9
Lezha	6	93	54	394	414	961	62
Shengjin	35	19	9	97	116	276	34
Shenkoll	6	17	4	47	51	125	10
Ungrej					9	9	6
Zejmen		18	4	32	30	84	15
FA Lezha	55	177	79	687	698	1,696	26

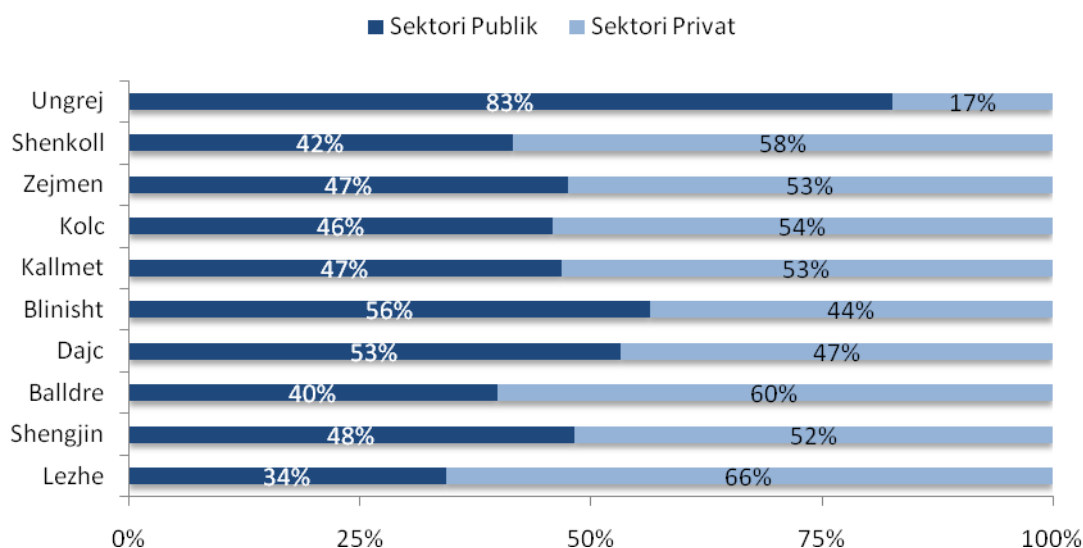
Source: Instat (2012), Census 2011

Distribution of businesses in the LGUs is strictly related not only to access of residents of the area to goods and services but also access to employment. Pursuant to INSTAT data interaction of employees commuting out of their residency center is relatively high toward the urban center where the majority of businesses are also situated.

1.6.2 Employment/Unemployment structure

In Lezha FA there are 4.152²⁸ persons declared as employed which constitute % of the population capable of work. The majority of employees work for the private sector where 65.7% of the population or 2.729 persons are employed. Logically the employment ration among both sectors changes depending on the LGUs part of the FA.

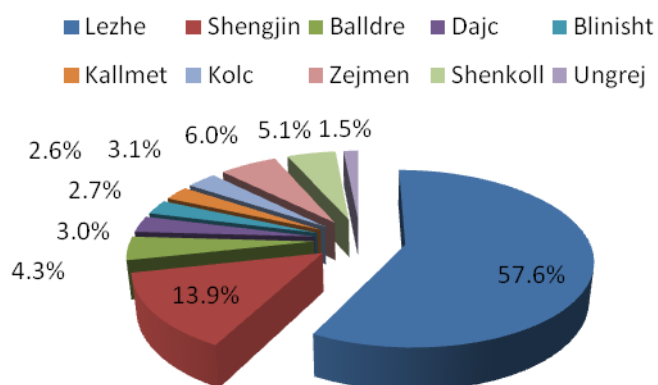
Figure 6 Employment by sector



Source: Lezha district, statistics

Employment in the public sector shows great differences among LGUs. 57.6 percent of employees are declared as working in the city of Lezha and the other part is distributed around the counties. This distribution is related to the fact that the city gathers almost all institutions at district level. Noticeably the number of employees in education and health sector is also the largest. As it is shown in the graphic the

Figure 7 Employment in the Public sector



greatest percentage of employees in this sector at county level is found in Shengjini county (13.9 percent).

70.5 percent of employees in non-agriculture private sector are declared in Lezha municipality. 9.5 percent in Shengjin commune and the other part is distributed among the other counties.

Data on employment for both sectors clearly show the differences with regards to employment opportunities among the urban and rural area.

Lezha FA is one of the areas with a large unemployment rate. According to 2011 Census unemployment rate at national level was 29.3% while unemployment rate in Lezha FA was 42.4%, meaning around 13 percent

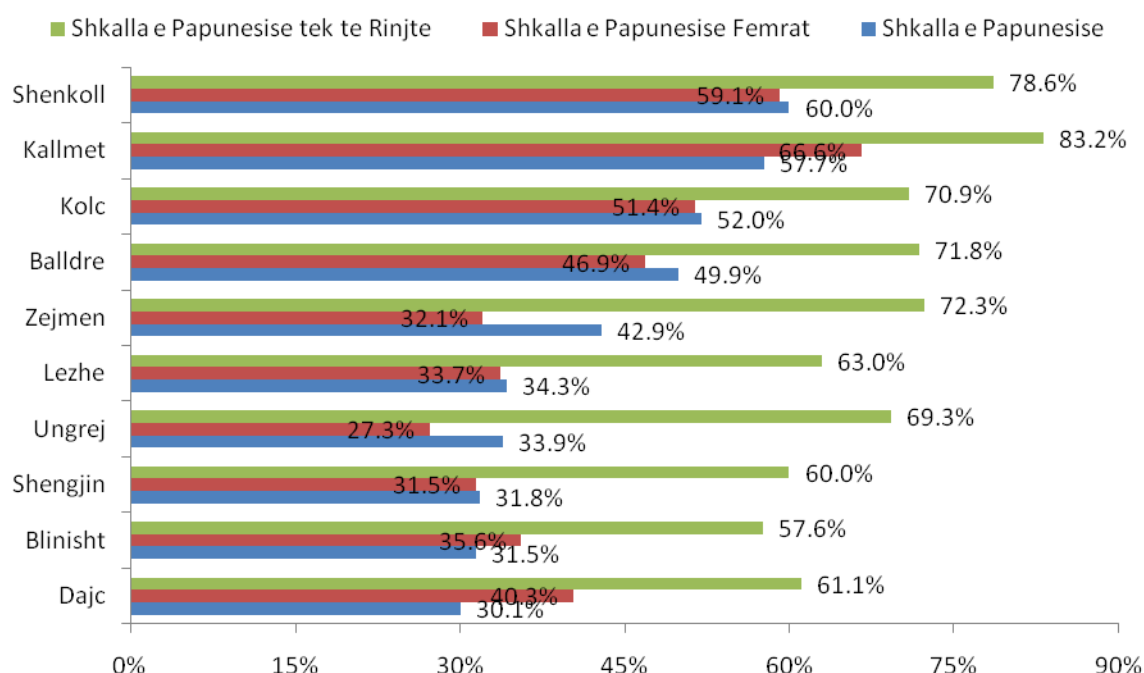
²⁸ Statistikat e Qarkut Lezhë

higher than the national level. Counties with the highest unemployment rate were those of Shenkoll (60 percent), Kallmet (57.7 percent), Kolc (52 percent) and Balldren (49.9 percent)²⁹.

Unemployment rate among females and youth results to be higher than the average at national level. Unemployment rate for females at national level is 31.4 percent while in Lezha FA is in the average of 42.5 percent or 11.1 percent higher. The highest unemployment rate for females is registered in the following counties: Kallmet (66.6 percent), Shenkoll (59.1 percent), Kolc (51.4 percent). Lower unemployment than the one found at national level was registered in the following counties: Ungrej (27.3 percent) and Dajc (30.1 percent). On the other hand unemployment rate of females is close to the national level for Lezha municipality (33.7 percent), Ungrej county (27.3 percent), Dajc (30.1 percent), Shengjin (31.8 percent), Zejmen (32.1 percent). Thus areas with a higher development rate and with tourism development potentials have a lower unemployment rate.

Unemployment rate of youth is also high in Lezha FA as it is in lots of regions of the country. Unemployment rate at national level was 52.9 percent according to Census 2011 data. For Lezha FA it is 15.9 percent higher or 68.8 percent. Unemployment rate of all local government units of Lezha FA is higher than unemployment rate at national level.

Figure 8 Unemployment by groups of population



Source: INSTAT

Currently there are 3.840 persons³⁰ declared unemployed in Lezha FA, out of which 81.5 percent are residents of Lezha municipality, 12.9 percent of Shengjin commune and only 5.6 percent of other communes.

The lowest employment rates in the region for year 2011 are identified in the northern part of Albania, especially Kukes, Diber, Lezha and Shkodra. The challenge for these labour markets is exactly that of creating

²⁹ INSTAT, <http://instatgis.gov.al/#/!/?prefectures/population/prefpop1>

³⁰ Lezha District Statistics.

labour. Employment opportunities are mainly concentrated in big urban areas such as Tirana, Elbasan and Durres³¹.

In Lezha FA employment is mainly concentrates in the food industry (fish processing), shoes industry and tourism. There is current offer for 380 job positions from the Confencion enterprises. Naturally Lezha FA also offers great opportunities in the agriculture field but in this area the job is organized in the form of family economy and self employment.

There is a failure to take advantage of job offers provided by sectors employing the “confection” system. Pursuant to local actors comments this is mainly due to poor working conditions and low wages which are hidden for fiscal reasons. Further assessment of reasons is needed.

The table below clearly shows that the greates number of employees is working in sectors such as Agriculture/Forests/Fishing/Services and Construction.

Table 10: Employed pursuant to sectors /economic activities in Lezha FA (%)

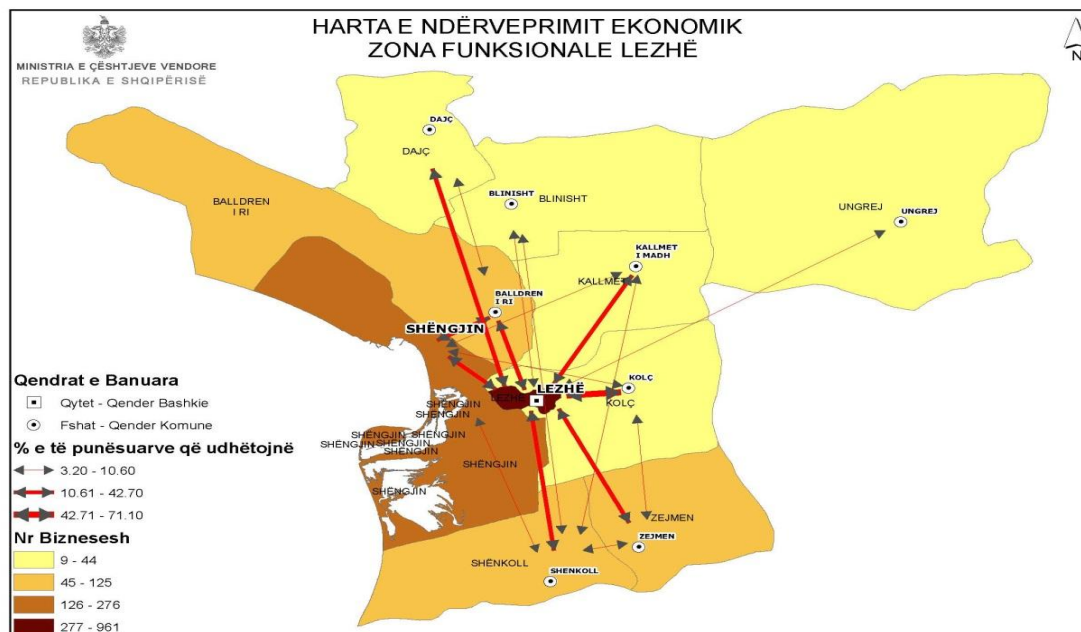
LGUs	Agriculture, forests and fishing	Trade wholesale & retail	Constructi on	Industry	Services	Undefined
Balldreni i Ri	28.6	8.6	15.4	10.2	28.2	9.0
Blinisht	46.7	3.4	11.2	5.0	21.0	12.8
Dajç	43.6	7.1	11.0	6.7	26.0	5.5
Kallmet	10.1	8.2	20.4	13.7	29.1	18.5
Kolsh	19.7	11.2	14.2	14.4	37.4	3.2
Lezha	2.3	18.0	7.9	13.8	56.5	1.5
Shengjin	10.5	16.0	9.8	10.4	51.8	1.5
Shenkoll	10.1	10.7	19.0	10.8	42.2	7.1
Ungrej	80.4	0.3	0.3	1.0	13.6	4.2
Zejmen	15.9	11.2	12.2	17.6	37.7	5.5

Source: INSTAT

The figure below represents data with regards to concentration of population and busnisses clearly demonstrating that the most vibrant economic areas are the city of Lezha where the greates number of services is concentrated and counties of Shengjin and Shenkoll which are more attractive because of their tourism potential. Commuting of residents is also concentrated in this direction.

³¹ INSTAT, Labour market dynamics pg.51.

Figure 9 Map of economic interaction (distribution of businesses and commuting)



Source: MLI

1.6.3 Economic Features of the Functional Area

Economic sectors with high development potentials for Lezha Functional Area area are:

1. **Agriculture/Livestock, Forests and Fishing** with a special focus on the development of Agro-industry and agro-business.
2. **Tourism** Historical, Cultural/Religious, Rural and Natural
3. **Different kind of extractive and processing industries** of non-metallic minerals, construction materials or timber.

Despite the fact that almost all development strategies of local units emphasize as the most important sectors those of Tourism and Agriculture or their combination, there are other growing sectors to be noticed in Lezha which are important due to the number of businesses and their employees. These are light industries such as timber, processing industry of fish, agriculture and livestock products. Another industry which could be mentioned is the one of extracting and processing of construction materials and of non-metallic mineral reserves. The latter will be analyzed in the following part although thorough assessment is needed in order to exactly evaluate its potential also in the light of its relation with the territory.

The economic engine of the functional area with regards to development of the private sector, number of employees and concentration of important infrastructures for businesses is the triangle Lezha-Shengjin-Shenkoll. Those three units gather the concentration of key economic activities of the area such as fishing, fish processing, tourism, different industries etc.

The economic structure of Lezha functional area changed after the 90s especially in the city of Lezha where the main branches of economy were several industries such as wood, paper, construction materials (bricks, tiles etc.) as well as food industry (fish processing). Nevertheless after the 90s one of the industries which continued its consolidation was the one of fish processing. Today the economy of the city is diversified and it relies on trade, services and industry as sectors which employ the largest number of residents.

Currently the industrial area of Lezha is out of order and there is no business activity exercised there. The Municipality tries once in a while to promote it in order to attract national or foreign investments but by far there was no success in this direction. The Municipality also drafted a feasibility study of the Area supported by USAID and Co Plan. This study lists 54.3 acres of land in Lezha and 3.2 acres of land in Shengjin as approved economic areas at country level which altogether will attract in total 57 million Euro investments. Lezha is still an area under study process while Shengjin is under development. Nevertheless it should be stressed that both are located in a strategic position close to the airport, ports and main road corridors in the country and region.

Figure 10 Concept of Lezha industrial area



Source: Feasibility Study on the Development of Lezha Industrial Area, USAID, Co-Plan, Lezha Municipality, 2008

The construction of the Business Park in the northern part of the city of Lezha remains an investment project with priority in the area which would trigger the concentration of local, regional and foreign businesses within a consolidated territory and equipped with the necessary infrastructure. It is planned that the park will gather mainly activities of small and big businesses such as: confectioner productions, shoe productions, construction, agriculture food productions, aluminium processing, wood processing, transport, different trading activities and service providers. It is estimated that 3.000 job positions will be created after its establishment.

Despite its small surface the city of Lezha is situated in a strategic position which enables access to goods and services while Shengjin constituting the third port of the country due to its size serves as an important operative and logistic knot for these industries. It elaborates 9% of the volume of goods processed in Albanian ports. Activities such as cargo, import/export, passengers transport and fishing are exercised within it. Shengjin also has a dynamic economic structure being it agro tourism or industry and construction.



Shengjini Port

- Operating Apron - 160 meters
- Depth varies between 5 -7,5 meters
- Ship anchoring capacity up to 5.000 tonnes
- Maximal capacity of processed goods reaches 350 thousand tonnes, even though there is capacity for 500 thousand tonnes.
- In 99 the development masterplan of Shengjin port was drafted by the Institution of transport studies of the Ministry and the World Bank.

Source: Feasibility Study on the Development of Lezha Industrial Area, USAID, Co-Plan, Lezha Municipality, 2008

In all other units of the area (Kallmet, Blinisht, Dajç, Zejmen, Kolsh, Ungrej and Shengjin) agriculture, livestock and light industries such as agro processing or wood remain typical traditional sectors providing the main income resources to residents of the area. Ungrej is more specialized in livestock and forests due to

higher resources under its disposal (33% of forest resources of the functional area) and pastures (72% percent of resources of the area).

Other growing economic interactions within the area are: Shenkoll-Zejmen-Balldren-Kolsh in inert materials processing industry, marble, construction etc.; and Shen Koll-Shengjin-Ungrej-Zejmen-Balldren in wood processing industry.

2. Assessment of Economic Sectors

2.1 Agriculture, Livestock and Agro Industry

2.1.1 Sector indicators

Agriculture

Lezha functional area has a surface of 457 km² or 29% of the overall surface of Lezha's region. The city of lezha has the smallest surface of the area while the units with the greatest extension are Ungrej and Balldren, Shengjin and Zejmen. Some of the units with the largest surface also has the greatest distribution of population within the territory (or a very low density) as it is the case of Ungrej with 14 residents/km² and Balldren with 67 residents/km².

There are 18.496 acres of agriculture land in Lezha. There are also 19.256 acres of forests, 5.110 acres of pastures and 2.884 acres of un-productive land (non arable). **Agriculture land of the area represents 53% of agriculture land of all district and 3% at national level.** Below is showed the detailed land structure for each unit.

Table 11 Land structure in Lezha Functional Area (in Acres), 2014

	Surface of agriculture land (acres) ³²	Forests (acres)	Pastures (acres)	Un-productive (acres)
Lezha	-	-		
Shengjin	1,398	1,390	10	327
Balldren i ri	2,917	2,600	1,000	608
Dajc	2,516	-	-	89
Blinisht	2,579	1,656	-	109
Kallmet	1,873	2,033	400	-
Kolsh	1,389	2,300	-	400
Zejmen	1,951	2,621	-	238
Shen koll	3,022	-	-	634
Ungrej	851	6,656	3,700	479
Lezha District	18,496	19,256	5,110	2,884
Total District	35,184	98,145	9,229	7,242
Total Country (2012)	696,000			

Source: Agriculture Regional Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection and ISB statistical data base

³² Data of Agriculture Regional Directorate, Lezha, 2014.

By far agriculture land surface of the area is fragmented. One farmer (family) has under disposal an average of 0.75 acre of land. This indicator is above the district average of 0.6 acre for farmer (family). There are three units of the functional area with less than 1 acre for family and other six units in between 1-2 acre for family. These indicators are very low to enable massive, intensive and mechanized production in farms. As it is shown in the table below the number of farms in the area is equal to **45% of the total number of farms in the region and 4% of the total number of farms at national level.**

Table 12 Number of farm, Year 2014, Lezha Functional Area

Unit	No. Farms
Lezha	-
Zejmen	1,850
Shenkoll	3,100
Kolsh	1,470
Kallmet	1,350
Balldren	1,620
Shengjin	880
Blinisht	1,297
Ungrej	290
Dajç	1,360
Total Lezha FA	13,217
Total District	29,216
Total Country (Year 2012)	350,916

Source: Agriculture Regional Directorate of Lezha

The favorable geographic position in the western lowlands of the country, exit to the Adriatic Sea, Mediterranean climate conditions, rich water resources (rivers, lagoons), fertile lands extending along Mat river banks, rich forests and pastures are some of the factors which enable a rich agricultural and livestock production in the area.

Agriculture is one of the typical traditional sectors almost in all units of the area but especially in units such as Kallmet, Blinisht, Dajç, Zejmen and Shenkoll. This remains a sector constituting a stable resource of incomes for local residents. In addition agriculture remains a sector of priority at national level as well. It faced an increase of 18.4% during years 2007-2011³³.

Lezha's area is known for its production of field crops as well as arboriculture. Its plantation structure, consisting of field crops such as bread cereals (what and maize), vegetables (peas, dried, watermelons) potatoes, beans, industrial crops (soybeans) and fodder, as provided in the table below, clearly shows that Lezha functional area has the greatest surfaces in the region where these crops are planted.

Table 13 Plantation structure of field crops (in acres), Lezha FA, 2014

	Bread Cereals	Vegetables Total	Potatoes	Legume	Industrial Crops	Medicinal Crops	Fodder
Zejmen	600	52	22	35			680
Shenkoll	800	72	34	60	-		1,700

³³ Intersectorial Strategy for Rural and Agriculture Development in Albania, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, May 2013.

Kolsh	72	52	10	8		1	400
Kallmet	600	58	20	35			750
Balldren	680	185	15	52			1,120
Shengjin	235	76	9	32		2	405
Blinisht	650	89	15	50		1	800
Ungrej	100	22	6	8			130
Dajç	970	102	20	32	0		1,120
FA Lezha	4,707	675	151	312	0	4	6,970
Lezha District	6,543	1,402	448	660	165	12	14,189
Albania (year 2012)	143,000	31,000	9,318	14,623	3,022		208,880

Source; Agriculture Regional Directorate of Lezha

The following table on the productivity of agriculture crops shows that **Lezha Functional Area** has the **greatest productivity with regards to bread cereals at the regional level (70%)**. Production of vegetables and fodder is important as well given that it represents around half of the regional productivity (respectively 53% for vegetables and 50% for fodder). Compared to the national level productivity varies: 1% for beans and potatoes, 2% for vegetables, 3% for cereals and up to 4% for fodder.

Table 14 Production of field crops in tones in Lezha FA (2014)

	Bread Cereals	Vegetables	Potatoes	Beans	Industrial crops	Medicinal Crops	Fodder
Zejmen	2,973	1,655	308	42			17,620
Shenkoll	4,427	2,307	476	72			59,440
Kolsh	303	1,175	15	18		1	12,250
Kallmet	2,680	1,132	300	60			24,860
Balldren	4,540	5,059	288	73			42,005
Shengjin	1,185	1,752	162	50		1	13,829
Blinisht	2,825	1,769	135	60		1	25,300
Ungrej	495	325	72	9			2,900
Dajç	5,990	4,238	320	32	1		50,892
FA Lezha	24,317	18,474	2,076	374	1	4	232,629
Lezha District	34,866	34,758	8,250	1,110	283	14	461,616
Albania (year 2012)	696,823	914,022	232,956	27,210	4,821	-	5,949,845

Source; Agriculture Regional Directorate of Lezha

Blinishti and Dajci were also studied in relation to Zadrime area. Regarding agriculture productivity in Blinisht the greatest part of production consists of fodder (69%) but there is also maize, wheat and vineyards. On the other hand Dajci County is listed first at Zadrime level with regards to most categories such as wheat, potatoes, beans, fruits, vineyards. This high agriculture production in these two units contributes to the development of livestock and vice versa. Production of bread cereals (wheat and maize), viticulture and fruitculture in **Zejmen** increased due to fertile land, favorable climate and experienced farmers. Increase of agriculture production was accompanied by increase of collection-processing points as well as creation of their trade market. Typical products of the area are: watermelon, potatoes, honey, sunflower, bread cereals. Around 1472 tonnes of grain, 1000 tonnes of maize, 26.480 tonnes of fodder, 75 tonnes of potatoes, 24 tonnes of beans, 58 tonnes of fruits and 560 tonnes of vineyards are produced. **Balldren** is known for the production of cereals and sunflower beans while Torovica field is known for the production of vegetables.

Forests and Arboriculture

Units which have in their territory a large number of forests acre are Ungrej (6.656), Balldren (2.600), Zejmen (2.621), Kolsh (2.300) and Kallmet (2.033). These areas also have rich pastures and meadows. As a consequence their development direction is focused on arboriculture, livestock and in some of them industry and wood processing.

In Balldren for instance forests and pastures part of which are now administered by the county, are granted to families use (up to 1 acre) for a period between 1-10 years paying 15.000 Leke per year as exploitation tariff.

Lezha Functional Area is rich of fruit trees, vineyards, olives and citrus. This constitutes another direction for economic development especially in the last years. Surface and number of planted crops is increasing year after year due to state subsidies for vineyards and olives. Subsidies reach the amount of 50.000 Leke for cultivation of vineyards and 30.000 Leke for cultivation of olives. There are two tables below which show surfaces in acre planted with trees and production expressed in tonnes. All surfaces of the region planted with citrus are situated in Lezha FA (100%). The are represents around 40% of planted surfaces with fruit trees and vineyards of the region.

Table 15 Arboriculture, Total and productive surfaces (in Acre), Lezha FA, 2014

		Fruit trees	Olives	Citrus	Vineyards	Vines (roots)
Zejmen	Total	29	16	5	25	43,000
	Productive	19	3	3	25	36,000
Shenkoll	Total	53	56		34	11,000
	Productive	31	40		19	10,000
Kolsh	Total	4	6			25,000
	Productive		2			20,000
Kallmet	Total	2	50		40	6,000
	Productive	1	20		35	6,000
Balldren	Total	2	7	1	4	20,735
	Productive	2	3		4	18,500
Shëngjin	Total	4	4	3	1	20,000
	Productive	4	3	3	1	18,400
Blinisht	Total	8	30		40	2,200
	Productive	6	6		40	2,200
Ungrej	Total	11			2	4,200
	Productive	2			1	3,500
Dajç	Total	46	10		14	26,000
	Productive	5	2		14	23,500
Lezha	Total	159	179	9	159	158,135
	Productive	69	78	6	139	138,100
District	Total	298	426	9	382	504,735
	Productive	165	275	6	343	472,700

Source; Agriculture Regional Directorate of Lezha

Productivity of citrus of the Area constitutes 90% of the region's productivity and 2% of the national production. Olives constitutes 55% of productivity at district level, vineyards (39%) and fruit trees and vines one third of the regional production. Number of vine roots is as high as 5% of the national figures.

Table 16 Arboriculture, Production in tonnes, Lezha FA, 2014

Name	Fruit trees	Olives	Agrume	Citrus	Vine roots
Zejmen	260	46	86	106	144
Shenkoll	428	130	115	97	70
Kolsh	105	30	14		110
Kallmet	120	90	28	110	33
Balldren	130	14	28	28	93
Shengjin	82	11	48	4	122
Blinisht	52	62	27	120	18
Ungrej	71			5	7
Dajç	226	1	1	84	94
Lezha	1,472	383	346	554	691
District	4,827	699.05	383.25	1418	2176.5
Albania (year 2012)	210,000	125,112	18,880	123,078	15,193

Source; Agriculture Regional Directorate of Lezha

Shenkoll is distinguished at the functional area level for its high production of fruit trees, olives, citrus and vineyards. In this unit the main cultivation consists of vegetables, melons, beans, potatoes, fruits and fodder. Beans cultivation varies among 70-90 acre. Farmers are increasing the planted areas given that this product has a better market and is also more efficient than vegetable and melon cultures. In the last two years the increase of surfaces planted with trees and cultivation of other types of citrus (mainly Kiwi) has started. There is a center of seedlings production functionin in the county with a capacity of 20-30 thousand seedlings per year which supplies the market and farmers of the area for the increase of the surfaces planted with fruit trees. The table of planted surfaces shows that Shenkoll still has un-exploited land potential.

Kallmet faces an increase of surfaces planted with olives and vineyards, due to subsidies provided by the Agriculture Directorate especially during 2007-2013. In this period were planted 50.000 thousand olive roots, 2 acre vineyards, and 4 acre nuts. While 6 acre of Kallmet variety vineyards were obtained due to funds provided by donators of IADSA. Construction of Kallmet Winery and Olive Oil Factory encouraged residents to increase surfaces planted with olives and vineyards. Kallmet represents respectively 20% and 23% of vineyards and olive production in the FA for year 2014.

In **Blinisht county** surfaces planted with vineyards increased as well and production winery of Gjok Gjini was also established. Blinisht is characterized within the Functional Area for its vineyard production which amounts at 120 tonnes for 2014.

Zejmeni is rated as one of the units with the highest production of fruit trees of the area (260 tonnes for year 2014, or 18% of the FA). The county has great potentials for the development of vineyards (19% of the production in FA for 2014). The main supplier of seedlings of the county is the company Fidal sh.p.k which meets about 80% of the market needs. There are 12 farmers with consolidated vineyards within a surface of 22 acre.

Livestock

With regards to the livestock sector a particular development it is found in family livestock which is specialized in raising cattle, pigs and poultry.

Natural conditions of most units of the area such as Kallmet, Ungrej, Blinisht, Dajç, Shenkoll, Balldren and Zejmen, consisting in lowlands, hills, mountains and great forest resources, significantly favour raising different cattle species and production of dairy goods of a high quality. All these elements contribute to the livestock sector being a main development direction of these units. Dairy products of the area are: milk and its by products, meat and eggs.

Livestock structure and its relation with the region and the country is provided in the below table. **As showed the functional area is distinguished at regional level with regards to number of pigs (62% of district total and 26% of national total), wool (51% of the region), cattle (49%), poultry (45%) and bees (43%).**

Table 17 Livestock structure 2013

	Cattle	Wool	Goats	Pigs	Equine	Poultry	Bees (hives)
Zejmen	1,772	1,565	2,100	3,680	60	9,700	395
Shenkoll	3,250	3,200	1,060	6,400	50	15,000	720
Kolsh	780	480	1,574	2,040	25	6,995	405
Kallmet	1,050	1,230	1,920	1,500	35	9,250	400
Balldren	3,220	3,570	4,180	2,450	35	12,400	310
Shëngjin	1,250	2,700	1,214	1,400	19	6,962	668
Blinisht	1,673	1,019	1,560	1,851	46	15,079	441
Ungrej	604	2,480	4,100	970	78	4,000	620
Dajç	3,360	1,100	920	20,380	108	35,290	774
Lezha	16,959	17,344	18,628	40,671	456	114,676	4,733
District	34,580	33,739	61,459	65,836	1,491	254,020	11,063
Albania (year 2012)	498,000	1,809,000	810,000	159,000	97,000	9,494,000	239,000
District Ratio	49%	51%	30%	62%	31%	45%	43%
National Ratio	3%	1%	2%	26%	0%	1%	2%

Source; Agriculture Regional Directorate of Lezha

Diary production for each units of the functional area in 2014 is shown in the below table where it can be clearly noticed that the FA represents more then half of the regional production of milk, meat and wool.

Table 18 Dairy production in tonnes, Lezha FA 2014

	Zejmen	Shenkoll	Kolsh	Kallmet	Balldren	Shëngjin	Blinisht	Ungrej	Dajç	Lezha	District	Albania
Milk	4,183	6,196	1,226	2,145	6,810	2,626	4,127	929	5,185	33,428	60,074	1,105,000
Cow	3,915	5,945	1,058	1,932	6,137	2,349	3,957	558	5,100	30,951	53,725	957,000
Sheep	90	66	29	49	307	168	54	85	39	888	1,439	81,000
Goat	178	186	139	164	366	109	115	286	47	1,589	4,909	67,000
Total Meat	940	1,214	348	535	589	214	369	168	1,570	5,947	9,843	150,000

Cattle	378	453	162	280	286	77	165	28	275	2,103	2,959	69,000
Sheep	36	63	22	29	43	28	28	30	28	307	445	48,000
Goat	38	17	32	30	51	12	13	39	11	243	742	
Pig	470	650	119	182	180	75	123	57	1,166	3,022	4,535	17,000
Poultry	18	31	13	14	30	22	39	15	89	272	384	16,000
Total Wool	2	5	1	2	13	6	2	5	3	38	70	3,000
Sheep	2	5	1	2	9	6	2	5	3	33	59	
Goat					4	1				5	11	
Eggs (000/grains)	902	1,190	581	762	989	598	637	240	2,899	8,798	21,292	887,000,000
Honey	4	7	5	5	2	4	2	4	4	37	82	3,000,000

Source; Agriculture Regional Directorate of Lezha

The below table provides an overview of dairy productivity of Lezha functional area related to regional and national productivity. **The area is distinguished at country level for the production of pork meat (18% of national production). While at regional level it is distinguished for a series of products such as: cattle meat (71% of the district production), poultry meat (71%), sheep meat (69%), pig meat (67%), cow milk (58%), Wool (54%).**

Table 19 Comparison of dairy production with regional and national production, Lezha FA, 2014

	District ratio	National Ratio
Total Milk	56%	3%
Cow	58%	3%
Sheep	62%	1%
Goat	32%	2%
Total Meat	60%	4%
Cattle	71%	3%
Sheep	69%	1%
Goat	33%	
Pig	67%	18%
Poultry	71%	2%
Total Wool	54%	1%
Sheep	56%	
Goat	43%	
Eggs (000/grains)	41%	0%
Honey	45%	0%

Source; Agriculture Regional Directorate of Lezha

Lezha Functional Area has in its territory the largest number of different agricultural farms compared to the rest of the region. Some indicators are shown in the below table.

Table 20 Number and size of agricultural farms

Name	Lezha Functional Area	District
Farms breeding cattle/milk above heads	43	63
Farms breeding cattle /meat above 10 heads	14	14

Farms breeding cattle /milk, meat above 10 heads	3	3
Farms breeding fine cattle 100-200 heads	12	17
Goats 200-500 heads	2	4
Farms breeding pigs above 10 heads	17	28
Farms raising pigs for fatening	243	256
Farms breeding poultry for eggs up to 100 heads	5669	10266
Farms breeding poultry 100-500 heads	131	131
Farms breeding poultry above 1000 heads	1	1
Farms breeding meat 500-1000 heads	32	32
Farms breeding meat above 1000 heads	9	9
Farms breeding turkey 100-500 heads	34	36
Above 500 heads	7	7

Source: Tourism and Agrotourism Strategy in Lezha District, 2010-2013

Lately has also started the establishment of farming complexes containing a larger number of heads compared to the traditional ones, nevertheless those remain few in number.

Blinishti, Dajc and Shenkoll counties have good tradition in raising pigs and providing pork meat. There are some complexes of meat collection and trade. Performance of dairy production in Shenkoll is higher compared with the average of other counties of the functional area. There are 3 stations for artificial insemination of cattle functioning in this unit which cover all the area. Race improvement is successfully applied in these stations with pure breeds with the direction of double milk production and animal breeds. Some farms also apply industrial intersection of meat production. There are also some complexes of collection and trade of meat as well as milk processing lines in the region, which offer good technological and hygiene conditions.

Ungrej is also specialized in livestock also due to higher resources in forests (35% of the functional area's resources) and pastures (72% of resources of the area) at its disposal.

Shenkoll, Balldren, Dajc and Zejmen counties provide the largest milk production of the area. These units, excluding Balldren, are also distinguished for the high production of meat.

Typical agricultural and dairy products

Lezha Functional Area is known at regional and national level for some of its typical agricultural and dairy products containing the mark of origin. Among these we can mention Kallmet grapes/wine, Lezha raki and Zadrime turkey.

Zadrime, part of which are Dajc and Blinisht, is known as place of origin of **Kallmet grape** which is a certified grape variety protected within the EU market with a strong development potential. A majority of wine production canteens of Zadrime are focused on the production of Kallmet wine. This area, in our case Dajc area, it is also distinguished for **turkey breeding**.

Kallmet wine is a typical product of Kallmet unit. Its production is realized in modern technological conditions conform to the standards required by the wine canteen "Kallmeti Sh.p.k". This canteen is considered as one of the main options of further economic development enabling the increase of wine production and ensuring access to regional, national and international markets. The production of Kallmet wine or its other varieties is also realized by the residents themselves even though with traditional methods. **Kallmet has a well known tradition of cultivation of olives (90 tonne production for 2014), Olive oil and beans.**

The Functional Area is also distinguished because of some typical dairy products such as Zadrime cheese, nowadays a well known product in the local and national markets, **Kallmet goat cheese** which faced an

important burst in the last years and pork meat. Regarding the latter Lezha is also distinguished at national level. Production of pork meat (28.9%) in Lezha together with the districts of Shkodra (27.1%) and Fier (14%) constitute 70% of the total national production³⁴.

Vegetables are a typical product of the units of Balldren (pomegranate and watermelon) and Kallmet (beans and vegetables). Typical products of Ungrej are nuts and chestnuts.

Numerous **medical plants** grow in wild conditions in the area of **Karrakiqi Mountain and Shengjin Mountain**. A large part of residents of the areas of Balldren, Kakarriq, Blinisht and Dajç derive their incomes through this activity.

Mechanical Agriculture

Mechanical agricultural is little used. In order for the situation to improve greater cooperation between farms is needed with the aim of creating big farms. Similarly there is need of greater state subsidies for fuel and other inputs of agricultural production. Equipment inventory of Lezha FA is presented below:

Table 21 Number of mechanical agricultural equipment

Name	Lezha Functional Area	District
Wheeled tractors	252	412
Small tractors	108	242
Planting machines	74	150
Harvest motors	99	147
Combine harvester	14	28
Tractors with chains	4	7
Milling machines	108	191

Source: *Tourism and Agro tourism Strategy of Lezha District, 2010-2013*

<i>Mechanical tools and agricultural aggregates, Lezha FA, 2014</i>					
Unit	Total number of tools	Name	Lezha FA	District	Place
Lezha FA	963	Wheeled tractors	-	463	8,719
Zejmen	87	Small tractors	-	267	4,808
Shenkoll	218	Planting machines	-	274	3,292
Kolsh	4	Harvest motors	-	183	2,151
Kallmet	52	Combine harvester	-	24	-
Balldren	164	Tractors with chains	-	6	-
Shengjin	35	Milling machines	-	245	-
Blinisht	182				
Ungrej	29				
Dajç	192				
Source: Regional Directorate of Agriculture, 2014		Source: Regional Directorate of Agriculture (2014), Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection (2012)			

Source: *Regional Directorate of Agriculture, 2014*

Source: *Regional Directorate of Agriculture (2014), Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection (2012)*

³⁴Intersectoral Strategy for Rural and Agricultural Development in Albania, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, May 2013.

Agro-Industry

Agro industry is increasing in the units of Lezha Functional Area as well as at national level (17.8% for the period 2007-2011³⁵). Nevertheless further investment is needed in order to add value to the sector.

Figures of Agricultural Directorate show that during 2014 there are 73 agro industrial subjects who exercise their activity in the area (58% of the totality of the region) and employ 657 persons (or 85% of total employees of the region). These businesses mostly include: fish production, oil and wine factories, bakeries, pizza restaurants, pie bakeries, fast food and sweets bakery.

Table 22 No. of Employees pursuant to Agro Industrial Subjects in each unit, Lezha FA, 2014

Subject/ Unit	Balldre n	Blinish t	Daj ç	Kallme t	Lezh e	Shengji n	Shenko ll	Shengji n	Zeime n	Tota l
Creamery	3	4	9		9					25
Pie bakery					20	4				24
Wine factory					6					6
Beer factory						3				3
Flour factory							3			3
Oil and wine factory		3		3						6
Fast- Food					9	6				15
Bakery	3				35	6	4	3	3	54
Sweets bakery					20					20
Fruits & vegetables processing									60	60
Fish processing					270	156				426
Pizza bakery					9	6				15
Total	6	7	9	3	378	181	7	3	63	657

Source: Regional Directorate of Agriculture (2014)

Table 23 Number of Agro Industrial Subjects pursuant to categories in each unit, 2014

Subject/ Unit	Balldre n	Blinisht	Dajç	Kallme t	Lezhe	Shengji n	Shenko ll	Shengji n	Zeimen	Total
Creamery	1	1	3		3					8
Pie bakery					8	2				10
Wine factory					2					2
Beer factory						1				1
Flour factory							1			1
Oil and wine factory		1		1						2
Fast- Food					4	3				7
Bakery	1				13	2	2	1	1	20
Sweets bakery					10					10
Fruits & vegetables									1	1

³⁵Intersectorial strategy for rural and agricultural development in Albania, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and consumer protection, May 2013.

processing										
Fiss processing					2	2				4
Pizza bakery					4	3				7
Total	2	2	3	1	46	13	3	1	2	73

Source: Regional Directorate of Agriculture (2014)

The units of Dajç, Blinisht, Balldren, Kallmet and Ungrej are distinguished because of a high concentration of objects of milk processing for the vineyards tradition; for the production of the typical wine of the area (some canteens established in the area).

2.1.2 Competitive advantages of the sector

Lezha functional area represents the largest surface planted with cereals at district level (72%) and approximately half of the surcaes planted with fodder, vegetables and beans in the region (respectively 49%, 48% and 47%).

Lezha Functional Area is also distinguished for higher productivity regarding bread cereals (70%), vegetables production (53%) and fodder (50%) at the regional level. The area represents also 3% of national production of cereals and 4% of fodder. The latter are also important for further development of agriculture.

100% of regional land planted with citrus is situated in Lezha functional area. This area represents around 40% of planted surfaces with fruit trees and vineyards of the region.

Olives constitute 55% of the production at district level, vineyards (39%) and fruit trees and vines one third of regional production.

The functional area is also distinguished at regional level for its livestock sector. Number of pigs is s much as 62% of the total number of pigs of the district and 26% at national level; wool (51% of the region); cattle (49%), poultry (45%) and bees (43%).

FA represents more than half of regional production of milk, meat and wool. Production of pork meat of the FA is as much as 18% of the national production.

One of the qualities of the area which may distinguish it at regional and national level is its potential to **develop marks of origin/regional for typical products** such as: Kallmet wine and grape, olives and turkey (Dajc and Kallmet), cheese (Kallmet, Dajc, Blinisht), pork meat (Dajc, Blinisht, Shen Koll), medicinal plants (Balldren-Kakarriqi Mountain and Shengjin), vegetables such as pomegranate and watermelon (Balldren), beans and vegetables (Kallmet), nuts and chestnuts (Ungrej).

Another aspect which can constitute and advantage for the area after more investments is light agro industry which is gaining momentum and is focused on processing of fruits, vegetables, olives and dairy products.

As a conclusion Lezha Functional Area has: high natural potentials with regards to lands and agricultural and dairy productivity; typical agricultural and dairy products; development potential in the agricultural and livestock sectors (ex. increase of collection, storage, processing and trading points inside and outside the country through logistic support provided by Shengjin port); a very advantageous geographical position, easy access to key infrastructures connecting it with the country and the region (road axes, airport, Shengjin port).

2.1.3 Issues and recommendations

The issues of the agricultural and livestock sectors of the area are numerous. A great part of them are similar throughout the country:

High fragmentation of agricultural land and small sized farms (agricultural/livestock) constitutes a real barrier for the production and sale of considerable volumes to regional and national markets. High fragmentation also prevents investments in technology within the sector because of very high costs. Currently agricultural and dairy production only meets local consumers' needs.

The areas which have an agricultural and livestock tradition have been affected in the last 10 years by a **massive depopulation**, especially in rural areas. The farmers age is relatively high, 50-60 years old and few young people are willing to engage in agriculture.

Mechanical Agricultural partially meets the needs of farmers with regards to implementation of the technological chain needed for cultivation of agriculture crops. Part of these assets are amortized and not equipped with the necessary aggregates such as the one needed for plowing, leveling, fertilizer distribution, planting, up to the harvesting process of agricultural products and fodder for livestock.

The risk of flooding of agricultural lands in almost all units constitute occasionally threats to agriculture production directly affecting the families of the area for whom agriculture and livestock is the main income source (ex. the case of Torovica in Balldren where the agricultural land is flooded at the range of 60%).

There are problems with the irrigation and drainage systems especially in some of the units such as Shenkoll, Balldren, Zejmen. In **Shen Koll** the problems remains with the second and third drainage network and in general lack of restoring of the irrigation system. In **Balldren** the drainage systems are extremely amortized and as a consequence agricultural land which mainly extends to the Torovica village gets time after time flooded. **Zejmen** is totally missing water delivery system among plots. Irrigation infrastructure is extremely amortized. During summer there is no possibility of having water for more then few days. The total surface of irrigated lands does not exceed 250 acre.

Lack of services especially of the irrigation mechanism, and failure to apply contemporary technologies due to deficiencies in mechanical equipment significantly decrease productivity of the sector.

Basic hygene standards throught the chain, starting with the procurement/production of raw materials, processing and up to trade to final consumer, are not yet in compliance with food safety standards (ex. production and processing points of dairy products such as meat, milk). On the other hand the systems of quality standards are not sufficiently developed.

Deficiencies of the techniques of breeding and improving existing breeds through cattle artificial insemination practices and in food structure of livestock.

Unsufficiently developed agro-industrial infrastructure. There are deficiencies with regard to agricultural markets, collection points, storage and processing of agriculatural products, fruits and vegetables, slaughterhouses, milk and meat processing factories. Contractual realtions between farmers and processors are also not officialized.

Costs of inputs is usually high and farmers/processors face difficulties in covering it; (energy, fuel and packaging- mostly imported).

Recommendations to authorities of the functional area

At local policies level authorities of the functional area should adopt the following measures:

- Fight informality contractual/commercial (between farmers and processors) and fiscal (ex. small informal manufactories who do not pay VAT and the other taxes).
- Draft supporting financial products (credits, grants, subsidies) to be conceived in cooperation with financial institutions, public or private and specialized organizations, suitable to the needs of the sector.
- Protect traditional productions of the area supported from the institutional and administrative point of view (regional marks/patents/safety and quality standards).
- Encourage small businesses in the sectors of agriculture, livestock and food processing by enabling supporting territorial infrastructures and facilitating fiscal policies (construction of local markets, investing in human resources, promoting/marketing of products).
- Educate, inform, orient and train farmers with regards to: opportunities of financial schemes and institutional mechanisms of funding attraction from different sources (public, private, foreign); benefits establishing and organizing farmers associations and small cooperatives; necessity of applying food safety and quality standards (this measure may be realized through the coordination of the attempts among local and central structures).

With regards to physical infrastructure supporting agriculture coordination among the Drainage Board and the Regional Directorate of Agriculture is needed in order to draft an action plan for the restore of the drainage and irrigation system and eliminate flooding in all areas of the unit.

Increase of planted areas with typical products which are competitive for the area such as olive, vegetables and vineyards. Some project samples may be: extension to 1.000 acre olives in Pacram-Hajmel-Bushat-Berdice-Kallmet-Dajc; support olive products and pomegranate of Balldren and Kallmet; extension of vegetables plantations in the area Zejmen-Shenkoll.

Stimulate fodder production and use efficiently areas planted with fodder considering it an important raw material also for livestock development which is similarly a high priority of the area.

Invest in the increase of heads number (cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry), proliferation and **specialization of livestock complexes, improve animal breeding techniques.**

Drafting the current value chain (where, how much and how is produced, infrastructures connecting business operators) and development of future projections (ex. identification of investment needs in establishing Freezer rooms, storage centers, big local markets – in Lezha, Shengjin, Shenkoll; establishing a slaughterhouse with contemporary standards for all the FA; construction of creameries, poultry farms, new artificial insemination stations, center for the collection and processing of nuts and chestnuts products in Ungrej etc.).

Wine sector needs to improve its standards at farm level (including post harvesting, storage, categorization etc.) and production of table varieties in green houses. Investments are also needed in wineries which also integrate grape production.

Food safety-quality – local authorities and the Regional Directorate of Agriculture should implement a detailed diagnosis of the condition of agriculture and dairy production, of the logistic network within which the product circulates, inspection of implementation of basic hygiene conditions (in each farm and business operator) and providing the veterinary service of animal vaccination and ensuring conditions for the purchase of agriculture inputs which are of quality and certified etc. Respecting standards of food safety and quality on the one hand protects the health of the consumer while on the other hand constitutes a preliminary conditions for access and competition in larger markets (ex. EU member states).

Drafting an action plan for typical autochthonous products as primary elements on the establishment and protection of an agro-tourism model which is autochthonous: *(projects samples: support for the protection/certification/standartization of products, support for improvement of packaging and labeling, promotional measures / marketing -fairs, Gastronomy festivals etc.).*

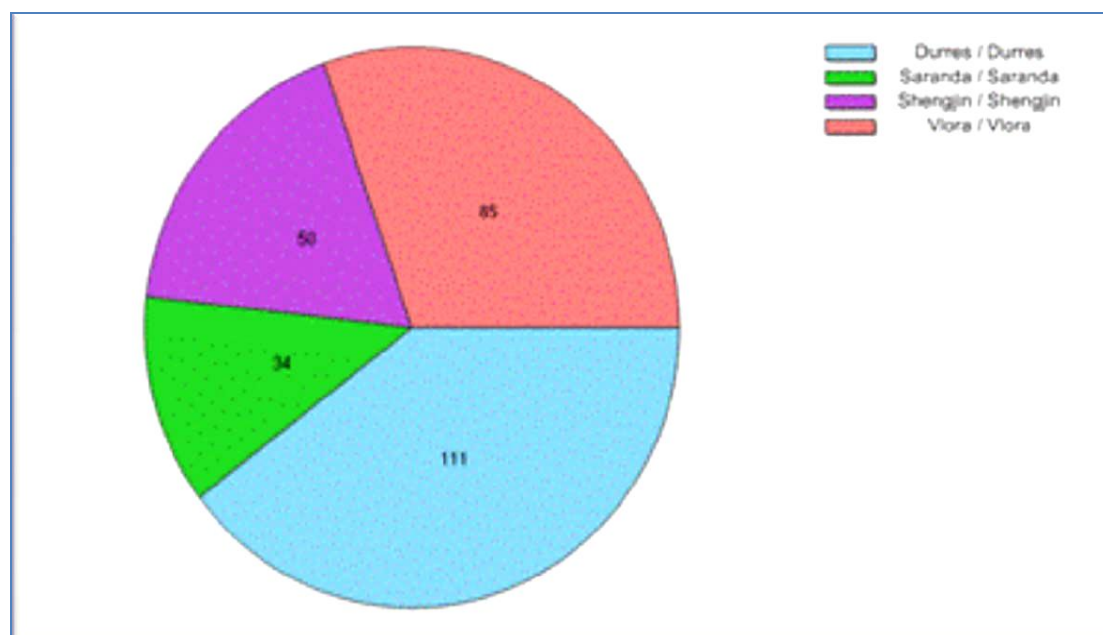
2.2 Fishing activity³⁶

2.2.1 Basic indicator

The same geographical position of Lezha's area and rich water resources makes fishing and its processing industry one of the main economic activities. The area is traversed by Drin and Mat rivers, it has access to the Adriatic Sea (coastline of 38 km) and on its inside part there are the lagoons complexes of Kuna and Vaini.

Fishins is also an important sector and national level. In 2011 fishing numbers were the following: 4 804 tonnes of fish, out of which 2 287 tonnes caught at sea, 495 tonnes at shore (year 2012), 229 tonnes on the sea lagoons, 1 793 tonnes at water basins. Acquaculture production in the country is 1 304 tonnes while mussel production is 1 300 tonnes³⁷. Today's fishing fleet is concentrated in four fishing ports of the country which are listed pursuant to their size as follows; Durres (111 fishing vessels), Vlora (85), Shengjin (50) and Saranda (34).

Figure 11 Composition of the fishing fleet in Albania



Source: Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration, Fishing Directorate, 2011

Fishing industry in Lezha has witnessed the greatest investments at national level with regards to establishment of fishing facilities. In 2006 there were three points for fish processing established in this area and 90% of the caught fish is directed to these processing points. "Eurofish", "Poseidon" "Rozafa" and "Inca" are large businesses (2 Italo-Albanian, and 2 Albanian) which employ above 1.000 employees and supply

³⁶ Assessment of this sector was not further detailed because data on it were insufficient, hard to find in the structures of the area or impossible to guarantee accuracy for part of them.

³⁷ Intersectorial strategy for agricultural and rural development in Albania, May 2013.

with sea products the market of Lezha, other cities and export as well. Implemented investments are of high level and comply with all veterinary standards needed for export as well.

At national level fish conservation attracted 14.7 million leke investments³⁸.

Fishing is an employment opportunity for many residents of the area. In this sector there are about 260 fishermen, organized in association, fishing in seas and lagoons. According to 2011 data the number of licensed fishing boats was at around 50, while the number of subjects dealing with sweet waters and aquaculture was 65. There are 31 species of fishes therein such as: bass, wrasse, mullet, flounder, shrimp, eel, octopus, carp etc.

Production enterprises of the sector are equipped with HACCP and ISO. There is no informality but there is shortage in the number of employees (minimum around 200 people). This phenomenon constitutes such a problem that some companies are considering moving out of Lezha and Shengjin due to lack of employees. Despite calls in local television and requests in the employment office the issue of employment still remains unsolved. Employees are transported by bus daily not only from Shengjin but also from other areas situated kind of farther away such as Mamurras. One company dealing with processing of fish products named "Mare Adriatik" moved several years ago and constructed its factory in Vau i Dejes, Shkodra.

Fishing is one of the most important sectors of economy and employment also for the residents of Shengjin, which port lies in the northwest area of the country, in the Adriatic coast, at a distance of 60 km North of the largest port in the country, that of Durres. Shengjin port is the third largest port of the country. Fishing is enabled by a fish fleet consisting of 50 ships. Fish is produced and processed as raw material, as block of products or salted product inside barrels from import, mainly from Spain, Italy, Greece, Morocco etc. The final products main destinations are EU countries. Close to Shengjin port, within a surface of 100 acre around 30-50 tonnes of mussels per year are cultivated compared to the 1 300 tonnes per year at national level³⁹.

During 2013 the export volume of fish and its by products was 5.851 tonnes with a value of € 30,7million. Fish and sea fruits import was on the amount of 10,155 tonnes with a value of €25,6 milion (Table 24).

Commercial balance for sea products is positive at value terms but negative at volume terms. Low volumes of high value products are exported while imports are dominated by sea products of lower value. Most imports originate from Italy and Spain (respectively 19% and 24%). Main Albanian export destinations are Italy (91% of total volume) followed by Spain (4%) and Greece (3%).

Table 24 Trade balance of sea products, 2013

	kg	€
Import	10,154,993	25,554,967.34
Export	5,851,521	30,711,297.77
Trade Balance	-4,303,471	5,156,330.43

Source: INSTAT

Fishing activity and aquatic products faced an increase at national level as well where sea fishing is increased at the range of 16% from 2007, shore fishing increased of 5% and mussel production increased at 25%.

³⁸Statistical Yearbook 2011, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection.

³⁹Intersectoral Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development in Albania, May 2013.

Cultivation of sea products is well developed, mainly in the form of mussel and fish cultivation which has increased during the last years and has now replaced almost entirely import of cultivated fish. Consumption doubled as a consequence of incomes increase. The processing industry made great investments and it is equipped with very stable technologies.

Some advantages offered to the fishing sector by the area are: favorable geographical position and rich water resources; employment opportunities for many residents of the area and the increasing importance of the sector and its performance at national level (sector increase, investments increase, establishment of fishing plants, positive trade balance at value terms).

2.2.2 Issues and recommendations

Different challenges of the sector which are important to be addressed are the following: illegal fishing; deficiencies in routine and non-routine maintenance of capacities and other types of repair of vessel equipment; poor port infrastructures and in existing harbors; deficiencies in the organized markets for wholesale trade and difficulties related to hygiene standards.

High prices of fish products and lack of organized markets for wholesale trading of fish (essential in each fishing area) constitute problems for the sector operators and their commercial products. The absence of markets prevents development of the sector due to the fact that trading of fishing products is realized by commercial operators who collect the products from the fishing vessels based on informal private agreements which are not at all favorable for the producers. Often the purchase request of these commercial subjects establishes whether the fishing vessels would go fishing. Nevertheless some commercial operators also possess their own fishing vessels.

With regards to food safety, veterinary and and phytosanitary requirements for fishery and aquaculture products, **the sector remains fragmented in terms of responsibilities and communication.** The inspection competence for fishing products is exercised by two different departments of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration. Furthermore disease control of fish products is covered by the Animal Health Directorate within the Ministry of Agriculture (MBUMK) and the National Food Authority.

Consolidation of the processing industry could perform an important role in providing a stable market for small fishing farms and it could constitute a main investment actor for the reconstruction of the fishing fleet. Support to the fish processing industry through facilitation of the establishment of permanent fishing fleets and intermediation among those and fish processing points spread in the units of Shengjin, Lezha and Shengkoll is included in the list of the future projects for the area.

Expansion of the port pursuant to the Master Plan in order to enable the anchoring of sailing boats and increase of the capacities of the fishing fleet is a regional project which will also need support of the central government.

Addressing deficiencies (in number and qualification) of the work force of the sector. Adopting some measures promoting employment opportunities offered by fishing and establishing specific specialized courses for human resource training.

Fishing and related economic activities should also be viewed under the perspective of an accompanying sector or as part of an integrated agor-touristic offer of the Area.

It is necessary to further assess the impact of the sector on social conditions of the community especially in rural areas.

There exist the following investment needs at national level: replace and renewal/improvement of fishing boats; investments in the sector of fish cultivation; investments from processing companies of average size (especially regarding standard compliance in order to enable exports, for instance in the case of mussels).

2.3 Various processing and extractive industries⁴⁰

2.3.1 Basic indicators

Beside typical sectors such as agriculture, livestock and fishing the area is also familiar with several extraction and processing industries of metallic and non-metallic minerals, inert materials, construction materials, cereals, marble, concrete, cement, bricks and light processing industries such as wood and leather.

In Lezha's territory it is found around 40% of the country's reserves of non-metallic minerals⁴¹. Through mining research it was discovered the existence of copper reserves (quartz type/sulfur) amounting to 0.5 million tonnes in the northeastern part of the province as well as numerous copper resources at Vele Vendi, Zef Sul and Qafe Kangjel. At Lezha's borders there are two sources of nickel-sulphide minerals which also contain some degree of gold, as well as two sources of platinum. Minerals such as zinc, chromium, limestone, granite and tin are found in coastal areas of Rila and Tale. Reserves of marble, granite and kaolin (porcelain, clay) which are widely used are to be found in the area of Kashnjet. Other sources around Lezha include reserves of red decorative marble in Tresh village situated close to the city, different inerts found in Mat river as well as limestone found in in Kakarriq and Shengjin which are used for construction.

Table 25 Active Mining Permits in Lezha FA , 2014

Subject Name	Mineral type	Km2	Type of permit
MILIS BRICK	Clay	0,357	Exploitation
OTTO - AL	Limestone	1,7	Exploitation
KORABI - K	Limestone	0,04	Exploitation
QUSHKU & CO	Limestone	0,01	Exploitation
MALVINI	Limestone	0,096	Exploitation
OTTO - AL	Limestone	1,28	Exploitation
GENERAL CEMENT ALBANIA	Limestone	1,087	Exploitation
SHPRESA - AL	Chromium	0,23	Exploitation
COLACEM ALBANIA	Limestone	0,95	Exploitation
PACANI	Limestone	0,08	Exploitation
PALUCA - SA	Limestone	0,71	Exploitation
GENTARI	Chromium	0,11	Exploitation
MALVINI	Limestone	0,047	Exploitation
GJONI	Tractolities	0,037	Exploitation
GEOECONOMICS	Titano - magnetic	9,88	Exploration
BESJONA IMPEX	Limestone	0,0507	Exploitation
BICI	Limestone	0,0907	Exploitation
VLLAZNIMI DEDA IMP - EKSPORT	Chromium	0,094	Exploitation
AYEN AS ENERGJI	Serpentine	0,19	Exploitation

⁴⁰Assessment of this sector was not further detailed because data on it were insufficient, hard to find in the structures of the area or impossible to guarantee accuracy for part of them.

⁴¹Strategic Plan Lezha Municipality 2010-2030

BALKAN RESOURCES	Copper	2,9	Exploitation
EUROINERT BIBA	Limestone	0,104	Exploitation
JAB RESOURCES	Gold	35,84	Exploration
ALBA KURBIN	Limestone	0,054	Exploitation
AL - GEM	Limestone	0,298	Exploitation
BALKAN RESOURCES	Copper	23,05	Exploration

Source; Ministry of Energy and Industry

The underground of Kashnjeti area is very rich in minerals especially titanium. Titanium is the second good at national level. The titano magnetites, as alternatively named, are evaluated to be around 130 milion reserves mainly situated in the areas of **Sukaxhi and Ungrej of Kashnjet**. Currently an Australian company (GeoEconomix) obtained the exploration permit and applied for the exploitation permit and it is believed that this year preparation work for the opening of the main source in Kashnjeti area will start.

The industry sector related to the processing of marble extracted from Treshi hills and inert materials extracted by Mat river is an important activity for the area especially for the units of Shenkoll and Zejmen. For example in Shenkoll the activity is exercised by 11 subjects of the sector, 3 out of which deal with marble processing. Marble is extracted at the borders of the county, in the Tresh Village of Zejmen County. Marble stored in Tresh is the type named "marbled limestone" of grey-red motely colour. The reserves found in Tresh is evaluated to be of 13.000.000 tonnes. 5 subjects exercise their activity in Shenkoll as well. These are focused on extraction and processing of inerts and concrete: 3 are companies of inert processing, 2 are companies of concrete production. There is one company exercising its activity in the drilling sector for water extraction. There 16 subjects in Zejmen exercising this activity out of which 5 are dealing with extraction and processing of marble. There are also 11 subjects operating in the extraction and processing of inerts (6 large businesses dealing with inerts processing, 2 dealing with concrete production and 3 dealing with the collection of decorative stones or gravel)⁴².

Stone processing and cement extraction industry is developed in Balldren. The latter started only in 2009 through the activity of two cement factories (Albania Colacem group). The county presents great potentials because there are in its territory significant massive rocks. On the other hand in **Kolsh there are a brick factory and a stone processing factory exercising their activity.**

In the unit of Ungrej projects regarding the mineral sector as well as use of water as enery resource are found in the early study and construction stages. They are alsoe considered as priority sectors for the economy of the area. The mining opportunities are still in the first study stage while hydro power plants (HPP) are under construction process. The two mines which are expected to be opened and two HPPs under construction constitute employment and development potential for the area.

Wood processing is an activity which is currently performed in Shenkoll, Zejmen and Balldren. It is possible to be also performed in other counties such as Kallmet and Ungrej. In Shenkoll there are the following subjects exercising their activities: 1 subject for wood processing and 1 subject for the production of duralumin products. Processing of wood products and production of duralumin products is realized by and for residents of the county. In Zejmen there are 7 subjects operating in the industry of wood processing and production of furnitures. Wood processing industry has great potentials in Ungrej as well but there is need for further study and exploitation in order to be useful to its community. In Kallmet wood and stone processing could be developed as elements of the traditional economy of the area⁴³.

⁴² Local Development Strategies of the units of Zejmen and Shen Koll.

⁴³Local Development Strategies of the Unit.

Apparel and footwear (semi-processed/Fason) Industry (such as leather processing or clothing) is also important due to the number of employed persons, its increasing trend and exports toward third countries. The country usually offers classic confections not the closed cycle of full services. The future perspective is for all the industry to provide an integrated offer (design, modeling, production) and to increase the value of information technology services.

Shengjin Port serves as an important operative and logistic knot for these industries. It is the third port of the country due to its size and it processes 9% of the cargo volume of Albanian ports. Its activities, among others, are: goods cargo including imported goods (cement, food, fuels) or export goods (construction materials and inerts), passengers transport and fishing. The main groups of goods which are processed in the port are construction materials (cement, bricks, and tiles) packed and placed in slinker (cement) and pallets (bricks, tiles) and fuels in ships containing storage tanks.

Work volume of Shengjin port increased during the years. In 2004 there was an increase of exports in the amount of 144% and imports in the amount of 152%. Exports in 2004 are 14.202 tonnes out of which the majority consisted in construction materials, inerts and some scrap while imports were in the amount of 279.177 tonnes, mainly cement, bricks/tiles, fuels.

2.3.2 Issues and recommendations

Mineral industry sector is characterized as an activity out of state monitoring, even by illegal activity which seriously damage public interest.

Work inside mines is performed without the adoption of the safety security measures harming the health of employees and also causing them death. The degree of mineral processing continues to be very low and realized exports mainly consist of crude minerals.

Investments in the mining sector are almost nonexistent therefore currently this sector faces an important technological and technical backwardness which is also reflected in its minimal productivity.

The confection industry is characterized by informality, very hard working conditions and minimal wages.

National measures to be adopted in relation to the industry are:

- Further development and modernization of the geology and mining sector;
- Drafting specific policies which encourage, direct and guarantee financing and massive investments, internal and foreign, for the mining industry;
- Adoption of legal and structural measures in order to enable the increase of the enrichment degree and the processing of minerals in the country.
- Increase of exports of minerals as an important element of increase of economy, employment and the life quality in mining areas.
- Monitoring of mining activities with the aim of guaranteeing public interest in this sector.
- Immediate interruption of dangerous and illegal mining activities and interruption of mining activities which failed to implement contractual obligations, which have severely damaged or are damaging the environment, especially activities situated close to urban areas.

Local measures to be implemented in relation to the industry are:

- Drafting a strategy for the protection of groundwaters from pollution (water infiltration) in areas contaminated by industrial activities.
- Identification, Feasibility Study and Action Plan for the treatment of solid waste deriving from the industrial activity along the rivers.

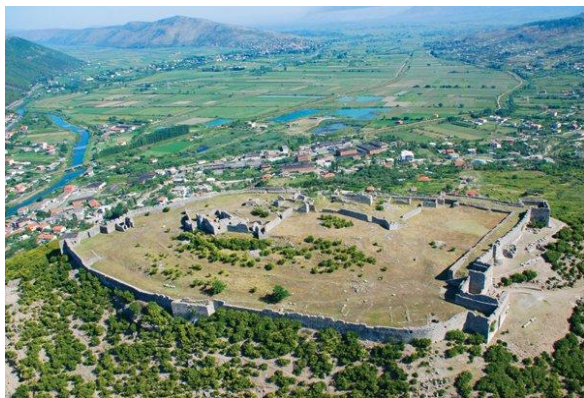
2.4 Tourism Sector

2.4.1 Basic Indicators

Tourism in Lezha is considered to be one of the most promising sectors and highest priorities regarding its potential for contributing in the social-economic development of the region. In future plans the area is projected to compete with touristic packages of neighboring countries like Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia etc.

The area disposes of a series of touristic assets (natural and cultural) as for example; suitable geographical position, long coastline (38 km), rich archeological, ethno-cultural and historic heritage, ancient cult objects (catholic church, orthodox church, mosque and masjid), well-marked welcoming traditions and traditional cooking, the presence of the 3rd biggest harbor in the country (Shëngjin) etc.

The City of Lezha, center of the District and center of the FA was founded in the year 385 b. c. During the whole Illyrian history and also later on, this city has played a special historic role. Because of the geographical position of the city of Lezha and its suburbs, it was since the ancient times one of the most important trading and military political centers. This is the reason why political and cultural events of a high national importance, in certain moments of our history, like: “League of Lezhë” in 1444, “Assembly of Arbri” in 1703, etc. have taken place exactly in this city. The presence of the Franciscan Order in Lezha, founded by the Saint Francis of Assisi himself in 1220, is another important addition to the history and culture of the city



Castle of Lezha



Resting place of the national hero Gjergj Kastrioti

The FA of Lezha has a rich ethno cultural, historic, archeological and ethnographic heritage. There are many historic places and monuments which are interesting to visit. The “Gjergj Kastrioti Skanderbeg” Memorial (where the visitors can see the emblems of the Albanian feudal families and a copy of both the sword and the helmet of Skanderbeg); (The Church of Saint Nikolla, Assembly of the League and Resting place of Skanderbeg), Castle of Lezha (Castle of Arbër), Nympheum (the present day Shëngjin) etc. and many cult objects like the Church of Saint Gjon Krepreni (where the Assembly of Arbër was held), the Church of Euphemia (XII. Century), Church of Saint Nunciata, etc. are some of the most important attractions for the development of tourism in this area.

The Castle of Lezha ⁴⁴ is one of the most prominent monumental and historical values of the city. Its Illyrian origin and traces of Illyrian, roman, byzantine and ottoman architecture make it an interesting object to visit.

⁴⁴started in the 4th Century and finished building in the year 1521.

Besides it there are many interesting objects to visit like the ruins of ottoman buildings inside of the walls of the Castle, the Mosque, the Tower in the southeast wall with a roman arch and the Illyrian tower in the south wall. Also the Old Bridge of the city (1926) built on the Drin River and the House of the Milkaj (1910, typical bourgeois house of Lezha) offer their architectural, historical and cultural values.

A more detailed list of the culture monuments is shown in the table below;

Table 26: Culture Monuments

Nr.	Name of the Monument	Location
1	Relics of the Mountain of Shelbum (AKROLIS)	Mountain of Shelbum
2	Walls of the Ancient City of Lis	Lezha
3	Church of Saint Ndou Resting place of Skanderbeg	Lezha
4	Ruins of the Bridge of Plakagjoni	Rraboshta Village
5	Church of Saint Barbulla	Pllanë Village
6	Bridge of Shkina	Piraj Village
7	Church of Saint Aleksander	Boikon Spiten
8	Church of Saint Veneranda	Balldren
9	Ruins of the Church of Saint Stefan	Blinisht
10	Church of Saint Mhill	Nenshat
11	State Housing (Ex Sali Bajram Zekës)	Varosh Lezha
12	State Housing (Ex Esat Mlikës)	Lezha
13	House of Geg Prendit	Patalej
14	House of Ndue Frroku	Island-Lezha
15	Castle of Lezha	Lezha
16	Church of Saint Eufemia	Kallmet
17	Church of Arbri Assembly	Merqi
18	Cathedral of Kallmet	Kallmet
19	State Housing (Ex Ndue Zefi)	
20	House of Gjergj Fishta	
21	Ruins of the Church of Saint Mëhilli in the Castle of Sapa	
22	Church of Saint Premtes	

In the center of the functional area there are some socio-cultural objects like the Palace of Culture, Cultural Center for Children, History Museum and the Public Library of the city which periodically hold activities regarding the civil education and the salvaging of national values. In this area there is an ongoing tradition of organizing of Rhapsody and Folklore music festivals. The Cultural Center for Children also organizes activities to entertain the children and furthermore to encourage new talents. In the Palace of Culture there is also an Art Gallery where art pieces of authors from Lezha and elsewhere are shown.

This area has a satisfactory sport infrastructure, among which is the stadium of the city “Besëlidhja” and other sport facilities and grounds. The football team “Besëlidhja” and the development of many kind of sports like athletic, free wrestling and cycling catches the attention of many fans of sport and revive the sport life in the area.

The FA of Lezha, beside from all the important historical, archeological, cultural, artistically values, also offers her visitors distinctive natural beauties like the mountain, hill, field, rivers, sea and her lagoons. Touristic places with great interest are the beaches of Shëngjin, Kunes, Vain and Tala, the lagoons of Kuna and Vaini, The Hotel of Hunting etc. The diversity of the environment, the presence of various flora and fauna and the favorable climate offer great potentials for the development of a contemporary and stable tourism with all kinds of tourism asset: coastal tourism, lagoon and valley (river valleys) and also tourism in mountain environments.

The Beach of Shëngjin is the most important touristic attraction in the whole area but also on of the most important in the country. This is one of the oldest beaches in the country.

The Beach of Talës e Rënës së Hedhun have not been used for a long time now and represent areas with a area development potential. However there is a need for further investments in infrastructure.

Lagoon of Kunë-Vaini is an area with a miscellaneous flora and fauna with a surface of 180 Ha of lagoon land and 1050 ha water surface and a depth of 1, 5-5 meters. There are several different restaurants in the surroundings where the fresh fish of the lagoon can be tasted. During the hunting season there are many hunting activities with the participation of native and foreign hunters.

The Island of Lezha has a range of hotels, motels, modern and traditional restaurants and so it becomes inviting for both native and foreign tourists.

Some of the types of more developed or with more potential for future development tourisms in the Functional Area of Lezha are; coastal, rural and cultural tourism. A more detailed description follows below;

Costal Tourism In the area there exists an infrastructure and big means of accommodation, especially in Shengjin. The tourism is of the seasonal kind (from may till September) and it offers sun, sea and sand. The Lagoons of Kunë-Vaini have a variety of flora and fauna. the Coast from Rana e Hedhun and ongoing has a very clean and sand which is also rich in iodine, especially in virgin areas like Tala. After the sandy beaches of Shëngjin follows a pine area until Kuna, whereas in the coastal connecting point with Vaini there is a forest area with multi-annual pines and other trees. This forest area is isolated from both sides due to the absence of two bridges and the needed infrastructure. The climatic pressure has been rising in this area for the last 20 years, the coastal erosion has been increasing (the sea progresses toward the coast for approximately 3 m every year), there have bee big sea floods, sea storms etc.

The beaches are visited from resident and daily tourists, both native and foreign, in the period from may to September. The chaises and sun umbrellas are offered by commercial providers. The beaches are cleaned every night by the hotel owners, whereas the other parts are fully uncovered by the communes. The tourists can move via vans, buses and private automobiles.

In the FA of Lezha function 28 hotels, 7 motels, with a total number of 3940 beds. There are 118 bars and restaurants. In Shëngjin there are 550 private housings which are rented during the beach season. According to the data of the commune there are over 5000 visitors every day during the beach season, in addition to the visitors throughout the year who come for historic and ethno-cultural tourism. The utilized area of the Shëngjin beaches has risen in the years from 1990 to 2008 from 4 ha to 13 ha, the number of hotels has risen from 7 to 24, the number of rooms from 214 to 979 and the number of beds from 680 to 3054. The number of tourists in Shëngjin from the year 2008 to 2009 has risen 20%. In the coast of Shëngjin there are other constructions being built.

North of Shëngjin, the beach of **Ranës së Hedhun** offers a panorama of sea, sand and pines. Although it remains still unused due to lack of infrastructure, there are many foreign investors which have expressed interest in investing.

Natural tourism/Ecotourism/Rural Tourism/Agro-tourism

Regarding these kinds of tourism, the area has many resources with a high potential of development. A more detailed study, more correct and updated indicators and data, an inventory of the assets is still needed.

One of the success stories of the Functional Area of Lezha in the branch of agro-tourism is the “**Mrizi i Zanave**” (<http://www.mrizizanave.com/>). This model is one of the most worthy representatives of the “slow food” movement, a cultural project which proposes a philosophy of enjoyment and education of the savor of the consumer and preservation of the enogastronomic heritage.

Mrizi i Zanave offers an authentic Albanian menu with fresh ingredients and bio products cultivated in the area. The reviews of the consumers list it as one of the most extraordinary culinary experiences of North Albania.

The Restaurant’s farm planted with vineyards, olive trees and vegetables, the agreeable position of the Fishta village, the history of the surrounding area which is the birthplace of one of the most important figures of the 19th century, Gjergj Fishta, are all important elements which form the identity of this agro-touristic model.

Everything being served is fully organic, with typical products of the area. The fresh vegetables are picked directly from the garden of the restaurant and are served in ceramic plates made by a handicraftsman of the area. The cheese is processed by the restaurant staff, the typical ham of the area is kept in the cellar and the red wine is produced from the restaurant’s vineyards. This is what makes Mrizi i Zanave an authentic rural gastronomic experience.

The Vision of the Lezha Municipality⁴⁵ is that the area becomes an integral part of the touristic destinations of North Albania, with a stable and developed tourism: coastal, rural, and cultural tourism.

Some of the concept-projects and priorities that are being considered from the Functional Area are:

- **Composition of the coast regulating plan and of the local regulating plans.** The Instruments of the Territory Planning for the local units of Shëngjin and Shenkoll with focus on the development of tourism and the safeguarding of nature.
- Stocktaking of the main touristic resources: mountain, historical and ethnographic resources; analysis of their current state and the investments needed; conception of different touristic packages and products.

⁴⁵Strategy of tourism and agro-tourism in the Lezha District, 2010-2013

- **Establishment of a touristic program focusing on the historic and religious tourism**, including the Church of Laç, different touristic destinations in the municipality of Lezha, Church of Saint Eufemia (Kallmet), Padre Antonio, Peace Bells – Blinisht, Pllane, Rubik, Orosh etc.
- **Promotion/Marketing/Communication** for example establishment of a digital platform to promote touristic destinations in the County of Lezha; Regional touristic Map; development of street signs/festivals / promoting fairs of the gastronomy of Lezha (for example the festival of Zadrime in Fishta)
- **Agro-tourism/Natural Tourism** (maps, street signs, paths for trekking tourism facilitating the handicraft of the area, fishing, as subsidiary activities to the touristic offers of the area)
- **Investing in the human capacity**; founding of a professional high school with focus on Hotel Management and Tourism and professional courses in this branch; Training of touristic guides and of the staff of coastal security in cooperation with the professional high school of Hotel Management and Tourism.
- **Others**; Building the road direction Castle of Lezha and reconstruction of the walls of the Castle; Founding of the Museum of Ethnographic etc.

Some of the infrastructure projects which should be considered priorities for boosting the tourism are; The Road Shëngjin-Kunë-Vain which is very damaged; building the touristic road Tala-Shëngjin-Velipoja-Ulqin⁴⁶ which will facilitate movements, will create better conditions for welcoming more native and foreign visitors, will highlight the national seashore as an elongation of the natural beauties of Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia etc. The further improvement of the drinking water and electric power supply (24 hours); building of parking spots; increasing the number of parks in the whole territory.

2.4.2 Competitive Advantages

Before analyzing the advantages of the Area in the sector of tourism, it is important to note some macroeconomic indicators of this sector which speak for the importance of tourism for the nation, region and world and also for the high potential tourism presents as a sector for the future;

- Tourism is one of the industries with the fastest development in the 21st century regarding the global contribution of GDP, income from the foreign exchange and from creating jobs.
- According to the calculations, the direct contribution of tourism in Albania for the PBB in 2013 was 4,8 % while the general contribution for the economy was 16,7%. The tourism sector has opened directly 4,3 % of the new jobs, while indirectly 15,2 % of them⁴⁷.
- From 2001 the number of international visitors in Albania has risen significantly to over 3, 45 million visitors in 2012. The growth was especially big from Europe and South Balkans (Kosovo and ex-FYROM) between 2008 and 2012.⁴⁸
- In 2010 international visitors spent 82 Euros/day with an average stay of five days. The average stay for amusement tourists was usually shorter – about 2,8 days. Their average expenses in national destinations are 79 euros/day.⁴⁹

This bundle of positive macroeconomic indicators are yet another reason why the area should see the development of the tourism sector as a priority.

Some of the advantages of the area in this sector are;

⁴⁶ Project of EPTISA ratified by the government

⁴⁷ From the World Travel and Tourism Council.

⁴⁸ "Rruga e Kombit" built newly, has affected the growth of the number of visitor from these countries.

- The geographical position and the good connection to the logistically most important links in the country make the area easily accessible to native and foreign tourists.
- Lezha is nationally⁵⁰ recognized as one of the cities that offers cultural tourism. Shëngjin is also mentioned as one of the cities with coastal tourism and abundant accommodation possibilities.⁵¹
- The Area disposes of many diverse natural and cultural resources, thus the development of diverse and rich touristic offers is possible.
- The area has a big potential for the further development of agro-tourism (typical gastronomic products combined with a nice natural environment). Although this is a rare kind of tourism in Albania, if developed with caution, it could become a regenerating instrument of the traditions of the area, rural cuisine and promoter of the protection of the environment and economic development. This can work as a new form of cooperation between the local businesses and also raise the interest of people towards local products.
- An urban study of the touristic development and coastal protection of the touristic area Bay of Drini with a surface of around 1100 ha.

2.4.3 Issues and recommendations

Some of the important and urgent issues to be addressed regarding the sector of tourism are;

Shortage of a coordinated and integrated approach of the touristic offers; Chaos in construction with a high number of buildings without a building permit. Absence of a Tourism master-plan; Shortage of the needed standards in infrastructure; damaged social-cultural objects.

Lezha has a low visibility in the regional touristic itineraries suggested in publication and different medias.

Agro-tourism is not enough elaborated in strategic documents of the area. There is always talk of agro-tourism but the concept is still not developed and far from the international definition.

It is recommended that the area stocktake her resources, for an easier conception and consolidation of the integrates touristic products and also to boost further investments so that the sector becomes more competitive and diverse.

With certain infrastructural improvements (see the list of projects/priorities above), Lezha can become better integrated in the national and regional touristic offers (Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia etc.).

Some of the objectives to be achieved according to the regional strategy are;

- Development of a stable tourism all year around through the consolidation of the cooperation of the public sector with the private one, growth of the service quality, taking measures for the protection of the coast and nature; growth of tranquility and safety; building a functional infrastructure; taking the climate changes into consideration while deciding for future investments
- Development of a harmonized coastal and mountain, historical and ethno-cultural tourism
- Creating of a positive image through the improvement of the physical infrastructure and the service infrastructure; better implementation of the law, spreading and fortification of the network of touristic operators, producing promoting material and growth of the regional cooperation (seminars, fairs, twinning programs etc.), investments in information and communication technology etc.

⁵⁰ Draft of the Strategy of touristic Development in Albania 2014-2020.

⁵¹ Referring to their location, 80% of the hotels are found in the coastal and lake areas (Velipoja, Shëngjin, Durrës, Kavaja, Vlora, Saranda, Pogradec), 10% of the hotels are located in Tirana and 10% in other areas.

- New elements of the National Strategy of Tourism 2014-2020, which will have to be considered by the Functional Area for drafting her tourism strategy are; integration of the concepts and focusing on creating a product, its qualities and structures,

3. Local services in the functional area

Among the most important functions in the infrastructure sector and the utility services that are covered from the LGUs there are:

- supply with drinking water; functioning of the canalization system of water, wastewater and protecting canalization of residential areas;
- construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of national roads, sidewalks and public squares;
- accumulation, removal and processing of the waste;
- drafting of urban plans and management of the land

3.1 Waste management service

3.1.1 Waste productions and categories in the Functional Area

The total amount of waste of the Functional Area is 12.950 ton in a year or 0,43 kg per person a day⁵². Nevertheless it must be explained that the total amount of waste is not definitely the sum of waste quantities produced in every unit. A part of the produced waste is thrown away in uncontrolled places or in the best case scenario reused/recycled in the place where it was generated.

There are multiple kinds of waste generated in this area. Those can be urban waste by families, waste generated by the business activities or institutions, inert waste, dangerous waste (industrial, hospital etc.). Except urban and commercial waste, it is actually not possible to get accurate data about the other kinds of waste.

Urban waste is produced mainly from families, public institutions, commercial institutions and industrial sectors and mainly the sectors of construction, fishing, processing and diverse services. The local units in Lezha, like the main part of local units in Albania, do not have certain statistics regarding the production of urban waste. The waste is not being weighed because there are no scales in the dumping grounds.

Inert waste generated by construction businesses are some of the most voluminous waste in the region. They are more problematic in the coastal area, especially in Shëngjin, where the construction is more intensive. According to the last reports of the **NJQV** in 2012, the amounts of this category vary in some of the municipalities in the region from 6 to 17 % of the yearly general average of generated waste. Lezha herself as a municipality generates 8% of the inert waste in the region. The average regional level represents 11% of the sum of waste in a year.

Dangerous waste (like batteries, chemicals etc.) are accumulated and then removed with the urban waste. There are no believable data regarding the amount of dangerous waste that is generated and their level of danger. What is being reported is mainly linked to the waste thrown out in the past as a result of old industrial activities, including uncontrolled throwing away of dangerous waste like: hospital waste, batteries, chemicals used abroad, local waste. Although according to the present legislation, accumulating and throwing the industrial waste is a responsibility of the producer, the implementation of the legislation is rare in the units of the area. The last studies regarding the construction of dumping grounds for dangerous waste show that this kind of waste represents 3-4% of the industrial waste. Medical waste and dangerous waste generated by families is not calculated in this sum. This figure is comparable to other countries in the region.

⁵²Urban Research Institute and Helvetass Swiss Intercooperation Albania/DLDP, *Support Inter-LGU Cooperation and Organization of Waste Management Service in Lezha and Shengjin*, 2013

Medical wastes - There are no data regarding the yearly quantities being generated by medical care institutions (Health Centers, Ambulances, Hospitals, Maternity Hospitals, Centers for Children's Care etc.) in the area of Lezha. Although there exists a legislation for this category of waste, he is almost completely ignored from the health structures and his implementation is not being urged. The Ministry of Health and WHO have attempted to improve the situation and have allocated equipment for the sterilization of the contaminated waste of the hospitals. None of the municipalities has the appropriate means to process hospital waste, as this is the responsibility of the health structures. Often the NJQV say they find medical waste in bins for urban waste. The management of this category of waste is a priority in the area.

Other kinds of waste observed in the are; destroyed automobiles, waste from packaging materials, waste from different oils, electric and electronic materials waste, waste from animal derivatives, waste from the mine industry.

The amount of commercial waste for the municipality of Lezha are 8.9 ton a day and 3230 ton a year (or around 54% of the average of the area). This is a result of the fact that most of the businesses and institutions of the area are found in Lezha⁵³.

The calculation of the waste can also be done according to the quantities disposed by the contracted companies for every unit. According to these contracts the quantities vary from 1,59 kg/resident a day in Shëngjin to 0,13 kg/resident a day in Balldren. However, it should be taken in consideration that the quantity of waste per resident being disposed according to the contracts does not show necessarily the quantities being generated by every unit.

Table 26 Generated waste per resident in a day, Functional Area Lezha

	Lezha	Shëngjin	Balldren	Kallmet	Kolsh	Shënkoll	Zejmen	Ungrej ⁵⁴	Blinisht ⁵⁵	Dajç
Generation of waste (kg/resident/day)	0.48 ⁵⁶	1.59	0.13	0.34	0	0.3	0.4	-	-	-

Source: Urban Research Institute and Helvetass Swiss Intercooperation Albania/DLDP, Support Inter-LGU Cooperation and Organization of Waste Management Service in Lezha and Shëngjin, 201

An assessment of the waste structures in the Municipality is shown in the Table below;

Table 27 Structure of waste in %, 2012

	Bio-degradable			Recyclable						Dangerous	
	Organic	Wood	Animal Products	Paper and cardboard	Plastic	Glass	Textils	Metals (Iron or not)	Inert waste	Hospital and sanitary	Others (Battery etc.)

⁵³ According to the Draft Plan for the Waste Management in the Lezha Region 2013, drafted with the Technical Assistance of the EU for the Consolidation of the Capacities of the Ministry of Health for Drafting and Implementing the National Legislation for the Environment.

⁵⁴ Unavailable data. The county does not offer this service.

⁵⁵ To be confirmed by the county or contract.

⁵⁶ According the Lezha Strategy this is 0,86 kg.

Municipality Lezha	45.2	1.3	1.5	14	15.7	6.4	5	1.3	4.9	4.6	0.1
Region average	46.4	1.4	1.3	13.8	14.6	6	5.1	1.2	6	4	0.2

Source: Urban Research Institute and Helvetass Swiss Intercooperation Albania/DLDP, Support Inter-LGU Cooperation and Organization of Waste Management Service in Lezha and Shëngjin, 201

3.1.2 Waste recycling/Composting

With the exception of the Lezha Municipality, none of the LGUs in the area separates waste or collect the recyclable waste separately. Even if there are no recycling industries in the area, there are a category of persons, especially Roma people, collect recyclable waste in public bins. The Municipality of Lezha in cooperation with a recycling company outside of the region, has organized the collection of paper and plastic and their transfer in the Center of Separation of Recyclable Waste in the administrative unit where they are prepared for the recycling market

The Municipality of Lezha separates the urban waste in two levels. The system consists in a two bin separation: one for collecting recyclable waste (50 bins with a capacity of 3,3 m³) and the ones for collecting organic waste (260 bins with a capacity of 1,1 m³). The recyclable waste is transported in the Center of Separation of Recyclable Waste based on a service contract with an operator, and is then separated in paper/cardboard and plastic which are then prepared for the recycling market. Organic waste is collected and transported to the landfill of Bushat.

The pilot project for waste separation in the Municipality of Lezha is being applied in the Besëlidhja neighborhood and parts of the neighborhoods Gurra and Skënderbeg. The project is focused on 27 collection places with overground system and 3 collection places with underground systems, 39 % of the families in the municipality sort the waste at its source and benefit waste separation at the source. The Center of Separation of Recyclable Waste presses the waste and then sells it to recycling companies. In 2010 the generated recyclable waste constituted 3,238 ton or 37% of the waste total of 8,528, of this total 1,225 ton were paper/cardboard, 1,341 ton plastic, 562 glass, 58 ton ferroz metal and 52 ton joferroz metal. Around 64% of the municipal waste consists in biodegradable material (organic and wood substances, paper and carboard). Recyclable materials (paper, cardboard, glass, textile, plastic, wood, inert, metals) consist in 48 % of the total waste.

Other units do not currently recycle or compost waste. However it is to be noted that Dajci and Blinishti, with the initiative of Inter-Communal Zadrime have started doing campaigns for promoting and raising the awareness towards recycling. Shënkolli has an appropriate infrastructure to recycle and compost waste.

According to the National Strategy of Waste Management 25% of the waste quantity collected in the administrative units should be recycled or composted till 2015, whereas in 2020 this norm must reach 50%.

3.1.3 Landfills and active areas with high potential of waste generation

After the waste is collected they are transported to be exterminated in one of the dumping grounds in the region. In rural area, where there is no waste collecting service offered, waste is being thrown in the canals,

valleys or are just left on the side of the road or riverbeds. The whole Lezha area has 5 dumping grounds and one landfill, see below:

- **Dumping ground of Berzan** in the Berzana village of the Zejmen county, in the slope of a hill near the Mat river delta. The ground is not built according to the technical parameters and is currently almost non-operative.
- **Dumping Ground of Cekaj** is located in Rubik with a surface of 2500 m², a capacity of 60.000 m³ and an operative lifespan till 2018. It is not operative anymore, although it continues causing environmental problems.
- **Cekaj Landfill** (near the dumping ground of Cekaj, 6 km from Rrëshen) has the same dimension as the dumping ground of Cekaj but better technical parameters and modern characteristics. It is planned that this landfill be operative till 2018. It has been built, operated and managed by the municipalities of Rrëshen and Rubik and is financed by a special fund of the municipality of Rrëshen.
- **Dumping Ground of Laç** – 2 km from the City of Laç, it is used by the municipality for collecting the waste. It has been built in 2007, but without respecting the usual standards needed for such structures. It has a surface of 10.000 m² and a capacity of 200.000 ton (or 300.000 m³). Its lifespan is of 6-7 years, 2 years from now it will be completely full. Seeing as the waste is not being compressed/clenched, the actual utilization time could be even shorter.
- **Dumping Ground of Mamurras** – The Municipality has let a parcel on a lease for 30.000 ALL a month, a parcel located 7,5 km in northeast of the city. This parcel has been transformed in a dumping ground in 2010 and has a surface of 3000 m² with a capacity of 40.000 ton and its lifespan is estimated to be another 2 years.
- **Landfill of Bushat**, located in a 25 km distance from the city of Lezha.
- **Vendgrumbullimi në Mamurras** - Bashkia ka dhënë me qira për 30.000 lekë në muaj, një parcelë që gjendet rreth 7,5 km në veri-lindje të qytetit. Ajo është transformuar në venddepozitim në vitin 2010. Vendi ka një sipërfaqe prej rreth 3000 m² me një kapacitet prej 40.000 ton dhe nga periudha e vlerësuar për shfrytëzim mbeten edhe 2 vite

All the units which offer an organized service of managing the waste in the Functional Area of Lezha, have specified in their contracts with private companies that the final destination of the waste products is the Landfill of Bushat. This landfill, located 25 km north of Lezha, is being financed by the state budget to serve the regions of Shkodra and Lezha. Its capacity is 1,000,000 m³ and its lifespan is estimated to be 20 years. The cost of deposition is 7 euro per ton, whereas the units must also cover the transport costs to the landfill.

Table 28 Distance from the Landfill of Bushat

Unit	Lezha	Shëngjin	Shënkoll	Kallmet	Ballëdre	Kolsh	Zejmen	Blinisht	Dajç	Ungrej
Distance from Bushat in km	25 km	26 - 28 km	35 km	15-20 km	15 - 20 km	28 km	25-30 km	No data	No data	Does not offer
Distance from Bushat in time	45-60 minutes	108 minutes		2 hours ⁵⁷	30 - 45 minuts					Does not offer

Source: Urban Research Institute and Helvetass Swiss Intercooperation Albania/DLDP, Support Inter-LGU Cooperation and Organization of Waste Management Service in Lezha and Shëngjin, 201

⁵⁷ Including the trip back and forth and the transport to the landfill.

Regarding the uncontrolled dumping grounds there exists one in Berzane in the territory of the Zejmen county. The location has served as a formal dumping ground for the waste of all units of the area. Even if it is not being used anymore, it remains in existence, and there is not any plan yet for securing its final closure.

Environmental problems have been identified in the county of Shengjin. They are being caused primarily by the pollution of the light industry; urban solid waste; the state of the drinking water system; canalizations of wastewater; lack of green areas in the city and deforestations; erosion, floods, etc. Urban solid waste in **Shëngjin** are not administrated based on environmental criteria. Until this moment there are no dumping ground built respecting environmental criteria. During the summer months, when the population of Shengjin is five-times more due to the tourists, the volume solid urban waste is also five times the normal amount. The dumping ground location is 9 km away from Shengjin and in inadequate environmental and sanitary conditions. A part of the urban waste estimating to circa 2 ton,, generated by construction and destruction, are being thrown in the Drin River or in the Kenalle Lake.

There are no specific places or places with the right infrastructure for collecting the construction and demolition waste, while the waste elimination is not planned but only done when needed. As a result this waste category is reported to be very problematic regarding the collection and transportation costs. The shortage of appropriate dumping grounds and bins for this category of waste induce the individuals and businesses to just deposit the waste in dumping grounds intended only for urban waste. Furthermore inert waste is often found on the sides of national roads. None of the LGUs of the Area deals with this problem systematically. However, inert waste has sometimes been used for filling holes or other areas of different levels. The Municipality of Lezha assigned a collection place for the elimination of this kind of waste near the "Nënë Tereza" school, an area which used to be a swamp and is now filled with waste. The same procedure is also being followed by other LGUs. However, there are cases where construction companies are throwing waste in the river.

In dumping grounds there are often fires being lighted to minimize the volume of waste. It happens often that the waste is lit on fire due to the lack of a correct procedure for their elimination. This fires constitute a big source of air pollution as they release a great deal of toxins. The recent fast development of coastal tourism causes even bigger problems during the tourist season in terms of volume of waste and waste management.

Environmental problems in the area are also caused by animal waste. Currently this category is disposed in the same dumping grounds as other category. There are three main industries of food processing that contribute to the generation of such waste: EuroFish Company, the slaughterhouse of the city and the factory that is responsible for cleaning the innards of cattle. The administrative units do not report any data about the quantities of animal waste these industries generate, however it is know that this waste causes the liquid waste in the Drin River and the solid waste in the bins of urban waste.

The discharging oil waste from automobile repair shops in waste water canalization or open holes remains also problematic for the time being.

3.1.4 Description of the current situation of offered services

The offered service of waste management is offered in the main part of units in the Functional Area of Lezha. From 10 present units, the service is offered in 8 of them, respectively in the Lezha Municipality and in the units Shëngjin, Shënkoll, Balldre, Kallmet, Zejmen, Blinisht and Dajc. The units Ungrej and Kolsh do not offer this public service. However Kolshi organizes from time to time a collection and clearance in the informal dumping grounds spread in its territory.

The waste management services in the main part of units include: collection of the waste in the bins where they have been deposited from families, businesses and institutions; removal of the waste from the bins with the respective vehicles; transport towards the landfill or other dumping grounds in the area. Lezha and Shëngjini offer also a wiping/cleaning service for the streets, sidewalks, public squares for their urban area. The Municipality of Lezha, being the unit which offers the most services, also offers collecting sorted waste

All the administrative units which offer this kind of service, collect and transport the waste in one flow. There are no separate bins for the separation of waste in their source (organic, recyclable etc.) or bins for collecting the waste based on their composition (with the exception of the Lezha Municipality which has begun with a few separation initiatives).

Table 29 Coverage of the population with the offer of waste management service

Unit	Lezha	Shëngjin	Shënkoll	Kallmet	Balldre	Kolsh	Zejmen	Blinisht	Dajc	Ungrej
Territory coverage	80%	85%	70%	70%	70%	50% ⁵⁸	70%	No data	No data	Not offered
Population coverage	85%		70%	30%	39%		70%	No data	No data	Not offered

The frequency of the service offer varies depending on the units, the area in the unit (city center or suburbs) and also on the year season. For example in Lezha and Shëngjin the service can be offered even 2 times a day during the summer season when the unit

Table 30 Frequency of the waste management service offer in the Area

Unit	Lezhë	Shëngjin	Shënkoll	Kallmet	Balldre	Kolsh	Zejmen	Blinisht	Dajc
Frequency	Every day Summer – 2 times a day	City - Every day Village - 1 time per week	1-2 a week	2 times a week	2 times a week	1 time every 2 or 4 months	2-3 a week	No data	No data

In the units of the area there are periodical supervisions to oversee if the private company is offering the service according to the needed parameters. For example the Municipality of Lezha does daily supervisions and reports about the situation at the end of each month. .

⁵⁸ the non formal service that the county offers regarding collecting waste from unauthorized dumping grounds is hereby calculated.

3.1.5 Inter local cooperation for services and type of agreements

The inter local cooperation is a way for the units to raise the efficiency of the costs. However the success of such an initiative depends on the volition of the unit for its implementation, from its typology, from the appliance of the standards of the service offered etc.

The inter local cooperation needs a preliminary evaluation of the legal aspects so that the interests of LGU and the private companies can match for a common intents, like offering appropriate standards and initiating separate waste collection to lower the collection, disposal and transport costs.

Inter county of Zadrime: There is a structured inter county cooperation to manage waste between the county of Bushat, Blinisht, Hajmel, Dajç and Vaut të Dejës. This is one of the few successful examples in a national level regarding the common offer of public services. Except the standard cleaning services (collection, transport, deposition), there are awareness campaigns regarding the environment being held. An economic unit manages the service according to the allocated funds for the society for each of the LGU which is a member in this society. There is also an environment office and amateur groups that are founded to intensively work with the population for the management of waste.

Ballëdreni: There have been no initiatives of inter local cooperation till this moment. However, the unit has a politic intent to work on such projects with the neighbor units in the future, for example common collecting and transport, division of the collecting vehicles and founding of a common board. Currently the capacities of the unit are inadequate and there is technical and financial assistance needed. **The inter local cooperation is considered to be an alternative notably for Kallmet, Lezha and Bushati in Shkodër.**

Kallmeti: Until this moment there have been no cases of inter local cooperation in the area of waste management. However this unit has the intent to cooperate with other neighbor units for a common collection and transport, division of the collecting vehicles and founding of a common board. An initial initiative has been discussed with the Directors of the Ballëdren Unit which is boundary to Kallmet. Both parties think that a common effort can lower the costs and the service can be more affordable for the current capacities of the units. However a feasibility study needs to be done so that this issue can be decided. The units need assistance regarding the financial and technical aspects of the feasibility study and the organization scheme of the common offer of this service.

Kolshi: Until this moment Kolshi has not been part of an inter local cooperation. However the unit has informal experiences of inter local cooperation with neighbor units in the construction, water management area and drainage of arable land. Kolshi has an urgent need to organize the waste collection that can begin in the enter and then be spread in the whole territory. The chairmen of the unit has a plan to secure the waste management service for boundary villages through the companies that operate in Lezha and Shënkoll. **The unit is open to exploring cooperation possibilities regarding waste collection even with the units of Zejmen and Shënkoll. This cooperation is notably important to withstand the transport costs to Bushat, which are estimated to be very high.**

Municipality of Lezha: Until now, the Municipality has not regarded the inter local cooperation as an option to improve the efficacy of the service cost. However, the officials of the Municipality have agreed that the common collection of waste between Lezha and Shëngjin and collecting the recyclable waste of Shëngjin would represent concret steps ahead in the direction of a stable inter local cooperation and into lowering the operative costs of collection and transport. However, preliminary technical and financial assessments need to be made.

Shëngjin: The unit is ready to cooperate with other units with the purpose of a common organization of the service and the founding/managing of intermediate dumping grounds. In this way the costs of transport and

processing of the waste in the landfill would be lowered. The offer of a common service could be easier, as the same private company which offers the service in Zejmen does so also in Lezha. This is a new idea that needs technical and financial analyses to decide if a concrete realization is possible.

Shënkoll: To lower the transport costs the officials of the unit think that building transfer points as part of an inter local cooperation would be appropriate. They are open to discuss an implementation of a possible interlocal project. This would require a third party to moderate the process, so that the decision is based on a feasibility study that is well designed and detailed. The officials think that a inter local cooperation would be even more encouraged if the issue of county borders is resolved. They have positive cooperation experiences regarding a street rehabilitation project with the county of Zejmen where both counties finance the draft and preparation of the project.

Zejmen: They have positive cooperation experiences regarding a street rehabilitation project with the county of Shënkoll where both counties finance the draft and preparation of the project.

3.1.6 Service Delivery Methods and service infrastructure network in the Area

The network of waste collecting points locations in the whole area is decided by every LGU with the intent of covering their area with the waste management service. The current system of dumping grounds in every unit of the Lezha area has been standardized and consists of wheeled bins, mainly with a capacity of 1100 liters. The bins are used for families and also for private businesses.

There are usually 1 to 3 waste bins located in main roads of the cities, but not necessarily respecting such standards as: distance between collecting points or population's density. The bins are in some cases property of the LGU, and in other cases property of the private company which offers the services. The cost of the maintenance of bins is some times included in the services offered by the cleaning company and in other cases it is covered by special funds of the LGU throughout the year. With the exception of these bins, the LGU places smaller bins (around 30 liters) on the main roads for pedestrians.

To collect waste there are vehicles with different capacities being used. These are property of the private companies. With the exception of the vehicles that collect waste, there are also trucks with cranes being used for the removal of waste mainly in the suburban and rural areas, where standard bins are not present. LGU in Lezha report a shortage of vehicles and their insufficiency and also lack of investments for their maintenance. Waste bins are usually emptied every day by the service providers. According to the contracts they are also responsible for disinfecting the collecting points and for cleaning the place around the bins. However, according to the reports of the administrative units, this happens very rarely.

In the region there are 467 bins with a capacity of 1.1 m³ and 50 bins with a capacity of 3.3 m³, 29 % or 152 bins of which are in a bad state. Normally the bins are damaged because of the fires lit in them.

Situation in every unit:

Lezhë municipality has 50 bins with a capacity of 3.3 m³ (5 % of which are damaged) and 161 bins with a capacity of 1.1 m³ (23 % damaged). The Municipality disposes of 3 trucks which collect the waste. The organic waste is collected every day while recyclable waste is collected 3 times a week. According to an

evaluation (refer to WMP Lezha...)⁵⁹ The Municipality of Lezha disposed of a sufficient number of bins in relation to waste generation.

Balldre: There are no vehicles to offer this service. They are property of the private company and include a limited number of bins with a volume of 1.1 m³. The service company has 100 bins, with a capacity of 1,1 m³. They are located in 70 collection points placed mainly near apartment buildings and according to the service managing plan. The unit rents the collecting vehicles from the private operators.

Kallmet: There are 45 plastic bins with a volume of 1.1 m³ spread in 25 collecting points, usually near crossroads or apartments buildings, covering a 70 % of the territory. There was a plan to raise the number of bins to 50 till 2013 and a plan for their new distribution was approved. The unit does not own any cleaning devices, so it rents collecting/transport vehicles from the private companies.

Kolsh: The unit has planned buying 64 bins in 2013 which will be places in 32 collecting points in the territory according to a drafted plan.

Shëngjin: The unit does not own vehicles for collecting and transport of the waste. They are owned by the private companies. However the unit rents collecting/transport vehicles from the private companies for collecting waste from uncontrolled dumping grounds (in rural and coastal areas). The unit has 100 bins, 60 of which have a standard capacity of 1, 1 m³ and 40 of which have a capacity of 0,5 m³. They are spread in 40 points in the city, in the national road and in Island Shëngjin and Island Lezha. Their condition is very poor/obsolete.

Shënkoll: The company disposes of 350 metal containers, 250 of which have a capacity of 1,7 m³ and 100 of which have a capacity of 1,1 m³. The cointaners are spread in 250 collecting points located mainly near apartment buildings and in most of the villages of the county. The county does not own any vehicles so the collection is done through the vehicles of private companies. The company uses a second hand truck (compactor) with a capacity of 8 ton and another truck of 6 ton to collect. The unit rents collecting/transport vehicles from the private companies for collecting waste from uncontrolled dumping grounds

Zejmen: The County owns an old and small excavator which is often used to clean and collect the waste deposited in informal places. This service is done by a compacting truck with a capacity of 9 ton that is owned and operated by the private company. The unit rents collecting/transport vehicles from the private companies for collecting waste from uncontrolled dumping grounds

3.1.7 Service contracts with private companies

The waste management service is provided mainly inside the boarders of the administrative unit. Most of them have contracted private companies to secure the cleaning service. Such are Lezha, Shëngjini, Kallmeti, Shënkolli, Zejmeni and Balldreni. The Counties of Blinisht and Dajc offer this service in cooperation with three other counties in Shkodra (Bushta, Hajmel and Vau I Dejës) and also manage in together. The County of Kolsh organizes the collection of waste from informal places spread in the territory on its own. The County of Ungrej does not offer this service at all.

Table 31 Contractors of cleaning services

59	Municipality/County	Provided services	Service Provider	Contracted Company	Contract terms	Contract Details	Contract Sum
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Lezha	Collecting waste in 2 flows/transport and elimination in the landfill and transport of the recyclable part	Private Operator	"Iridiani & Kadeli shpk"	2010-2016	6-year contract. Special section for the separation of the waste in 2 flows.	29 milio ALL a year.
Shëngjin	Collecting, removal and transport to the landfill (Bushat) and cleanign of the city	Private Operator	"Iridiani & Kadeli shpk"			
Shënkoll	Collecting, removal and transport to the landfill (Bushat)	Private Operator	V.A.L.E sh.p.k	Recycling	2014-2017	4,67 milio without VA
Kallmet	Collecting, removal and transport to the landfill (Bushat)	Private Operator	V.A.L.E sh.p.k	Recycling		
Zejmen	Collecting, removal and transport to the landfill (Bushat)	Private Operator	"Iridiani & Kadeli shpk"	2014-2017		1.6 milio ALL a year without VA
Ungrej	Does not offer		-	-	-	-
Dajc	Service offered and managed by a intercounty agreement (5 units)	County	Inercounty Zadrime			
Blinisht	Service offered and managed by a intercounty agreement (5 units)	County	Intercounty Zadrime			500,000 ⁶⁰
Balldre	Collecting and transport to the landfill	Private Operator				2,2 milio ALL
Kolsh	Collecting from informal dumping ground (the destiation of the waste is unknown)	County	-	-	-	-

⁶⁰Shuma e alokuar ne buxhet për ndërkomunalen, viti 2014

The duration of the contract varies from 3 to 5 years with a right of the unit to revise the price once a year according to the quantities of waste.

The review of the cleaning contracts shows that a big part of the total sum goes to the collecting, removal and deposition service of the waste in Bushat. For example in the case of Kallmet, Balldren, Shënkoll and Zejmen this service makes for 75 %⁶¹ of the total cost while in Lezha and Shëngjin this service is makes for 45 % of the total cost.

The coast of every unit depends on the frequency in which the waste is being collected. The average cost per unit in the whole area is 3.3990 ALL ⁶² per ton of collected and removed waste. The Municipality of Lezha has a higher cost per unit because the frequency of the service is also much higher (7 times a week). Other urban areas of Shëngjin also have the same frequency while in other units the waste is being collected more rarely.

3.1.8 Service financing and tariff system

There are different tariff norms⁶³ for different categories of service beneficiaries like families, businesses or institutions. This tariffs are assigned from the units themselves and are approved yearly by the municipal/county council, together with other local taxes and tariffs. A study to assign appropriate tariffs for the clients according to the generated waste or according to the offered services has not yet been done. Until now the tariffs have been assigned referring to the old tariffs. Every unit of the area has a lump yearly tariff for the cleaning service for families. This lump tariff reflects neither the size of the family, nor the generated waste not the offered services such as collecting, recycling, processing etc. It is important to be noted that the service tariffs for families have not changed in years and they remain too low to cover the expenses of the services being provided. Meanwhile the LGU increases the business tariffs from time to time and assign very high norms for big businesses trying in this manner to cover their costs. Businesses are tarified depending on their size (big/small) and their branch.

Balldre: The unit uses a different tariff system. The families are tarified with 1000 ALL/year and the small businesses with 3000 ALL/year and the big businesses with 10.000 ALL/year. In 2013 the income should be 2,8 millions, including waste collection, water supply and parks. However, only 21 % of the income was collected. The units budget predicts an income as high as the contracts sum, while the income from the tariff cover only 24% of the contract price while the other part is being subsidized from the units budget. The contract costs consist only in 5% of the yearly budget (or 46.554.000 ALL in 2012).

Kallmet: The tariff for families is 800 ALL a year and for the businesses 10 % of the turnover tax and for big businesses 10.000 ALL a year. The tariff collected in 2012 was 30% of the planed income. The budget allocated by the unit for the cleaning service if equal to the contract cost. The income from the tariff cover 70 % of the contract price while the other part is subsidized by the county budget.

⁶¹ Updated according to all contracts.

⁶² Study of Uri

⁶³ The legal basis for the fee assignment.

- Law nr. 9632, of 30 october 2006 "Regulation of administrative taxes".
- Law nr. 8652, of 31 july 2000 "Organization and functioning of the local government", and
- Law Nr 10117 of 23 april 2009 "For some changes in the Law nr. 9632, of 30 October 2006 "Regulation of administrative taxes".

In 2013 the unit budget consists of the unconditional grant from the state budget with a value of 12.513.000 ALL, while the income of the unit is 10.420.000 ALL. The budget total amount is 22.933.000 ALL and the collection costs are 0,5 % over this budget.

Municipality of Lezha: The tariff system is differenced for families, small businesses, big businesses and institutions. From 2014 the tariff for families is 2200 ALL a year and includes the services of cleaning, parks, lighting, street and sidewalks maintenance. The tariff for big businesses varies in base of their sector of operation, their size and area of operation. For small businesses the tariffs vary from 1000 ALL a year to 25000 ALL a year (for example for plants, slaughterhouses etc.). For big businesses they vary from 12.000 ALL (for freelancers like painters) to 100.000 ALL a year (for example for a construction site, housing development).

The Municipality can not cover all costs of the waste management service due to financial problems. The outstanding obligations till 2012 were pardoned by the landfill in Bushat. In 2013 the main part of the costs were covered by the project "Deposit your waste for 1 Euro" which subsidized 6 euros for every ton of waste, while the landfill of Bushat normally asks for 7 euro/ ton for the deposition of waste. In 2014 the obligations are open since 10 months of time. There is no regular contract with Bushat, just cooperation memorandums.

The budget for the cleaning service in 2014 was 18,121,579 ALL while the income from the cleaning tariff, collected in 2014, was 15,134,000 ALL. The difference is being subsidized from other income of the municipality. The predicted expenses of the budget of the municipality in 2014 are 322,622,000 ALL and the cost of the waste management contract consists in 9% of this budget.

Shëngjini: The unit allocates an extra yearly budget (2013) of 4 428 000 ALL which are used in the summer season to maintain the coasts clean. The total amount of the budget is so 24 108 000 ALL a year.

The budget of Shëngjinit in 2013 is 143 654 000 ALL. The costs of collection and transport of waste consist in 7% of this budget, together with the cleaning service it consists in 17% of the budget.

Shënkoll: The Tariff for families is 1.500 ALL/year. For small businesses it varies from 3.000 ALL to 5.000 ALL a year while for big businesses 10.000 ALL/year. A 30% of the tariff of families and 60% of tariff of businesses was collected in 2012. The total income from the tariff collection cover only 49 % of the yearly costs and the difference is

Zejmen: The tariff for families is 1000 ALL/year, for small businesses 1.250 ALL/year and for big ones 30.000 ALL/year. In 2012 the tariff collection was 0% of the planned collection from families and 65% of the planned collection for businesses. The unit collects only 75 % of the income, covering only 45 % of the contract cost.

Blinisht: In 2013 the allocated sum for the inter county from the unit of Blinisht was 700,000 ALL while the collected income from the tariff of cleaning/park maintenance/water supply was 200.000 ALL. The tariffs in 2014 were 2500 ALL/year for families and 12000 ALL/year for legal persons. The total budget amount in 2014 was 23,243,378 and the allocated budget for the inter county (cleaning service) was 500,000 ALL. The gathered income from the tariff of cleaning/park maintenance/water supply was 200,000 ALL.

3.1.9 Main issues of the area related to integrated waste management

In total, the sector of waste management in the area has a lack of required managing instruments, of investments in the modern technology and of human capacities. There have been efforts to improve this

sector but they have been uncoordinated, fragmented and not efficient. Thereupon there are still negative impacts on the environment.

Other issues are related to: uncontrolled investments from businesses, including the agricultural activity, the uncontrolled exploitation of natural sources, the lack of coordination between the central and local government in drafting and implementing of development politics, the lack of collection and processing of urban waste in urban and rural areas, use of streets, rivers and lakes as dumping grounds for waste of family businesses, the lack of control of the use of organic polluters, lack of monitoring of waste dischargers, demands of the current legislation (PRTR-Pollutant Release and Transfer Register),

The units have to deal with budget issues and a poor financial management of the service (for example the inadequate tariff system, the insufficient income gathering). Summary of this issues follows below:

- Limited budget and lack of investments from the sources of the LGUs. The average operative budget of the units for the waste management of the area is too low.
- Insufficient budget make it impossible to invest on vehicles, devices, containers for the improvement and expansion of the current waste management services.
- Inadequate tariff system which is not based on clear policies to cover the costs of every service being provided to the consumers. A regulation for the whole nation or region would be helpful for the authorities so that they could apply a fair and effective tariff system and in this way covers all costs of the services (for example the tariffs for families are too low, with the exception of the Municipality of Lezha, and other consumers have too high tariffs)
- The tariff gathering from the families is too low. The negative differences in the budget are subsidized from the other incomes of the unit or the other consumers are being tarified more. There still does not exist a system to improve the collection of obligations from the families (for example through the water supply bill)
- Lack of transparency, communication and information towards the public. Regardless of the fact that the service costs include funds for raisins awareness, there is a lack of information means in the area relating to the service costs, tariff system and other issues regarding the environment. An exception is done by the municipality of Lezha and the counties of Blinisht and Dajc through the inter county Zadrime. Lezha is involved in projects raising awareness for the issues of tariff collection and the issues of recyclable waste. The inter county of Zadrime has an information group and organizes awareness programs.
- Lack of local plans regarding waste management (with the exception the Municipality of Lezha)

3.2 Water Supply and Sewage Service

The FA of Lezha is supplied with drinking water especially from the pump station of Barbulloja where there are four main pumps. There are two reservoirs with a deposit capacity of 4,000 m³ and a producing capacity of 400 liters/sec. The service for drinking water supply is managed fully from the UK Lezha.

The water supply system should cover the whole territory in the administrative areas, with an effective cost and a wide spreading. In the Table there are data on inhabited houses and their water supply system according to the municipality/county. In the FA of Lezha operates the UK Lezha Sh.a.

Table 32 Access in water supply

Municipalit	Water supply system
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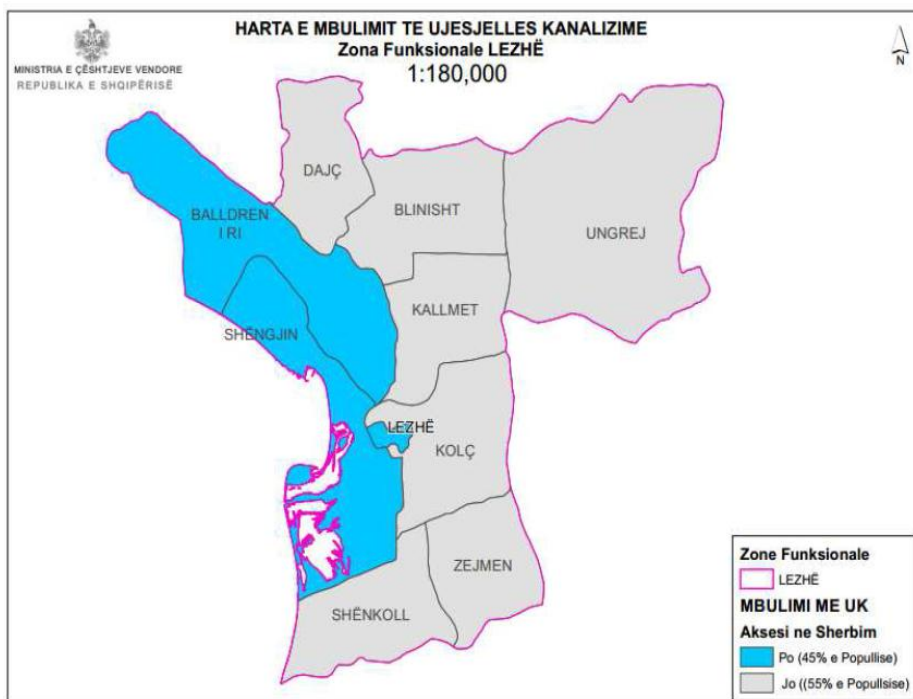
y/County	T o t a l	W a t e r s u p p l y s y s t e m i n s i d e t h e h o u s e	W a t e r s u p p l y s y s t e m o u t s i d e t h e h o u s e, i n s i d e t h e b u i l d i n g	W a t e r s u p p l y s y s t e m o u t s i d e t h e b u i l d i n g	O t h e r s u p p l y s y s t e m	N o S y s t e m
Total amount	1 5, 7 6 5	8, 8 4 6	1,4 74	1,2 85	3, 4 8 5	67 5
Balldren i ri	1, 4 6 7	3 3 8	86	18 5	5 3 9	31 9
Blinisht	8 3 5	6 3 0	85	74	2 8	18
Dajç	9 4 5	5 7 4	14 5	92	1 2 1	13
Kallmet	1, 0 2 5	6 5 0	18 4	87	4 2	62

Kolç	1, 0 3 3	6 5 0	42	13 2	1 6 3	46
Lezhë	4, 0 6 2	3, 7 1 5	18 7	11 5	1 9	26
Shëngjin	1, 9 8 2	1, 5 3 2	19 0	11 1	1 0 7	42
Shënkoll	2, 8 0 1	3 5 4	40 7	22 7	1, 7 7 2	41
Ungrej	3 1 5	4 2	15	69	1 3 8	51
Zejmen	1, 3 0 0	3 6 1	13 3	19 3	5 5 6	57

Source: INSTAT, Census 2011

Around 26,3% of the inhabited houses in the FA of Lezha are not covered by the water supply system of the UK Lezha. 4% of them do not have any kind of water supply system, 22.1% have another type of system. In the FA of Lezha the service of water supply and waste water removal is offered by the Water Supply and Sewage Lezha Corporation (SHAUK). The shares of this corporation are distributed in three LGUs, Municipality of Lezha (55%), County of Shëngjin (22,8%) and County of Balldren (22.2%). The Corporation is lead by the Assembly of Shareholders and Supervisory Board, formed by 6 members (the Chairman and 5 other members).

About 45 % of the population of the FA Lezha has access to this service, while 35 % of the population living in the counties of Dajç, Blinisht, Kallmet, Zejmen, Shënkoll and Ungrej cannot use this service. Based on the secured data, the coverage with drinking water is around 100.0% in the urban areas (Municipality of Lezha) and 35.0% in the rural areas (County of Shëngjin and Balldren).



The total population being supplied with water from the corporation is 31,753 residents and the coverage is 90.7 %. There is a growth in network coverage in the second half of 2014. In the end of 2014 there were 8,108 consumers connected to the network or 397 more than the first half of 2014.

Figure 13 Waste water treatment plant



A new Waste Water treatment plant has been built for the Municipality of Lezha and the County of Shëngjin. The total amount invested by the Albanian Government is 8,3 Million Euros for the plant (4,9 Millions) and the sewage (3,4 Millions) in the touristic areas in Shëngjin and in the city of Lezha. The plant is built to serve a population of 60.000⁶⁴ residents including the city of Lezha and Shëngjin, The plant is a biological type with pre processing and with a laboratory with modern equipment for operating and maintenance. It has a producing capacity of 6.000 m³/day.

The water depots and the pump station are located in Barbulloj. The UK Lezha has a double mechanical lifting system and this affects the high service cost. In 2014 51.5% of the costs were cause by the electric energy, while 36.4 were work costs.

⁶⁴ http://www.dpuk.gov.al/doc/raport_per_performancen_e_kanalizimeve_D.pdf

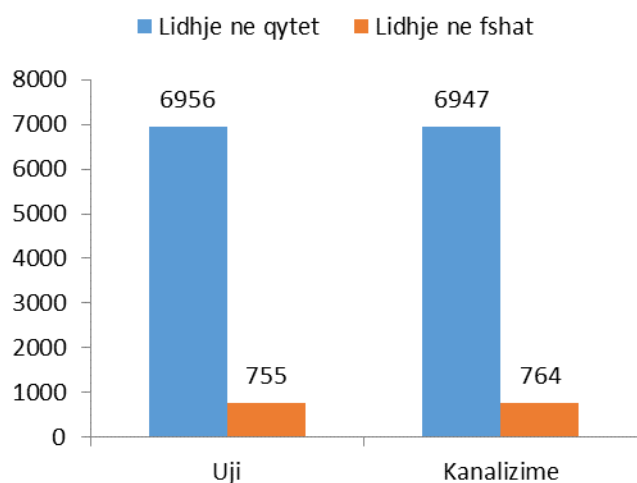


Figure 14 Connection with the sewage and water supply network (june 2014)

Table 33 Lezha Water supply system *Operational costs (December 2014)*

	Operative Costs	In ALL	in %
1	Cost of electric power for the water supply	51,754	51.0
2	Cost of electric power for the sewage system	377	0.3
3	Cost of other electric power (offices etc.)	176	0.2
	Total Cost of electric power	52,307	51.5
4	Personnel costs	35,931	35.4
5	Maintenance, Purchases and services from third parties	7,624	7.5
6	Other operational costs	4,526	4.5
	Costs (water processing plant)		
1	Personnel expenses	1,046	1.0
2	Materials	26	
	Total amount of operational costs	101,460	

The current tariffs of water supply and sewage are effective since 14.01.2014 and have been approved by ERRU SH.A. The UK Lezha offers its services for consumers based on two tariffs, volumetric tariffs for the water supply and for the sewage service. The tariffs are divided in 3 consumer categories: family consumers, state institutions and private companies. The family consumers are 91,2 % of the total number of consumers, while (,4 % are private companies and 0,4 % state institutions.

Table 34 Tariffs of the services of UK Lezha

Consumer Category	Water supply	Sewage
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1	Family consumer	58 lekë/m ³	18 lekë/m ³
2	State institutions	135 lekë/m ³	22 lekë/m ³
3	Private companies	145 lekë/m ³	27 lekë/m ³

69.4 % of the total number of sales is made to family consumers, 10.1% to state institutions and 19.4 % to private companies.

In December 2014 the company had 8,108 consumers divided in the categories shown in the Table, 36.0 % of which pay a flatrate. The company sells water wholesale to the County of Kolsh with a connection point. The approved tariff for wholesale of water is 25 ALL/m³.

Table 35 Number of consumers (December 2014)

Supply type	Family consumers	Institutions	Private companies	Total
Supply by the meter	4,695	18	390	5,103
Supply flatrate	2,682	15	226	2,923
With service tariff	17		65	82
Total	7,394	33	681	8,108

Source: SH.A.UK Lezhë

Table 36 Incomes and receivables of UK Lezha (year 2014)

Income		Receivables		Execution
Indicator	In ALL	Indicator	In ALL	In %
Income from water sales	101,050	Receivable from sales	88,905	72.7%
Income from sewage	21,153			
Income from other services	5,531	Other receivables	5,531	
Total income	127,734	Receivables in total	94,436	73.9%

In January 2014 ERRU approved the tariffs and the performance indicators the corporation must achieve. According to the performance indicators published by ERRU (2014) Lezha operates 4.6 employees fro 1000 connections. The level of these indicators is approximately like the level of other countries in the region where the average employee number is 4-5 employee/1000 connections⁶⁵. The duration of continuous water supply from the UK Lezha was averagely 20 hours a day and the coverage of the water supply and sewage network around 90.7%. 69.4% of the total amount of sales is made to family consumers, 10.1% to state institutions and 19.4% to private companies.

The UK Lezha has achieved some of its objectives but has to work more on cutting the losses, setting meters and growth of the receivables.

Table 37 Performance indicators 2014⁶⁶

Performance indicators	Objectives	Objective achievement
Water without income (losses=	47.0%	48.4%
Meter level	75.0%	63.9%
Water supply duration	20 hours/day	20 hours/day
Energy efficiency	2.5kwh/m ³	2.57kwh/m ³
Staff efficiency	6 p/000/connection	4.6p/000/connection
Water coverage	90.0%	90.68%
Sewage coverage	90.0%	90.68%
Receivables norm	85.0%	73.0%
Water quality (chlor + chloriform)	According to the standards	According to the standards

The length of the water-distributing network is 63 km, 71.4% of which is the distributing network. The sewage network is 28 km long.

Table 38 Data on the distribution network of UK Lezha (year 2014)

Pipeline by material	Lenght km	Pipelines by lanes	Gjatësia km
Total lenght of steel pipelines (km)	56.0	Lenght of the lanes of the main network (km)	18.0
Total lenght of cast iron pipelines (km)	5.0	Lenght of the lanes of the distributing network (km)	45.0
Total lenght of polyethene plastic pipelines (km)	2.0		

⁶⁵ ERRU, yearly report 2014, p.

⁶⁶ Regulating organ, SH.A.UK Lezha and http://www.dpuk.gov.al/ndermarrje_info_txt.php?id=1143&idn=75

Total length of concrete pipelines (km)	20.6		
Lenght of polyethene plastic pipelines (km)	7.0		
Lenght of pipelines of other materials(km)	0.4		

The number of water accidents was 3,518 in 2014 while the number of accidents in sewage was 1,884. This data shows that the UK Lezha inherits an overused infrastructure and has a very high operative cost, which have to be covered by the income from the service tariffs. A project between the Water Supply and Sewage Lezha Corporation and the Municipality of Lezha is currently being applied in the district of Lezha. The project plans the rehabilitation and expansion of the existing water distribution network, installment of new meters for families, building of three reservoirs, rehabilitation of the pump station and some other proceedings.

The overall value of the project is 13.6 Million euros, 80 % of which consist of a grant by the Swiss State (SECO) and 20% of which is a credit finances by Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW). The implementation of this project will contribute in a more effective use of the rare water sources, in the environmental protection with a parallel improvement of the living, work and health conditions of the population. The project has started in the end of 2014 and is predicted to be finished in 2016.

With the help of this funds work is being done on i) rehabilitation of the distribution network with a length of 63 km in the city of Lezha, in the are of SMT and in the trees area, ii) rehabilitation of the well number 1, iii) building of new water depots with a capacity of 4000 m³ each, iv) integration of the water supply system in the existing system and v) securement of maintenance, leak detection and calibration devices. These interventions will insure a growth of the water supply duration from 12-16 hours currently to 24 hours a day within the year 2018.⁶⁷.

Some counties have built their Water Supply and Sewage companies with financing from FZHR and their own incomes. The County of Kolsh buys a part of the water from the UK Lezha and distributes it in its network.

Conclusions:

- Overused infrastructure and high operative cost, which have to be covered by the by the income secured by the service tariffs
- Need for growth of the water distribution duration and need for a potential rise of the cost of this service as a consequence of the electric power by 9%.

⁶⁷ Strategic Plan for the stable Development of the Community of Lezha, 2013–2030 pg. 4

3.3 Roads and public transport

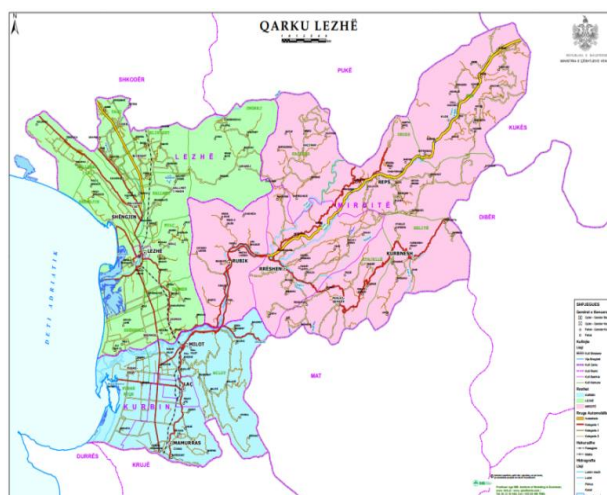
The road network traversing the FA of Lezha is classified in three categories:

- National roads: The Albanian Road Authority is responsible for the maintenance and investing. The length of the road segments traversing the FA Lezha is 130,45 km. For the year 2015 is being invested in the segment Milot-Lezha (repair-asphalting) with a length of 15,3 km and an investment value of 379.385.748 ALL (with VAT).
- Regional Roads – these roads are managed by the Company of Rural Roads, which depends from the District of Lezha. This company manages the whole fund of rural roads for the district or 400km. Only 1/5 of these roads traverse the FA of Lezha.
- County Roads – the counties manage these roads. The fund for these roads is 282,5 km and they have to be maintained by the counties. The investments have been mainly financed by the FZHR through grants or its own income.

The investments of the last ten years have improved a great deal of roads and have affected the traveling time from the LGUs to the center of the FA.

Around 57 % of the FA road network consists of county roads. The main part of the rural roads are roads of the first category (asphalted).

Figure 15: Road network map in Lezha district (Source: MCV)



The Rural Local Government Units have a short distance to the proposed urban center of the Functional Area, which can be reached easily. With the exception of the County of Ungrej, which is located 20 km away and has the longest traveling time (82 min) because of the mountain roads and the bad state of the road, all the other counties can arrive in the center of the FA in 10-20 min (table 1). The Centre of the Functional Area (Lezha) is located in a short distance from the harbor of Shëngjin and the main beaches (Shëngjin, Kune and Vain)⁶⁸.

Table 39: Road Network in the FA Lezha

	National Road (km)	Regional Road(km)	County Road (km)	Travel time to the Fa Center (min)
LGU				

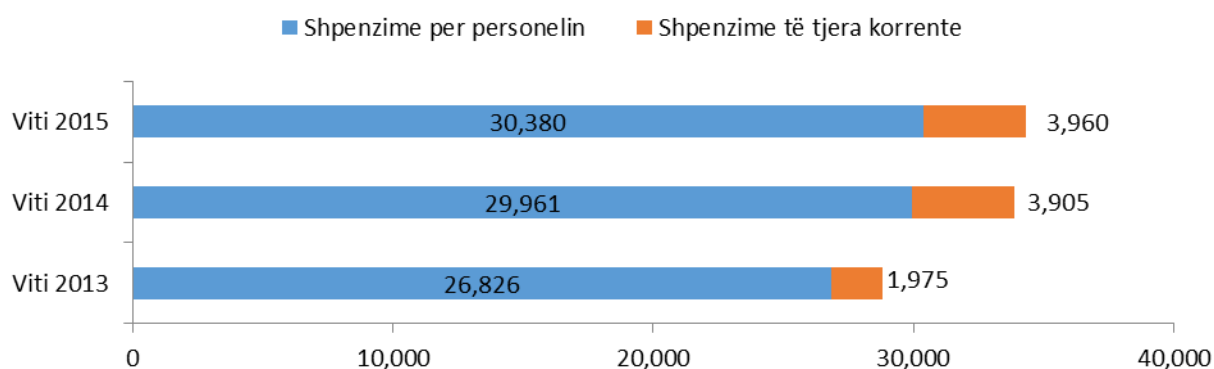
⁶⁸The Distance of Lezha from the harbor of Shëngjin is only 6 km. Distance to the beaches; Lezha-Shëngjin 6 km; Lezha-Kune about 8 km; Lezha -Vain 3 km

Ungrej			48	82
Blinisht		12	32	16
Dajç	7.2	5	26	18
Kallmet	15.95	39	24	13
Kolç			11	10
Zejmen	5		25	13
Ballëdren i Ri	53.3	2	41.5	10
Shëngjin	23,4	2	45	9
Shënkoll	25,6	20	30	14
Lezhë(B)				
Total	130,45	80	282,5	

Source: Administrative Data and Google maps

The rural road network is 80 km, 79 % of which are roads of the first category (asphalt). The budget of the Company of Rural Roads is approved by the district and consists of two categories: expenses for the personnel and other current expenses. The Budget for the current expenses was doubled in 2014, while in 2015 was raised only 1.4%

Figure 16 Budget for the period 2013-2015(in thousand ALL)



Investments in the road infrastructure in the district of Lezha have been profitable in the last decade. For the period 2005-2013 12 projects have been financed by the FSHZH and a total of 71.17 km rural roads have been reconstructed. Mainly the rural roads are in good state, but other investments are needed for signage. The Signage has shortages according to experts of the company.

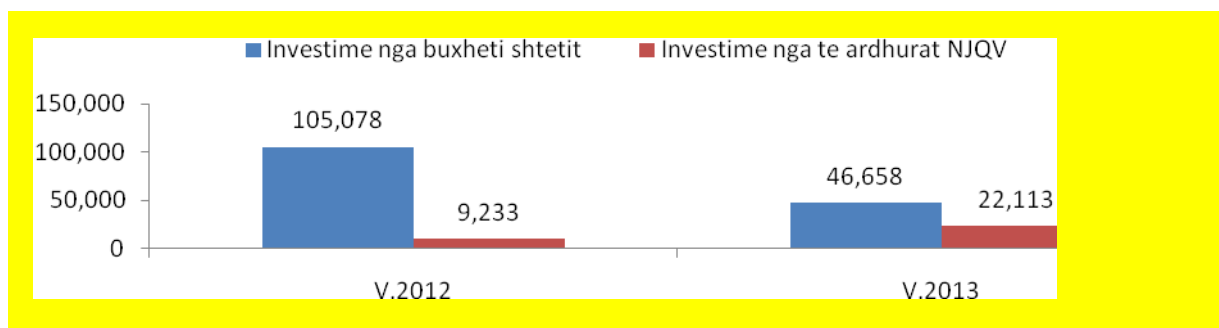
Investimet në infrastrukturën rrugore në rrethin e Lezhës kanë qenë të kënaqshme në dekadën e fundit. Për periudhën 2005-2013 janë financuar nga FSHZH 12 projekte dhe në total janë rikonstruktuar 71.17 km rrugë rurale. Vlera e investimit për të gjitha projektet ka qenë 2,020,319,765 lekë. (shih Tableën në aneksin 2) Përgjithësisht rrugët rurale janë në gjendje të mirë, por nevojiten investime në drejtim të sinjalistikës. Sinjalistika sipas ekspertëve të ndërmarrjes ka mangësi dhe për këtë nevojiten investime.

Tablea 40Rrjeti i Rrugëve Rurale

Nr.	NJQV	Segmenti rrugëve (km)	Kategoritë e rrugëve			Shënime	
			Kat.I Asfalt	Kat.III Kalldrëm	Kat.IV Cakull		
1	K/Kallmet	11	11			Rruga Varrez Qyt-Kallm.vogë	11 km
2	K/Blinisht	25	25			Rruga Kallm.vog-Krajë Rruga Gjadër-Blinisht Rruga Troshen-Qëndër	11 km 12 km 2 km
3	K/Ungrej	15			15	Rruga Kallm.vog-Ungrej	15 km
4	K/Shënkoll	15	15			Rruga Ish SMT-Shënkoll Rruga Superstrad-Tale	10 km 5 km
5	K/Zejmen	5	5			Rruga Zejmen-Superstrad	5 km
6	K/Shëngjin	2	2			Rruga Fabr.Letre-Shëngjin	2 km
7	K/Balldre	2	-	-	2	Rruga Bend-Bisht Jugë	2 km
8	K/Dajç	5	5			Rruga Gjadër-Grash	5 km

Gjatë viteve 2012- 2013 është investuar në disa komuna në rrugët komunale me fonde të buxhetit të shtetit dhe fonde të vet NJQV-e. Mundësitë financiare të komunave për të financuar në rrjetin rrugor janë shumë të vogla. Në shumë raste financimi i projekteve shtrihet në disa vite financiare dhe kjo i bën investimet joefektive (për projektet konkrete shih Tableën në aneksin 2).

Figura 17 Investime në infrastrukturë rrugore (në mijë lekë)



Transporti

Është një aktivitet që ka nevojë për formalizim dhe riorganizim të mëtejshëm në qark. Ai karakterizohet nga problematika të ndryshme duke filluar nga informaliteti në sektor, menaxhim dhe strukturim jo i përshtatshëm, mungesë koordinimi në masa midis autoriteteve të ndryshme përgjegjëse, mosrespektimi i rregullave nga operatorët privatë etj.

Në ZF të Lezhës ky transport organizohet nga subjektet private të licencuara për furgonë taksi (8+1) dhe taksi (4+1). Shërbimi është shumë i copëzuar brenda ZF, dhe për rrjedhojë rezultojnë në një shërbim me kosto të lartë për ofruesin, dhe me një cilësi të ulët për përdoruesit e tij.

Aktualisht shërbimi transportit ofrohet nga subjekte private të licencuara nga NJQV. Në vitin 2012 numri i automjeteve të regjistruara për pasagjerë (taksi 4+1 dhe 8+1) nga bashkia Lezhë ishte 27. Bashkia aktualisht jep licencat për operatorët privatë dhe monitoron zbatimin e orarit dhe mbulimin e linjave. Linjat kategorizohen në linja ndërqytetëse (midis qendrave urbane) dhe rrethqytetëse (fshatqytet). Te parat aprovohen nga Ministria e Transporteve kurse të dytat nga Qarku. Në Lezhë ka 7 linja transporti midis qarqeve, 2 linja brenda qarkut ndërkohë që Laçi vetë administrohet dhe nuk është në kontrollin e Bashkisë. Ka 10 linja të miratuara rrethqytetëse nga të cilat vetëm 4 janë operative. Pjesa tjetër ose administrohet nga njësitë ose ekzistojnë si aktivitete informale. Sipas rregullores njësi duhet të lëshojë një licencë për çdo linjë

transporti dhe çertifikata përçdo mjet. Aktualisht njësitë nuk e respektojnë këtë gjë dhe shumë prej tyre lëshojnë liçenca për cdo mjet kundrejt një tarife të caktuar. Koordinimi me njësitë për ofrimin e shërbimit të transportit thuajse mungon (zakonisht ka disa vende specifike që shërbejnë si stacione por oraret nuk respektohen).

Me bashkimin në një zonë funksionale bashkia Lezhë do të marrë përsipër edhe licencimin dhe mbikëqyrjen e të gjithë subjekteve që ofrojnë shërbimin e transportit publik, si edhe të hartojë një plan për ofrimin e shërbimit të transporti publik. Kjo do të duhet të përfshijë edhe disa linja ndërrurbane mes Lezhës dhe komunave përreth. Një studim i hollësishëm do të nevojitet për kapacitetin e linjave dhe efektivitetin e kostos së tyre. Një nga hapat më të shpejtë është dizajni i një vendqëndrimi për autobusët dhe mjetet e tjera të transportit publik në një nga nyjet në hyrje të qytetit të Lezhës, ku ka një sërë hapësirash të ish-ndërmarrjeve publike të cilat nuk janë aktualisht në shfrytëzim.

Ka një projekt ide që është diskutuar edhe në nivel Ministrie, për krijimin e një autoriteti rajonal për transportin në nivel qarku ku operatorët privatë të jenë aksionerë sipas % aktuale që ato zënë në treg. Projekti nuk ka gjetur mbështetje nga këta të fundit

Konkluzione

- Koordinim dhe mbështetje në hartimin e një Plani Transporti Publik Rajonal, me prioritet zonat turistike
- nevoja për një studim të hollësishëm për kapacitetin e linjave dhe efektivitetin e kostos së tyre; dhe
- nevoja për projektimin dhe ndërtimin e një vend-qëndrimi për autobusët dhe mjetet e tjera të transportit publik në një nga nyjet në hyrje të qytetit të Lezhës.

4. Struktura organizative

Struktura aktuale e Bashkisë Lezhë numëron rreth 150 punonjës, buxheti vjetor i Bashkisë prezantohet në shumën 300 milionë lekë, shpenzimet për personelin përbëjnë 13% të totalit të buxhetit . Kjo strukturë është e orientuar drejt shërbimeve funksionale të njësisë vendore dhe përbëhet nga një zv/kryetar roli i të cilit është thjesht politik pasi nuk ka struktura varësie apo sektorë/funksione për të cilat përgjigjet përpara kryetarit.

Ndërkohë është Kryetari i Bashkisë i cili ka në varësi direkte 9 Drejtori të cilat më tej kanë në varësi drejtori e sektorë specifikë, ajo që bie në sy është ngarkesa e varësisë direkte të Kryetarit i cili ndjek dhe funksionet e deleguara të cilat varësi direkte e tij sic janë gjendja civile apo QKR.

Në kushtet e ndryshimeve ligjore dhe detyrimeve që rrjedhin nga aplikimi i reformës territoriale, konceptimit të zonave funksionale dhe përfshirjes si pjesë e bashkisë Lezhë të njësive vendore dhe shërbimeve që ato ofrojnë për komunitetindel nevoja e rishikimit të strukturës organizative në Bashkisë Lezhë me fokus përmbushjen e nevojave të komunitetit dhe garantimin e ushtrimtë funksioneve të njësive vendore deri në nivelin më të ulët të qeverisjes.

Gjithashtu struktura duhet të japë një ide të qartë të varësisë dhe përgjegjësisë të gjithësecilit dhe të garantojë komunikimin horizontal dhe vertikal, kontrollin, si dhe të lehtësojë kryetarin nga strukturat e shumta direkte dhe ta ndihmojë në vendimarrje.

Bashkia Lezhë është pjesë e zonës funksionale të Lezhës, qendra e bashkisë është Lezha dhe ka në përbërje të saj njësitë: *Lezhë, Shëngjin, Zejmen, Shënkoll, Balldren, Kallmet, Blinisht Dajç, Ungrej dhe Kolsh*. Njësia e re vendore do të duhet ti shërbejë tashmë një numri më të madh popullsie e shpërndarë në zona urbane dhe rurale si dhe do ti duhet të përshtasë strukturën e saj organizative për të manaxhuar më mirë këto territore.

Për tu përballur me mirë me nevojat dhe për ti përktyer ato në shërbime konkrete për komunitetin kërkohet domosdoshmërisht harmonizimi i strukturave organizative me funksionet e njësive vendore, në këtë kuadër një rëndësi primare që në ditët e para të qeverisjes së njësive merr ristrukturimi i tyre për tu përshatur me shërbimet që këto të fundit ofrojnë për komunitetin.

Ristrukturimi duhet të synojë;

Krijimin e një strukture organizative që ti përshtatet nevojave të komunitetit dhe të jetë në harmonizim të plotë me funksionet e njësive vendore si dhe të garantojë:

- Rritja e cilësive të shërbimeve duke krijuar një administratë në shërbim të qytetarëve, të shpejtë në ofrimin e shërbimeve dhe të saktë në përmbushjen e cdo përgjegjësie të ngarkuar.
- Përmbushja e objektivave të përcaktuara me ligj;
- Rritja e efikasitetit të burimeve financiare duke mënjeluar dublimet e funksioneve dhe përgjegjësisë dhe reduktuar kostot e tepërta administrative.
- Përkthime të sakta pune dhe regullore funksionimi.
- Gjithashtu ky ristrukturim duhet të mbështetet në ligjin për Njësien civile dhe të gjitha aktet nënligjore në zbatim të tij.

Më konkretisht:

1. Struktura që propozohet duhet të shprehë qartë ndarjen e funksioneve të njësive vendore si një e vetme dhe do jetë e orientuar në shtyllat e mëposhtme:
 - a) Shtylla planifikuese dhe ajo e politikave të zhvillimit të njësive vendore.
 - b) Shtylla regullatore që në vetvete do të përfshirë kontrollin mbi territorin, planifikimin urban dhe territorin, inspektoriatet e terrenit sic është ai i ndërtimit.
 - c) Shtylla që menaxhon shërbimet publike dhe i ndjek ato në terren. Kjo shtyllë përfundon atë cka hartohet dhe konsolidohet në shtyllën planifikuese.
 - d) Shtylla kontrolluese;

2. Pozicionet politike do të mbahen nga dy zv/Kryetarë të cilët do kenë struktura dhe përgjegjësi direktë lidhur me:

- a) Për funksionet e Planifikimit strategjik
- b) Auditit, si një strukturë që kontrollon të gjitha departamentet dhe institucionet e varësisë.
- c) Marrëdhëniet me publikun
- d) Marrëdhëniet me njësitë vendore pjesë e qytetit të Lezhës, nëpërmjet ngritjes për herë të parë të “zyrës së administratorëve lokalë” që do ketë për qëllim koordinimin me njësitë vendore *Shëngjin, Zejmen, Shënkoll, Balldren, Kallmet, Blinisht Dajç, Ungrej dhe Kolsh të cilat do të përfaqësohen me strukturat e tyre nëpërmjet administratorëve lokalë.*

3. Administratori i qytetit. Propozojmë krijimin e një pozicionit të ri (Administratori i Qytetit (city manager) i cili do jetë përgjegjës për drejtimin dhe koordinimin e punës së administratës së njësisë vendore duke përfshirë dhe strukturat e administratorëve vendore (vetëm për çështjet të funksionimit dhe financimit) të orientuar sipas shtyllave.

- a) Shtylla planifikuese dhe ajo e politikave të zhvillimit të njësisë vendore.
- b) Shtylla regullatore që në vetvete do të përfshirë kontrollin mbi territorin, planifikimin urban dhe territorin, inspektoriatet e terrenit sic është ai i ndërtimit.
- c) Shtylla që menaxhon shërbimet publike dhe i ndjek ato në terren. Kjo shtyllë përfundon atë cka hartohet dhe konsolidohet në shtyllën planifikuese.

4. Struktura e policisë bashkiake, inspektoriat urban dhe Administratorët lokalë do të kenë varësi dyfish si nga Kryetari i Bashkisë në lidhje me ushtrimin e funksioneve të tyre, vendimarrjes dhe varësi administrative nga Administratori i përgjithshëm.

5. Njësitë e Administratorëve lokalë do jenë bërthama që do të drejtohen nga administratorët dhe një staf i limituar, pranë këtyre strukturave do të funksionojnë dhe OSHEE.

6. Në vijim propozohet krijimi i drejtorive administruar nga drejtorë, pozicion i cili sipas statusit të nëpunësit civil mban jo vetëm përgjegjësi në koordinimin dhe administrimin e punëve në drejtori por dhe monitoron detyrat e kryera nga cdo sektor në varësi. Këto drejtori do jenë kryesisht:

- Drejtoria për kujdesin social
- Drejtoria e Zhvillimit Ekonomik,
- Drejtoria e Transportit
- Drejtoria e Rrjeteve inxhinierike dhe ajo e Planifikimit Urban
- Drejtoria e Zhvillimit Urbanistik (dhe zhvillimi rajonal)
- Drejtoria e Kontrollit të Territorit
- Drejtoria e Manaxhimit të shërbimeve
- Drejtoria e Mjedisit
- Drejtoria e Promovimit të Qytetit
- Strehimi
- Struktura mbështetëse (financa, shërbimet mbështetëse burimet njerëzore, juridike etj)
- Drejtoria e teknologjisë dhe informacionit

5. Project Fiches⁶⁹

1. Refrigerating collection facilities

1. General information

Project title	<i>Investigation of investment needs for the construction of Refrigerating Chambers and Collection and Storage Centers of livestock products in the Functional Area of Lezha and their implementation</i>
Project type	<i>Economic development</i>
Project location	<i>Dajc, Blinisht, Kallmet, Ungrej, Balldre, Zejmen, Kolsh, Shënkoll, Lezhë, Shëngjin.</i>
Total pre-estimated budget	<i>200,000 Euro</i>

2. Project background and analysis

Notwithstanding the high potential for agricultural and livestock development of Lezha functional area, territorial and logistical infrastructure does not allow adequate opportunities. The area lacks consolidated center collection, storage and cooling of agricultural and livestock products (cereals, fruits, vegetables, citrus, milk and meat). Not only they are missing but the area lacks also an elaborated study where to set up these facilities. Products are either directly sold to the final consumer (i.e. local farmers who sell at the roadside, unable to provide sales market differently), or collected, stored and transported mostly under inappropriate conditions. Trade exchanges between producers and processors are not formalized. They are not realized in the most efficient and effective manner possible, according to a well- designed plan, in line with business needs and market demand. (i.e.: *higher transportation costs for operators due to the high fragmentation of markets*).

3. Project specific objectives

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the economic development of the area through the support of one of its priority sectors, such as agriculture and farming.

The specific objectives are as follows:

- Creating favorable conditions for an efficient and effective activity of agricultural, livestock and agro-industrial businesses in line with a plan tailored to the available logistics, better access, potential and needs of economic operators in the field;
- Collection and preservation of agricultural products under appropriate hygienic-sanitary conditions through the consolidation of agriculture and livestock infrastructure.

4. Expected results and project indicators

⁶⁹ The order in which the projects have been presented is purely coincidental and not indicative of preferences of any sort.

All local units of the functional area (10 units) are expected to benefit from this project, including those typically specialized in agriculture and farming. Even those that are not specialized, for instance Lezha or Shëngjin, will serve as logistic centers in the network to provide access to the products in domestic markets and beyond. The number of beneficiary population includes the residents all over the area territory, 102,792 residents (as per the Civil Register of 2011) or 65,633 (according to Census 2011). The collection, storage and cooling points will not be necessarily established at every unit but will be grouped upon request and based on the logistic surrounding support.

The main indicators of this project are as follows:

- Support to the introduction of quality systems and food safety, and reduced losses after collection and improvement of the storage techniques and capacities;
- Improvement of treatment and waste management from the agricultural sector;
- Improvement of storage and trading of fruit and vegetable products.

5. Project activities

The project to include a study and execution of investments is planned to last for a period of 2.5 years. The activities are as follows:

1. Area feasibility study:

- Market survey includes the assessment of market opportunities in terms of products, prices, logistics /market channels, trading/promotion; (time required: 1 month; cost: 4-5 thousand Euro)
- Identification of farmers/groups of farmers that may be included in the schemes of contracted supply and intensification of production (meetings, working groups, other events, study tours); (time required: 3 months; cost: 8-10 thousand Euro)
- Identification of location and design of physical investments– identification of technical specifications of infrastructure; (time required: 2 months; cost: 10-15 thousand Euro)
- Additional studies – includes legal support for the execution of investments (establishment of management units) and financial analysis of costs and profits; (time required: 2 months; cost: 8-10 thousand Euro)

2. Works and equipment with supporting technology of the points of collection and partial processing of products (with a view of trading)⁷⁰:

- Construction/ rehabilitation of physical infrastructure –depending on the findings of the feasibility study; (per unit / time needed: 9 months; cost: 60-70 thousand Euro)
- Equipment by supportive technology– depending on the findings of the feasibility study; (For 1 unit / time required: 3 months; cost: 40-60 thousand Euro)
- Technical assistance for the implementation of “EUREP GAP / GLOBAL GAP” and “QUALITY CONTROL” (time needed: during the project implementation – 18 months; cost: 20-25 thousand Euro covered by the beneficiary).

3. Marketing and promotion of the initiative and products:

- Participation in “B2B” fairs and meetings (time required: 2-3 meetings during the first year of implementation; cost: 6-7 thousand Euro)
- Preparation and distribution of promotional materials (time needed: during the first year of implementation; cost: 2-3 thousand Euro)

6. Project maturity

⁷⁰ Merkato and Qafzotaj, financing of FAO/Italian Cooperation FAO GCP/ALB/005/ITA – cost: 120.000 EURO

The project involves the design of a feasibility study for the Functional Area of Lezha regarding the needs for investment to set up points of collection, storage and cooling of agricultural and livestock products. It will launch a feasibility study that is missing for that sector and it will be further developed through the implementation of some priority investments (establishment of these points) and creation of the institutional unit to manage that network. If the study is not drafted in advance, it will be hard to properly channel investment. Further, if there is no institutional unit in place for its management and smooth implementation, it will be hard to ensure a coherent initiative.

7. Financing sources and implementation partners

Financing sources may be diversified; public and private funds, funds from the big municipality, IPARD EU funds etc.

A relevant stakeholder for the project implementation can be the Regional Agricultural Directorate, in cooperation with the big Municipality and the local association of farmers.

8. Project cost

The project is planned to cost 158.000 – 205.000 Euro

- Feasibility study: 30 – 40 thousand Euro;
- Works and equipment with supporting technology: 120 – 155 thousand Euro;
- Marketing and promotion of initiative and products: 8 – 10 thousand Euro.

II. Digital Tourism

- **General Information**

Project Title	<i>Establishment of a Digital Platform for Promotion of Touristic Destinations in Lezha Area.</i>
Project Type	<i>Economic Development</i>
Project Location	<i>District of Lezha</i>
Total Pre-estimated Budget	<i>50,000 Euro</i>

9. Project Background and Analysis

Lezha region cannot currently manage the full touristic potential (regional) through the existing information and promotion mechanisms. Touristic information and data is currently under the ownership of NGO leading individuals or private touristic agencies. Their visibility is too low. The region in general, and the Functional Area in particular, do not have a full inventory of all touristic sites and assets (natural, monuments, cult objects etc.). This project is a very useful initial tool which will centralize and organize the key information and promotional messages in a single website portal, easily identifiable in World Wide Web, supported by a simple service of functional contacts and information update. Also, the preliminary work for this project will start with an initial inventory of all the touristic assets of the region. The project will also contribute to consolidation of capacities of human resources engaged in its activities.

10. Project Specific Objectives

- Improvement of regional touristic marketing and increase of quality of touristic services;
- Information and networking of regional partners;
- Identification and promotion of touristic products, sightseeing and other sources;
- Improvement of regional competition through improvement of competition of SME operations (Small & Medium Enterprise) in tourism sector.

11. Expected Results and Project Indicators

- Capacity development for the implementation of marketing practices;
- Capacity development for the management of the platform;
- Increase of visibility of touristic sources, products, and operators.

12. Project Activities

The project, including a study and implementation of investments, is planned to be implemented within a period of 1 year.

The main activities are as follows:

- Establishment of a regional partnership realized at district level;
- Establishment of working groups based on main issues;
- Identification of the content and presentations;
- Development of the platform for the regional tourism;
- Compilation of database to be promoted through the digital platform;

- Maintenance and update (increased capacities with other interested actors to be engaged);
- Designation of the standard operational procedures;
- Negotiation of links with other networks/ WebPages/ promotion of the platform to other local touristic operators;
- Procurement of services.

13. Project Maturity

The project is part of the Strategy of Tourism of Lezha District and part of project basis designed by RDP Program. It can start quickly, because it is simple to be implemented. The project starts with a preliminary important inventory process of all touristic assets of the region, as a precondition to further build the required promotion platform. It is a very important project for the touristic sector, which is a priority for the Area. If there is not any institutional consolidated structure with clear responsibilities for the management and support, it will be hard for this initiative to be successful.

14. Financial Funds and Implementation Partners

Fund may be provided by various sources: public and private funds, District Council, the big Municipality budget, various EU programs (such as IPA), grants such as those given by DLDP, etc.

The main stakeholder for the implementation of this project is the District Council, in cooperation with the regional agency for Lezha development (LERDA), NGO, etc.

15. Project cost

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| • Human Resources: | (20.000 Euro) |
| • Platform + Database + Maintenance for 2 years: | (20.000 Euro) |
| • Training events, promotional materials etc: | (10.000 Euro) |

III. Butchery facility

1. General Information

Project Title	<i>Study on Demand for Investment of a Butchery Facility in the Functional Area of Lezha and its Construction.</i>
Project Type	<i>Economic Development</i>
Project Location	<i>Dajç, Blinisht, Kallmet, Ungrej, Balldre, Zejmen, Kolsh, Shënkoll, Lezhë, Shëngjin.</i>
Total Pre-Estimated Budget	<i>400,000 Euro⁷¹</i>

2. Project Background and Analysis

Livestock butchery operations in Lezha Functional Area is fragmentized and carried out mostly in farms for individual consumption and informal markets, or performed at butchery points which do not comply with the hygiene and environmental requirements and standards under the applicable legislation. The butchery points have an outdated technology and low capacity of butchery.

The situation is that due law enforcement inspections from responsible public institutions in these butchery points would bring to a collapse of this service in this area.

3. Project Specific Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the economic development of the area, and enhance the hygiene and environmental standards, through support of one of the priority of the area, such as the processing of food products of livestock origin.

Specific Objectives are as follows:

- Supporting the introduction of a quality system and food security in the butchery process of animals for human consumption.
- Improving the treatment and management of remains and other sub-products of livestock origin.

4. Expected Results and Project Indicators

This project is expected to generate benefits for all local units of the Functional Area (10 units); including those which are typically specialised in livestock breeding. The number of beneficial population includes all the inhabitants of the Area territory : 102,792 inhabitants (based on the Civil Registry 2011) or 65,633 (based on Census data of 2011). The butchery facility will be established in a local unit which can provide access to all other local units of functional area for the transport of livestock, and will be selected based upon the surrounding logistic requirements and support.

Estimations of distribution of the capacity of the butchery facility is according to the following table, based on the calculation of the number of activities of Functional Area related to butchery operations of pigs, calves, and lambs.

Planned capacity of the butchery facility:

⁷¹ This budget does not consider the operational cost of butchery facility, including those for the necessary human resources.

Description	Capacity in 1 day	Working days in 1 year	Capacity in 1 year
Butchery of calves	80	100	8,000
Butchery of pigs	240	90	21,600
Butchery of lambs	300	80	24,000

5. Project Activities

The project, which will include a study and implementation of investments, is planned to be finalized in 2 years. The main activities of the project are as follows:

4. The feasibility study of the area:

- Market survey – includes an assessment of market opportunities in terms of distribution of the product, process, market logistics/ channels, marketing/ promotion (time required: 1 month; cost: 5000 Euro);
- Identification of location and assignment of physical investments – technical specifications of infrastructure (time required: 2 months; cost: 20000 Euro);
- Supplementary studies – including legal support for the implementation of investments (establishment of management structure) and analysis of financial cost and benefits (time required: 1 month; cost: 5000 Euro).

5. Necessary works and support with technology of the butchery:

- Construction / rehabilitation of physical infrastructure – based on the findings of feasibility study (time required: 16 months; cost: 150,000 Euro);
- Providing the necessary technology, including the plant for the treatment of livestock remains – based on the findings of the feasibility study (time required: 12 months; cost: 200,000 Euro);
- Technical assistance for the implementation of “HACCP” (time required: 6 months; cost: 20,000 Euro).

6. Project Maturity

The project includes the development of a feasibility study for Lezha Functional Area related to the demand for investments of a butchery facility. The project will launch a feasibility study which is missing in this sector and will follow with the execution of investment, establishment of an institutional unit tasked with the management of this butchery facility. If the study is not initially conducted, there will be many difficulties for the assignment of the right location of the butchery facility, in order to provide this service throughout the territory of the Functional Area.

7. Financing sources and Implementation Partners

Funds may be generated from different sources: public and private funds, from the big Municipality budget, IPARD funds of EU, etc.

The main stakeholder for the project implementation may be the Regional Agricultural Directorate in cooperation with the big Municipality.

8. Cost of the Project

The project is expected to have a cost of 400,000 Euro, including as follows:

- Feasibility study: 30,000 Euro;
- Other Works and supporting technology: 370,000 Euro;

IV. Vineyards

1. General information

Project title	Support to the vineyard & viticulture sector and local brand of Kallmet wine
Project type	Economic development
Project location	As per Table 1
Total pre-estimated budget	400,000 Euro

1. Project background and analysis

Vineyards and wine production are one of the main economic activities for a number of the Functional Area units, in particular for Zadrime area, including Kallmet units and Kashnjeti village, which have had a relatively long tradition in this field. This area is also known for local variety of Kallmet grape.

There are a number of Kallmet wine producers in the area, but the average size of vineyards is small. Additionally, farmers do not always have adequate technical knowledge about care to vineyards, to ensure quality, non-contamination (i.e., use of pesticides), and do not always provide good performance of vineyards. Therefore, quality of the wine produced changes over years, beyond variation as a result of ordinary natural factors.

Support by this sector is of major importance, considering the inherent potential of knowledge and good reputation of the wine brand produced in this area, as well as potential areas for further development of this activity.

Table 172: The territory where the project will be implemented:

FA Lezhë Local Units	Surface of vineyards (hectares)	No of farms with vineyards	No. of vineyard farms with surface ≥ 0.1 hectares	Cadastral zone	Code of the cadastral zone
Zejmen	19.80	66	21	Zejmen	3901
				Tresh	3641
				Prull	3063
				Berzan	1168
				Pllan	2995
				Markatomaj	2604
				Spiten	3502
Shënkoll	20.30	139	50	Shënkoll	3351
				Rilë	3181
				Tale 1	3559
				Tale 2	3968
				Barbullojë	1099
				Grykë Lumi	1879
				Gajush	1685
Balldren	20.00	94	28	Balldren	1086
				Kakarriq	2029
				Gocaj	1783
				Balldren i Ri	1087
				Torovicë	3615
				Malecaj	2562
Kallmet	42.00	245	45	Kallmet i	2054

⁷² Information from the Project "EuropeAid/124908/C/SER/AL - Creation of a Vineyard Cadastre – Albania"

				Vogël	
				Merqi	2660
Dajç	34.00	172	42	Dajç	1434
				Gjadër	1716
				Gramsh	1843
				Mabë	2544
				Dragush	1533
				Kotërr	2246
				Zojs	3948
Blinisht	46.00	272	72	Blinisht	1220
				Troshan	3650
				Fishtë	1624
				Krajinë	2263
				Piraj	2964
				Baqël	1096
				Kodhel	2187
Total	182.10	988	258		

2. Project specific objectives

The overall objective of the project is to enhance production and quality of local brand by expanding access to national and foreign markets.

These are the Project's specific objectives

- Establishment and operation of the vineyards cadastre for the Functional Area (qualified as an area with geographical defined indication);
- Operation of approved wineries in conformity with standards, and the use of appropriate oenological practices;
- Formalization of the wine sector in the Functional Area, through the structuring of relations between vineyard producers and wineries and creation of concerned "cluster";
- Promotion of traditional values of the Functional Area, by promoting the local brand of wine, registration and protection of geographical indications, as well as registration and protection of origin.

3. Expected results and project indicators

Farmers of the Functional Area are direct beneficiaries of the project. There are actually about 190 hectares planted with vineyards and two main wineries (Kallmet and Gjok Gjini) in the Functional Area of Lezhë. All the farms in Lezhë use fertilizer (*inter alia*, a very low percentage of chemical fertilizer) and about 55% of the farms use pesticides. In total, the project can directly provide benefit to about 988 farms with vineyards in six constituent units of the Functional Area (population 12,900 residents, or 20% of the Functional Area). However, it is aimed at expanding vineyard sector and increasing the products' added value.

Expected results:

- Increase by 400 hectares of the area cultivated with vineyards, for a period of five years;
- Use of checked and indigenous seedlings, to ensure product quality, geographical indications registration and protection as well as origin registration and protection;
- Increase of productivity and base product quality, by means of cooperation among farmers and training of them;

- Registration and recognition of Kallmet brand name and penetration to national and foreign markets.

4. Project activities

The project, which will include technical support and investment implementation, is planned to take 20 months and the scheduled activities are as follows:

6. Feasibility study of the area and cadastre creation:

- Search on the status / creation of the vineyard cadastre in the Functional Area - which includes: i) identification of vineyards parcels⁷³ and ii) description of the vineyard plots⁷⁴ (time needed: 6 months; cost: 35 – 40 thousand Euro)
- Research / analysis on the possibility - including assessment on: farm production possibilities, wineries distiller possibilities, price, market logistics / channels, marketing / promotion (time needed: 1 month; cost: 10 to 15 thousand Euro);
- Identification of farmers/farmers' groups that may be included in "Cluster" and intensification of production (meetings, working groups, other events, study visit) (time needed: 3 months; cost: 5-10 thousand Euro);
- Identification of the location and design of physical investment - identification of technical specifications of vineyards' supporting infrastructure (time needed: 2 months; cost: 10 to 15 thousand Euro);
- Additional studies - includes legal support for the execution of investments (creation of "Cluster") and financial analysis on costs and benefits (time needed: 2 months; cost: 15 to 20 thousand Euro).

7. Works in the vineyard supporting infrastructure:

- Construction / rehabilitation of physical infrastructure (irrigation/drainage/supporting infrastructure for collection) - depending on the findings from the feasibility study (time needed: 12 months; cost: 100-150 thousand Euro);
- Supply with quality local seedlings and other materials for production, such as organic products used for plant protection (time needed: 8 months, cost: 50 to 80 thousand Euro);
- Technical assistance for implementation of cultivation and oenological best practices (time needed: 8 months, cost: 20 to 25 thousand Euro)

8. Marketing and promotion of initiative and products:

- Participation in fairs and meetings "B2B" (time needed: 4-5 meetings during the second phase of implementation, cost: 20 to 30 thousand Euro);
- Preparation and distribution of promotional materials (time needed: during the second phase of implementation, cost: 10 to 15 thousand Euro).

5. Project maturity

The project is not preceded by a feasibility study and is still in the phase of inception. A version of this project was conceived with the RDP, which offers advice about brand recognition to activities. Costs have been

⁷³ Identification is the process of finding each vineyard parcel in base maps of reference. A first step where manufacturers claim cadastral identification of vineyard owned by them, and this is verified by location in cadastral and orthophotos maps. **This procedure means that rural cadastral maps are made available to this project by MARDWA (Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration).**

⁷⁴ Description of the vineyard consists of completing a registration form, which contains data on the vineyard (ie. cadastral data, identification of the vine / plant that grows, area, grape variety, cultivation system, etc.)

estimated approximately. Costs are increased in proportion to the intervention depth. Rural cadastral maps by **MARDWA** are necessary requirement for the implementation of this project.

6. Financing sources and implementation partners

The Regional Directorate of Agriculture, the Municipality of Lezhë (Functional Area) are the main implementing stakeholders. Wineries and area farmers may have direct interest in the project, as direct beneficiaries.

The state budget and municipality budget are the sources for providing funding, as well as IPARD schemes (in this regard, applicants must be the wine cellars and farmers).

7. Project costs

- Area feasibility study and cadastre creation: 75,000 – 100,000 Euro
- Works in the vineyard supporting infrastructure: 170,000 – 255,000 Euro
- Marketing and promotion of initiative and products: 30,000 – 45,000 Euro

Total cost of the project amounts to 275 – 400 thousand Euro

V. Drini Bike Lane

1. General Information

Project Title	<i>Project of a Bike Lane alongside Old Drini river, linking the area Zadrinë - Lezhë- Shëngjin</i> <i>(extension of Bike Lane/ Dajçi project (Buna Riverside: "Living the River")</i>
Project Type	<i>Economic Development</i>
Project Location	<i>Ballëdre, Dajç, Blinisht , Kallmet, Lezhë, Shëngjin</i>
Total Pre-Estimated Budget	<i>300,000 Euro</i>

2. Project Background and Analysis

Lezha Functional Area is characterized by lack of a coordinated and integrated approach of the touristic package; lack of well developed touristic concepts and products (*agro/echo/nature/sea oriented tourism*); low visibility/integration with national/international touristic itineraries; faulty inventory of own touristic resources and poor maintenance/management; flaws in infrastructure in support of tourism (*roads, road signage system, river embankments etc*), lack of capacity of rational use of water assets; poor management of factors affecting the sustainability of tourism in the area (*such as illegal constructions, hydraulic disorders in river areas, biodiversity poverty, degradation of protected areas Kune-Vain, damage of formations of forest trees, and deterioration of habitats, erosion etc.*). The project of a Bike Lane alongside Old Drini River will contribute to:

- The concept of a diversified touristic product (*agro/echo/nature/sea related tourism*);
- Mobilization of local actors for addressing the abovementioned risks;
- Organization of diversified network of touristic operators willing to be integrated; and
- Increase of visibility of the Functional Area in national/international touristic packages.

3. Specific Objectives of the Project

Some of main objectives of the project are as follows;

- Offering a consolidated, improved, and diversified touristic product able to be integrated in national/international networks;
- Mobilization, awareness and networking of local/regional partners, public and private, in the tourism sector and its problematic issues;
- Improvement of competition in the region through improvement of competition of Small & Medium Enterprise (SME) operations in the tourism/agriculture areas.

4. Expected Results and Project Indicators

- Increase of local capacities (public and private) in the area of touristic planning and development;
- Increase of visibility of touristic resources, products, and operators along the path areas;
- Intensification of local/regional cooperation (between Lezha and Shkodra units);

- Advanced address of risks affecting a sustainable tourism in the area.

5. Project Activities

The main activities of the project, which is planned to be implemented in 2 years, are as follows:

- Establish a regional partnership among local actors;
- Identify the itinerary on the ground and improve the physical conditions of road infrastructure;
- Signage road system;
- Link/integration with the similar project/ bike lane in Shkodra (Living the River)
- Promotion/marketing/ information and public awareness activities

6. Project Maturity

The project is part of the basic projects designed by the RDP Program for Lezha and extension of a similar project in Shkodra (Dajç, Buna Riverside). RDP Program has recently funded the project “Living the River”, under which framework it is developed a consolidated and integrated touristic product (some bike paths, free parking places, sightseeing stops at places of particular natural/ cultural/ historic interest, promotion sites and sales of characteristic agricultural/ livestock/ handicraft products of the surrounding areas). The project can benefit from other previous experiences and be easily implemented in Lezha following Shkodra model. Project starts with a very important preliminary process of major problematic issues along the river and surrounding areas by local stakeholders. For a better management and maintenance of the project, it is planned to establish an institutional consolidated, comprehensive unit with clear responsibilities. This structure will be also responsible for continuous monitoring (even after the implementation of the project) of the situation and factors affecting its sustainability and awareness of the community for its maintenance.

7. Financing sources and Implementation Partners

Financial funds can be generated from various sources: local and/or private funds, various EU programs (such as IPA), grants as dldp etc.

The main interested stakeholder for the implementation of this project is the big Municipality, its local units, in cooperation with NGO-s of the area.

8. Project cost

- Identification of the itinerary on the ground and improvement of physical conditions of road infrastructure (150,000 Euro)
- Signage road system (100,000 Euro)
- Promotion/marketing/ information and public awareness activities (50,000 Euro)

VI. Planifikimi në turizëm

16. Të dhëna të përgjithshme

Titulli i projektit	<i>Hartimi i instrumenteve të planifikimit të territorit në zonën turistike bregdetare</i>
Tipi i projektit	Zhvillim ekonomik/Turizëm/shërbime publike
Vendndodhja e projektit	<i>Lezhë, Shëngjin, Shënkoll</i>
Buxheti total i paravlerësuar	<i>105,000 euro</i>

1. **Sfondi dhe analiza e problemit.** Një analizë e shkurtër e situatës që doni të ndryshoni duke shpjeguar nevojën për këtë projekt; a është projekti i harmonizuar me analizat e kryera gjatë përgatitjes së FAP⁷⁵? (maks. 10 rreshta)

Turizmi është një nga sektorët prioritarë të zhvillimit të ZF Lezhë, e cila përfshin disa destinacione të turizmit bregdetar me relevancë kombëtare në territorin e Shëngjin dhe Shënkollit. Potenciali turistik i këtyre zonave nuk është realizuar ende, në mungesë të infrastrukturës së përshtatshme pritëse, përfshirë struktura hoteliere, rrjete shërbimi të integruara dhe infrastrukturë transporti e sinjalistikë të përshtatshme. Shëngjini ka një masterplan të miratuar nga autoritetet kompetente dhe Shënkolli ka tashmë një plan në proces; por gjykohet se është e nevojshme që e gjithë zona të studiohet në kompleksitet si zonë bregdetare dhe në kontekstin e flukseve të pritshme e zhvillimit të sektorëve mbështetës.

Pjesa më e madhe e turistëve në zonë janë ditorë, cka bën që të ardhurat e gjeneruara në nivel vendor të jenë modeste në krahasim me potencialin, ndërkohë që barra mbi shërbimet lokale është pothuajse e njëjtë. Ndërkohë që në Shëngjin janë zhvilluar pak hotele dhe shtëpi pritëse, Shënkolli mbetet ende i pazhvilluar dhe i orientuar më shumë drejt bujqësisë pavarësisht vijës bregdetare të bukur që ka. Trysnia e zhvillimit pritët të vijë shumë shpejt drejt kësaj zone, pas zhvillimit të Velipojës në veri dhe Lalzit në jug. Është përgjegjësi e sektorit publik t'i paraprijë këtij zhvillimi nëpërmjet hartimit të instrumenteve të përshtatshme të planifikimit vendor të cilat do të orientojnë zhvillimin drejt një modeli të qëndrueshëm.

2. Objektivi/at specifikë të projektit (maks. 4-5 rreshta)

Objektivi i projektit është orientimi i zhvillimit të turizmit drejt një modeli të qëndrueshëm që i jep frymëmarrje sektorit privat dhe krijon hapësira e shërbime urbane moderne

Objektivat specifike të projektit janë:

- Zhvillimi i turizmit sipas një vizioni të konsoliduar duke siguruar një platformë të qëndrueshme për garantimin e investimeve në këtë sektor;

⁷⁵ FAP- akronimi në Anglisht i programit të Zonës Funkzionale (Functional Area Programme).

- Arritja e standardeve të larta të jetesës dhe atyre social-kulturore për banorët e njësive të zonës funksionale dhe turistëve potencialë;
- Rritja e qëndrueshmërisë ekonomike të zonës si pasojë e diversifikimit të aktivitetit ekonomik efektiv;

3. Rezultatet e pritshme dhe treguesit e projektit (maks. 5-6 rreshta)

Rezultatet e pritshme janë:

- Krijohen instrumentet për lehtësimin e investimeve madhore në sektorin e turizmit
- Rritet vlera e shtuar e sektorit të turizmit në ekonomi si rezultat i ndryshimit të strukturës së brendshme të industrisë

Popullsia përfituese direkte është popullsia e Shëngjinit dhe e Shënkollit, rreth 33% e popullsisë totale të zonës, të cilët do të përfitojnë nëpërmjet:

- Rritjes së investimeve në zonë
- Modeli i turizmit të qëndrueshëm
- Punësim
- Shërbime më të mira publike
- Planifikimi i mirë i infrastrukturës vendore
- Rritje e të ardhurave nga turizmi
- Fuqizim i sektorëve mbështetës të turizmit (bujqësia, agroindustria, guida turistike etj).

Përfitues të tjerë janë edhe popullsia e gjithë ZF të Lezhës dhe komuniteti i biznesit.

4. Aktivitetet e projektit (maks. 5-6 rreshta)

Projekti parashikohet të zgjasë rreth 18 muaj. Aktivitetet përfshijnë:

9. Studim i potencialit turistik të zonës dhe krijimi i platformës së politikave për zhvillimin e tij:

- Studim i potencialit turistik në njësitë e ZF – që përfshin: hartimin e projekt planit të zhvillimit të bregdetit dhe instrumenteve të kontrollit të përdorimit të tokës, hartimin e planit të përdorimit (koncesioneve) të plazheve, analizën e kostove për respektimin e standardeve të larta ekologjike, dhe vlerësimi afat-gjatë i potencialit të turizmit; (koha e nevojshme: 6 muaj; kosto: 20 mijë euro)
- Zhvillimi i një ofertë turistike e përfshirë në një destinacion turistik; (koha e nevojshme: 3 muaj; kosto: 10 mijë euro)

10. Investime në sistemin e menaxhimit të të dhënave :

- Krijimi dhe mbajtja e sistemit elektronik të grumbullimit dhe përpunimit të të dhënave statistikore. Është i nevojshëm organizimi i mbledhjes dhe analizës së të dhënave statistikore sipas standardeve ndërkombëtare, përmes zbatimit të sistemit të të dhënave për numërimin e turistëve (Tourism Satellite Accounts–TSA). (koha e nevojshme: 8 muaj; kosto: 35 mijë euro)

11. Mbështetje e sektorit privat, marketim dhe promovim i iniciativës:

- Asistence për rritjen e nivelit të cilësisë në të gjitha strukturat akomoduese, si dhe përshtatjen me kriteret e kategorizimit sipas standardeve ndërkombëtare të cilësisë; (koha e nevojshme: 1 muaj; kosto: 5 mijë euro)
- Aktivitete promociionale në kërkim të rritjes së tregjeve dhe lobim për futjen e “markave” të njohura hoteliere ndërkombëtare; (koha e nevojshme: 1 muaj; kosto: 15 mijë euro)
- Edukimi i stafit drejtues dhe punonjësve në sektorin e turizmit; (koha e nevojshme: 1 muaj; kosto: 10 mijë euro)
- Përgatitje e projekteve në fushat e trashëgimisë kulturore materiale dhe jomateriale; (koha e nevojshme: 1 muaj; kosto: 5 mijë euro)
- Përgatitje e projekteve të restaurimit që adresojnë edhe çështjet e mbrojtjes së peizazhit dhe planeve të zhvillimit urban. (koha e nevojshme: 1 muaj; kosto: 5 mijë euro)

5. Pjekuria e projektit (5-6 lines)

Projekti është i gatshëm për t’u filluar. Në vetvete është një projekt përgatitës për zhvillimin e ardhshëm.

6. Burimet e financimit dhe partnerët e zbatimit (maks. 3-4 rreshta)

Aktori më i përshtatshëm për financimin e projektit është Bashkia Lezhë dhe/ose Ministria e Zhvillimit Urban. Aktorë zbatues përfshijnë edhe Agjencinë e Planifikimit të Territorit dhe Agjencinë e Bregdetit

7. Kostot e projektit (maks. 3-4 rreshta)

Ky projekt pritet të kushtojë rreth 105 mijë euro bazuar në kontrata të ngjashme për hartimin e instrumenteve të planifikimit. Nuk ka sens të ndahet në kosto të veçanta për aktivitetet.

VII. Waste management

1. General data

Project title	<i>Increased quality in waste management and its expansion to a wider territory in Lezha FA</i>
Project type	<i>Public Services</i>
Project location	<i>Lezha Functional Area</i>
Total pre-estimated budget	<i>1,16 million Euro</i>

2. Background and problem analysis

The Municipality of Lezha and a part of other communes of the Functional Area of Lezha provide the cleaning service with similar standards. The Municipality of Lezha (the current one) has a waste management plan, which should be extended to other areas. It is also necessary to have the extension of the waste management service to a wider territory of the Qark of Lezha. A waste management plan was prepared with IPA support, which provided procedures on waste collection and transport, the inventory of the existing dump-sites and the needs for rehabilitation, as well as necessary mechanisms for increasing the revenues. The need for the continuation of differentiated waste collection in Lezha area can be emphasized, as a collection system at Qark level, by creating transfer centers to reduce costs.

3. Specific project objectives

- Improved waste management system in Lezha area;
- Encouragement of differentiated collection and establishment of transfer station for cost reduction;
- Improved environmental conditions in Lezha area and respect of legal standards on waste management;
- Support of tourism sector.

4. Expected results and project indicators

The direct beneficiaries are all the population of the Functional Area of Lezha (66536 inhabitants); as well as the numerous visitors during summer. In an indirect way, the project favors the businesses of Lezha and especially the ones related to tourism.

The Municipality of Lezha is simultaneously implementer/partner and beneficiary of the project.

5. Project activities

The project duration is 5 years and includes;

- Establishment of a database for the integrated waste management for the functional area of Lezha (it exists for the existing municipality of Lezha);
- Expansion of the local waste management plan;

- Coverage of waste management service beyond the current borders of the Municipality of Lezha;
- Feasibility study on transfer station of Lezha;
- Building a transfer station of Lezha;
- Awareness campaign.

6. Project maturity

The project is partially mature. The concept idea comes as a result of studies and plans on waste management in Lezha region (Lezha/Shëngjin from dldp; the qark of Lezha from IPA), which aim at differentiated collection and recycling; they also emphasize the need for a transfer waste station to reduce the transport costs to the dump-site.

The project includes building a transfer station, which should be accompanied with a preliminary feasibility study. Depending on the results of the feasibility study, there might be a need for building access roads.

7. Funding resources and implementation partners

The potential funding partners would be the state budget (Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure) and IPA, because of the sensitive environmental issues for EU. The municipality can co-finance through improvement of structure on revenues and awareness campaigns.

8. Project costs

- Waste database – 30,000 Euro;
- Expansion of local waste management plan – 30,000 Euro;
- Improvement and extension of the service beyond the borders of the municipality of Lezha/purchase of means of transport – 200,000 Euro
- Feasibility study for the transfer station of Lezha - 100,000 Euro
- Building the transfer station– 800,000 EuroAr

VIII. Handicrafts

1. General data

Project title	<i>Support of crafts sector in FA Lezha</i>
Project type	<i>Economic development</i>
Project location	<i>Lezha Functional Area/ Zadrimë, Balldren</i>
Total pre-estimated budget	<i>50,000 Euro</i>

2. Background and problem analysis

The families of Zadrima area and of the district of Lezha have a long tradition in handicraft production and décor for personal use, and for trade as well. Anyhow, with the passing of time, the previous tradition of clothes production, carpets, different textiles or wood has started to vanish, as there are no mechanisms to transfer the craft from one generation to another. The support to the crafts sector has the potential to increase revenues, to promote cultural tourism and increase employment.

3. Specific project objective

The main objective of the project is revitalization of crafts sector and enabling new opportunities for employment and support to tourism.

4. Expected results and project indicators

The project can have direct beneficiaries in 3-5 units in the area of Lezha. The number of the direct beneficiaries is defined according to the size and kind of intervention. As a start, it is advised to start training and promote handicraft products with a group of young people, about 30-50 people. The opportunities are more limited at the beginning of the project, taking into account the need to find experienced and dedicated craftsmen. Development of crafts sector can produce indirect benefits, adding to the variety of the touristic products of the area beyond sand/sun and cultural/religious tourism.

5. Project activities

The project can last for 6 months up to a year.

Activities include:

- Identification of authentic design from the district of Lezha, with the aim of promoting the cultural assets of the area;
- Formal and practical training of 30-50 people in crafts (mainly textile). Training should include marketing elements and business making skills;
- Support of young trained people to create an association/social business; development of a business-plan and provision of equipment and raw material to start work. The support can be

accompanied with assistance on marketing, through enabling access and connection with market (ex. product catalogues; main hotels, etc.)

6. Project maturity

There are no readymade projects. Planning and implementation of activities is relatively easy and does not require big preliminary preparations. As a precondition for the beginning of the project, it is the identification and selection by local stakeholders of craftsmen, who exercise their activities nowadays.

7. Funding sources and implementation partners

Potential funding partners are the municipality, state budget through employment and self-employment (ltd) support schemes, and donors.

The municipality and/or the Council of Qark should have the copyright of the project, without which the sustainability of the project remains weak. The inclusion of stakeholders by the private sector (in other sectors of value chain) can create the potential for multiplication effect of the intervention.

8. Project costs

1. Identification of typical handicraft products and products produced by craftsmen – 10,000 Euro
2. (Optional) Design/adaptation of typical products as of current trends – modernization and marketing of products – 30, 000 Euro
3. Training of up to 50 young people for a six months period – 15, 000 Euro
4. Social business set up and support to start up – 25, 000 Euro

IX. Olive Cultivation

1. General data

Project title	<i>Support olive cultivation and increased planted area with this culture</i>
Project type	<i>Economic development</i>
Project location	<i>Balldren - Kallmet</i>
Total pre-estimated budget	<i>355,0000 Euro</i>

2. Background and problem analysis

Olive and its derivatives production, as one of the activities significantly subsidized in recent years, has increased compared to other agricultural activities developed in the Functional Area and in particular in the area of Balldren and Kallmet, which have a relatively long tradition in this sector. The area is rich in olive trees; the planted area and the number of planted olives are increasing year after year, reaching 55% of production at the Qark level. The total olive planted area is currently about 426 ha, while the one being cultivated is 275 ha.

The biggest part of productive olive trees was distributed to farmers under the Law no. 7501/2001, thus leading to a high level of fragmentation in the sector, which has prevented the achievement of economy of scale for the production of olives with competitive prices. As a direct result of this fragmentation, the productive olives have not been properly taken care. Most farmers do not do proper irrigation, disease control, or other services. The main method of olive collection remains the manual one, this is why productivity has not increased at the same pace with the increase of planted areas, and it is still lower in comparison to other producers in the Mediterranean.

3. Specific project objective/s

The objective of the project is to expand the possibilities of using the land for olive production by increasing the effectiveness of this activity.

Specific project objectives are:

- Consolidation of olive production sector and its derivatives through structuring the relations between producers and olive oil factories, or other byproduct producers, as well as the creation of relevant "clusters";
- Promotion of traditional values of the Functional Area by promoting indigenous brand of olive oil, registration and protection of geographical indications, and the registration and protection of origin.

4. Expected results and project indicators

The direct beneficiaries of the project are farmers of Balldren and Kallmet units of the Functional Area. Currently, there are about 190 ha planted with olive-yards in the Functional Area of Lezha. All farms in the

Lezha use manual collection, reducing significantly the effectiveness and product quality. In total, the project has the potential to serve directly to two units of the Functional Area (population 10.260 inhabitants, or 15.6% of the Functional Area).

Expected results:

- Increased utilization of olive cultivated area to about 200 ha for a two year period;
- Use of indigenous and pre-checked seedlings to ensure the quality of products, registration and protection of geographical indications and registration and protection of origin;
- Increased productivity and basic product quality through farmers' cooperation and their training.

5. Project activities

The project, which will include technical support and investment implementation, is planned to last for 20 months and the foreseen activities are:

12. Feasibility study of the area:

- Identification of farmers/farmers' groups that may be included in the "Cluster" and intensification of production (meetings, working groups, other events, study visit) (time required: 3 months; cost: 5-10 thousand Euro);
- Identification of location and design of physical investments – setting the technical specifications of olive nursery and support infrastructure for the olive yards (time required: 2 months; cost: 10 - 15 thousand Euro);
- Additional Studies - include legal support for the investment implementation (creation of "clusters") and cost and benefit financial analysis (time required: 2 months; cost: 5-10 thousand Euro).

13. Works in support infrastructure:

- Construction/rehabilitation of the physical infrastructure (irrigation/drainage/support infrastructure for collection/ - depending on the findings of the feasibility study; (time required: 12 months; cost: 50-100 thousand Euro);
- Establishment of a greenhouse type nursery to raise quality and indigenous seedlings, about 100,000 seedlings within an area of 1000 m² (time required: 12 months; cost: 80-100 thousand Euro);
- Support with quality indigenous seedlings and other necessary materials, such as organic products for plant protection; (necessary time: 8 months; cost: 50 - 80 thousand Euro);
- Technical assistance for the implementation of best practices of cultivation and protection of olive yards from olive flies (time required: 8 months, cost: 10 - 15 thousand Euro).

14. Marketing and promotion of initiative and products:

- Participation in fairs and meetings "B2B" (time required: 4-5 meetings during the second phase of implementation; cost: 10 - 15 thousand Euro);
- Preparation and distribution of promotional materials (time needed: during the second phase of implementation, cost: 5-10mijë Euro);
- Marketing and promotion of initiatives and products.

6. Project maturity

The project is not preceded by a feasibility study and it is still in the concept phase. The calculation of costs is approximate, so costs increase in proportion to the size of interventions. It is indispensable for the implementation of this project to have the support of MARDWA.

7. Funding sources and implementation partners

The main implementing stakeholders are the Regional Directorate of Agriculture, Municipality of Lezha (FA). The funding sources could be the state or municipality budget; as well the IPARD scheme (on this occasion, the applicants should have wine canteens and farmers can apply).

8. Project costs

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| • Feasibility study of the area: | 20,000 – 35,000 Euro |
| • Works in support infrastructure: | 190,000 – 295,000 Euro |
| • Marketing and promotion of the initiative and the products: | 15,000 – 25,000 Euro |

Total cost of the project varies from 225-355 thousand Euro.

X. Multimodal Transport Terminal

1. General Data

Project title	<i>Interurban transport terminal Lezha</i>
Project type	<i>Local services</i>
Project location	<i>Lezha</i>
Total pre-estimated budget	<i>300,000 Euro</i>

2. Background and problem analysis

This project aims at designing an efficient and effective public transport, using buses and minivans and the connecting infrastructure with the road network (intermodal stops and passengers information system). The public transport service would connect Lezha with main centers of Tirana, Durrës and Shkodra; as well as with the region of Lezha and specifically with main touristic destinations (Shëngjin, Shënkoll, Velipojë).

The municipality of Lezha has already identified an appropriate space for building the public transport terminal, at the entrance of Lezha, which enables easy access to all the key points of the road network. The space is a public property, which lowers the project costs.

3. Specific project objective/s

The project aims at:

- Conceptualizing a reliable interurban system, mainly through buses (and vans);
- Recognition of the potential and public transport promotion through transfer points at the terminal; information system for the passengers;
- Preparation of preliminary project (sketches) on location and station terminal scheme.

4. Expected results and project indicators

- Reduced cost and time travel for the population of the Functional Area (66536 inhabitants); businesses of the area; specifically the ones operating in tourism;
- Traffic facilitation in main nodes of the city of Lezha.

5. Project activities

- The analytical description of current services of public transport, including identification of the request;
- Identification of users' expectations, through parameters that influence their choices;
- Future projections on public transport needs and competition from other methods, taking into account infrastructure plans;
- Proposal on the terminal, design and capacity.

6. Project maturity

The project is in itself a feasibility study, which would provide a preliminary concept for the terminal, which can be used for the terms of reference for developing the project.

7. Funding sources and implementation partners

The most appropriate actor for the implementation of the project is the Municipality of Lezha and/or in cooperation with donors.

8. Project costs

Based on similar project costs, this project could cost around 250 000 – 300 000 Euro.

XI. Lezha Municipality Organisational Structure and Services

1. General information

Project title	<i>Assistance provided for drafting the organizational structure of FA Lezha Municipality</i>
Project type	<i>Local Administration</i>
Project loaction	<i>Functional Area Dajc, Blinisht, Kallmet, Ungrej, Balldre, Zejmen, Kolsh, Shen Koll, Lezhe, Shëngjin</i>
Preliminary total budget	<i>30,000 Euro</i>

8. **Background and analysis of the problem.** Provide a brief analysis of the situation you intend to change by explaining the necessity of this project; is the project harmonized with the analysis performed during the drafting of FAP⁷⁶? **(max. 10 lines)**

The concept of functional area was at the heart of the territorial reform implemented in Albania during 2014 through which new and bigger local units were determined and great expectations toward a more consistent development and more efficient use of the public sector resources as well as utilization of the private sector energies were created.

In this context, new local units arising after the reform will face many challenges related to the local communities they will be administering. It is necessarily required the harmonization of the organizational structures with the functions of local units in order to better face the needs and convert them into concrete services to the community. Under this framework the restructuring process of local units assumes a primary importance in the very first days of government in order to make possible that services offered to the community by the latter are appropriate.

9. Specific objectives of the project (max. 4-5 lines)

The overall objective of the project is the creation of an organizational structure which fits the needs of the community and is fully harmonized to the functions of the local unit and functional area.

The specific objectives are the following:

- Increase of services quality by instituting and administration at citizens service which is fast serving and accurate in the implementation of all its obligations;
- Implementing the objectives established by law;
- Increasing efficiency in the utilization of financial resources by avoiding double functions and responsibilities and by reducing excessive administrative costs;
- Accurate work description and regulations on competences.

10. Forecasted results and indicators of the project (max. 5-6 lines)

It is expected that all local units which are part of the functional area and their communities will benefit from this project. The project will provide:

- Increase of local units capacities;
- Improved performance of the local structure;
- Functional detachment and assessment of sector responsibilities;
- Efficient management of financial resources.

⁷⁶FAP- Functional Area Programme.

11. Project activities (max. 5-6 lines)

The project will be structured in phases. Phases will include a preliminary assessment of the situation immediately after the establishment of the new local unit. The project is expected to last not more than 3 months and it will be finalized with the approval of the structure and the regulatory package within the unit's council.

Projects activities mainly include:

- Assessment of the current situation of the local unit and legislation. Frequent meetings with current structures in order to understand their role and position.
- Establishing the working group composed of local units staff and local experts. The working group should be guided by the vice chairman of the unit;
- Determining the tasks of the group and engagement of each participant;
- Providing the first recommendations and the first draft of the organizational structure along with financial impacts (for each structure and position);
- Finalizing the organizational structure;
- Providing the draft regulations containing the job descriptions for each employee;
- Approval by the Chairman;
- Preparing the draft decision regarding the structure and regulation along with economic impacts to be submitted to the municipality council (KB?);
- Approval;
- Assessment of legal contracts derived by services and planning of the new structure dealing with services organization.

12. Project maturity (5-6 lines)

The project is congruent with the study of the functional area of Lezha. It can start immediately after the consolidation of the new local structures as an immediate requirement of the units to perform their functions. The project is also easy to implement by the local unit and the experts as well.

The project introduces an important process related to the further development of the local units and it is actually an emergent request of the latter.

13. Financial resources and implementation partners (max. 3-4 lines)

Due to the immediate necessity and reduced deadlines this project may be supported through grants issued by different donators such as DLDP etc. Since the project consists in providing technical assistance placed within the local unit it does not require major financing.

The project will be totally implemented next to the local units (functional areas).

14. Project costs (max. 3-4 lines)

The project budget is described in detail in the human resources expenses (consultancy, transport expenses, materials, trainings etc.

Organizational structure – 12,000 euro

Assessment of service structures and legal consequences of contract amendments – 15,000 euro

Meetings and other logistic costs – 3,000 euro

XII. Vela Access

1. General information

Project title	<i>Improvement of Leazha road access – Vela for the generation of a wide range of tourism activities directly affecting at the same time the potential development of 7 villages of Lezha highland area.</i>
Project type	<i>Economic Development</i>
Project location	<i>Kolsh (7 villages), Lezha</i>
Preliminary total budget	<i>400,000 Euro</i>

15. **Background and analysis of the problem.** Provide a brief analysis of the situation you intend to change by explaining the necessity of this project; is the project harmonized with the analysis performed during the drafting of FAP⁷⁷? **(max. 10 lines)**

One of the problems of ZF Lezha is its lack of efficient utilization of the touristic potentials of the highland area which possess a rich heritage of values. Lezha is dominated by the magnificent Vela mountain with its height of 1172 m above sea level which provides an attractive limestone landscape and is rich with carstic caves, covered by snow during the cold season, equipped with forest belt consisting of black pines (natural forest) at its basis and with a rich medical flora. Lezha has an attractive and differentiated landscape, alpine climate, incomparable water resources, important and historical objects such as schools and churches and rich toponymy. The cultivation of native corn by the community of Vela village as well as of local vine and goat breeding remain un-managed resources under tourism point of view which are especially due to the lack of road access. According to local legends there are traces (rust imprints) at the top of Vela Mountain due to the fact that in ancient ages ships used to be tied up there. This legend encourages curious visitors.

The project of improvement of Lezha road access – Vela mountain will contribute in:

Including the touristic products offered by the area in the touristic itineraries and packages, connecting touristic operators, increasing visibility of FA within the national and international tourism options, generation of agro tourism and agricultural and livestock activities in the whole area of Lezha highland will constitute an opportunity of potential development for the area, making possible the return of the residents and cultivation of the land abandoned for years and bringing about the improvement of community services.

Specific objectives of the project (max. 4-5 lines)

Some of the objectives of the project are:

- Efficient utilization of touristic potentials offered by the Vela area and revival of the activities related to these assets. Increase of visibility of touristic products at national and international level.

⁷⁷FAP- Functional Area Programme.

- Generation of agriculture and livestock activities of Lezha highland villages as a potential way of development and orientation toward agro tourism. The return of migrants in order for them to take care of abandoned lands.
- Facilitation and improvement of services provided to the community related to transport, access to school, cemetery services, waste management etc.
- Protection of natural environment and proclaim of Vela landscape as protected landscape.

16. Forecasted results and project indicators (max. 5-6 lines)

- Improvement of Lezha road infrastructure - Vela, revival of a variety of touristic activities related to the assets in the Vela area. Local capacities (public and private) which address and develop investment interest in the area.
- Making productive quite a few abandoned lands, increase of production and economic benefits of the community.
- Increase of the interest of the community to stop different aspects of environmental degradation.
- Improvement of life quality through implementation of high quality services.

17. Project activities (max. 5-6 lines)

Some activities to be performed under this project the duration of which is planned to be ____ years, are the following:

- Designing the project for the improvement of the road access Lezha-Vela of 10 km length. Performing its pavement and equipment with all elements required for a roadway.
- Organization of touristic activities such as hiking, walking, skiing etc. starting with high school youth.
- Encouraging caving expeditions and access to tourists through publicity and social networks.
- Identifying hiking itineraries to the top of Vela and placing safety signs for the hiking groups.
- Promoting/marketing/informative and awareness activities. (Organization of workshops and trainings with representatives of the community in order to create touristic products such as hostels, horse tours, agro tourism, as well as awareness activities for the environmental protection).
- Implementing all procedures necessary for submitting the proposal and obtaining the proclamation of Vela area as natural protected landscape.

18. Maturity of the project (5-6 lines)

The project is the product of many efforts and contributions made by far for the development of this area. The Wordvizion organization has realized some infrastructural improvements which addressed the problem raised in this project. The environmental association EIRLA has implemented projects aiming at the identification of natural values and raising the awareness of the community toward their protection and helped in the improvement of access between villages. The Catholic Church placed at Vela mountain top Zoja statue which is also a pilgrimage spot.

The project initiates an important process not only for the area but extending beyond to the touristic aspect. It deals with addressing major issues related to efficient utilization of the assets of the area in order to bring this area to the attention and interest of local actors and to activate its development potentials.

19. Financial resources and implementation partners (max. 3-4 lines)

Financial resources may be diversified: local funding public and/or private, various EU programs (for instance IPA), grants such as DLDP etc.

The appropriate actor for implementing this project is the Major Municipality, the local unit in cooperation with local NGOs.

20. Project costs (max. 3-4 lines)

- Designing and implementing the road infrastructure of about 10 km length covering Lezha (Grykë Manati) - (350,000 Euro)
- Promoting/marketing/informative and awareness activities (50.000 Euro)

XIII. Youth center

1. General information

Project title	<i>Youth center building</i>
Project type	<i>Youth and Sports</i>
Project location	<i>Functional area Dajc, Blinisht, Kallmet, Ungrej, Balldre, Zejmen, Kolsh, Shen Koll, Lezhe, Shëngjin</i>
Preliminary total budget	<i>50,000 Euro</i>

- 1. Background and analysis of the problem.** Provide a brief analysis of the situation you intend to change by explaining the necessity of this project; is the project harmonized with the analysis performed during the drafting of FAP⁷⁸? **(max. 10 lines)**

The concept of functional area was at the heart of the territorial reform implemented in Albania during 2014 through which new and bigger local units were determined and great expectations toward a more consistent development and more efficient use of the public sector resources as well as utilization of the private sector energies were created.

Data of the education regional directorate of Lezha show that during 2014 in FA operate 13 high schools providing general education and 1 professional school. The overall number of students is respectively: 9020 students following the 9 years education, 2724 students following high school education and 559 following professional high school education.

Professional education in the city of Lezha is offered by "Kolin Gjoka", school. It was first opened in september 2003. The school provides the students with education in five main profiles: (business-economy, office management, ICT, English- French and pedagogic course). *53.9% of the students are women. It can easily be verified from the Table how gender stereotypes are represented in the professional school. Accordingly in the ICT area there is only 13.9% women while in the pedagogic area women and constitute 94.6% of the students.*

The participation of youth in the decision making process still remains an issue at the discretion of the institution officials of the central as well as local level. It is not a legal or administrative obligation for the latter. Therefore youth is sometimes consulted during the decision making process while other times their opinion is totally disregarded.

Currently there is a special focus of local government toward revival of community based services at the benefit of different social groups through utilization of municipality assets for these services which constitute a help to the respective communities.

2. Specific objectives of the project (max. 4-5 lines)

The overall objective of the project is empowering local youth action groups through the construction of stable structures offering friendly services to the latter as well as encouraging them to take part in educational and awareness raising community initiatives.

⁷⁸FAP- Functional Area Programme.

The following are specific objectives;

- Construction and implementation of a youth center offering friendly services to youth.
- Creation of two local action groups with the objective of increasing youth participation in the decision making process of their respective municipalities.
- Promoting youth participation in concrete initiatives focused on helping the municipality and the community through organization of community based activities.
- Encouraging local government structures for the construction and empowerment of youth services and youth inclusions in the decision making process.

3. Forecasted results and project indicators (max. 5-6 lines)

It is expected that all local units which are part of the functional area and their communities will benefit from this project. The project will provide:

- Build up the youth center.
- Drafting a document assessing youth situation in the area.
- Put in place friendly services for youth.
- Public information with a special focus on youth.
- 60 young people benefitting from services in each center.
- Determining the time table of the activities of the center.
- Organization of community impacting activities.

4. Project maturity (5-6 lines)

The project is harmonized with the study of the functional area of Lezha. It can start immediately after the consolidation of the new local structures and certainly it will help youth inclusion.

This project will create a link between youth and the community which through the former will be able in the future to continue to obtain information related to different local government projects in this context. Youth action groups which will be created will continue to exchange information among them making the social centers active structures of the city. The youth center will serve as a meeting point and activities center for the local unit through financial support of the local unit as well as through donations.

5. Financial resources and implementation partners (max. 3-4 lines)

Due to its immediate necessity and reduced deadlines this project may be supported through grants issued by different donators such as DLDP as well as the municipality budget which will contribute by providing the building where the youth center will be located.

The project will be implemented in Lezha municipality within a time frame of 9 months according to the respective implementing time table.

6. Project costs (max. 3-4 lines)

The total cost of the project is expected to be 50,000 euro and includes interventions, civil processing and furnishing.

XIV. Wine Festival

1. General Information

Project title	<i>"Wine Day"</i>
Project type	Activities/ Cultural and touristic / events
Project location	<i>ZF Lezhe/ Kallmet, Blinisht, Dajç, Hajmel, BushatdheVauDejes.</i>
Preliminary total budget	<i>15 000 € /year</i>

- **Background and analysis of the problem.** Provide a brief analysis of the situation you intend to change by explaining the necessity of this project; is the project harmonized with the analysis performed during the drafting of FAP⁷⁹? **(max. 10 lines)**

Due to their favorable geographic position made of mountain and lowland landscape, and their pervasion by Drini river, Kallmet and Zadrime are well known for agricultural products. The agricultural products for which Kallmet and Zadrime are well known are the autochthonous variety of grapes which main product is wine. Handcraft production of wine is somewhat neglected due to the construction of some wineries in the area but also as the consequence of migration of working forces. During years 2007-2013 due to subventions issued for agriculture by the government as well as the return of many immigrants the vineyards plantation in the areas of Kallmet and Zadrime initiated bringing back the tradition of cultivation of varieties of autochthonous grape and wine production. The return to this tradition and the necessity of self-employment of the residents makes it fundamental the promotion of these products and the encouragement of other farmers to cultivate varieties of autochthonous grape and product wine as a method of reaching sustainable economic development of the area.

- **Specific objective/s of the project (max. 4-5 lines)**

The main objective of the project is the encouragement of local farmers to cultivate varieties of autochthonous grape and produce wine as well as the promotion of these products as a stable method of the development of the area.

- **Forecasted results and project indicators (max. 5-6 lines)**

The benefits of this project go to the farmers of 3 units located in the Lezha area and 3 units located in Vau i Dejes area. Direct beneficiaries of this project are 7 wineries of these units and 50 farmers dealing with wine production using traditional methods. Farmers will be supported through informative leaflets on wine production using traditional methods, through providing connections with wineries in order to make sure that there is a market for their agricultural products as well as through promoting their products in the Wine Day fair. The development of this project will directly affect the benefits of participating farmers and the creation of a yearly activity which will be part of the activity calendar of Lezha municipality.

- **Project activity (max. 5-6 lines)**

⁷⁹FAP- Functional Area Programme.

- *Drafting the informative leaflets regarding grape varieties and autochthonous wines of Kallmet and Zadrime (qualities, map on the extension of the vineyards, amount of vineyards, vision for the next 10 years, handcraft methods of wine productions, and production capacities of existing wineries).*
- *Wine Day (Every September)*
 - *Presentation of the varieties of autochthonous grapes and wine by local girls dressed with traditional costumes of the area.*
 - *Wine production with traditional methods (wine press) by youth dressed in traditional costumes of the area.*
 - *The fair of grape products.*
 - *Wine products competition with a professional jury consisting of sommeliers and representatives of the Agriculture Directorate and Ministry of Agriculture and Food.*
 - *Prizes assignment ceremony.*
 - *Concert performed by local artists groups.*
 - *Buffet (with traditional products of the area)*
 - *The activity to be accompanied by live music.*

- **Project maturity (5-6 lines)**

The project concept was already prepared and the preparation and implementation of the activities is easy. It can be said so based on similar experiences of Kallmet municipality and the other participating units. This project is also linked to the other projects in the agricultural sector provided for Lezha ZF.

- **Financial resources and implementation partners (max. 3-4 lines)**

Potential funders of the project are the municipality and donors. The municipality will keep the authority of the project which is also approved in its PBA as a way to assure its stability for the future years as well. There will be an attempt to assure the support of economic subjects operating in the sector such as wineries in their quality of direct beneficiaries of the project.

- **Project costs (max. 3-4 lines)**

- *Identification of farmers and wineries participating in the activity ----- 2000 €*
- *Drafting and printing out 500 informative leaflets --- 1000 €*
- *Wine Day fair (Transport + tables +tents etc.) 5000 €*

- *Prizes for the Wine contest ----- 1000 €*
- *Concert and artistic groups ----- 2000 €*
- *Buffet ----- 1000 €*
- *Media + Banners + Advertisement 1500 €*
- *Staff costs 1500 euro*

Annex 1: Education Data

Table 41 Education Statistics in FA (2014-2015)

Nr.	Name	Lezhë district	
		Public	Private
1	Institucione	114	14
1.a	Kindergartens	47	8
1.b	9-year schools	55	4
1.c	High Schools general	11	2
1.d	Vocational high Schools	1	0
2	Class number	476	75
2.a	Kindergartens	81	20
2.b	9-year schools	394	42
2.c	High Schools general	113	13
3	Student number	13806	1642
3.a	Kindergartens	1893	452
3.b	9-year schools	8164	856
3.c	High Schools general	3190	334
3.d	Vocational high Schools	559	0

Table 42 Education Sector Employees (2014-2015)

Nr.	Emërtimi	Rrethi Lezhë	
		Publike	Private
1	Numri punonjësve	896	129
1.a	Kindergarten Educators	93	23
1.b	9-year school Teachers	527	51
1.c	High Schools general Teachers	196	28
1.d	Support staff	80	27

Source: Regional Education Directorate, <https://app.box.com/s/mgxapurq5q95te1qfh0p>

Tablea 43 Students by class and special programs

2014-2015		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Totali
1	Second opportunities	29	19	16	27	13	14	12	7	10	147
2	Roma	7	13	5	4	9	14	6	4	0	62
3	Egyptians	28	24	18	24	18	17	14	17	17	177
5	Return migrants	2	5	5	5	4	6	3	3	3	36
6	DA in normal schools	8	10	4	5	6	10	5	5	4	57
6.1	Physical DA	3	6	2	2	3	5	3	3	3	30
6.2	Mental DA	5	4	2	3	3	5	2	2	1	27

Source: Regional Education Directorate, <https://app.box.com/s/mgxapurq5q95te1qfh0p>

Annex 2: Data on road and Water infrastructure

Tablea 44 ADF Financed Roads in FA Lezhë (2005-2013)

Nr.	LGU	Object Name	Beneficiary Population	Length of Investment in KM	Value of investment (ALL)
1	Balldre	Asfaltim I rrugës së fshatit Koljakaj	310	6.06	13,928,400
2	Ungrej	Ndërtim rruge Rrazë-Kalivac	600	3.10	13,951,320
3	Kallmet	Rikonstruksion rruga Superstradë-Kallmet	5,500	1.09	10,430,436
4	Kallmet	Rehabilitimi i rrugës Lezhë-Kallmet	6,892	12.80	339,133,507
5	Kallmet	Rikonstruksioni i rrugës Kallmet-Nënshat	9,032	8.74	211,357,259
6	Shenkoll	Rikonstruksioni I rrugës lidhëse Lezhë-Rrilë-Shënkoll	6,125	8.00	292,186,407
7	Bashkia Lezhë	Rikonstruksioni I rrugës Lezhë-Kala-Lagje Sheher	27,224	2.70	194,780,460
8	Shenkoll	Rikonstruksion I rrugës Shën Koll-Tale-Hidrovor	6,027	6.20	135,864,284
9	Dajc, Blinisht	Rikonstruksioni I rrugës Kodhel-Dajc-Blinisht	3,138	7.50	217,412,376
10	Shëngjin	Rikonstruksioni I rrugës Shëngjin-Kune	11,487	5.30	251,880,444
11	Kallmet,Ungrej	Rikonstruksioni i rrugës Kallmet i Vogël-Ungrej	4,177	7.60	265,562,179
12	Bashkia Lezhë	Rikonstruksioni i rrugës Kodër Marlekai	8,000	2.10	73,832,693

Tablea 45 Investment by Source in Road Infrastructure (2012) (thousand ALL)

Project	Investor	Expenditure
State Budget Investments		
1 Ndërtim Ujësjiellësi në fshatin Fishtë	Komuna Blinisht	3,920
2 Ndërtim Ujësjiellësi në fshatin Shënkoll	Komuna Shënkoll&FZSH	10,000
3 Ndërtim Ujësjiellë fshati Tresh	Komuna Zejmen	1,680
4 Ndërtim Ujësjiellë fshati Spiten	Komuna Zejmen	975
5 Ndërtim Ujësjiellë fshati Lagja Fidane	Komuna Zejmen	2,590
6 Ndërtim i rrugësKalasë Lezhe	FZSH	17,460
7 Ndërtim i rrugës lagja Gurra-Spital	Bashkia Lezhë	40,425
8 Rikonstruksion I shëtitores qytetit Shëngjin	Komuna Shëngjin	15,252
9 Asfaltim i rrugës Stom fshati I. Shëngjin	Komuna Shëngjin	21,193
10 Asfaltim rruga fshatit Fishte	Komuna Blinisht	3,250
11 Asfaltimi rrugës Pllanë-Superstradë (faza2)	Komuna Zejmen	8.050
12 Rik.asfaltimi rrugës Tresh-Superstradë	Komuna Zejmen	7,467
13 Rik.Rruge Kallmet-Kisha Shën Eufemisë	Komuna Kallmet	23.334
Own source revenue investment		

1	Rik.rruge lidhëse dhe shëtitoresShëngjin (garanci)	Komuna Shëngjin	116
2	Rik rrugës Gj.Ivani I. ShëngjinShëngjin (garanci)	Komuna Shëngjin	153
3	Rik. Rrugësh fshati I. Shëngjin	Komuna Shëngjin	1,005
4	Asfaltimi rrugësl. Shëngjin-Hidrovor	Komuna Shëngjin	2,170
5	Rikon. rruge Zemra e Katundit I. Shëngjin (garanci)	Komuna Shëngjin	245
6	Te tjera investime ne rruge & garanci	Komuna Shëngjin	47
7	Rik rrugës Zef Martini (garanci)	Komuna Shëngjin	81
8	Ndërtim vepra arti rrugës Rras-Kalivaç	Komuna Ungrej	2,500
9	Ndërtim ure me dy kalime	Komuna Kolsh	450
10	Hapje rrugësh pyjore	Komuna Kolsh	479
11	Rip rrugësh komunale	Komuna Kolsh	477
12	Rehabilitim i rrugës Mabe-Dragushe	Komuna Dajc	1,500

Tablea 46 Investment by Source in Road Infrastructure (2013) (thousand ALL)

Project	Investor	Expenditure
State Budget Investments		46,658
1 Rikonstruksioni rrugës Barbulloje	FZHR & K. Kolsh	7,727
2 Rikonstruksioni Shëtitores qyteti Shëngjin	Komuna Shëngjin	15,252
3 Asfaltim i rrugës Balldre-Torovice	Komuna &FZHR	22.800
4 Asfaltim rruga Tresh garanci punimesh	Komuna Zejmen	879
Own source revenue investment		22,113
1 Sistemim rruge lagjen N.Tereza	Bashkia Lezhë	6,902
2 Rik.rruge i Shëngjin-Stom	Komuna Shëngjin	6,739
3 Rik.rruges kashte Kuqe fsh.I.Lezhe	Komuna Shëngjin	703
4 Rikonstruksion i rrugësShkollës Mesme	Komuna Kallmet	2,629
5 Ndërtim vepra arti rruga Rras-Kalivaç	Komuna Ungrej	4,000
Rikonstruksione dhe sistemim rrugësh	Komuna Balldre	1,140

Annex 3 LGU obligations on waste management

- Ligji nr. 8652/2000 “ Mbi organizimin dhe funksionimin e pushtetit vendor”, ne nenin 10/f te tij percakton: Funksionet e komunes dhe bashkise jane: grumbullimi, largimi dhe perpunimi i mbeturinave;
- Neni 15 percakton: Njesite e qeverisjes vendore financohen nga te ardhurat qe sigurohen nga taksat, tarifat dhe te ardhurat e tjera vendore, nga fondet e transferuara nga pushteti qendror dhe fondet qe u vijne drejtperdrejt atyre nga ndarja e taksave dhe tatimeve kombetare ;
- Neni 16 “Komuna dhe bashkia vendosin vetë për nivelin, mënyrën e mbledhjes dhe të administrimit të tarifave vendore, në përputhje me politikat dhe parimet e përgjithshme kombëtare....” ;
- Neni 72 “Duke filluar nga 1 janari 2001, komunat dhe bashkitë janë tërësisht përgjegjëse për kryerjen e funksioneve të veta të mëposhtme: e) grumbullimin, largimin dhe përpunimin e mbeturinave” ;
- Neni 73 “Duke filluar nga 1 janari 2001, komunat, bashkitë dhe qarqet kanë autonomi të plotë për vendosjen e tarifave vendore për kategoritë e mëposhtme: a) tarifa për shërbimet publike (ketu përfshihet edhe menaxhimi i mbetjeve);
- Keshillat e qarqeve ne bashkepunim me njesite vendore percaktojne siperfaqet se ku do te ndertohet landfilli, grumbullimin e mjeteve jashte perdorimit dhe mbetjeve inerte.
- Sipas nenit 12 te ligjit nr.10463/2011 “Per menaxhimin e integruar te mbetjeve”, cdo qark harton planin rajonal të menaxhimit të integruar të mbetjeve për territorin që ka nën juridiksion, në përputhje me Planin Kombëtar të Menaxhimit të Integruar të Mbetjeve dhe cdo njësi e qeverisjes vendore apo grup njësisht të qeverisjes vendore harton planin vendor të menaxhimit të integruar të mbetjeve për territorin që ka nën juridiksion, në përputhje me planin kombëtar dhe planin rajonal të menaxhimit të integruar të mbetjeve;
- Sipas pikes 4, te VKM 608/17.09.2014, eshte percaktuar qe “Afati për grumbullimin në mënyrë të diferencuar të mbetjeve bio, nga njesite e qeverisjes vendore, është:
 - a) për bashkitë qendër qarku, brenda vitit 2017;
 - b) për bashkitë e tjera, brenda vitit 2018”
- Sipas kreut IV, te VKM 418/25.06.2014 “1. Bashkitë e kategorisë së parë, në përputhje me përcaktimin e nenit 3 të ligjit nr. 10119, datë 23.4.2009, "Për planifikimin e territorit", të ndryshuar, përcaktojnë, brenda datës 31 dhjetor 2016, masat e përshtatshme për grumbullimin e diferencuar të mbetjeve të paktën për rrymat e mbetjeve të mëposhtme:
 - a) Letër/karton;
 - b) Metal;
 - c) Plastikë;
 - ç) Qelq.
- Njesite e tjera te qeverisjes vendore, brenda 31 dhjetorit 2018, marrin masat e përshtatshme për grumbullimin e diferencuar të mbetjeve, të paktën për rrymat e mbetjeve të përcaktuara

Annex 4. Organisational Structure Lezhe Municipality