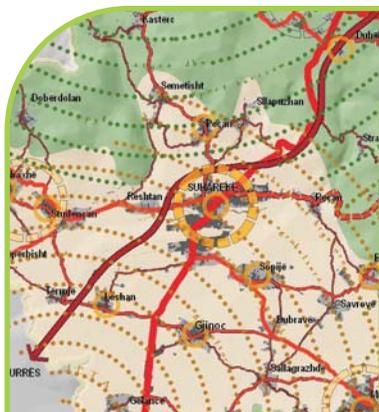


# Suhareka

## Environment for the future



Development Plan for Suhareka  
2008 - 2018

## Imprint

Municipality of Suhareka



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Vienna University of Technology, Department of Spatial Development, Infrastructure and Environmental Planning, Centre of Regional Planning and Regional Development

### Project Team:

TU Vienna: Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Thomas Dillinger, Dipl.-Ing. Petra Hirschler, Raffael Koscher, Dipl.-Ing. Skender Kosumi, Dipl.-Ing. Sabine Neff, Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Gerhard Schimak, Dipl.-Ing. Nina Svanda;

mecca: Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Hannes Schaffer;

im-plan-tat: Dipl.-Ing. Robert Kalasek, Dipl.-Ing. Sebastian Reinberg,

Dipl.-Ing. Martina Scherz;

urban+: i.d.a. Dukagjin Hasimja, i.d.a. Iir Gjinolli, i.d.a. Eliza Hoxha MAHS,

i.d.a. Shqipe Spahiu MESP, i.d.a. Arlinda Rifati MAHS, i.d.a. Vigan Perani,

GIS expert Bekim Kajtazi MSc.



mecca  
environmental consulting



im-plan-tat  
Reinberg und Partner OEG



**Editor:** Dr. Paul Benneworth

**Layout:** Studio Forma, Pristina

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**Dr. Sali Asllanaj**  
**Mayor of Suhareka**

In February 2008 Kosovo achieved the status of the newest independent state in Europe. Moving into this new phase of state development raises new challenges, tasks and opportunities for the local and national level, challenges and opportunities which are common across Europe. Following the drafting of the Kosovo spatial plan, the municipalities started drafting their own municipal and urban development plans. With the publishing of our documents, we think that ideal circumstances have been created providing a solid foundation for the national government and international donors to make substantive and supportive investments in our city. Good relationships with our neighbouring municipalities will help us to mutually address our shared interests and help to accelerate our territorial social and economic development.

We as a municipality have developed and adopted these two plans in a relatively short period of time. The realisation of this planning process was made possible by a donation from the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), the commitment of their office in Pristina as well as by the contribution of the municipality. As a result of their investment we are one of the first municipalities to have set out both a vision, and development strategies, for the next 10 years. Thanks to the tireless work of the municipal staff in providing information and feedback, the staff of the Directorate for Urban Planning, the municipality's expert group for planning, the work of planners from the University of Technology in Vienna and from studio urban+ in Pristina, these documents provide a comprehensive statement of the future direction of travel. They encompass the fields of agriculture, health and education, showing how they must develop to support our economic development and modernisation.

Apart from the plans now published, this donation has also allowed the maps to be electronically-readable, thanks to the geo-database completed by the planners. This has also funded the purchase of state-of-the-art GIS software for the municipality, alongside with training of the responsible municipal staff in GIS techniques for complementing and updating the plans in the future. After the approval of the plans by the municipal General Assembly, our municipality anticipates significant challenges in realising the strategic projects derived from the plans. In the future, the city will have a sustainable economy that has defined its own future in the development strategy. This will be implemented in partnership with others and by involving different actors. The transparent process and the public discussions prior to the strategy's publication have already developed some of the necessary institutional capacity to ensure future success.

In this regard, the first results are already visible in street infrastructure, education, health, the implementation of strategic priorities as well as in the regulatory plan for the industrial area. The publication of the development plans has helped inform drafting

the regulation for municipal taxes as well as preparing regulations governing building development. For this results I am particularly grateful to ADC, TU Vienna, urban+, the Directorate for Urban Planning, the municipal project coordinator, the Council of Experts and the Project Advisory Board, entrepreneurs, the heads of villages, the voluntary and community sector, media, young people, school children, and all the citizens and other groups that helped with information, comments and feedback contributing to these plans.



**Mag. Andreas Fritz**  
**Austrian Development Cooperation**

For many years Austria has provided support to the Municipality of Suhareka through a number of projects within the framework of the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC). Following a preparation spanning several years, the project, entitled "Municipality Development Plan and Urban Development Plan Suhareka/Kosovo" started in November 2006.

The main goal of the project was to provide the Municipality of Suhareka with the ways and means to be able to independently formulate its own municipal and urban development plans.

One particular concern was to include the people of the Municipality of Suhareka to the greatest possible extent, in order that they would profit from spatial and economic development over the longer-term. The Town Council, strengthened by "on the job training", provided an important focus group. Its experiences could be shared with an additional target group, namely those teaching and studying at the University of Pristina, within the context of the "exchange of know-how".

Through the expert implementation of the University of Technology in Vienna, the Department for Spatial Development, Infrastructure and Environmental Planning, and their partners, the project became a role model for Kosovo. However, it would also have not been successful without the excellent support provided by the Municipality, the Town Council, and other community members, whose contribution was critical in achieving a positive outcome. A professional municipal and urban development plan is an important pillar in the further development of the community in Suhareka, which will make possible harmonious livelihoods for everyone.

From the ADC side we will continue to ensure support to the Municipality of Suhareka to the best of our ability. On behalf of ADC I would like to extend our warm thanks to all parties concerned for their important contributions and hard work in the name of the peaceful development of both the Municipality, as well as for all of Kosovo.

## **Suhareka takes control of its future**

In the year 2006 the municipality of Suhareka decided to revitalise its policy framework for development and growth. To take control over the municipality's future, a new Municipal Development Plan (MDP) has been drafted in parallel with an Urban Development Plan (UDP).

In the last two years, the Suhareka municipality have been working intensively together with a project team to develop the most appropriate concept to take Suhareka forward in the long-term. This activity was co-financed by the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), with the Municipal Project Advisory Board (PAB) overseeing and shaping the planning process locally.

Participation was very important within the process. The planning steps were discussed intensively in about 70 meetings with experts and special target groups, including entrepreneurs, young people, school children, farmers, heads of villages and the voluntary and community sector.

The initial ideas and plans which emerged from these meetings were directly presented to Suhareka's citizens in two events. Afterwards all citizens were invited to a public exhibition of these plans (Nov-Dec 2007) providing an opportunity to review and comment upon these proposals. All of this feedback was incorporated by the municipality as it developed the final plans.

On March 4<sup>th</sup> 2008 the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and the Urban Development Plan (UDP) were unanimously adopted by the General Assembly. These two plans "Suhareka – Environment for the future" now set a binding legal framework for the municipality's successful future development.

### **Project team**

Vienna University of Technology, Department of Spatial Development, Infrastructure and Environmental Planning, Centre of Regional Planning and Regional Development (project lead)  
studio urban+, Pristina  
mecca environmental consulting, Vienna  
im-plan-tat, Vienna

## Think global – act regional – develop Suhareka

Development planning in Suhareka is grounded on a framework of national and international directives. The plans reflect accepted international principles for good urban governance as articulated by the United Nations Habitat Agenda as well as the guiding principles for sustainable spatial development and Agenda 21 as adopted by the United Nations.

The legal framework at a national level is largely determined by the Kosovo Law on Spatial Planning, and the Kosovo Spatial Plan. This plan defines Suhareka as part of the “Gardens of Kosovo”. In line with the plan, Suhareka will focus on continuing its agricultural development, emphasising horticulture, wine-making and farming alongside developing mountain and culture-based tourism, recognising the imperatives of protecting natural and cultural heritage.

## Kosovo Law on Spatial Planning

Article 13 of this Law makes each municipality responsible for preparing a Municipal Development Plan covering its entire territory to determine the long-term goals for economic, social and spatial development. Article 14 subsequently requires all municipalities to prepare Urban Development Plans for all their urban areas. This strategic, multi-sectoral plan has to frame long-term projections for urban development and management for a period of at least five years.



**Working groups discussing the development concept**



**Presenting the plans and discussion with heads of villages**

## **Suhareka – an environment for the future**

In 2018 Suhareka will be a region with high-technology knowledge-intensive agriculture, light industry, business, services and tourist activities, good functional connections between settlements, providing a better life for all inhabitants in a healthy and wealthy environment building on and preserving its strengths in natural and cultural heritage.

To deliver this vision, Suhareka will develop an economy based on high-quality, high value-added agricultural products, with a strong regional "brand" built on distinctive regional agricultural products supporting a dynamic tourism sector. Suhareka will have the necessary energy infrastructure to meet the needs of its citizens and industries, with improving levels of energy efficiency and a growing renewable energy sector. Suhareka will be a region whose development protects and sustains all of its environment, natural and cultural resources.

## **Pursue strategic priorities**

This vision will be delivered through a set of strategic priorities, which will be implemented through clusters of detailed measures. The vision of “Suhareka: an environment for the future” sets the following 8 priorities:

- Restricting building land and preservation of agricultural land
- Protecting the diversity of natural landscapes
- Enhancing living quality through preventing urban sprawl
- Increasing the productivity of existing agriculture land
- Providing appropriate school facilities in all settlements
- Creating new institutions to support the development of the local skills base, to stimulate regional entrepreneurship, attract inward investment and promote the region as a tourist destination
- Reconstructing spring water systems and developing a pan-municipal water supply system, and
- Refurbishing and expanding the municipal sewerage system.

## **Strengthening strengths - The four pillars**

The eight strategic priorities will be achieved by focusing on regional and local strengths. The plan sets four main fields of intervention, namely agriculture, tourism, energy and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). Metaphorically speaking the vision can be conceived of as an ancient temple: the foundation are the resources, the pillars are the objectives and measures, while the vision provides the capital.



## **Agriculture: Suhareka will be a modern and efficient agricultural centre preserving the environmental and natural landscapes.**

Suhareka will have a sustainable local economy built upon the refinement and processing of local farming production. Organic agriculture will be well established, and the region will become increasingly self-sufficient in its own local food staples. The production and processing will take place predominantly in small and medium sized enterprises.

There will be collective facilities for processing established locally. Young agricultural professionals and entrepreneurs will be trained at a local agricultural college, which will also offer agricultural research and extension support for regional businesses, alongside lifelong learning opportunities for regional residents. These new product strengths and brands will be actively marketed within Kosovo.

## **Tourism: Suhareka will be a sustainable tourism region offering recreational experiences drawing on the natural environment.**

Suhareka will have developed a sustainable tourism sector focusing on high landscape quality based on soft tourism for families and nature tourists. Accommodation will largely be provided through B&Bs, children's holiday camps, small guesthouses as well as a health and recreation centre located in the national park.

A tourist information centre will signpost tourists to available activities through organised excursions & events, providing information about accommodation and providing a collective voice for the sector. The quality of tourist services will be underscored through the provision of training seminars and courses to produce qualified hospitality staff. The municipality will support synergies between tourism, agriculture and small enterprises.



**Wood pellets made of compressed saw dust – an example for organic renewable fuel**



**Grape gathering – traditionally done by hand to ensure high quality**

## **Energy: Suhareka will be a beacon for future development and renewable energies.**

Suhareka will have an well-established and operational energy efficiency concept with a network of specialist contractors. Public buildings in the municipality will be beacons for energy efficiency, and savings from the energy costs will be reinvested by the municipality in strengthening the regional infrastructure. All firms and households in the region will have the opportunity to benefit from shared-savings projects in which contractors insulate buildings for a share of future energy savings.

Strengths in renewable energies and energy conservation will also produce tangible economic impacts. Many high-technology energy and conservation businesses will offer competitive services regionally and nationally. These businesses and their staff will benefit directly from training and further education support from new regional institutions.

## **Small and medium size enterprises: centres of excellence for Suhareka.**

Suhareka will be home to a number of strong, locally-rooted economic clusters in the fields of agricultural processing, business services and energy technologies. New private capital and inward investors in these sectors will be attracted to the region by a new regional development agency.

The centre for these clusters will be a municipal business park well-connected to regional transport and utilities infrastructures. Distributed generation will ensure reliability and security of energy supply for these businesses. Young entrepreneurs will be encouraged to create new businesses through the creation of a local incubator unit within a dedicated enterprise centre.



**Nature oriented family tourism**



**Business park**

## Structuring the future: the spatial development framework for the municipality

The spatial development framework sets the basic conditions for promoting growth and innovation. The municipality is structured into three functional zones each with their own specific characteristics and development goals:

- **Life and Garden:** The south western zone is the most populated part of the municipality with the strongest service sector. This area offers perfect conditions for agriculture, with very strong opportunities in farming, bee-keeping, wine-making, manufacturing, and business services activities.
- **Mountains and Nature:** The south eastern zone is characterized by a wild mountainous landscape, mostly covered with forests and pasture land. Nature protection and ecologically-appropriate economic activities are most appropriate for this sparsely populated region. Both outdoor attractions and the national park “Sharr Mountains” offer the strongest tourist opportunities.
- **Hills and Nature Diversity:** The northern zone is distinguished by its hills, meadows and forests alongside a dispersed settlement structure. The area has retained its biodiversity and beauty in its landscape, with agriculture (livestock and wine) and tourism (wellness and rural) effectively embedded within its ecological structure.



**Life and Garden covers the most populated area in Suhareka**

### What's a spatial development framework?

The spatial development framework expresses the desired spatial perspective for the territory of Kosovo. It sets the spatial context for implementation strategies, action plans and decision-making.

(Source: II. Art. 2.3 of Administrative Guideline on the Implementation of the Law on Spatial Planning, No. 29, Prot. 25/03)

## Ideal provision for all citizens

The city of Suhareka has been determined as the main urban centre for the municipality, alongside two sub-centres, namely Mushtisht and Studencan/Samadrexhe. Ten local centres complete the settlement network. Bllace, which is currently classified as a local centre has future potential to be upgraded to a sub centre. This balanced urban hierarchy will secure the provision of services for all municipal inhabitants.

## Planning for the social capital

In the year 2000, over 80,000 people lived in the Suhareka municipality, with further growth forecast. The municipality fits with Kosovo's general demographic profile, with a high proportion of young citizens (around 40% under 19 years old). The MDP and UDP are necessary to guarantee a sound and stable future for a growing and evolving society.

### Population development in the municipality of Suhareka 1948 - 2000

Year	Inhabitants	Inh. / km <sup>2</sup>
1948	27.044	62.5
1953	30.184	69.7
1961	34.729	80.2
1971	45.316	104.7
1981	59.434	137.3
1991	64.530	178.8
2000	91.311	225.2
2007	83.300	230.8
2017 scenario 1	95.800	265.4
2017 scenario 2	97.600	270.4

Source: Spatial Plan of Prekoruple subregion – IUP, IEP, Prishtina 1984; Development Agenda 2004-2006 – Municipality fo Suhareka, MEF; Informations by village representatives; Field research; Forecast scenarios calculated by urban+

## Benefiting from integrated land use and living space

The Urban Development plan (UDP) classifies urban land into four categories, viz. building land, specific land, green land and transport land. Each of them has its distinctive use:

- **Building land** is designated for construction, whereas in all other zones construction is prohibited. Every building site must have access to roads, water supply, waste water and electricity networks. Building Land is subdivided into areas for residential use, public purpose and business/industrial use.
- **Specific land** comprises all areas with specific designated purposes, such as cemeteries, petrol stations, electricity sub-stations as well as KFOR Camp Casablanca.
- **Green land** covers all undeveloped areas, including forests, meadows, agricultural land, alongside sports and recreational areas. In these areas construction is strictly forbidden except for buildings needed for green land use, e.g. agricultural buildings.
- **Transport land** is the category for the land reserved for the road network and transport activities including footpaths, parking places and bus stations.

## Smart growth in compact structures

With the adoption of Suhareka's Urban Development Plan, all urban development must now follow the compact city principle. Compact cities are not 'frozen cities'; rather, all growth follows three principles necessary to preserve urban compactness:

- **Vertical Extension:** Increasing the height of buildings in central areas
- **Extension through infill:** Using vacant/ derelict lots inside settlements for new buildings
- **Extension in peripheral areas:** Minimizing new development beyond the urban fringe



**The spatial concept determines the development**

Due to a considerable number of derelict lots in Suhareka, maximising urban density through infill and vertical extension are important. Higher housing density brings several tangible benefits for inhabitants, encouraging variety and positive social interactions, optimising community service provision and delivering balanced, integrated social housing.

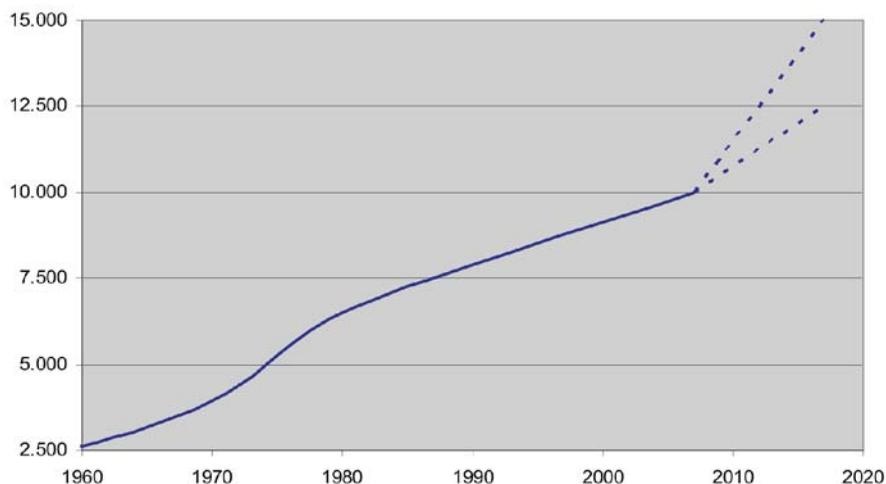
Furthermore, compact settlements offer benefits for economic development and infrastructure provision. From an environmental perspective, compact housing increases energy efficiency, reduces resource consumption and minimises pollution. Moreover it preserves public space, reduces pressures for new development and avoids urban sprawl.

### The vision for the City of Suhareka

With the adoption of the Urban Development Plan the future development of the city of Suhareka is now guided by three principles:

- **Garden City** (natural dimension): urban agriculture, winery, soft tourism, protection of green spaces.
- **Compact City** (physical dimension): restricted building area with central zone, housing densification, efficient mobility systems, and easy access to public services and infrastructure.
- **Dynamic City** (socio-economic dimension): promoting, improving, strengthening socio-economic conditions revitalising the city and developing strong economic growth poles such as business parks.

### Population development



Source: 1948-1981: Urban General Plan 1986, 2007-2017: own survey and forecast based on trend and optimistic scenario.

**Until 2017 the number of inhabitants will raise up to 12.500-15.000 in the city of Suhareka.**

## **A sustainable environment meeting the needs of modern lifestyles**

A sound environment is the basis for urban and rural life, and so environment is a key resource for development. Suhareka hosts a variety of fascinating and diverse ecological niches. However, until now, the rich and unique biodiversity has been under severe pressure from human activities.

Today environmental protection is squarely on the political agenda. The Sharr Mountains national park will become an “area with special interest” to the south of Suhareka. The park will be used for a diverse range of spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational, and tourist purposes. Natural monuments across the municipality already reflect place-specific characteristics and unique values.

Compact settlements (and restricting sprawl) are the key strategy to preserve sufficient space for agricultural activities and natural areas, while meeting demand for new development land. This is ensured by prohibiting construction outside expressly designated building zones.



**Panoramic view over Suhareka's natural landscape**

## Clean energy and green power

Renewable energy resources are environmentally friendly, future-proof, self-sustaining, decentralized and their use will provide employment in Suhareka. Renewable & distributed generation reduces dependency on external electricity suppliers at home and abroad whilst strengthening the electricity network in terms of security and availability of supply. Suhareka has huge potential in the fields of:

- **Solarenergy** (PV and thermal) due to its favourable climatic conditions.
- **Biomass** from agricultural products including wood chips, organic waste and horticultural by-products. Biomass will allow village-based distributed generation improving their energy security as well as providing a strong impulse for local agricultural sectors.
- **Wind energy** notably in the region's mountainous areas.

Alongside implementing and specialising in new production technologies, energy efficiency and conservation are vital to Suhareka's future economic success. Public buildings will provide a strong demonstration effect, significantly reducing energy consumption, and reinvesting the savings in the public realm which will inspire Suhareka's residents and businesses to maximise their own energy efficiency.

**Biogas plant**



### **Suhareka's renewable energy potential**

The third pillar of Suhareka's vision is Energy, with the goal to establish Suhareka as a regional exemplar for new and renewable energies. Under the MDP, feasibility studies for the potentials for renewable energies will be commissioned, in cooperation with the Ministry of Energy and Mining. Energy efficiency and conservation will be promoted by developing information and models for energy performance contracting.

## Ecological agriculture for jobs and economic well-being

Agriculture has a long tradition in Suhareka, notably in a long history of wine-making. The future of agriculture in Suhareka is dependent on increasing the quality and value of regional produce alongside developing recognised regional brands. A subsidiary priority for agriculture is in biomass, supporting the development of renewable energy capacity.

An ecologically-sound and efficient agricultural sector will also support environmental protection and preserve nature. Currently, many staple foods are imported, whilst fertile agricultural land has been lost to unregulated housing development. Following the approval of the Municipal and Urban Development Plans, Suhareka's agricultural land is now protected against future development activity.

There are four basic strategies to develop Suhareka's agricultural sector:

- **Concentrate on strengths:** development policy will focus only on those branches which have good conditions; different regions have different agricultural strengths, as shown below:

Area South West „Life and Garden“	Area South East „Mountains and Nature“	Area North „Hills and Nature Diversity“
Fruits and vegetables	Herbs and spices	Dairy farming
Cereal crops	Livestock breeding	Livestock breeding
Winery	Beekeeping	Cereal crops
Beekeeping		Winery

- **Support supply-chain linkages:** The planned business park will provide great potential for modern processing of fruits and vegetables, as well as contributing to building the quality and reputation of the regional wine industry.
- **Agricultural extension activities:** Providing vocational training for farmers will increase their productivity and raise quality. Furthermore new local 'region of origin' labels for agricultural products will build a brand whilst extending market opportunities for high-quality regional produce.
- **Improve farm efficiency:** By increasing the size of agricultural units and establishing cooperative structures, farms will work in a more efficient way.



**Wine bottles ready to be filled**

**Promote the wine city Suhareka  
Suhareka as the “Bordeaux” of the Balkans**

As wine production in Suhareka is a major component of agricultural output and potential, it is vital to promote these wines in Kosovo and beyond. The MDP makes provision for a wine fair to promote not only regional wines and wine products, but also the “Wine City Suhareka” as a trademark in wine-making and tourism.



**Bee-keeping – one branch of  
agriculture in Suhareka**

## Tourism as a second local economic pillar

Suhareka with its beautiful landscape, mountainous regions and clean air is attractive for visitors. Tourist facilities including attractions, gastronomy and accommodation will be improved to further realise this attractiveness. A new tourism agency will support private entrepreneurs in collective marketing and activity development.

Landscape is the basis of rural tourism. The most promising areas in Suhareka for tourism are the south-east and north. Suhareka will develop a sustainable tourism industry which conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people. This industry, led by local entrepreneurs, will develop in a way that fulfils the following principles:

- Providing tourism and recreation facilities and associated services meeting the needs of both visitors and hosts,
- Providing financial benefits and empowerment locally whilst improving quality of life,
- Minimizing tourism's impact, preserving and enhancing opportunities for quiet recreation in tranquil parts of Suhareka, and
- Meeting special requirements for sport and recreation in suitable locations.



**Biking and hiking  
in the cultural  
landscape**

## Small scale, slow growth and local control

Sustainable tourism in Suhareka will develop in different directions in each of the three regional zones, all linked through the town of Suhareka acting as a municipal gateway and hub for tourism. A specialist tourism agency will be established to encourage the scope and quality of the regional tourist offer.

The town of Suhareka will act as the gateway for local tourism, providing general visitor services such as hotels and restaurants, alongside specialist wine tourism activities. The other areas of the municipality will be more specialised in health and nature-related tourism, including hiking, camping, horseback riding and hunting.

Area South West „Life and Garden“	Area South East „Mountains and Nature“	Area North „Hills and Nature Diversity“
Agricultural landscape	Wild nature landscape	Rural landscape
City & Wine tourism	Nature & Health tourism	Nature & Village tourism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information and Residence</li> <li>- Restaurants and Night life</li> <li>- Winery and Wine tasting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wellness and Rehabilitation</li> <li>- Hiking and Rock climbing</li> <li>- Equestrian activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Walking and Biking</li> <li>- Hunting</li> <li>- Equestrian activities</li> </ul>

### Local tourism agency

Tourism is one of the four pillars of the vision for Suhareka. A critical part of this pillar is establishing a new tourism agency to develop and promote a wider range of tourist offers and activities in Suhareka. This agency will have several tasks:

- Commission feasibility studies to explore potential in different tourist activities,
- Operate a tourism information system,
- Raise regional skill and quality levels through study visits, training and further education on a local and international level,
- Developing national and international marketing strategies in tandem with national institutions.

## **Know-how and opportunities for all**

Education in Suhareka's education system will provide its citizens with learning opportunities at all ages across a range of contexts, including at work, at home and through leisure activities. The municipality will support an excellent basic education for all its citizens from preschool through primary into secondary education.

## **Education meets population's needs**

At present there is only one kindergarten in Suhareka, and four additional kindergartens are needed to meet current demands. They will be structured in nursery groups for toddlers between nine months and three years, in kindergartens for children in the age from three to five years, and in preschool education for five and six year olds.

Currently there are 42 primary schools in the whole municipality, three of them in the city of Suhareka. Urban population growth demands two more primary schools for Suhareka. These will be located away from existing primary provision.

Some villages in peripheral areas of the municipality lie outside existing primary school catchment areas. To ensure access to schools across the municipality, feasibility studies will be commissioned on how to extend access to primary education in the villages of Luzhnice, Papaz and Krushnice. These studies will explore whether new schools or more efficient public transport best guarantee universal educational access.

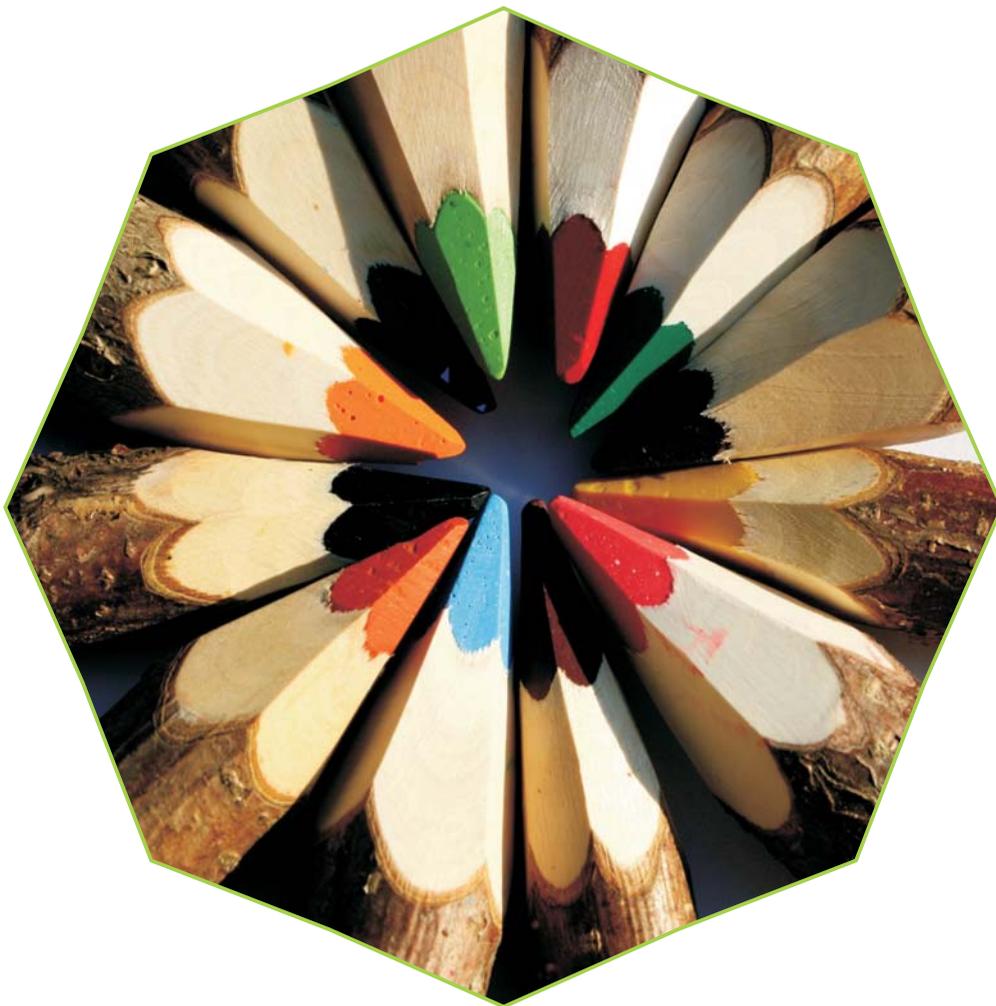
There are currently two secondary schools, the “Jeta e Re” grammar school and the technical high school “Skender Luarasi”. Two additional grammar schools are required to fulfil municipal demand, and are planned in Mushtisht and in Studenca. Furthermore, a professional high school for agriculture is planned for Shiroka. To minimise commuting for students from remote villages, all these schools will include adequate dormitory provision.

## **Creation of a new vocational agricultural college**

### **It's never too late to learn**

Providing a vocational agricultural college will meet several pressing regional knowledge demands. This college will offer a wider range of courses to improve agricultural knowledge and expertise, in farming, food processing and marketing. The college will also be oriented towards continuing education and Lifelong Learning in agriculture.

Alongside generalist agricultural training, the college will specialise in regional strengths including wine, horticulture, dairy and beekeeping, and agricultural research plots will help train a new generation of regional farmers, helping existing farmers improve their own productivity and building regional research excellence in these agricultural niches.



## Towards greener, safer and smarter mobility in Suhareka

The municipal transport system serves two important functions. First, it affects growth by providing access to land. In addition, it also affects the local economy by providing the mobility of people and goods. A well-planned and properly constructed transport system is essential to the orderly and efficient development of the municipality and its settlements.

Following the approval of the MDP, a hierarchy for the road network has been established, defining a clear set of priorities for future municipal transport investment, as well as providing guidance for the Ministry in making national transport investments.

Category	Responsibility	Function
Motorway	Ministry	(Inter-)national Connection
Main (National) Road	Ministry	National Connection
Regional Road	Ministry	Regional Connection
Main Local Road	Municipality	Municipal Connection
Local Road	Municipality	Municipal Connection
Village Road	Municipality	Local Connection

The planned motorway will significantly relieve all nearby towns (including Suhareka) from transit traffic. The planned business park must be connected to this motorway, and bottlenecks in access routes running through neighbouring residential areas eliminated.



**Map Detail Hierarchy of road network**



**Increasing road safety near schools**

## Public Transport

Local bus services play a crucial role in enabling access to jobs, education and services. Therefore, the existing bus system will be extended following a trunk and branch distributor model to maximise connectivity with all settlements. Across the municipality, but especially within the town of Suhareka, public transport will contribute significantly to traffic reduction.

## Human mobility

### Cyclists, pedestrians & people with restricted mobility

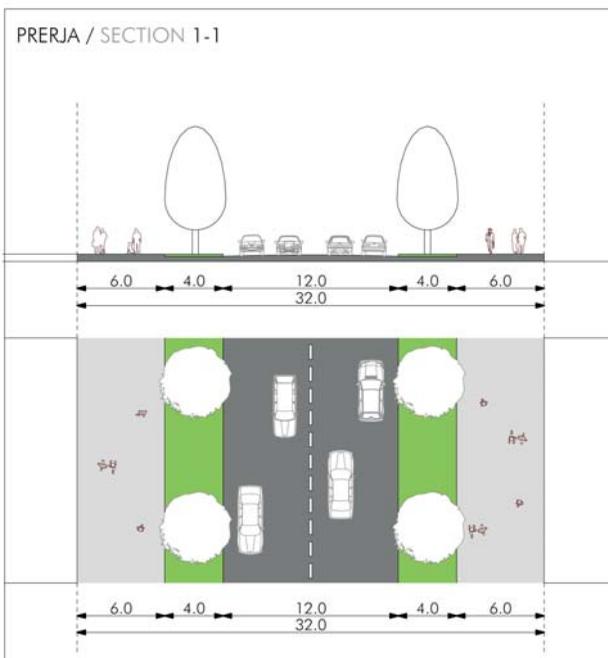
The development plans incorporate measures to improve accessibility, and in the future cyclists and pedestrians will play an increasingly important role. Cycling and walking will become increasingly important transport modes, and their attractiveness and safety will be improved by smart use of crossing facilities, street lighting and surface cleansing. A new network of bicycle lanes and footpaths will be developed

#### An early experiment: increasing road safety near schools

To help visualize the results of the Urban Development Plan a concrete road safety project has been implemented. This project has re-organised Luigj Gurakuqi Street to make it more user-friendly for the more than 3,000 students that pass through every day. The redesign aims to reduce the dominance of car users and provide space adequate for the needs of all users.

#### PROFLET E RRUGËVE/STREET PROFILE

P=1:300



Exemplary profile  
for urban roads  
in Suhareka

**List of participators from the group for coordination and supervision, group of planning experts and the municipal staff, who took part on the official meetings with the urban planners during the planning process for the drafting of the development plans.**

1. Nexhmije Loshi–Durmishi, grad.eng.of arch.
2. Raif Fetiu, lawyer
3. Sedat Bytyçi, civil eng.
4. Berat Kabashi, architect
5. Halit Elshani, technologist
6. Hanife B. Alimusaj, grad.eng.of arch.
7. Luljeta Baraliu, economist
8. Agim Zenelaj, economist
9. Sylejman Sopa, lawyer
10. Izet Buzhala, electrical eng.
11. Muhamet Shala, economist
12. Sadri Emerllahu, professor of def.
13. Salih Bytyçi, doctor
14. Besa Bejtullahu, ing.of agriculture
15. Adem Kadolli, ing.of agriculture
16. Malush Berisha, sociologist
17. Agim Shabanaj, teacher
18. Sahadete Kuçi, educator
19. Bexhet Berisha, professor
20. Bashkim Berisha, physicist
21. Halil Morina, professor of alb. lang.
22. Agim Rraçi, educator
23. Naim Gashi, lawyer
24. Zenel Zenelaj, civil eng.
25. Ajet Mazreku, economist
26. Hysni Gollopeni, geological eng.
27. Minir Zekolli, lawyer
28. Xheladin Buça, ing.of agriculture
29. Mahmut Kadolli, lawyer
30. Feim Bytyçi, lawyer
31. Refki Gega, lawyer



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