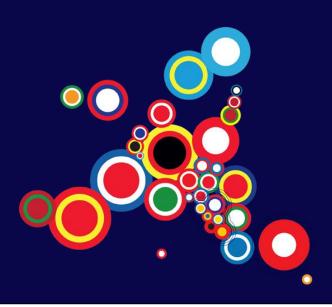


INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA II) 2014-2020





Action summary

The objective of the action is to protect the environment through the decommissioning of three facilities in the compound of Kosovo A Thermal Power Plant parts that are no longer in operation including associated facilities: **i) gasification, ii) fertiliser and iii) heat plants**. The resulting hazardous waste and other material will be safely transported and stored within the compound of Kosovo A TPP. In addition, the cleaned area will be turned into a brownfield.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Action Identification					
Action Programme Title	Annual Action Programme for Kosovo for the Year 2019				
Action Title	EU for Environment				
Action ID	IPA 2019 /041 248 /02 / Kosovo /Environment				
	Sector Information				
IPA II Sector	3. Environment and Climate Change				
DAC Sector	23320				
	Budget				
Total cost	EUR 38 360 000				
EU contribution	EUR 38 360 000				
Budget line(s)	22 02 01 02				
	Management and Implementation				
Management mode	Direct management				
Direct management:	European Union Office in Kosovo				
EU Delegation					
Implementation responsibilities	European Union Office in Kosovo				
	Location				
Zone benefiting from the action	Kosovo				
Specific implementation area(s)	Kosovo				
	Timeline				
Final date for concluding Financing Agreement(s) with IPA II beneficiary	At the latest by 31 December 2020				
Final date for concluding delegation agreements under indirect management					
Final date for concluding procurement and grant contracts	3 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement, with the exception of cases listed under Article 189(2) of the Financial Regulation				
Final date for operational implementation	6 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement				
Final date for implementing the Financing Agreement (date by which this programme should be de-	12 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement				

committed and closed)						
Policy objectives / Markers (DAC form)						
General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective			
Participation development/good governance	M					
Aid to environment			V			
Gender equality (including Women In Development)	Ø					
Trade Development	Ø					
Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	Ø					
RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective			
Biological diversity	Ø					
Combat desertification	Ø					
Climate change mitigation		Ø				
Climate change adaptation						

1. RATIONALE

PROBLEM AND STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

There are two lignite-fired generation Thermal Power Plants (TPP) in Kosovo; Kosovo A with five units and Kosovo B with two units. Currently, most power plant units in Kosovo are at the end of their technical lifetime. All units of the TPP Kosovo A should have been either decommissioned or rehabilitated by the end of 2017. However, considering the actual technical and operational status of the units and the related repairs that have been performed a couple years ago, the A3, A4 and A5 units of TPP Kosovo A could operate for several more years, until the commissioning of the new, more efficient, lignite-fired power plant currently in the pipeline.

Besides the generation units, the site of the TPP Kosovo A also includes a gasification plant and a fertiliser plant which are no longer in operation but represent an environmental hazard due to the large number of potential hazardous chemicals that still remain within the existing pipes and other facilities located on those premises. The presence of those hazardous chemicals affects the health of men and women who work regularly there.

The TPP Kosovo A needs to be decommissioned entirely, starting with the dismantling and decommissioning of the facilities that are no longer in operation including associated structures: i) gasification plant, ii) fertiliser plant and iii) heat plant. The resulting hazardous waste and other material willbe safely transported and stored within the compound of the Kosovo A TPP. The material will remain in the compound until the establishment of bilateral agreements between Kosovo and third parties for final disposal. In addition, the cleaned area will be prepared to be re-used for industrial purposes including a possible logistic centre for hazardous waste temporary storage.

The **gasification plant** contains only one unit as part of a large industrial complex operated by KEK with a surface of 33 ha. It is located within the municipality of Obiliq/Obilić approximately 10 km westwards from the city of Pristina.

The **nitrogen fertiliser plant** is also a unit of the power plant with a surface of approx. 69 ha, which was used to produce approximately 70,000 tonnes of fertiliser.

In the past, the **fertiliser and gasification** plants were major sources of environmental pollution, however, these facilities were permanently closed down in 1988/89. There is a high probability for the existence of hazardous chemical residues from the plant materials and the presence of asbestos has been confirmed in both facilities.

The **heat plant** was used for the production of technological steam, with a capacity of about 1 million tonnes a year. The heat plant contains three very old and obsolete boilers, which need to be dismantled. Boilers K(1) and K(2) have been out of operation for 20 years, while the boiler K(3) is out of operation since 2005. The heat plant has two installed turbines with a capacity of 16 MWh (not operational since 20 years) and 25 MWh (not operational since 2005). In this plant, the main expected hazardous waste during the demolition process will be asbestos and old mineral fibre.

The decommissioning of Kosovo A TPP is in line with the strategic objectives of the current Indicative Strategy Paper for Kosovo 2014–2020 and the Kosovo's energy sector strategy and policies on environmental protection from energy sector activities. The issues related to environmental concerns are also presented as an objective in the Strategy of the Energy Community and the acquis on energy and environment.

The process of the decommissioning of Kosovo A TPP is already initiated with the government's decision No. 04/156 issued on 13 November 2013 regarding the decommissioning and dismantling of the facilities in the compound of the plant which are no longer in operation. Dismantling these facilities at Kosovo A TPP (gasification, fertiliser, heating plants and all associated facilities) will not interfere with the power plant's available generation units that are still in operation, i.e.: Three generation units A3, A4 and A5. This will

equally not affect the water treatment plant, 7 (seven), active power substations (6/0.4 kV) and the weighing equipment that are still in operation. Therefore the above-mentioned facilities are not part of this phase of the decommissioning process.

On 19 December 2013, three working groups for the decommissioning process have been established by Kosovo's government. Their task is to coordinate activities with the relevant institutions and closely monitor the implementation of the decommissioning process. In order to improve the coordination of the project activities, KEK has established a separate department that will cooperate with the working groups and the experts responsible for the decommissioning of the above-mentioned facilities. After around one year, only the first working group continued with the activities until the Steering Committee is established under the actual technical assistance project (funded by IPA 2014) related to the decommissioning process of Kosovo A TPP that commenced in July 2018. Continue of the activities of the Working Group/s after the actual EU financed project for decommissioning of the TPP Kosovo A is finalised (July 2020) will depend from the government's decision.

The main stakeholders responsible for the implementation of these activities are the Ministry of Economic Development and KEK, as the main beneficiaries of the action. Other institutions will also be involved, such as: Ministry of Environment and Social Planning, Ministry of European Integrations, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Finance and the Energy Regulator Office. Other parties which will be involved in this process are: the above indicated three inter-institutional working groups established by Kosovo's government for the decommissioning process and KEK Project Implementation Unit established for the decommissioning process. The municipalities of Obiliq/Obilic and Fushe Kosova/Kosovo Polje will also be involved, as the action will potentially be implemented on the area of these municipalities.

The decommissioning process of TPP Kosovo A will require appropriate facilities for temporary storage of hazardous waste. In addition, considering the fact that Kosovo is not member of 'Basel Convention'¹ the government should step up its efforts to establish agreements to facilitate transport and treatment/disposal of hazardous waste.

The storage of the material will be implemented within the compound identifying the most safe and economical methodology (e.g. using the existing hangar or alternatively adopting an ad-hoc structure).

OUTLINE OF IPA II ASSISTANCE

IPA II will provide support to the sector of energy and environment in Kosovo that in line with energy strategy of Kosovo and the obligations towards the Energy Community. One of thematic priorities of IPA II is protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and risk prevention. The targets can be reached only if all services involved in IPA programming pay special attention to mainstreaming climate change in all sectors including the energy sector. The environment will also need to be mainstreamed in the 2014-2020 IPA Programming.

As part of the reduction of environmental impact of the existing power plants, the proposed action regards the decommissioning of TTP Kosovo A facilities not used anymore and clean the area occupied by these facilities.

Based on above, in particular, the proposed action will contribute to improvement of the environment and the living and health conditions of the affected population in the vicinity of the TPP "Kosova A", in particular the population of Obiliq/Obilic, Fushe Kosove/Kosovo Polje, and Pristina/Pristina.

RELEVANCE WITH THE IPA II STRATEGY PAPER AND OTHER KEY REFERENCES

The revised Indicative Strategy Paper (ISP) sets out the areas of EU financial assistance for the period 2014-2020 to support Kosovo in fulfilling its European perspective. In particular it will support the protection of the environment through closure and decommissioning of the Kosovo A power plant. In order to enhance

¹ Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

competitiveness, IPA II will also support the education targeting women and men, research and innovation capacity building, training and business development in the areas of energy, environmental protection and climate change. Climate change mitigation measures will also be considered.

The overall objective of Kosovo's ISP regarding energy production is to contribute to the reduction of its environmental damage and the negative impact on the health of the affected population. Therefore one of the main results expected in the sector are the implementation of the decommissioning process of TPP Kosovo A and improved alignment of Kosovo's energy sector with EU acquis particularly in the field of energy and environment and best practices.

This project is also part of the Kosovo Single Project Pipeline of Infrastructural Investment under sector investment and development.

In addition, this action will contribute to the implementation of the EU Gender Action Plan II (GAP II), objective 16; "Equal access and control over clean water, energy, transport infrastructure, and equitable engagement in their management, enjoyed by girls and women", among others.

LESSONS LEARNED AND LINK TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The energy sector in Kosovo benefited from the significant financial support to date in the areas such as improvement of the infrastructure as well as institutional capacity building, update and harmonisation of the legislation, policy, regulatory, studies, and concrete projects such as implementation of EE measures (including combined heat and power), electricity transmission and distribution. Support to the sector was mainly provided by the EU under IPA programming, USAID, GIZ, KfW, and the World Bank.

In 2009/2010 the EU has supported the government with a study for the decommissioning of Kosovo A TPP. The main objective of this study was to advice the EU and assist KEK, Kosovo's government and other stakeholders to prepare a decommissioning plan for the overaged, environmentally polluting and inefficient TPP Kosovo A in terms of activities, time and the cost. The closure of the plant is required to satisfy the Energy Community Treaty that was signed in October 2005 and ratified in July 2006. Based on the Energy Community Treaty requirements, Kosovo has to implement the acquis on Environment as defined in the Treaty. This includes implementation of the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control and large Combustion Plant Directive 94/66/EC that was after reformulated into a Directive on Industrial Emissions.

Through previous assistance support provided by the International Development Association and co-funding from the Government of Netherlands towards the cost of Energy Sector Clean up and Land Reclamation, a conceptual project for the clean-up and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous products and waste stored in parts of the tanks and containers of the gasification plant located in the compound of the Kosovo A TPP was carried out in 2009. The Environmental Impact Assessment study was subsequently carried out between 2009 and 2010 and the study for clean-up works took place between 2011 and 2012.

The current technical assistance project (funded by IPA 2014), covering the period July 2018 to July 2020, is supporting the decommissioning process of 'Kosovo A' TPP. This project will produce the preliminary design of the works to be carried out to during the first phase of the decommissioning of the TPP Kosovo A facilities no longer in operation. The project will also include; the preparation of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment , the preparation of the detailed inventory list of the facilities to be decommissioned and the identification of all kinds of waste generated. Other activities of the technical assistance will consist of; the preparation of the waste management plan, the preparation of the detailed work plan for the dismantling of the facilities, the assessment of the geological, hydrogeological, geotechnical and environmental conditions on site in preparation for the design of the remediation works and, finally, the preparation of the detailed work plan for the site remediation / rehabilitation works.

The environmental works for the refurbishment of Kosovo B dust filters including the ash internal transport system and the installation of De-NOx facilities financed under IPA 2018 and IPA 2019 run in parallel with the present action. The investment in Kosovo B TPP aims at achieving the maximum emissions levels for these two parameters described in the Large Combustion Plant and Industrial Emission Directive, Kosovo should fulfil the limits established by the Directive by the end of 2027 at the latest. In addition a previous EU

funded support has contributed to the institutional development and to the promotion of the reforms in the energy sector, those including energy market regulatory framework development, alignment of the legal framework with the acquis, strategic planning in energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.

The government institutions need to enable the fulfilment of the international obligations, such as requirements of the Energy Community Treaty, by its executive institutions. In particular, more efforts are needed to reach bilateral agreements with third countries, in order to enable Kosovo to transport hazardous waste outside its border and a clear planning and financing should be secured to fulfil the above responsibilities, by the government of Kosovo.

A general lesson learnt is that policy and legislative development needs to be evidence-based, costed and subject to appropriate internal and external stakeholder consultations at the right time of the legislative and policy-making process. This is a key to ensuring the implementation and enforcement of adopted policies and legislation. In the other hand, the process of public consultations should be properly implemented by the Ministry and needs to be more effective and transparent when informing the public on the overall objectives of the financed actions.

2. Intervention logic - LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

OVERALL OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	
Protection of environment in compliance with the relevant EU acquis and best practices.	Progress made towards meeting Copenhagen criteria – Compliance with EU waste acquis related to hazardous waste.		
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
Decommissioning of the plants and facilities within the compound of TPP Kosovo A that are no longer in operation (gasification plant, fertilizer production plant and heating plant with associated facilities).		from contracting company	Approval and signature of this action. Agreement for a temporary Hazardous Waste Storage facility, within TPP Kosovo A is being achieved The associated reconstruction works for the temporary storage successfully implemented. Successful procurement procedures for the main decommissioning works. A reliable and experienced works contractor is selected. The institutions in charge of environmental and construction permits shall be involved, consulted by government beneficiaries and KEK in order to obtain such permits in time.
RESULTS	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
Result 1 : Gasification, fertiliser and heating parts and all other associated facilities of Kosovo A TPP are dismantled, transported out of the Kosovo A compound (if possible) and	processing and heating at the TPP	from contracting company	Social Impact Assessment study

stored in a hazardous waste storage dedicated for this purpose.	transported (if possible) and stored at the	The actual FU funded	Selection of an appropriate Works Contractor(s) and the
Result 2: The affected area is cleaned and recovered to be re-used for industrial purposes (brown field level).	satisfactorily and acceptable.	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment study.	Supervisor/Engineer. Execution must be organised in accordance with laws and standards. Strict management control of time and quality.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Result 1. Dismantling of the facilities in the compound of Kosovo A TPP that are no longer in operation, transport and storage of the material resulting from the dismantling process.

At the site of TPP "Kosovo A", the facilities of gasification, nitrogen processing and heating are not functional and represent an environmental hazard for the surrounding area, due to the potentially hazardous chemicals found in pipelines and the old equipment. Therefore, their decommissioning and terrain remediation will significantly contribute to the protection of the environment. Dismantling of the facilities indicated above will not have any impact on the normal operation of the TPP Kosovo A available generation units.

Activity:

1.1 Execution of the works by using the relevant technologies and professional teams necessary for an appropriate and safe dismantling of such industrial facilities and remediation of the site (see activity 2.1) through a design and build works contract/s;

Based on the area and volume of materials coming from each facility, an appropriate demolition technology and remediation works will be identified and incorporated in the design and built activity. The ongoing decommissioning study will evaluate the volume and type of materials coming from the decommissioning process.

1.2 Identification, separation and transport of waste and their storage, according to relevant standards for the types of waste;

All the remain materials, including the hazardous waste, have to be identified, recorded, transported and stored appropriately in accordance with the EU standards outlined in the relevant waste directives (Directive 2008/98/EC on waste and Directive 2012/18/EU on the control of major accidents from dangerous substances). The estimation of the hazardous waste coming from Kosovo A and preparation of the inventory is in progress (under the IPA 2014 Technical Assistance). The inventory is expected to be ready by the end of 2019.

1.3 Supervision of the implementation of the decommissioning works and preparation of reports relevant for the dismantling, transport and storage of the material.

The supervision of the works will be entrusted to a specialised company financed under the present action.

The supervision company will ensure the implementation of the standards set up within the Industrial Emission Directive (even though the word "decommissioning" is not directly used in the Industrial Emission Directive with respect to closure of the energy installations, the general context as well as the philosophy of the Industrial Emission Directive and its regulatory system, along with the 2017 (best available technology conclusions, prove that the EU gives a limited space for coal energy facilities) and the power-related regulations brought into force by the Energy Regulatory Office.

Result 2. Cleaning the area by waste after dismantling of the facilities and other waste in this location and its remediation to the level of brownfield.

Activity:

2.1 Treatment of terrain from hazardous substances identified in the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment study, according to environmental laws and standards;

An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment study for decommissioning of the facilities in the compound of the TPP Kosovo A is in progress conducted by the selected Contractor/s appointed for the

decommissioning process, and it will be considered as a guide for handling with hazardous and nonhazardous waste as well for treating of an area of approx. 130 ha which has to be cleaned and transformed to the brownfield level (for industrial purpose).

2.2 Organising of transport and storage of the waste (hazardous and other) to the dedicated storage place by taking all necessary security measures for their transportation and storage;

The transport and storage of hazardous waste, will be done by the licensed operator in compliance with the rules described in the relevant Kosovo legislation and the EU Directives 2008/98/EC and SEVESO.

RISKS

Risk categories	Mitigation measures			
Lack of political commitment from central government	 The government progress on securing international bilateral agreements on the export of hazardous waste materials 			
Lack of sufficient professional capacities in Kosovo for implementation of decommissioning process.	 Selection of an experienced works contractor in similar activities. 			
No appropriate location for the Hazardous Waste storage facility is provided by the Kosovo government.	 The government establishes the operator of the Hazardous Waste storage facility by Q4 2020 and allocates sufficient budget for staff training and the necessary equipment for operation. The government secures the location for the Hazardous Waste obtaining all the necessary administrative approvals, including environmental ones. The government establishes bilateral agreements with the Member States for transport and treatment of the Hazardous Waste and ensures the necessary funds, in order to avoid further accumulation of hazardous waste in the inappropriate locations throughout Kosovo. 			
Lack of effective intern institutional cooperation between governmental institutions and other stakeholders.	central and local level institutions donors etc.) that will me			
Unmotivated staff participates in the project activities.	 Motivation through challenge and problem solving; Early stage involvement and active participation; Joint events as promotion and activity motivation; Addressing of ownership. Change of staff if required. 			
Other Challenges	 An appropriate operator for the Hazardous Waste storage facility is found. The government secures appropriate budget for the financing of the operation and maintenance of the hazardous waste storage facility. (the short term solution and the long term solution) 			

Risks related to the implementation of the Action are the following:

CONDITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

For the implementation of the action document in a timely and effective manner, the following assumptions are made:

- Skilled and motivated staff is actively involved in the planned activities;
- Effective communication and active involvement among all sector institutions, donors and other stakeholders in order to make a maximum use of funds and avoid any duplication of activities;
- Full participation of KEK, Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Environment and Social Planning and other relevant institutions in providing sufficient human and financial resources necessary to carry out the planned interventions (involvement of present workers, adequate information and communication about the decommissioning process).

The implementation of this action is subject to the following conditions:

- Temporary hazardous waste storage facilities are finalised on time;
- Space will be made available within the KEK compound to set up an appropriate storage facility.
- The government of Kosovo provides the needed support and ensures that activities are timely implemented.
- Necessary permits such as environmental and construction permits are secured in time by the beneficiaries.
- -

3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The general implementation arrangements relate to the following:

- Under the direct management mode, the European Union Office in Kosovo will be the Contracting Authority for works and supervision.
- The Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Environment and Social Planning and KEK will be responsible for the management of coordination and cooperation with the related institutions in the sector.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD(S) AND TYPE(S) OF FINANCING

The activities under this action will be carried out under the direct management mode through the following **types of contracts:**

- Indicatively one to three works contracts to be implemented for dismantling, transport and storage of the above indicated facilities in the compound of Kosovo A TPP that are no longer in operation including the rehabilitation of the storage area within the compound.
- Tentative Timetable of works: The implementation duration of the project is expected to be around 36 months, during the time period 2020/2021 2023/2024.
- One (1) service contract for the supervision of the dismantling and decommissioning works until the final handover of the remediated site/s.

4. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

METHODOLOGY FOR MONITORING (AND EVALUATION)

In line with the IPA II Implementing Regulation 447/2014, an IPA II beneficiary who has been entrusted budget implementation tasks of IPA II assistance shall be responsible for conducting evaluations of the programmes it manages.

The European Commission may carry out a mid-term, a final or an ex-post evaluation for this Action or its components via independent consultants, through a joint mission or via an implementing partner. In case a mid-term or final evaluation is not foreseen, the European Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner.

Due to the specific nature of this project a mid-term evaluation will be initiated to assess whether the project is progressing well. The specific evaluation would evaluate the efficiency and the effectiveness of the project activities as well as the prospect for sustainability in order to address any risks that may be mitigated before the completion of the project. Other project of similar nature in the environment and energy sector will be part of this specific evaluation.

The evaluations will be carried out as prescribed by the DG NEAR guidelines for evaluations. In addition, the Action might be subject to external monitoring in line with the European Commission rules and procedures set in the Financing Agreement.

INDICATOR MEASUREMENT

Indicator	Baseline (year) (2)	Milestone 2019 (3)	Target 2020/2021 (4)	Final Target (2023/2024) (5)	Source of information
Progress made towards meeting Copenhagen criteria – Compliance with EU waste acquis related to hazardous waste.	Progress report for Kosovo Legal/Regulatory framework on Hazardous Waste at early stage of drafting.	The hazardous waste in the site of TPP Kosovo A exists, and it is not entirely in compliance with the EU acquis transposed in the local legislation.	Defined the legal/ regulatory requirements in the site of TPP Kosovo A dealing with Hazardous Waste in compliance with EU acquis transposed legislation.	The hazardous waste is systemised and stored in compliance with the local Hazardous Waste legislation transposed by EU acquis.	Kosovo report. Ministry of Environment and Social Planning and EUOK contractual documents and records; Ministry of Environment and Social Planning / Kosovo Environment Protection Agency Monitoring reports on hazard waste management.
The obsolete facilities of gasification, nitrogen processing and heating plants in the compound of TPP Kosovo A are dismantled, transported and stored.	At the compound of TPP Kosovo A there are facilities of gasification, nitrogen processing and heating that are no longer in operation and poses an environmental hazard, due to the potentially hazardous chemicals found in pipelines and other facilities.	All studies and preparatory activities related to the decommissioning of Kosovo A TPP facilities (gasification, nitrogen processing and heating plants) are carried out.	Commencement of the dismantling works.	The obsolete facilities are dismantled and 100% of the envisaged works are completed.	Work progress reports and other relevant project documents indicating the percentage of the works completed.
All remains, including the hazardous waste, are systemised and stored.	1000 m3 concentrated phenols;15000 m3 phenol water;35t hydroxyde sodium;	The amount of the remains including hazardous waste, which is expected to be identified with studies.	Commencement of the works.	100% of the hazardous waste, are identified and timely and safely transported and stored (in accordance with EU	Work progress reports and other relevant project documents indicating the percentage of works completed; The inventory of public

	57t acid chlorine 12 Radioactive sources; Unknown quantity of the aqueous liquids remained in the underground pipes.		2008/98/EC Directive on waste and SEVESO Directive)	companyoperatingtheHazardousWasteFacility,HazardousWasteinventoryregularly updated;Ministry of Environment andSocialPlanning / KosovoEnvironmentProtectionAgency monitoring reports onhazard waste management.
An area of approx. 130 ha was cleaned and transferred to the brown field.	In the area of approx. 130 ha are located obsolete facilities no longer in operations (e.g. gasification, fertiliser and heat plant).	In the area of approx. 130 ha are located obsolete facilities (gasification, fertiliser and heat plant).	100% of the area is cleaned and transferred to the brown field.	Work progress reports and other relevant project documents indicating the percentage of works completed.

5. SECTOR APPROACH ASSESSMENT

The government of Kosovo is committed to ensure a quality and reliable power supply and the environment protection.

The Ministry of Economic Development is the main government body to exercise drafting the legislation, policies, strategies and plans for the energy sector, as well as oversee their implementation.

The key strategies to develop the energy sector are the Energy Strategy 2017-2026 and Kosovo's Development Strategy 2016-2021, aiming the security of energy supply and environmental protection. They both provide an ambitious range of policy initiatives.

The sector strategy objectives are drafted and identified with the cooperation of the Energy Community Secretariat in order to reform the energy sector in Kosovo in line with best EU experiences, directives, and EU standards 20/20/20 that need to be achieved by 2020.

However, Kosovo yet needs to increase the security and quality of energy supply, improve the environmental impact of the energy activities, especially by taking advantage of the significant energy efficiency potential primarily in the buildings stock, as well as development of RES based energy capacities as envisaged in the new strategy.

Within the government, the Ministry of European Integration is responsible for coordinating donor assistance. The Aid Management Platform, established with EU support, is used as a main tool for monitoring of donor activities. Sector working groups, established with the aim to coordinate donor activities, have been revitalised and there is a commitment from government to the donor community that regular scheduled meetings will be held by the sub-sector and sector working groups reporting to the High Level Forum. The EU Office regularly participates in the Donor Consultation Meeting (DCM) that is chaired by the Ministry of European Integrations and includes Member States and other bilateral and multilateral donors (USAID, BMZ/GIZ, KFW, World Bank, UN agencies etc.).

To monitor the implementation of the strategy, the Ministry prepares a three-year strategy implementation program. This program includes all projects/measures envisaged to be implemented in the mid-term period (three years). For each project/measure costs, measurable indicators, and implementing institutions are defined. All relevant stakeholders of the energy sector contribute in the drafting of this program.

6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The Constitution of Kosovo ensures gender equality as a fundamental value for the democratic development of the society, providing equal opportunities for both female and male participation in the political, economic, social, cultural and other areas of societal life' (Art. 7). Activities considered for the sector are designed and implemented ensuring that the following regulation and legislation will be applied, such as:

- the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Art. 22);
- the Law on Gender Equality (2015);
- the Recast EU Directive (2006/54/EC) on Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment of women and men in employment and occupation; the Directive on Equal Treatment of Men and Women in the Access to and the Supply of Goods and Services (2004/113);

• the 'Joint Staff Working Document on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020' (also known as the EU Gender Action Plan).

All proposed actions within this action document are addressed to both man and women without any discrimination. This action will be driven by a people-centred and gender-balanced perspective.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The action will provide benefits to all groups of population without distinction, including people belonging to minorities and vulnerable groups, such as children, elderly, refugees, etc.

In general, when a chemical hazard strikes, all population groups are affected. The culture of safety and prevention in Kosovo is extremely low and the action can also serve as vehicle for building a culture of chemical hazards prevention.

Equal opportunities will be considered in all aspects of the activities described in this Action by promoting them during their implementation phase and it will be reflected in the contract arrangements. The project will promote the participation of women in environmental protection issues and awareness raising for the public. Promoting a more diverse workplace (in terms of gender and disabilities) will be a strong element in strengthening the capacity of the target institution. The project will ensure mainstreaming of gender issues both (i) within the target institution and (ii) in outputs (services provided by the institution) by:

- Addressing the barriers in the workplace that prevent gender equality; creating a workplace culture supportive of gender equality.
- Introducing concepts of equality and diversity in strategic planning and management, including the business case for equality and diversity, so as to make the workforce more representative of and responsive to the Kosovo customer base.

MINORITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

The proposed actions will not harm in any way the rights of any individuals, including minorities and vulnerable groups; on the contrary, it will support vulnerable communities. It will strongly support and facilitate minorities and vulnerable groups including both women/men within these groups.

This action will contribute to the improvement of living standards for Kosovo citizens, especially in the affected area, including minority, vulnerable groups, and other disadvantaged groups. The decommissioning should in particular positively affect the livelihoods of communities by helping to improve the living standards and environment conditions. The equality principle will be applied for minorities and vulnerable groups, as well as in the interventions proposed.

Particularly, a special attention will be paid to the needs and interests of the informal sector located in project areas, in relation with the possibility of using them as labour force for the new jobs created through the implementation of the activities proposed.

The Consultations mechanism foreseen in Kosovo laws and regulations will be used during the implementation of the action.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY (AND IF RELEVANT OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

Discussions with civil society were pursued throughout the drafting processes of energy strategy, protection of the environment, EE and RES plans, and relevant legislation. Civil society will continue to remain included and informed for future policy development, project drafting and implementation through public discussions and campaigns. Women's rights organisations will be more included in the future.

Public discussions will provide means for easier access, review and address of issues of interest for the society. Such discussions will make sure to include diverse women and men. Media will also be part of these activities, in order to adequately inform the diverse women and men on the respective matters and development. All activities related to energy sector projects will be developed in accordance with relevant and applicable Kosovo legislation, while ensuring close cooperation with relevant municipalities.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE (AND IF RELEVANT DISASTER RESILIENCE)

This intervention targets directly improvement of the environment conditions, as well as the impact on the climate change through reduction of GHG. The project will help to decouple economic growth from extensive use of resources, support the shift towards a low carbon economy, increase the use of renewable energy sources, modernise the transport sector and promote energy efficiency. Environmental impact due to economic activity is discussed within the context energy generation. Taking into account that energy generation including the related facilities that are out of operation represents one of the greatest environmental polluters by releasing gas emissions and ash/dust from thermal power plants including the soil and underground water pollution coming from the facilities no longer in operation.

The action will contribute to promoting climate change adaptation including chemical disaster risk reduction. The activities will support the development of a climate and disaster-resilient economy by strengthening the beneficiary capacities to manage hazardous waste,

7. SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is a key topic for which Kosovo has a specific interest, as its objective is to make the best use of the available funds for its fast development.

Sustainability of the interventions will be ensured through the involvement of all actors as well as clear structures and roles for the implementation, monitoring and operation and maintenance.

As part of the Result 1, dismantling of the existing plants, the working conditions within the Kosovo A TPP compound will be much improved.

As part of the Result 2, re-use of the cleaned area, new environmentally sustainable activities can be implemented.

Finally, as part of the implementation approach of both Results 1 and 2, the action will contribute to identify operators to properly deal with the existing hazardous waste materials in Kosovo.

8. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Communication and visibility will be given high importance during the implementation of the action. The implementation of the communication activities shall be funded from the amounts allocated to the action.

All necessary measures will be taken to publicise the fact that the action has received funding from the EU in line with the EU communication and visibility requirements in force. All stakeholders and implementing partners shall ensure the visibility of EU financial assistance provided through IPA II throughout all phases of the programme cycle.

Visibility and communication actions shall demonstrate how the intervention contributes to the agreed programme objectives, as well as the benefits of the action for the general public. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness and support of interventions financed and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions and will promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

Visibility and communication aspects shall be complementary to the activities implemented by DG NEAR and the EU Office in the field The European Commission and the EU Office should be fully informed of the planning and implementation of the specific visibility and communication activities.

A consolidated communication and visibility plan for the Action will be developed, based on an agreed communication narrative and master messages, customised for the different target audiences (stakeholders, business community, civil society, general public etc.).

Effectiveness of communication activities will be measured inter alia through public surveys in the IPA II beneficiaries and Member States on awareness about the Action and its objectives, as well as the fact that it is co-funded by the EU. As a minimum, one survey should be carried out before the start of the implementation of the communication and visibility plan and one after its completion.