

What are informal settlements?

Informal Settlements (IS) are human settlements that do not facilitate inhabitants to exercise their rights on a permanent living standard, particularly on proper housing.

What characterizes informal settlements?

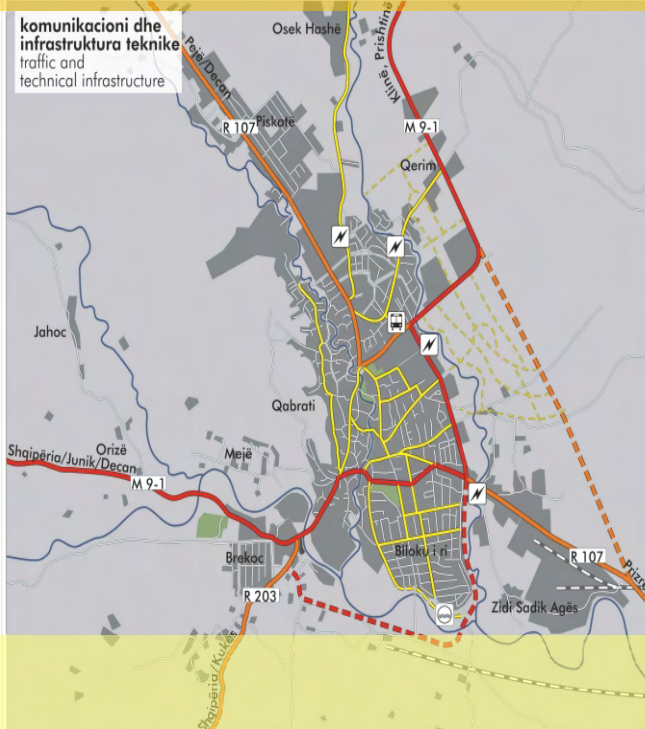
Informal settlements are characterized by:

1. Informal or insecure land tenure;
2. Inappropriate or lack of access to basic services;
3. Inadequate participation or lack of participation in governance;
4. Sensitivity and even discrimination.

Which are informal settlements in Gjakova?

Based on characteristics of informal settlements the following three neighborhoods have been identified as priorities in Gjakova:

1. "Brekoc" neighborhood
2. "Kolonia" neighborhood
3. "Piskota-Dardanija" neighborhood



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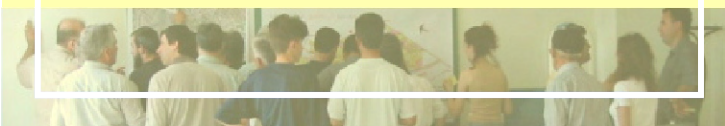
MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY GJAKOVA/ DJAKOVICA



ORGANIZE

Field Workshop on Informal Settlements in Gjakova/ Djakovica

Gjakova/ Djakovica
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1. Informal Settlement - "Brekoc"

Brekoc settlement has been identified as informal settlement based on the IS categorization criteria, pursuant the MESP Guidelines.

The main characteristics of this IS are:

Informal or insecure land tenure about 20% (tenure or occupied property);
Inadequate access to basic services

Relevant information on Brekoc:

Location: southwest, 3.5 km distance from the center

Area: ~25 ha

Population: ~650 residents (75% are RAE, 25% Albanian)

Density: ~ 70 b/ha.

Population age: >50% of inhabitants are between the age of 18-65.

Employment: only 25% are employed (according to MESP survey).

Type of housing: Individual housing with P and P+1.

No. of parcels: 177 land parcels.

Ownership: socially owned, public and property of Municipality

2. Informal settlement- "Kolonia"

Informal settlement Kolonia has the following characteristics:

- Informal or insecure land tenure about 20% (tenure or occupied property);
- Inadequate access to all basic services
- Air pollution because it is very close to the municipal dumpsite and it has a high construction density.

Relevant information on Kolonia neighborhood:

Location: east of the town

Area: ~10.61 ha

Old: 30 years

Population: 720 inhabitants (80% are RAE, 20% Albanian)

Ownership: public and private property, tenure and occupied property

Type of housing: Individual housing

Land destination: agricultural land (according to GUP)

Type of housing: Individual housing with P and P+1

3. Informal Settlement - Piskota-Dardania

Informal settlement Piskota-Dardania has the following characteristics:

- Informal or insecure land tenure
- Risk of flooding from river Krena
- Air pollution (due to vicinity of tile factory)
- Inadequate access to basic services, particularly water supply (water is taken from wells and is of very poor quality due to the vicinity of river)
- Roads are narrow, not asphalted and without lights. However the public transport is not that distant.

Relevant information on Piskota- Dardania neighborhood:

Location: north of the town

Old: ~20 years

Area: ~1.18 ha

Population: 30 inhabitants (70% RAE (Roma and Ashkali) and 30% Albanians)

Ownership: public and private property, tenure and occupied property

Type of housing: Individual housing

Land destination: this part has been planned to be industrial area (according to GUP)

Type housing: Individual housing with P and P+1.

What has been done in addressing these informal settlements?

Until now, a joint work of Gjakova Municipal Government, as key partner in the process, MESP, as owner of the process, CDF and 'Urban Plus' studio, as implementing partner and the community has been addressing the issue of Brekoc neighborhood.

These are the achievements:

Drafting of a URP (Urban Regulation Plan) for IS Brekoc neighborhood and establishment of a strategy to implement the plan;

Increasing community awareness on IS in order to prevent any future informal settlements;

Community organization/ involvement;

Construction of a community center;

Cooperation between institutions;

Experience in handling and regulation of informal settlements and

The urban, social and economic integration within the city structure and incorporation of URP of IS Brekoc in UDP

URP Drafting process for IS "Brekoc" neighborhood

Stages of the URP drafting process

Analysis of urban situation

Definition of borders of IS Brekoc

Drafting URP

Public discussion pursuant to the Law on Spatial Planning, Administrative Direction for URP and the procedure for launching a public discussion

Its submission for adoption by the Municipal Assembly



A është përfshirë komuniteti në procesin e hartimit të PrrU?

Procesi i hartimit të PrrU për Brekocin ka qenë gjithpërfshirës dhe transparent. Gjatë konsultimeve urbane janë përfshirë të gjitha palët të cilat preken nga ky plan ose që mund të kenë ndikim në hartimin dhe implementimin e tij si: qytetarët-komuniteti duke involvuar edhe gjininë femrore si dhe fëmijët, institucionet ,ndërmarrjet publike dhe private, OJQ-të etj.