

IPA 2009 National programme for Albania

Project Fiche N°10

**Support to Sustainable and Integrated Development of Cultural and Historical Heritage
– Phase II**

1. Basic information

1.1 CRIS Number: 2009/021-642

1.2 Title: “Support to Sustainable and Integrated Development of Cultural and Historical Heritage – Phase II”.

1.3 ELARG Statistical code: 02.26

1.4 Location: Shkoder, Elbasan, Korce and Berat

Implementing arrangements:

1.5 Contracting Authority (EC) Delegation of European Commission to Albania.

1.6 Implementing Agency: Delegation of the European Commission to Albania. 1.7 Beneficiary (including details of project manager):

Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sports (MTCYS)

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Financing:

1.8 Overall cost (VAT excluded)¹: EUR 6,670,000

1.9 EC contribution: EUR 5,000,000

1.10 Final date for contracting:

Two years following the date of the conclusion of the Financing Agreement.

1.11 Final date for execution of contracts:

Two years following the end date of contracting. These dates apply also to national co-financing.

1.12 Final date for disbursements:

One year following the end date for the execution of contracts.

¹ The total cost of the project should be net of VAT and/or other taxes. Should this not be the case, the amount of VAT and the reasons why it should be considered eligible should be clearly indicated (see Section 7.6)

2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose

2.1 Overall Objective:

The project overall objective is to foster economic growth of the concerned regions through enhanced tourism activity fostered by preservation, restoration and valorisation of cultural and historical heritage sites.

2.2 Project purpose:

The project purpose is to assist the central and local governments in the physical restoration of urban areas in and around selected historical heritage sites based on the economic and territory development plans. The restoration of the infrastructure is expected to attract more tourists, encourage the development of local businesses and consequently establish a better use of resources.

2.3 Link with AP/NPAA / EP/ SAA

This project is in full compliance with the National Action Plan for the Implementation of Stabilisation and Association Agreement, whereby the main short and medium term priorities are: infrastructure development of tourist sites and the improvement of existing historical tourist sites with a great potential for development.

The development of Tourism in general and of Cultural Tourism was specifically is considered to be a very important issue during the Working Party on Trade, Industry, Customs and Taxation under the EU – Albania Cooperation Agreement, held in Brussels on 5 March 2008.

2.4 Link with MIPD

The MIPD 2009-2011 puts a special emphasis on the protection of cultural heritage, which is in line with demands from the European Parliament and the so called "Ljubljana Process" initiated by the Council of Europe. This will fall under the socio-economic requirement, as the approach is not only to renovate or improve certain cultural valuable sites, but to combine it with an overall socio-economic improvement of the area with view to tourism, infrastructure and SME development.

2.5 Link with National Development Plan

The Albanian State encourages the development of tourism under the trade economy frames, based on competition and free private initiative. Tourism development is a key priority for the Albanian government, expressed in the National Strategy for Development and Integration, 2007-2013.

2.6 Link with national/ Sectoral investment plans

The MTCYS has drafted a Strategy and Action Plan for the Development of Cultural and Nature Tourism based on the General Strategy for the Development of Tourism in Albania until 2012.

3. Description of project

The present project regards the implementation of works for the restoration of the urban areas in and around the historical heritage sites in Korca, Elbasan, Shkodra and Berat in order to make attractive these areas for tourism activity.

3.1 Background and justification:

Albania represents a clear example where fragments of the history from Stone Age, to Illyrians, Ancient Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman, Renaissance and Modern are concentrated in a very small territory. Such richness is part of the World Heritage list such as Butrint, Gjirokaster and recently Berat.

This UNESCO sites are not the only ones in Albania. Almost every area is endowed with inestimable values of historical interest that could make the diversification basis for a sustainable regional development and growth. Such attitude is confirmed by increased share of revenues from non-conventional tourism and interest to visit urban areas displaying values of cultural and historical heritage.

Until present, the interventions to revitalize the historical centres have been focused mostly on discoveries and less on the creation of the appropriate infrastructure to allow access to the sites and information. On the other hand, most of the government funds have been directed to the solving of basic infrastructure needs such as water, transport, health and schooling.

The funding of heritage rehabilitation in South East Europe and selection of sites in Albania such as Korca Bazaar and Museum of Apollonia as part of the “Ljubljana Process” represents an encouraging step toward the importance these historical sites may play in the future development of Albania. The Ljubljana process is a joint EU and Council of Europe initiative to bring dynamic regeneration of the European heritage in the region, stressing the value of heritage as a catalyst for socio-economic development of local populations.

The MTCYS has become aware of the potential and revenues that can be generated from all-year-around tourism in addition to the traditional Summer “sun and sand” tourism. The historical heritage concerned by the project lies in urban areas hence it has great potential for enhancing the development of local businesses once this is improved.

In 2006, the Government approved the Strategy and Action Plan on the Development of Cultural and Nature Tourism that was updated in 2008 in the Sectoral Strategy of Tourism for 2007-2013. One of the strategic priorities of the document includes the involvement of the natural and cultural values as an important factor in the development of tourism in Albania.

The MTCYS has accepted the concept of integrated development of the historical sites. The improvement of cultural and historical monuments will increase access, interest and revenues from tourism, promote the creation of small business activities, and will ensure the necessary social cohesion of local peoples for protecting and contributing to the values of their town. Such concept is currently being applied to three sites, Tirana, Kruja and Himara, whose infrastructure around and inside the historical centres will be rehabilitated through CARDS 2006 funding.

3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact

Impact – The project is expected to have a social impact (quality of social life improved due to increased cultural facilities to be provided in the selected historical sites), cultural (enhanced cultural interchange) and economic (increased revenues through tourism and small business linked to cultural activities).

Catalytic effect – The project will trigger possible revisions and/or updating of urban plans resulting from better understanding from local community of the role of cultural and historical heritage values to social and economic growth.

Sustainability – The Ministry and local Governments will ensure the necessary funding for the maintenance of the sites once the works have been completed.

The increased business and tourism flow to the sites is expected to bring economic benefits to the local communities hence ensuring the economic sustainability of the project.

3.3 Results and measurable indicators:

Results:

1. The urban infrastructure inside and around the historical sites of Korca, Elbasan, Shkodra and Berat is restored and preserved.
2. The awareness and interests of the local community to contribute for the restoration of other historical sites of value is enhanced.

Measurable indicators:

- Amount of co-financing from local Communities as stated in Municipalities' bank accounts,
- Contractual documents on works and supervision signed and order to commence issued
- Monthly interim payment certificates issued by supervisor
- Provisional and final acceptance certificates signed
- Number of people visiting the sites during and at the end of restoration

3.4 Activities:

The main activity of the project regards the implementation of works targeted on the valorisation of the urban areas around the historical sites identified in the municipalities mentioned below. The design of the works is currently being prepared under CARDS 2006 programme.

The activities will be implemented through a works contract divided in four lots and a supervision contract (services).

The total amount foreseen for the works is EUR 6.67 million. The co-financing provided by the Albanian Government is EUR 1.67 million and will cover a part of the works with the relevant supervision through separate contracts managed by the beneficiary. Before starting of the works, based on the costs and priority, it will be

jointly agreed which work operations will be covered by the beneficiary as a precondition to IPA financing.

Activity 1: Restoration of the urban areas in and around the historical heritage sites in Korca, Elbasan, Shkodra and Berat

- Renovation of the streets, lighting and facades of the Bazaar in Korca
- Upgrade of Via Egnatia road inside the castle of Elbasan and sheltering of discoveries close to the castle (the mosaic of IV century AD)
- Upgrade of the street of “Gjuhadolit” extending from Dugajet e Reja to the cathedral in Shkodra,
- Upgrade of the streets, water supply, sewage, lighting, tourist information centre and minor infrastructure works in and around the castle in Berat

Activity 2 – Supervision of works

- Supervision of the works in Korca, Elbasan, Shkodra, and Berat.

3.5 Conditionality and sequencing:

- The MTCYS incorporates the principles of the Ljubljana Process in the Action Plans implementing the General Strategy for the Development of Tourism in Albania, 2007-2013, stating that the preservation and restoration of historical heritage is a generator of economic growth, *inter alia*, by enhancing revenues from tourism.
- All designs and tender dossiers are approved by the MTCYS and the benefiting municipalities before starting of the project.
- Allocation of the necessary complementary financial resources is done by the Ministry and the local governments before launching the tenders.
- The necessary permits including the restoration permit from the National Council of Restoration and construction permits from municipalities (including any clearing from possible property claims) are issued before the launching of works tender.
- The implementation of the project should rely on the achieved consensus among main stakeholders i.e. Municipalities, local Communities, MTCYS, following a broad participation and joint consultation during the concept and design phase of the action.
- Commitment by all the relevant counterparts within the Ministry during the project implementation.
- The MTCYS and local Governments ensure the necessary funding for the maintenance of the sites once the works have been completed.

3.6 Linked activities

There are several programmes and projects with a component of Sustainable tourism development based on promotion of natural values. Some specific interventions undertaken recently and that are of interest for the project are as follows:

- CARDS 2006 - Sustainable and integrated development of cultural and historical heritage Albania – This project is preparing the designs and tender documents for the restoration of historical sites identified in Tirana, Kruja, Himara, Korca, Elbasan and Shkodra, and it is financing works in three sites.
- ATA funds 2008 –Designs and tender documents will be prepared through a Framework contract to cover the restoration of physical infrastructure in the castle of Berat,.
- Cooperazione Italiana - Interreg III financed the project “Cooperation and Culture Heritage”. The project aimed the digitalisation of five Albanian Museums (The National Historical Museum, The Museum of Medieval Art in Korça, The Museum of Ethnography in Kruja, The Museum “Onufri” in Berat”, The Museum of Archaeology in Tirana)
- Spanish Government in cooperation with UNDP and UNESCO in the frame of the ”Spanish Fund for the Millennium Development Objectives” – will finance the project “Cultural Transformation of Albania: From Isolation to Participation” with a fund of 3 million Euro. The project aims the utilisation of the cultural touristic potentials of Albania to stimulate the economic development of the country and to improve its image in the world.
- “Beautiful Berat” funded by UNDP in the framework of the sector Strategy for Tourism, targeting to build in cultural tourism, through restoration of houses and the old market (bazaar) in the historical centre of the city and other changes

3.7 Lessons learned

During the implementation of CARDS 2006 - Sustainable and integrated development of cultural and historical heritage Albania, it became clear that Albania is rich in cultural and historical heritage in sites which are of difficult accessibility and/or located in inhabited areas with poor infrastructure facilities.. The restoration of the infrastructure in and around these sites will revitalize the social and economic life in the areas concerned and trigger the economic growth as well as increase the attractiveness of the sites themselves to potential tourists.

A second important point relates to the value of historical heritage as a powerful instrument to increase the awareness and involvement of local community in the decision making and economic development process.

4. Indicative Budget (amounts in EUR million)

			SOURCES OF FUNDING									
			Total exp.re	IPA contribution			National contribution				Private	
Activities	IB	INV	EUR	EUR	%	Total EUR	%	Central EUR	Region local EUR	IFIs	EUR	%
Activity 1			6.20	4.60	74.2	1.60	25.8		1.60			
Contract 1.1	-	X	4.60	4.60								
Contract 1.2	-	X	1.60			1.60			1.60			
Activity 2			0.47	0.40	85.1	0.07	14.9		0.07			
Contract 2.1	-	X	0.40	0.40								
Contract 2.2	-	X	0.07			0.07			0.07			
Total IB			-									
Total INV			6.67	5.00	75.0	1.67	25.0		1.67			
Total project			6.67	5.00	75.0	1.67	25.0		1.67			

5. Indicative Implementation Schedule (periods broken down per quarter)

Contracts	Start of Tendering	Signature of contract	Project Completion
Contract 1.1 Restoration works	Q1 2010	Q3 2010	Q3 2011
Contract 2.1 Supervision of works	Q2 2010	Q3 2010	Q4 2012

All projects should in principle be ready for tendering in the 1ST Quarter following the signature of the FA.

6. Cross cutting issues

6.1 Equal Opportunity

Equal opportunity principles and practices will apply in the implementation of the project.

6.2 Environment

The project will have positive impacts on the environment of concerned spots as conversion of sites into pedestrian areas is expected to improve air quality and noise levels due to reduced vehicle traffic and greening.

6.3 Minorities

Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the project will be guaranteed on the basis of equal opportunity for minorities..

ANNEXES

- 1- Log frame in Standard Format
- 2- Amounts contracted and Disbursed per Quarter over the full duration of Programme
- 3- Description of Institutional Framework
- 4 - Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents
- 5 - Business plan
- 6- Details per EU funded contract (*) where applicable:

ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format

LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche		Programme name and number: Sustainable and integrated development of cultural and historical heritage-Phase II	
		Contracting period expires two years following the date of the conclusion of the Financing Agreement	Disbursement period expires three years following the end date of contracting
		Total budget : EUR 6.67 million	IPA budget: EUR 5 million
Overall objective	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
To foster the economic growth of the concerned regions through tourism activity fostering preservation, restoration and valorisation of cultural and historical heritage sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Number of new businesses created after rehabilitation, ✓ Number of visitors / year in the area ✓ Revenues generated by businesses in the area ✓ Revenues generated by business in the rehabilitated area / year 	INSTAT Local Government statistics MTCYS statistics Studies by international donors	
Project purpose	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
To assist the central and local governments in the physical restoration of urban areas in and around selected historical heritage sites based on the economic and territory development plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Physical progress in the implementation of works until the endorsement of the acceptance certificates from the beneficiary 	Progress and final reports issued by the Supervisor Certificates of final acceptance of the works	Local government facilitates the implementation of the works by providing in time the necessary construction permits and coordinates the collection of local funds to abide to the contribution obligation. h Unlimited information is provided to media with regard to the scope and means of implementing the works and expected impact to the community
Results	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
The urban infrastructure inside and around the historical sites of , Korca, Elbasan, Shkodra , and Berat is restored and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Amount of co-financing from local Communities as stated in Municipalities' bank accounts, ✓ Contractual documents on works and supervision signed and order to commence issued 	Bank Account Statements Permits Contracts Progress and final reports from the supervisor and release of certificates of acceptance.	Local communities take their financial commitments to the expected works at an earlier stage of the project

<p>preserved.</p> <p>The awareness and interests of the local community to contribute for the restoration of other historical sites of value is enhanced</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Monthly interim payment certificates issued by supervisor ✓ Provisional and final acceptance certificates signed ✓ Number of people visiting the sites during and at the end of restoration 		<p>Beneficiary agrees without delays on the tender documents</p>
Activities	Means	Costs	Assumptions
<p>Activity 1 - Restoration of the urban areas in and around the historical heritage sites in Korca, Elbasan, Shkodra and Berat</p> <p>Activity 2 – Supervision of works in and around the historical heritage sites in Korca, Elbasan, Shkodra and Berat</p>	<p>Infrastructure restoration works awarded through a works contract</p> <p>Implementation of works carried out in accordance with the administrative and technical provisions of the contract</p> <p>Supervision of works awarded through a service contract.</p> <p>Supervision exercised along the whole duration of works and final certificate of acceptance issued at full satisfaction of parties.</p>	<p>Overall cost: EUR 6.67 million</p> <p>EU contribution: EUR 5 million</p> <p>Central and local government Budget : EUR 1.67 million</p> <p>Works contract €4.6 million</p> <p>Supervision contract €0.4 million</p>	<p>Sound cooperation among the main stakeholders is achieved in a sustainable way</p>

ANNEX II: amounts (in €) Contracted and disbursed by quarter for the project

Contracted	2010				2011				2012		
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
Contract 1.1		4.6									
Contract 2.1		0.4									
Cumulated		5.0									
Disbursed											
Contract 1.1			0.460	1.227	1.227	1.226	0.460				
Contract 2.1			0.080		0.094		0.093		0.093		0.040
Cumulated			0.540	1.767	3.088	4.314	4.867		4.960		5.000

Annex III - Description of Institutional Framework

- Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sports
 - Directorate for Coordination of Foreign Aid
 - Institutions under the MoTCYS

- Local Government
 - Municipality of Elbasan
 - Municipality of Shkodra
 - Municipality of Berat
 - Municipality of Korca

Annex IV - Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents

- Law no. 9048 dated 7.04.2003 “On Cultural Heritage”
- Law no. 9592 dated 27.07.2006 “On some changes on the law no. 9048, dated 7.4.2003 “On Cultural Heritage”
- Law no. 9882 dated 28.02.2008 “On some changes and appendixes on the Law no. 9048 dated 7.4.2003 “On Cultural Heritage”, changed
- Law no. 9806 dated 17.09.2007 on the adherence of Albania in the European Convention “On the protection of Archaeological Heritage” (Revised)
- Law no. 10027 dated 11.12.2008 on the adherence of Albania in the Convention “On the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage” signed in Paris 2001.
- Law no 9930 dated 09.06.2008 “On some changes on the Law no. 9734, dated 14.05.2007 “On Tourism”
- National Action Plan for the Implementation of Stabilisation and Association Agreement
- MIPD
- National Development Plan
- Strategy and Action Plan for the Development of Cultural and Nature Tourism based on the General Strategy for the Development of Tourism in Albania until 2012.

Annex V – Details per EU funded contract

The foreseen contracts are based on the estimated costs (ref. to Shkodra, Korca and Elbasan) prepared under the CARDS 2006 project “Sustainable and integrated development of the cultural and historical heritage” while the estimated costs on Berat were prepared under a running Framework contract funded through ATA funds 2008.

Elbasan castle

The Roman fort of *Scampis* was constructed on the Shkumbin river valley at the junction of the two branches of the Via Egnatia (from Apollonia and from Dyrrhachium). The fort was located on the edge of the central lowlands, at the foot of the Shpatit mountain range, controlling access to the coastal region from both the Devoll and Shkumbin valleys.²

The fort was quadrangular with four sides of roughly 300 m length. 26 U-shaped towers were positioned at intervals of 40 - 50 m along the walls. Of these only 8 towers survive to full height - two on the south wall and six on the west wall. The main east and west gates were protected by flanking towers and the corners of the fort were reinforced with round towers. The building style suggests a construction date of the 4th century AD.

The city was refortified in the late-antique period and sections of the rebuild can be identified through the use of a different building technique (*opus mixtum* with reused brick fragments). *Scampis* became the seat of a bishopric. An Early Christian basilica has been found at **Tepe**, a little to the west of *Scampis*, located on a small hill. The initial phase of the building was a three-aisled basilica, with a single apse. In a subsequent phase or phases, the aisle arcades were blocked. A small apsidal burial chapel was added to the north-east corner of the church, and an exo-narthex or propylaeum was constructed to the west in which vaulted brick built tombs were placed.

Scampis was eventually destroyed by the Bulgars and Ostrogoths in successive raids in the 7th century and appears to have been abandoned until the 15th century.

In 1466 *Scampis* was reoccupied as a military camp by Ottoman army led by Sultan Mehmet II. A fortress was constructed and the settlement was renamed *Ilibasan* - meaning ‘strong place’ in Turkish. Elbasan flourished for 400 years as a centre within the Ottoman Empire. In 1832 Reshid Pasha dismantled the 15th-century Ottoman fortress.

The town was badly damaged during the Second World War and was developed as a steel town in the communist period. Recent research and conservation projects have shown that the archaeological deposits are at least 6 m deep inside and immediately outside the fortress. The castle of Elbasan is listed as a cultural monument since 1948. In 1976 the historic centre of Elbasan was also included.

Site significance

The castle of Elbasan and its surroundings walls indicating the military significance of the town during the early Ottoman period. The southern wall, more or less intact is a proof of the size and power of the fortification. Some of the materials from Roman and Byzantine periods were reused during the reconstruction of the castle by Sultan Mehmet II. The fortress is quadrangular with each side around 300m each. 26 U-shaped towers are positioned at intervals of 40-50 m along the whole 12 m high wall. However, only 8 towers are still preserving the full height.

² Remains of a Roman bridge have been found close to Elbasan (Hammond 1967: 235 f.).

During the 6th century AD the town develops outside the walls becoming an Episcopal centre and a large basilica was built on the Tepe hill near the castle. The castle includes important historical elements such as the Roman Via Egnatia, Sinan Pasha's Turkish bath and the mosque built in 1494. Later on in 1897, on the top of one of the castle towers, the clock tower was built. Inside the castle there is also the church of Saint Mary mentioned in the documents of 1657. The Church was burned in 1819 but reconstructed in 1826 and 1833. The plan of the church is composed of a large area covered with a dome decorated with frescoes dating in 1856.

Immediately outside but very near the castle, it is located the basilica of Tepe constructed in walls 5.5 m high made of stone and bricks. The pavement of basilica is decorated by four mosaics. This monument underwent to substantial changes during the 6th century AD.

By end of 17th century there were 2000 people living inside the castle area. The number today is a little larger.

Proposal

The current proposal aims at the restoration of the Roman Via Egnatia road passing through the castle as one of the more important trade roads linking Roman Empire with the East. The protection of the mosaic outside the castle is an additional but important complementary work.

Expected results

The interventions cannot consume all the restoration needs required to revive the area inside the castle. However, having various monuments inside and outside the castle the protection of cultural and historical heritage of Elbasan representing an agglomerate of patrimonial values extended from Roman to Byzantine and Ottoman periods becomes of utmost importance.

- Preserve Via Egnatia from further deterioration and display its real values to the community,
- Establish core but important elements of a more intensive urban tourism by displaying and valuing the historical patrimony of the town through restoration of many "visiting" sites outside and inside the castle,
- Creating the premises for an enhanced life of the local community and especially increased participation in initiatives to encourage other projects and investments for the improving of urban infrastructure in the castle,
- Create the premises for the creation of small businesses for the selling of traditional products of the region and services.

Type of intervention

The intervention concept in the historical centre of Elbasan is based on idea to revive the "Egnatia" Road segment inside the inhabited castle (about 380m long). This proposal involves also the Mosaic near the castle walls.

The proposed intervention in this area consists of the following solutions which are presented in details in the drawing and virtual photos:

- A special stone pavement will be constructed, based on the traditional stone pavements built in Elbasan.
- A green area is thought to be created, by planting new trees to create a green atmosphere. The existing trees are maintained.
- A intervention will be carry out for utility improvements, like water supply pipe lines, electrical cabling, sewerage system, phone lines etc, which can prevent damages to future infrastructure interventions.
- An intervention will be done in the facades of the houses and walls along the road, which are very old or badly damaged.

- Reconstruction in some roof buildings will be done, which are very old or badly damaged, maintaining the same architectural features.
- A special decorative lighting will be placed along the road, making it more attractive and visible.
- Some decorative sittings places (park like chairs) will be placed along the road.
- At the Mosaic, a special glass cover will be placed at the ground level to protect the new discovered Mosaic from damages.
- The Mosaic area will be covered by some spectacular coverings, which are removable and constructed by structural steel and special covers

Participation

The project is assumed to be sustained from contributions of the local community that may exceed the 25% requested by IPA programme. It is expected that a chain reaction involving also private initiatives will start once the first results of the restoration of Via Egnatia are shown.

Risks

No significant risks are expected from such works. The municipality is fully committed to allocate the requested funding and provide the necessary administrative support for the implementation of works.

Costs

	Description of activities	Costs
1	Restoration of Via Egnatia road inside the castle	470,000
2	Rehabilitation of the water and sewage network	400,000
3	Rehabilitation of facades along the road	100,000
4	Lighting works	150,000
5	Landscaping	30,000
6	Protection of mosaic and related works	250,000
7	Supervision of works	100,000
	Total costs	1,500,000

Castle of Berat

The city of Berat (*Antipatrea*, later *Pulcheropolis* and *Belgrade*) occupies a steep-sided hill (187 m above sea level) at the foot of Mt. Tomorr, overlooking a gorge on the Osum river, a tributary of the Seman river. The modern city comprises a 13th-century citadel overlain with a prosperous 15th- to 19th-century Ottoman city, with expanded urban quarters.

The city of *Antipatrea* is traditionally believed to have been founded during the Hellenistic period by Cassander, King of Macedonia, in 314 BC, and was located on the western frontier of the Dassareti region, bordering the territory of Apollonia, and later, the Roman protectorate. Excavations around the medieval city walls of Berat have resulted in the identification of parts of the first wall circuit, including the remains of a major gateway incorporated into the foundations of the main medieval gateway. These wall sections date to the 4th century BC. Evidence for a slightly later fortification has also been found on the opposite side of the Osum river, beneath the Ottoman suburb of **Goricë**. The proximity of the two fortresses suggests that the crossing point of the river was heavily defended.

Ceramic sequences from the excavations within Berat date back to the 7th century BC, which suggests that *Antipatrea* was established on an existing Illyrian settlement.

In the wars between Macedonia and Rome, held in the Hellenistic period, the city had a strategic position on the route between Macedonia and the coastal region. Philip V held the city at various intervals but eventually lost control of it, first to the Illyrian leader Scerdilaidas and then to Rome. The fall of *Antipatrea* to the Romans was described by Livy and resulted in the slaughter of all males over the age of 16. The organisation and layout of the city in these periods is not known, with the earliest remains buried as deep as 5 m below the modern ground level.

In 440 AD the city was renamed *Pulcheropolis* by the Byzantine Emperor Theodosius II (408-450 AD) after his sister. A little over a century later the city walls were refurbished. This, like many other late-Roman refortifications, has historically been attributed to the Byzantine Emperor Justinian (527-565 AD).

In the 9th century *Pulcheropolis* fell to the Bulgarians. The city was renamed Belgrade (from which the modern name of Berat derives) and was the seat of a bishopric. The Bulgarians lost the city in the 11th century to the Byzantine Empire. Under the Despotate, the Muzaka family dominated Berat.

The city was refortified in the 13th century. The city walls were rebuilt, following the contours of the hill, to form a triangular fortress, enclosing 9.6 hectares. This fortress could only be entered from one heavily defended barbican gate to the north east (the site of the original 4th-century gateway). The city walls were protected by a system of towers.³ Within the city, a castle was constructed on the summit of the hill. It comprised an outer work, five towers and an inner work with a large cistern. Alterations and additions were made to the system of fortifications throughout the following century and included an extension of the fortified area by the construction of two defensive walls running from the south side of the city wall to the river. This extension enclosed a further 6 hectares. Several churches dating to the 13th and 14th centuries have survived within the city - the churches of St George, St Michael and the Holy Trinity being the best preserved.

In 1417 Berat fell under Ottoman control. The fortifications were maintained with the addition of urban quarters at Goritza and Mangalem, outside the medieval fortifications. The city prospered under the Ottomans and much of the historic centre of modern Berat comprises Ottoman-period houses (fine 17th and 18th century stone built dwellings) and, close to the river, timber-framed shops of the old bazaar. In addition there is an important group of mosques including the late 15th-century Sultan's Mosque, the 16th-century Lead Mosque and the 19th-century Mosque of the

³ There are 24 towers but some are of a later date.

Bachelors. A group of 18th-century buildings associated with the Tekke of the Helvetis also has survived. Many churches were also constructed in this period, decorated by Onufre, a 16th-century Albanian painter, and his school of painters. A museum of Onufre's work can be found in Berat.

Protected status - the castle of Berat was listed as a cultural monument in 1948. In 2008, Berat was entered in the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 2008.

Site significance

The castle is the symbol of the city as it embeds its long history. Currently, inside the castle area live some 600 people. There are only few small retail businesses including 2-3 restaurant and coffee bars. There are few churches with frescoes belonging to the 13-14th century. In the castle there is also the museum of Onufri inside the Saint Mary's church displaying the works of this well known painter of 16th century.

Beside the historical value, the castle has also a landscaping value as it dominates the place and provides a view of the surrounding area.

Proposal

It includes the restoration of almost the whole infrastructure as an important element to avoid further deterioration of the site and provide better services to visitors and population living there.

The current proposal is limited only to the castle as the centre of an historical agglomeration including also the two neighbourhoods laid on the foot of the castle hill and distinguished from the characteristic architecture of the houses that has been so far well preserved.

The core of the proposal stands on the need to expand the visiting time of tourists or other visitors through a combination of historical values, nature view and cultural events on site.

Expected results

- Improved living conditions for the people living in the castle and increased access to visitors due to rehabilitated basic physical infrastructure,
- Encouraging of new businesses including handicrafts related to increased number of visitors,
- The site becomes appropriate and attractive to organize cultural, sportive and business related events,
- Additional funding from donors or private entities to restore the historical values inside and around the castle is committed once the restoration results become visible.

Type of intervention

- Rehabilitation of the existing pathway between the castle and adjacent neighbourhoods that will expand the area of visits and provide opportunities even for outdoor events,
- Rehabilitation of the whole water, sewage, fire-extinguishing and power infrastructure as very obsolete and unable to provide the required services,
- Rehabilitation of the streets through paving with the existing stone,
- Adopting a lighting system and architecture similar to other historical sites in Europe,
- Improving of the house facades and adjusting to the old fashion characteristic for the castle,
- Constructing a promenade outside the castle,
- Restore the towers and walking walls.

Participation

The project is assumed to be sustained from contributions of the local community that may exceed the 25% requested by IPA programme. It is expected that a chain reaction involving also private initiatives will start once the first results of the restoration.

Risks

Risks are mostly linked with possible damages caused to the structures due to bad maintenance, fire or adverse factors that in turn may increase the costs of rehabilitation.

Costs

	Description of activities	Costs
1	Restoration of step-way to the river	140,000
2	Construction of a promenade outside walls	100,000
3	Conservation of towers and walls	160,000
4	Rehabilitation of water, sewage and anti-fire system	220,000
5	Lighting and power	230,000
6	Rehabilitation of streets	650,000
7	Rehabilitation of facades	450,000
8	Greening and landscaping	30,000
9	Creation of an information centre	80,000
10	Supervision of works	130,000
	Total costs	2,190,000

Street “Cardinal Koliqi” in Shkodër

The city of Shkodër is located at the southern end of the Mbishkodra plain. The settlement is in a well defended position, almost totally surrounded by water with Shkodër Lake to the north and the rivers of Kiri, Drini and Buna to the northeast, south and east respectively. The land approach is protected by a steep hill (130 m above sea level) which was the site of the original settlement and the medieval fortress of Rozafat. The Roman colony and the late-antique settlement were located on the flood plain between the Drini and Buna, to the south and east of the acropolis. Evidence for bridging points across the Drini and Buna exists from historical documents with the remains of one possible bridge and associated Roman gateway located on the bank of the river Drini.

The earliest evidence for the occupation of Shkodër comes from ceramics and other finds material excavated from within the fortress of Rozafat. The material dates to the Illyrian urban period (3rd century BC) when Shkodër was the capital of the Illyrian tribe of the Ardiaean.⁴ King Gentius was defeated at Shkodër by the Romans in 168 BC and the city became the capital of the new Roman province of *Illyricum*. The archaeological sequence on the acropolis shows continued occupation through to the 1st century BC. The area was apparently abandoned in favour of the lower city and was not reoccupied until the late-antique period when both the lower and upper areas of the city seem to have been occupied.

In the lower city limited excavations have identified occupation dating back to the Roman conquest of the city through to the 7th century AD. Shkodër was made a colony, probably under Vespasian (69-79 AD), and was recorded as such by Pliny the Elder and by an inscription recovered from the neighbouring town of Doclea (Duklja, Montenegro). The most significant Roman remains identified to date include a large wall built along the bank of the Drini, with evidence for a gateway to the Drini bridging point. The wall is probably part of a Roman defensive system but was later adapted to form a flood defence for the late-antique town. Two honorific inscriptions have also been recovered. The first dedicated to Septimius Severus (193-211 AD) and the second to Gordian III (238-244 AD). Several tomb epitaphs have also been recovered.

In the late 4th century AD a new circuit wall was constructed in the lower city running from the west side of the acropolis hill, close to the Buna river, curving round to the Drini river and meeting the remains of the Roman defensive wall. The later wall appears to have enclosed a smaller area than the earlier Roman wall. The 4th-century AD wall was constructed using timbers to form a framework within the masonry (cribwork), a construction technique first described by Caesar in the Gallic wars and found in other late-antique circuits such as the neighbouring city of Doclea (Duklja, Montenegro) and the fortress of Vig (Croatia). The circuit wall at Shkodër was strengthened by the addition of ‘U’-shaped towers positioned at regular intervals along the wall (every 32m). The towers appear to have been constructed at a slightly later phase, as they are not bonded directly into the 4th-century wall, although they are constructed in the same style. The circuit wall and towers were refurbished in the 6th century AD, possibly under the reign of Justinian (527-565 AD). This refurbishment phase has been dated by the discovery of brick stamps and associated ceramics.

Excavations within the lower city have uncovered a densely populated area of domestic buildings dating to the late-antique period and at least one public building with a mosaic floor on the bank of the river Drini. The archaeological sequence is sealed by a thick burnt layer, which the excavators have associated with the incursions of the Goths in 551 AD. By the 7th century the lower city appears to have been abandoned in favour of the acropolis.

Excavations within the fortress indicate that there was intermittent occupation of the acropolis in the late-antique and early-medieval periods. The earliest fortification of the acropolis seems to date from the 12th century and the period of Slavs control (1040-1355) over the settlement. In

⁴ Evidence for Bronze Age occupation of the hill has also been identified within the area of the fortress by the discovery of early ceramic forms. These ceramics are closely paralleled by finds from other Bronze Age sites, namely Gajtan, Nezir and Maliq (Hoxha 1987).

1319 the cathedral of St Stephen was constructed within the fortress (later turned into a mosque). By 1396 the city (now known as *Scutari*) was under Venetian control and the fortress was refurbished including the addition of a heavily defended barbican gateway. In the 15th century the Ottomans famously laid siege to the city, losing large numbers of forces in the ensuing battle for the acropolis. The city finally capitulated in 1479 to Mehmet Pasha. The story of the siege is retold in Veronese's frescoes of 1585 in the Doge's palace in Venice.

Under the Ottomans the city prospered and new Ottoman quarters developed on low-lying ground to the north and east of the acropolis. The city became one of the most important sanjaks of the Balkans and its rulers became independent of Constantinople. Much of the Ottoman settlement is still preserved. One of the key buildings from this period is the Lead Mosque just to the south east of Rozafat.

Protected status - the fortress of Rozafat was listed as a cultural monument in 1948 along with the Lead Mosque. Individual Ottoman buildings within the city have since been listed.

Site significance

The street "Cardinal Koliqi" makes part of the architectonic complex of the historical area of Shkodra that has been declared by a decree of the Council of Ministers as culture monument of first category. It includes the rehabilitation of the street "Cardinal Koliqi" that is extended between the street "13 December" and the street "Scanderbeg". This road was designed by Kol Idromeno, a distinguished painter of Albanian Renaissance. The road has than 60 businesses with 200 employees and 150 residential building with 550 people living there. The revenues generated by the businesses amounts around € 3 million/year that is considered relatively small to the potentials.

At the end of XIX century and beginning of XX century, Shkodra had a population of around 40,000 people. The need for development was reflected in urban infrastructure improvements and construction of residential houses and shops especially in the main streets "Kolë Idromeno" and "Gjuhadol" (previous name of Cardinal Koliqi's street) that still remain the heart of the city. These street were designed by the engineer Kole Idromeno a distinguished figure of Albanian Renaissance. Still today, this part of the city preserves the architectonic values of the XIX century.

Proposal

The proposal demands the rehabilitation of the infrastructure of the street "Cardinal Koliqi" including water and sewage, lighting and facades and make it an important road not only in terms of the historical memory but also encouraging business.

Expected results

- Adopt infrastructure interventions to protect the road from further deterioration and return its historical memory,
- The improvements will support an increment of the revenues from businesses due to increased attractiveness of the street appealing for more visitors,
- The urban planning process will pay more importance to the preservation of the historical site of the city and discourage any inappropriate intervention taking place in the area,
- Local community awareness on the protection of the street and contributions to ensure its maintenance increased.

Area of intervention

The intervention in this area consists of the following solutions:

- A special stone pavement road (about 7 m wide), with walkways on both sides of the road (about 2, 5 m wide), will be constructed in relation with traditional road building in Shkodra.
- A very significant intervention will be carried out in the facades and roofs, of all buildings along the road on sides, maintaining the same architectural features, but renewing them and repainting in accordance with traditional architecture features.
- Planting new decorative trees is thought to create a green atmosphere along the road on both sides. The existing trees are maintained.
- Some decorative sittings, will be installed on both pedestrians sides for inhabitants and as well as for the visitors to have a short brake.
- An important intervention will be carried out for all utilities, like water supply pipe lines, electrical cabling, sewerage system, phone lines etc, which can prevent damaging the new intervention in the future.
- Reconstructing almost the half of the roofs, along the road, on both sides will be carried out, maintaining the same architectural features.
- There is proposed a special decorative lighting during night time along road on both sides, which will make the road very attractive for visitors and the inhabitants which lives there.

Participation

The project is assumed to be sustained from contributions of the local community at the level of 25% as requested by IPA programme. It is expected that a chain reaction involving also private initiatives regarding the rehabilitation of houses or shops will start once the first results of the restoration are visible.

Risks

Possible risks are linked only with financial capacity of the local community to provide the 25% contribution to the works before the starting of the project.

Estimated costs

	Description of activities	Costs
1	Restoration of the road	500,000
2	Rehabilitation of the water and sewage network	400,000
3	Rehabilitation of facades along the road	110,000
4	Lighting works	290,000
5	Landscaping	150,000
6	Supervision of works	100,000
	Total costs	1,550,000

Korca Bazaar

The city of Korca, situated at the foot of the Morava mountains, it was an Illyrian settlement in ancient times. Later there was built near here the ancient city of Pelion, which was captured during the second Macedonian War with the Roman Army under Sulpicius Galba in 199 B.C.

Neolithic remnants have been found indicating occupation of the site from 4000 BC onwards. The Copper Age lasted from 3000 BC to 2100 BC, and was followed by the Bronze Age.

The town named as "Coviza" is mentioned in medieval documents of 1280. The modern town dates from the end of the 15th Century, during the Ottoman occupation that began in 1440.

During early Middle Ages Korca had become an urban centre with a ninth century church, rebuilt in the fourteenth century. During this time, a mosque and a hamam were built and the town developed quickly. The Mirahori mosque was built in 1418. Korca grew considerably in the 17th century, especially after the burning and fall of the town of Voskopoja. By this time, it had become a centre of carpet-making as well as a focal point for trade. A large **Bazaar** was built, preserved as a cultural monument.

During World War I Korca became a battleground was belligerent armies.

Site significance

The bazaar of Korca dates back to the second half of the 19 century and constitutes a very important feature of the urban environment of the city as it represents the role of tradesmen and craftsmen who at the time influenced the economic and social development of the country. The bazaar is divided in clearly distinct units. The squares are like centres, surrounded by two or three storey buildings. Fifteen inns existed at that time, out of which only nine are preserved. In 1879, the bazaar was nearly destroyed by a fire but was reconstructed to its formal look. For many years, works have not been undertaken causing a difficult technical situation. Restoration works had been undertaken in 1984 and 1988-1989.

In the area of bazaar have the activity around 400 businesses that generate a turnover of about € 27 million/year. In addition, there are more than 150 inhabitations with about 700 people living there. In the surroundings of Bazaar there are more than 50 bars and restaurants.

Bazaar takes special values also due to the presence in its vicinity of other historical monuments such as:

The inn of Elbasan (monuments of culture, 1st cat. 1948) belongs to the Renaissance period (1831-1912). It is situated in the centre of the bazaar/market area, built with stone and wood, and using mixed techniques. The building is a two-storey construction with decorative architectonic elements, with an inner courtyard, stone masonry, and wooden doors and windows.

The Rooster inn (monument of culture, 1st cat. 1973) is located in the centre of the Korca market area. It belongs to the early medieval period (1400-1600). It is a two-storey building built in mixed techniques. Last restoration conducted in May 2007.

The Inn of Manastir (monument of culture, 1st cat.1973) is centrally located in the market area, this inn dates to the 1831-1912 renaissance period. The building is a two-storey stone construction, with wooden doors and windows.

Proposal

Bazaar of Korca has been included in the list of consolidated projects following the Ljubljana Process – Funding Heritage Rehabilitation in South-East Europe, joint initiative of the Council of Europe and European Commission (2003) to support the restoration of the historical heritage as a

generator of social and economic capital, bringing tangible benefits to local populations, *inter alia*, by encouraging tourism.

The proposed intervention will cover the whole Bazaar including water and sewage, the square and road, lighting and facades. Only few elements regarding the upgrading of roofs of houses are not considered.

Expected results

- Adopt infrastructure interventions to return the historical memory of Bazaar
- Encourage through Bazaar rehabilitation the future initiatives to the restoration of the historical identity of the whole adjacent area,
- Encourage the creation of new small businesses and attract visitors and tourists.

Type of interventions

- A special stone pavement will be placed, based on the traditional stone pavements built in Korca.
- A green area is thought to be created, by planting new trees to create a green atmosphere. The existing trees are maintained.
- An intervention will be carry out for all utilities, like water supply pipe lines, electrical cabling, sewerage system, phone lines etc, which can prevent damages in the new intervention for the future.
- An intervention will be done in all facades, around and inside the bazaar area, which are very old or badly damaged maintaining the same architectural features.
- Reconstruction in all roofs Bazaar buildings will be done, which are very old or badly damaged, maintaining the same architectural features.
- A special decorative lighting will be placed around the Bazaar, making it more attractive especially during the night.
- Some decorative sittings will be placed

Participation

The project is assumed to be sustained from contributions of the local community at the level of 25% as requested by IPA programme. It is expected that a chain reaction involving also private initiatives regarding the rehabilitation of houses (roofs) or shops will start once the first results of the restoration are visible.

Risks

Risks are mostly linked with possible damages caused to the structures due to bad maintenance, fire or adverse factors that will in turn increase the costs of rehabilitation.

Costs

	Description of activities	Costs
1	Restoration of roads around bazaar	650,000
2	Rehabilitation of the water and sewage network	150,000
3	Rehabilitation of facades along the road	50,000
4	Lighting works	480,000
5	Landscaping	30,000
6	Construction of new kiosks	320,000
7	Construction of a glass cover around the shops	300,000
8	Supervision of works	120,000
	Total costs	2,100,000