August 30, 2022

KARAVASTA SOLAR

Karavasta 140 MW Solar Power Project, Albania

LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PLAN

Interim Update

August 2022

voltalia

INDEX

Glossary of Terms

***Akti i Marrjes së Tokës në Pronësi* (AMTP):** administrative act issued on ownership over agricultural land, which was intended for the transfer of ownership over state-owned land in favour of private owners.

State Cadastre Agency (ASHK) (Albanian: Agjencia Shtetërore e Kadastrës): Albanian governmental agency created to address the issues of legalization, restitution and registration of housing and all immovable properties throughout the territory of Albania.

Community: A group of individuals broader than the household, who identify themselves as a common unit due to recognized social, religious, economic, or traditional government ties, or through a shared locality.

Compensation: Payment in cash or in kind for an asset or a resource that is acquired or affected by a project at the time the asset needs to be replaced.

Construction Land: Refers to urban land which is permitted and used for urban development (Formal urban land), or land which is not permitted but has established urban uses (informal urban land). For the purpose of this LRP, Construction Land is only considered the building plot which is categorized as “truall” (Eng: Building Plot) in the ownership certificate of the land parcel. This is used interchangeably with urban land.

Displacement Assistance: Support provided to people who are physically displaced by a project. Assistance may include transportation, shelter, and services that are provided to affected people during their move. Assistance may also include cash allowances that compensate affected people for the inconvenience associated with displacement and defray the expenses of a transition to a new locale, such as moving expenses.

Easement: An easement is a non-possessory right over the land to use and/or enter onto the real property of another without possessing it.

Easement Restrictions: Easement restrictions are restrictions associated with an easement, that prevent a landowner or user from performing an otherwise lawful activity on their own property, such as building structures over a certain height on urban land or cultivating trees over a certain height on agricultural or forest land.

Economic Displacement: Loss of income streams or means of livelihood resulting from land acquisition or obstructed access to resources (land, water, or forest) which results from the construction or operation of a project or its associated facilities.

Economically Displaced Households: Households whose livelihoods are impacted by the Project, which can include both resident households and people living outside the Project Area but having land, crops, businesses, or various usage rights there.

Ecosystem Services Assessment: A Study to determine the benefits that people, including businesses, derive from ecosystems, potential impacts of a project on these services, and measures to mitigate impacts.

Eligible Crops: Crops planted within the Project area by Project-Affected People before the Entitlement Cut-Off Date and that are eligible for compensation in accordance with this LRP.

Eligible Land: The land (cropped and fallow, agricultural and communal) within the Project area that is eligible for compensation in accordance with this LRP.

Entitlements: The benefits set out in the LRP, including financial compensation and the right to participate in livelihood restoration programs.

Entitlement Cut-off Date: The date established by the Project as the deadline for entitlement to compensation, also known as the **Moratorium Date**. Persons occupying the Project Area after

the Entitlement Cut-Off Date are not eligible for compensation and/or displacement assistance. Similarly, fixed assets (such as built structures, crops, fruit trees) established after the Entitlement Cut-Off Date (Moratorium Date) will not be compensated.

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA): The ESIA developed for the 140 MW Karavasta Project. The ESIA is an integrated study examining how the biophysical, social and health environments are likely to be impacted by the Project.

EBRD: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Finance Corporation, bank which provides investment and advisory services to private sector projects in developing countries, with the goal of ensuring everyone benefits from economic growth.

Farmer: A person who has acquired the right to use a piece of land for farming activities, either for cash generation or home consumption, and is engaged in such activities at the time of the Entitlement Cut-Off Date.

Full Replacement Cost: The market value of assets plus transaction costs, where depreciation of structures and assets is not taken into account.

Household: A person, or group of persons living together, in an individual house, who share cooking and eating facilities, and form a basic socio-economic and decision-making unit.

Involuntary Resettlement: Resettlement, which may consist of Economic Displacement and/or Physical Displacement, is involuntary when it occurs without the informed consent of the displaced persons or if they give their consent without having the power to refuse resettlement.

Land acquisition / Land access: In the sense of EBRD PR5, IFC PS 5, and other similar international requirements, “land acquisition” is understood to include both full purchases of property and purchases of rights other than full property rights, such as rights-of way. In the last few years, specialists have often preferred to use “land access” rather than “land acquisition”, to cover not only actual purchases but also other forms of access to land, such as temporary occupation or acquisition of rights other than full property rights (rights of way or certain usufruct rights).

Land, Farm, and Crop Survey: A survey undertaken of all Eligible Land, Farm and Crops within the Project Area.

Landowner: Is a person who has ownership over a piece of land on which a farm is located.

Livelihood: A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stress and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base.

Livelihood Programs: Programs intended to restore or improve economic security for Project-Affected People through provision of economic assistance, including, but not limited to, activities such as training, and agricultural production.

Livelihood Restoration Framework (LRF): A Livelihood Restoration Framework is required for projects where detailed design is not yet completed, or with subprojects or multiple components that cannot be identified before project approval.

Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP): The document in which a project proponent specifies the procedures that it will follow and the actions that it will take to mitigate adverse effects, compensate losses, and provide development benefits to persons and communities affected by a project.

Moratorium Date: Another term for the **Entitlement Cut-Off Date**, being the date established by the Project as the deadline for entitlement to compensation. Persons moving into the Project Area after the Entitlement Cut-Off Date are not eligible for compensation and/or displacement

assistance. Similarly, fixed assets (such as built structures, crops, fruit trees, and woodlots) established after the Entitlement Cut-Off Date will not be compensated.

Orphan Land: Areas of land within a parcel of land that are not directly the subject of land acquisition (either temporary or permanent), but which become uneconomical due to the remaining size or shape of the land.

Overhead Line (OHL): Wire or cable suspended between poles used to distribute power.

Project: The Karavasta Project, consisting of a 140 MW Solar PV Plant (Plant Site) and associated 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line (OHL).

Project area: The Area identified by the Project, which is required as a zone for PV Plant construction and OHL. All eligible crops and land within this area at the time of the Entitlement Cut-Off Date will be eligible for compensation, according to the terms of this LRP.

Physical Displacement: Loss of shelter and assets resulting from the acquisition of land associated with a project that requires the affected person(s) to move to another location.

Project-Affected Household: All members of a household, whether related or not, operating as a single socio-economic and decision-making unit, who are affected by a project.

Project-Affected Person: Any person who, as a result of the implementation of a project, loses the right to own, use, or otherwise benefit from a built structure, land, annual or perennial crops and trees, or any other fixed or moveable asset, either in full or in part, permanently or temporarily.

Replacement Cost: The rate of compensation for lost assets must be calculated at full replacement cost, that is, the market value of the assets plus transaction costs.

Resettlement: A process through which physically displaced households are provided with replacement plots and residential structures at a designated site. Resettlement includes initiatives to restore and improve the living standards of those being resettled.

Right of Way: Legal right for a public project (in this case, energy) to pass along a specific route through grounds or property belonging to private individuals.

Speculation: The erection of buildings or structures, or planting of crops within the Project area, with the sole aim of claiming compensation from the project proponent. Speculation may be pre-moratorium; occurring before the Entitlement Cut-Off Date has been declared, or post-moratorium; occurring after the Entitlement Cut-Off Date.

Stakeholders: Any and all individuals, groups, organizations, and institutions interested in and potentially affected by a project or having the ability to influence a project.

Study area: The Study area refers to the area identified by the Project as having an interest for the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) socio-economic survey, as it informs the Project's assessment of social and displacement impacts.

Urban Land: Refers to land which is permitted and used for urban development (formal urban land), or land which is not permitted but has established urban uses (informal urban land). Urban land is now more commonly termed Construction Land, which distinguishes it from agricultural and forest lands.

Vulnerable Persons: People who by virtue of gender, ethnicity, age, physical or mental disability, economic disadvantage, or social status may be more adversely affected by displacement than others and who may be *limited* in their ability to claim or take advantage of displacement assistance and related development benefits.

Wayleave: A type of Easement utilized by utilities that provides access to property for construction and maintenance**.**

PREAMBLE

This Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP) for the Karavasta 140 MW Solar PV Project (the Project) has been prepared by Steyn Reddy Associates (SRA), in close collaboration with and on behalf of Voltalia S.A, and its wholly owned Albanian subsidiary, Karavasta Solar sh.p.k (Voltalia).

The document contains a record of the procedures, actions and commitments which will be taken to compensate the people impacted by the Project, consistent with the laws of Albania and the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (EBRD) applicable environmental and social policies.

PROPONENT'S COMMITMENT

Voltalia endorses the LRP presented in this document, and commits to its complete, timely and effective implementation. The final version of the LRP will be made public, along with Voltalia's stated commitment to implement the LRP.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Karavasta Solar sh.p.k, an Albanian corporation, proposes to construct the Karavasta Solar Project, a 140 MW Solar PV Plant and associated Overhead Transmission Line (OHL), in the Divjaka and Fier municipalities of Albania (the Project). The Plant Site will be constructed and operated by Karavasta Solar sh.p.k, while the Overhead Transmission Line (OHL) will be constructed by Karavasta Solar sh.p.k, but owned and operated by Operatori i Sistemit të Transmetimit (OST), the State Energy Provider.

This document represents the Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP) for the Karavasta Solar Project. In developing the LRP, the Company is committed to complying with Albanian law, the environmental and social policies of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and international best practice.

Project Overview

The Karavasta Solar Project (the Project) is a renewable photovoltaic (PV) energy development located in the Divjaka region of Albania, which includes the following components:

- A photovoltaic plant (PV Plant) occupying 185 Ha with a peak installed capacity of 140 MW; and
- Approximately 21 km long 220 kV overhead line with 57 towers connecting the PV Plant with an existing electrical substation in Fier.

Figure 1: Project scheme

Project schedule

The construction of the Project is planned to commence with Plant Site early works in Quarter 3 of 2022, and be in full operations in second half of 2023. The expected duration of the construction period consists of 2 months early works, and 11 months construction. The final construction schedule will be specified during the detailed design phase.

The table below shows the key dates.

Project Stage	Estimated Duration	Estimated Date Range
PV Plant Site		
Permits and Approvals	3 months	Oct 20 - Ma 22
Early Works	2 months	July 22 – Aug 22
Construction Phase	11 months	Jul 22 – Aug 23
Testing & Commissioning	3 months	Aug 23 – Oct 23
OHL		
Permits and Approvals	3 months	Aug 22 – Oct 22
Construction Phase	10 months	Sep 22 – Aug 23
Testing & Commissioning	2 months	Aug 23 – Oct 23

Summary of Project Land Take & Impacts

The Project will incorporate further efforts to avoid and minimize displacement in the detailed design and construction phase. However, key land take impacts can be accurately estimated at this stage, which have been taken into account in development of this LRP to address all impacts.

Project Phase	Component	Estimated Land Take	Estimated Land Parcels	Duration	Potential Impacts
Construction	Plant Site	185 Ha	21 land parcels	Permanent	Impacts on informal grazing and other activities; access restrictions
	Plant Site Construction camps and laydown areas	4 Ha	2 land parcels	Temporary	Impacts on informal grazing; access restrictions
	Plant Site Access Roads	To be determined	25 land parcels	Temporary	Impacts on informal grazing and other activities; access restrictions; loss of crops

Project Phase	Component	Estimated Land Take	Estimated Land Parcels	Duration	Potential Impacts
	OHL Pylons	57 pylons with on average 10m x 10m land take	57 land parcels	Permanent	Loss of land; loss of crops and agricultural income
	OHL Pylons access roads	57 land parcels access roads (estimation of 5m x 5m temporary land take)	57 land parcels	Temporary	Temporary loss of land, Loss of crops and agricultural income; land disturbance
	OHL Access Roads and Construction Corridor	Approx. 17 Ha	725 land parcels*	Temporary	Loss of crops and agricultural income; land disturbance
Operations	OHL Right-of Way	25m Wayleave each side of OHL	725 land parcels*	Permanent (partial restrictions)	Easement restrictions relating to permitted uses on urban land in Right of Way and Wayleave**

*634 land parcels surveyed in Dec 21, 32 new land parcels identified for the reroute of the OHL, and 50 new land parcels affected by access roads to the OHL

** The project shall not impose easement restrictions on agricultural or forest lands. However, landowners who have construction (formally designated urban) land within the 25 m corridor of each side of OHL in practice may not be able to construct on these lands anymore, even though no legal restriction will be imposed on these lands. In these cases the Project Urban Easement Rates will be paid.

Baseline Data Collection and Analysis

The Baseline Data Collection to inform the LRP was based on the following sources:

- Relevant secondary socio-economic baseline information referred to in development of the LRP (e.g., National data, Project Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) data)
- Primary data collection and analysis undertaken to inform the LRP, including:
  - Analysis of Land Ownership and Cadastral Information
  - Socio-economic surveys of directly affected households
  - Asset surveys and agronomic baseline assessment of affected land parcels.
- Stakeholder Engagement

The Project-Affected Households (PAHs) in the Project footprint area are heavily affected by migration trends, and most of the PAHs rely on agriculture and pension funds as the main livelihood and income sources.

Stakeholder Engagement

Community participation and inputs into Project development to-date have been assured through the following mechanisms:

- Public Meeting;
- Consultation Meetings;
- ESIA Socioeconomic Survey engagements;
- LRP-related stakeholder engagement, which included:
    - Development of Communication Plans relating to community entry and survey activities;
    - Baseline Surveys Related Engagement;
    - Project Information Posters in villages;
    - Grievance Mechanism Roll-out to surveyed households; and
    - Route Social Impact Register assessment – engagements with potentially impacted households/businesses.

Stakeholder engagement on all displacement-related issues will continue to occur through a variety of processes and activities:

- Information and/or Briefings to Key Stakeholders;
- Communication Plans for key project activities (e.g., pre-construction surveys, land entry, etc.);
- Disclosure of Guide to Land Acquisition & Compensation to affected households; and
- Livelihood Restoration Program implementation and monitoring.

The Stakeholder Engagement Schedule covering the period of LRP development, voluntary agreements and expropriation, and project construction, is shown below.

Methodology & Stakeholder Group	Format	Frequency
Consultations		
Briefing for OST (including presentation of compensation matrix, GLAC, LRP, etc.)	Regular meetings and written correspondence	Every two weeks
State Agency for Expropriation (SAE) (including presentation of compensation matrix)	Written correspondence as required	As required
Briefing for Ministries/Agencies: • Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy • Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development • Ministry of Culture • National Territorial Planning Agency • National Agency of Property Compensation and Restitution	Initial formal meeting followed by written correspondence	Quarterly
Briefing for Regional and Local Institutions, Officials and Agencies: • Prefecture of Fier Region • Regional Council of Fier	Initial formal meeting followed by written correspondence	Quarterly

Methodology & Stakeholder Group	Format	Frequency
• Regional Agriculture Directorate • Regional Directorate of Environment • Agricultural and Rural Development Agency • Fier Administrative Unit • Libofshe Administrative Unit • Mayor of Fier Municipality • Mayor of Divjakë Municipality		
Briefing for Regional Media	Initial formal meeting followed by written correspondence	Quarterly
Focus group workshops with special interest groups including Civil Society Groups (NGO), Business, Women Groups	Initial formal meeting followed by written correspondence	Quarterly
Dissemination of Information & Grievance Resolution		
GLAC Disclosure to Regional and Municipal Departments and Agencies	Formal meetings	May 2022
GLAC Disclosure to PAHs	Household visits	June-July 2022
Engagement with PAHs having submitted a grievance to the Project if required	Ad-hoc meeting	Ad-hoc
Engagement with PAHs whose land is required for baseline geological studies on site	Ad-hoc meeting	Ad-hoc
Household Voluntary Agreements & Sign-off		
Face to Face meeting with the PAH (household head and spouse) to present Compensation Offer	Household visit	One-off
Further visits to PAH (household head and spouse) for sign-off. Enhanced engagement for identified vulnerable PAHs	Household visits (2-4 meetings, as required)	Biweekly and weekly (one off)
Land Entry & Exit		
Construction Manager and CLO engagement with PAHs to sign Land Entry Protocols	Household visit	During construction as required
Construction manager, Agronomist and CLO engagement with PAHs to sign Land Reinstatement & Exit Form	Household visit	During construction / post-construction as required
Dissemination of Information & Grievance Resolution		
Information boards in each village re: employment, training, safety issues, and construction schedule	Public notice boards	As required

Methodology & Stakeholder Group	Format	Frequency
Scheduled visits by Community Liaison Officers to each village	Initial meeting and visits by CLO(s) in each village	Weekly or as required
Livelihood and Vulnerables Programs		
Livelihood and Vulnerables Programs	Household visit as part of Sign-off process	As required

Based on the stakeholder engagements, data analysis, and project characteristics, an assessment of project impacts was undertaken, which resulted in the development of the Project Compensation Framework to address all identified impacts.

Compensation Principles

General principles adopted by the project in relation to compensation are as follow

1) Voltalia seeks to achieve voluntary agreements with affected persons and households, with expropriation utilized only when required – in practice due to the difficulty in households obtaining the necessary ownership documentation for sale purchase agreements, the expropriation process will be followed in the vast majority of cases. In these cases, Voltalia will enter into Compensation Agreements with households to pay the full compensation in advance (see Principle 3 below). Compensation will be at full replacement value, without depreciation, and taking account of all transaction costs;
2) When utilizing the expropriation process for households who have previously entered into the voluntary agreement process, Voltalia will pay the full compensation amount due in advance of land entry, notwithstanding payments which may be forthcoming through the expropriation process. Procedures for the expropriation process are initiated prior to the start of construction;
3) For households refusing the voluntary agreement process, Voltalia will make available a top-up payment following the expropriation process to ensure all affected households receive full compensation at project rates;
4) In addition to compensation for assets, additional livelihood measures will be developed as required to ensure effective and timely restoration of affected farm parcels; and
5) Identified vulnerable households will be eligible for additional transitional assistance.

Compensation Framework

The Compensation Matrix for the Project is summarized below. This is also presented in the Guide to Land Acquisition and Compensation (GLAC) issued to all directly-impacted households.

Type of Impact	Type of Compensation
1. Permanent Land Acquisition	To Landowner (including holders of Akti i Marrjes së Tokës në Pronësi (AMTP) certificate without registration): Purchase of land required at Project Land Acquisition Rate* based on market value. Compensation for any fixed asset affected at full replacement value (e.g., irrigation, drainage structures, sheds, wells etc.) To Land User: Compensation for loss of crops at the Project Crops Rate** based on full replacement value
2. Temporary Land Acquisition	To Landowner (including holders of Akti i Marrjes së Tokës në Pronësi (AMTP) certificate without registration): Compensation for land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate (the Project Land Rental rate), paid annually To Land User: Compensation for loss of crops at the Project Crops Rate** based on full replacement value
3. Temporary Land Access	To Landowner (including holders of Akti i Marrjes së Tokës në Pronësi (AMTP) certificate without registration): Compensation for land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, pro-rated to the period of land use during construction (from land entry to land exit) To Land User: Compensation for loss of crops at the Project Crops Rate** based on full replacement value
4. Orphan Land	Subject to case-by-case review by expert opinion of project agronomists. Where land access results in any portion of the land parcel being deemed uneconomical, the project will compensate the remaining land deemed uneconomical as per the principles above.
5. Easement Restrictions	Formal Urban (Construction) Land: 90% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate based on market value

**Project Land Acquisition Rate: The market value of land of equal productive use or potential located in the vicinity of the affected land, plus the cost of preparation to levels similar to or better than those of the affected land, plus the cost of any registration and transfer taxes.*

***Project Crops Rate: The replacement cost for perennial plants and trees should be equivalent to current market prices given the type, age and productive value of the plants and/or trees, including lost future productivity*

In addition to the Compensation Framework, the Project has developed a full Eligibility and Entitlement Matrix, to reflect the full range of supports offered to project-affected households, including livelihood restoration measures and transitional supports to vulnerable households.

Given the limited extent of permanent land acquisition and the temporary and very short-term nature of temporary land access during construction, the livelihood impact of the Project is expected to be slight. However, where there is a significant impact on any affected farm parcel, or the household may be vulnerable, additional assistance may be required in order to ensure a timely return to farming and effective restoration of productivity.

The Project livelihood restoration measures are focused on: parcel reinstatement; agricultural advice and additional inputs on an ‘as needed’ basis; and, agricultural monitoring.

Vulnerability will be determined on a household basis. Identification of vulnerable households is being determined through stakeholder engagements, and on the basis of the asset and socio-

economic surveys analysis. Vulnerable households may also be identified by Project Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) and other personnel. An initial Vulnerability Risk Assessment was undertaken to identify potentially vulnerable households for inclusion on a 'vulnerability watchlist'. Further engagements will be undertaken with identified households to confirm / screen households for further assistance, and the 'Vulnerability Watchlist' will be updated accordingly. Final identified vulnerable households will be determined as 'Predominately farming households' and non-farming households. Predominately farming households are likely to benefit from additional agricultural assistance to re-establish productivity, while non-farming households (e.g., those retired and unable to farm) may benefit from other tailored supports such as access/linkages to health and housing supports. Any assistance will be tailored to the needs of the affected household, and time-bound, with clear exit strategies.

Category of Impact	Category of PAH	Package	Eligibility Rules
Permanent Land Acquisition	Landowners (including holders of AMTP without formal registration)	Compensation for affected land at Project Land Acquisition Rate If also land user, compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates If also land user, eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must have been owner at time of Entitlement Cut Off date
	Land users (if not landowner)	Compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates Eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must be user at time of land entry protocols
Temporary Land Acquisition	Landowners (including holders of AMTP without formal registration)	Compensation for affected land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, paid annually If also land user, compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates If also land user, eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must have been owner at time of Entitlement Cut Off date
	Land users (if not landowner)	Compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates Eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must be user at time of land entry protocols
Temporary Land Access	Landowners	Compensation for land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, pro-rated to the period of land use during construction (from land entry to land exit) Reinstatement of land parcel following construction If also land user, compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates If also land user, eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must have been owner at time of Entitlement Cut Off date
	Land users (if not landowner)	Compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates Eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must have been user at time of surveys

Category of Impact	Category of PAH	Package	Eligibility Rules
Easement Restrictions	Landowners	Compensation for any restrictions on use at Project Easement Values	Must have been owner at time of Entitlement Cut Off date
Orphan Land	Landowners	Compensated at Project Land Acquisition Rate, except where Easement Restrictions impact orphaned land, then compensated based on Project Easement Values	Orphan Land determined on case-by-case basis

The project shall not impose legal easement restrictions on agricultural or forest lands. However, landowners who have construction (formally designated urban) land within the 25 m corridor of each side of OHL in practice may not be able to construct on these lands anymore, even though no legal restriction will be imposed on these lands. In these cases the Project Urban Easement Rates will be paid.

Land Access and Acquisition Process

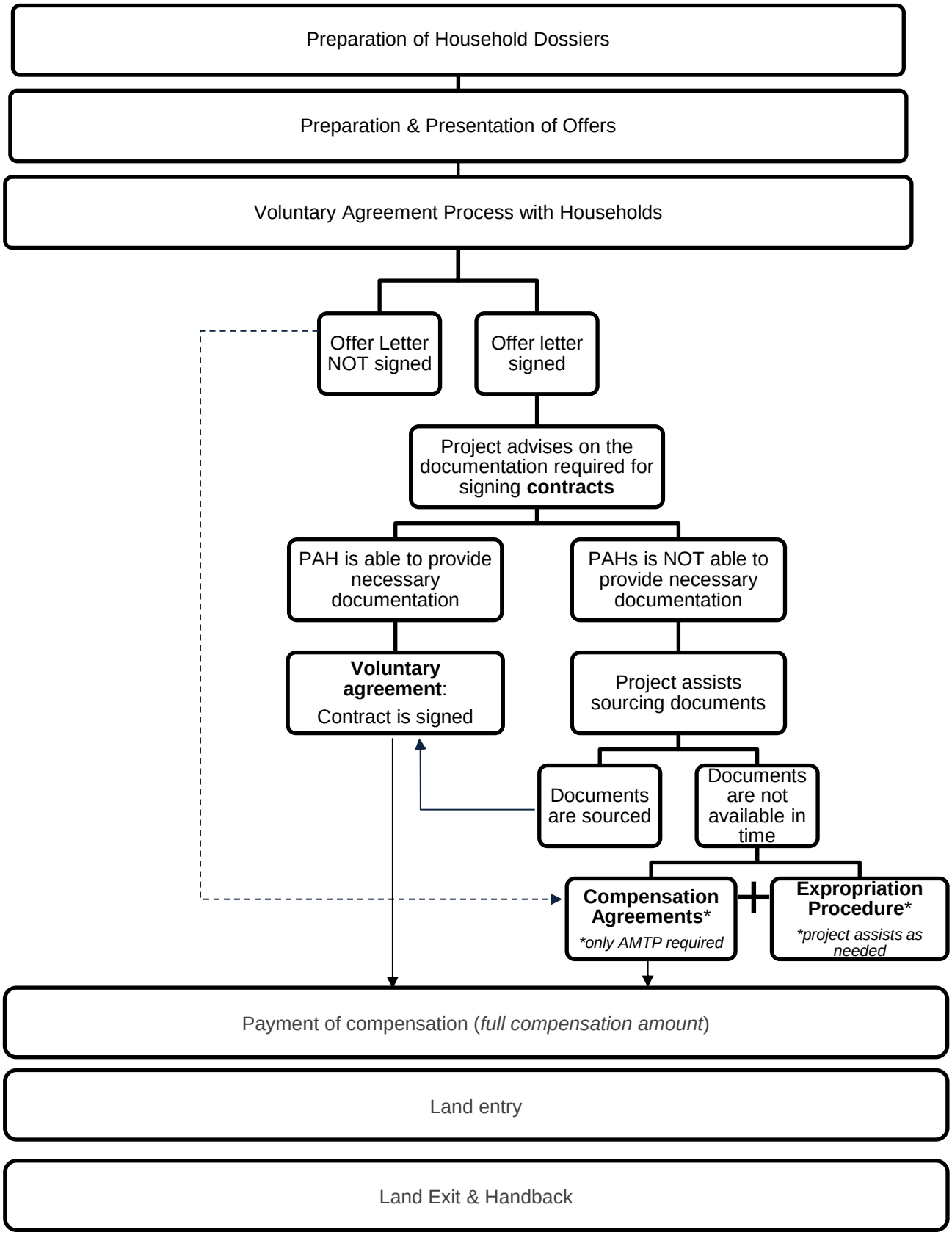
Based on the Compensation Framework and having due regard to national expropriation regulations and international standards and best practice, the following key steps have been followed in the Project land access and acquisition process in respect of permanent land acquisition.

1. Preparation of Household Dossiers;
2. Preparation & Presentation of Offers;
3. Voluntary Agreement Process with Households;
4. Expropriation procedures;
5. Compensation Agreements;
6. Payment of Compensation;
7. Land Entry; and
8. Land Exit & Handback.

Note that Voltalia will support and facilitate the land acquisition process for OST. Voltalia will lead on the Voluntary Agreement Process and the Expropriation Process will be also supported to ensure OST acquires the land for the Project. Voltalia will lead the compensation evaluation and payment on behalf of OST, but all transaction documents for land ownership transfer will be held by OST.

The key steps for permanent and temporary land acquisition are presented in graphic format and discussed briefly below.

The flow chart below describes the steps for Permanent Land Acquisition (tower locations):


Preparation of Household Dossiers
Preparation & Presentation of Offers
Voluntary Agreement Process with Households
Offer Letter NOT signed
Offer letter signed
Project advises on the documentation required for signing **contracts**
PAH is able to provide necessary documentation
PAHs is NOT able to provide necessary documentation
Voluntary agreement: Contract is signed
Project assists sourcing documents
Documents are sourced
Documents are not available in time
Compensation Agreements*
*only AMTP required
Expropriation Procedure*
*project assists as needed
Payment of compensation (*full compensation amount*)
Land entry
Land Exit & Handback

The Project has made best efforts to engage with unidentified or absent owners before and during the Voluntary Agreement Process. In case of a conflict in the identification of owners or users, a verification process is carried out, and any compensation payment due held in escrow pending determination of ownerships of land or assets (crops). Once the Voluntary Agreement Process is exhausted (when all voluntary agreements which have the required ownership certification have been completed) and there is enough evidence that the household is unable to provide the required documents in a timely manner, the Expropriation Process is initiated for those who have refused voluntary agreements, for those which are unidentified and/or absent, and for those where it is not possible to procure the required ownership certification or any other supporting documentation to complete the voluntary agreements.

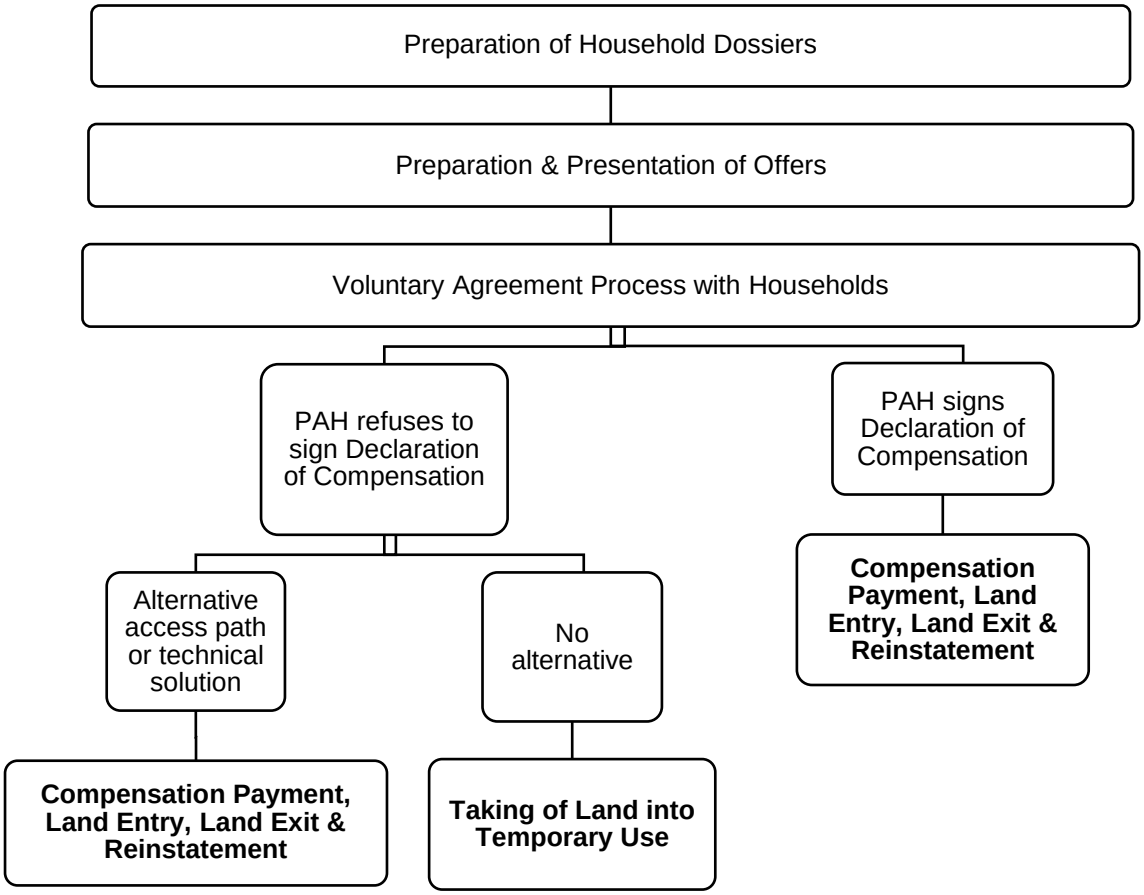
Based on experience with the Voluntary Agreement Process to date, it is likely that almost all households will be unable to procure sufficient evidence of ownership or supporting documents required for the Voluntary Agreement. Voltalia engaged with the households and supported the documentation for voluntary agreement, but after almost two months of engagement, no household managed to ensure the required documentation. As a result expropriation process will be utilized for all land parcels subject to permanent land acquisition. The Project to notify those households subject to voluntary agreement processes without sufficient ownership information that they will follow the expropriation process. This is critical in order to avoid delays in receiving permitting for project construction. However, in order not to disadvantage households subject to the voluntary agreement process, Voltalia will undertake Compensation Agreements with these households. This Agreement will undertake to provide households with the full compensation amount due for permanent land acquisition, at Project rates. An Ownership Certificate is the preferred document for the completion of the agreements, and the project will make best efforts to support the household to obtain the document prior to land entry. However, in order to ensure compensation before actual impact occurs, the project may opt for an AMPT and other supporting documents that certify the legal owner of the land at the moment of land entry.

Notwithstanding the Project Compensation Agreement, all households will still be eligible to follow up on expropriation payments following the conclusion of the expropriation process and subject to providing the necessary ownership certification. Voltalia will continue to assist households where possible to access ownership certification.

The project has made design changes to the OHL to minimize impacts as much as possible, but there are households that refuse cooperation. Those households who previously refused to enter into Voluntary Agreements may still take the opportunity to enter into a Project Compensation Agreement. After the expropriation decision from the government, Voltalia will inform the refusing households about the next steps and re-invite them to claim the project compensation amount. Temporary expropriation will be used in cases of landowner opposition to accessing the land.

Voltalia will also provide all available ownership information to the State Expropriation Agency to further facilitate the expropriation process.

The key steps for temporary land access (access of machinery and people to tower locations, and access to the OHL corridor for stringing of the lines) is different as there is no need for provision of official documentation to be eligible for crop compensation at Project rates. The head of the agricultural unit/family will sign the compensation agreements. The flow chart below describes the steps for Temporary Land Access.



Temporary Land Access will be reached through a Declaration of Compensation for both land users and owners, and Take of Land into Temporary Use ('Temporary Expropriation') will be used when temporary expropriation of the land is required.

A construction corridor will be determined at Land Entry, allowing for payment of land rental and crop compensation prior to construction. In cases where there is any additional or accidental crop damage, this will be paid after Payment for crops will therefore take place after Land Exit & Handback.

For both permanent land acquisition and temporary land access, an escrow account will be set up for unknown/absentee landowners to retain the compensation amounts for a period of 5 years from commencement of construction. Where owners come forward within that time period and can be verified compensation payments will be made from this account in line with the LRP.

Finally, temporary land acquisition refers to the temporary leasing of land during the construction period for a period of at least one year. The Project will lease two land parcels adjoining the PV Plant Site during the construction period. The Project will enter into a lease agreement with the owner at Project Rates.

Livelihood Restoration Program

Given the types of project impacts identified, the livelihood impact of the Project is expected to be slight, given:

- The limited extent of permanent land acquisition; and

- The temporary and very short-term nature of temporary land access during construction.

However, where there is a significant impact on any affected farm parcel, or the household may be vulnerable, additional assistance may be required in order to ensure a timely return to farming and effective restoration of productivity. Further, the Project will seek to ensure that where a portion of the farm parcel has been impacted by permanent land acquisition, the remaining parcel should be restored such that productivity and output returns to pre-project levels.

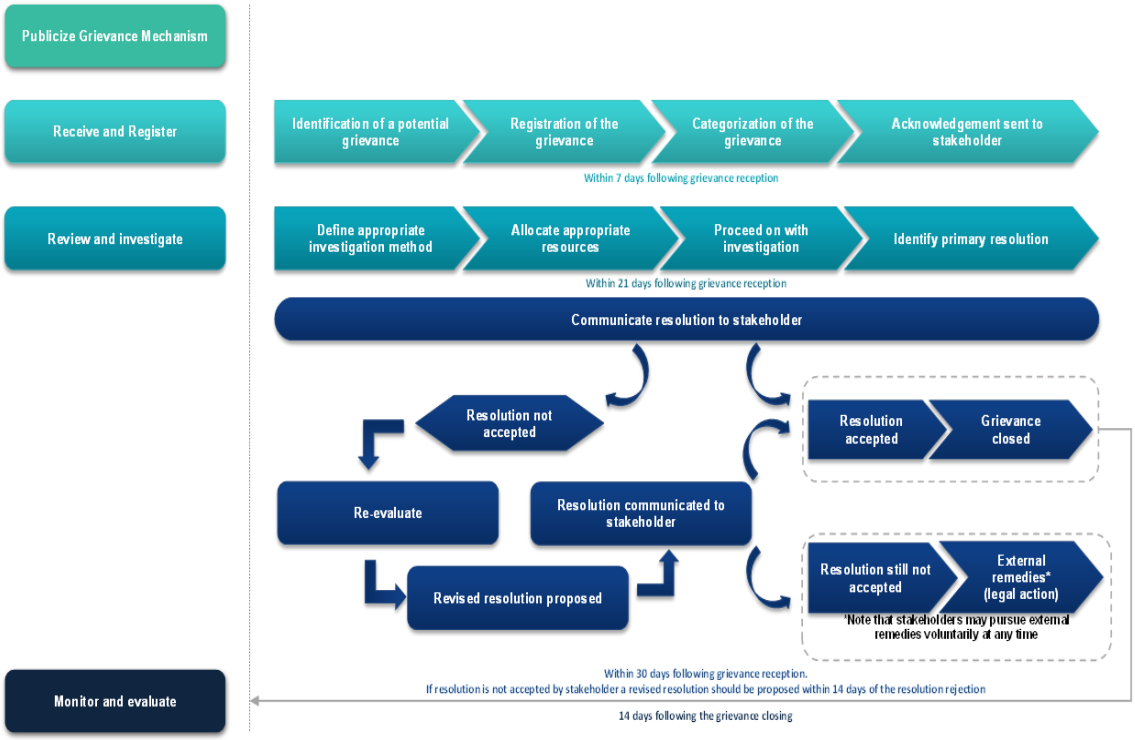
In order to achieve the above, the Project livelihood restoration measures are focused on:

- Parcel Reinstatement;
- Agricultural Advice and Additional inputs on an 'as needed' basis;
- Agricultural Monitoring; and
- Transitional Assistance for Vulnerable Households.

Vulnerability will be determined on a household basis. Identification of vulnerable households is being determined through stakeholder engagements, and on the basis of the asset and socio-economic surveys analysis. Vulnerable households may also be identified by Project Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) and other personnel. An initial Vulnerability Risk Assessment was undertaken to identify potentially vulnerable households for inclusion on a 'vulnerability watchlist'. Further engagements will be undertaken with identified households to confirm / screen households for further assistance, and the 'Vulnerability Watchlist' will be updated accordingly. Final identified vulnerable households will be determined as 'Predominately farming households' and non-farming households. Predominately farming households are likely to benefit from additional agricultural assistance to re-establish productivity, while non-farming households (e.g., those retired and unable to farm) may benefit from other tailored supports such as access/linkages to health and housing supports. Any assistance will be tailored to the needs of the affected household, and time-bound, with clear exit strategies.

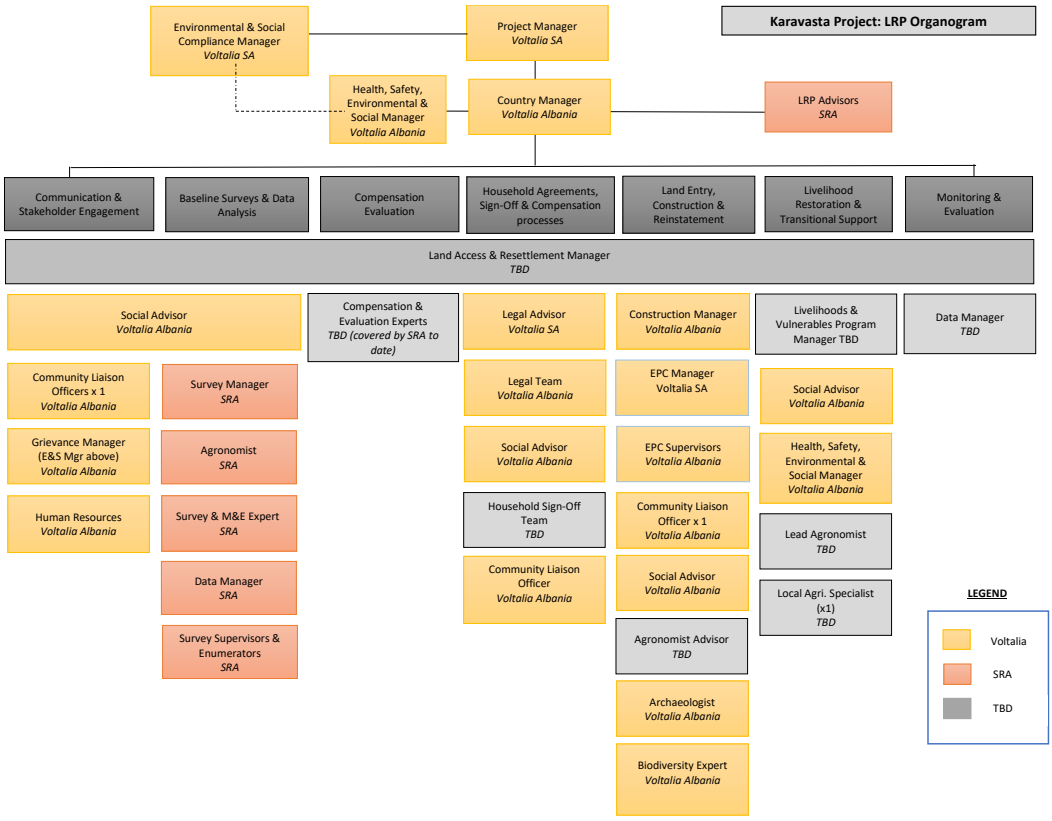
Grievance Management

The Figure below presents the flow chart summarizing how a grievance is processed:



Organisational Framework

In order to execute the Project, the Voltalia team draws on both in-house and external expertise. This allows for effective management of all social and land related impacts arising from the Project. The Voltalia LRP Organogram is shown below.



Note that not all personnel are required for the duration of the LRP, and may transition between roles over time. For example, the baseline surveys and data analysis team members will complete their work prior to the household sign-off process, and some of these will form the household sign-off team, which will also ensure continuity in terms of a consistent long-term relationship with households. Similarly, the agronomist involved in the baseline surveys will lead the land reinstatement and livelihood restoration efforts in relation to the land parcels.

The organogram presented in the chart above may be subject to changes during the course of the LRP implementation. Also, Voltalia may decide to hire internal staff or outsource certain position presented in the chart above. In any case, Voltalia will ensure that adequate competent staff is hired so that the LRP implementation timeline and quality is ensured. Some roles may be covered by the same person. For example, the Community Liaison Officer may cover the Grievance Management role.

Schedule and Budget

A summary of the LRP Schedule, showing key dates, is shown below. The LRP Schedule is aligned with the planned construction schedule, and will begin with the PV Plant Site. All compensation payments will take place before accessing the land.

Key Component	2021					2022											
	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP)																	
Preparation of Asset & socio-economic surveys																	
Compensation Values Study																	
Develop Communication & engagement plan																	
Development of route social impact plan & register																	
Surveys implementation & Agronomic Assessment of Parcels																	
Data entry and Analysis																	
Due diligence review of plant site acquisition process																	
Development of Compensation Framework																	
Development of livelihood / vulnerable programs																	
Detailed Copmensation Matrix (for submission to authorities)																	
Disclosure of LRP / Guide to Land Acquisition & Compensaiton																	
Development of Household Agreements / Sign-Off Packages																	
Household Voluntary / Compensation Agreements																	
Expropriation proceedings																	
Compensaiton Payments																	
Earlyworks (Plant Site)																	
Land entry / Construction Start (OHL)																	
Livelihood Program Implementation Start																	

The LRP budget estimate is provided below.

LRP Budget Estimate		
Asset		**Amount (€)**
Permanent Land Acquisition	€	87,084.00
Temporary Land Acquisition	€	10,000.00
Annual Crops	€	11,919.74
Perennial Crops	€	76,680.42
Easement Compensation	€	5,000.00
Livelihood & Vulnerable Program	€	98,640.00
Contingency for remedial restoration works	€	30,000.00
Total	**€**	**319,324.16**

M&E Process

The proposed monitoring and evaluation processes are intended to provide among others, indicators to continuously track: the level of compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; Project impacts on directly affected households and communities; the extent to which displacement compensation package and other interventions are on track to achieve sustainable restoration and improvements in the welfare of the affected people; progress and closure of the LRP; and, the health of the relationship between the Project and its stakeholders.

Change Management

A preliminary version of the LRP was developed in March 2022. This version of the LRP (August 2022) reflects revised approaches to compensation and expropriation, in order to ensure timely land access and payment of compensation to landowners and users. The LRP will be updated as a Final LRP post-construction, when all final impacts and budgets are known, and livelihood restoration programs have commenced.

1 INTRODUCTION

Karavasta Solar sh.p.k, an Albanian corporation, proposes to construct a 140 MW Solar PV Plant and associated Overhead Transmission Line (OHL), in the Divjaka and Fier municipalities of Albania (the Project).

The Plant Site will be constructed and operated by Karavasta Solar sh.p.k, while the Overhead Transmission Line (OHL) will be constructed by Karavasta Solar sh.p.k, but owned and operated by OST, the State Energy Provider.

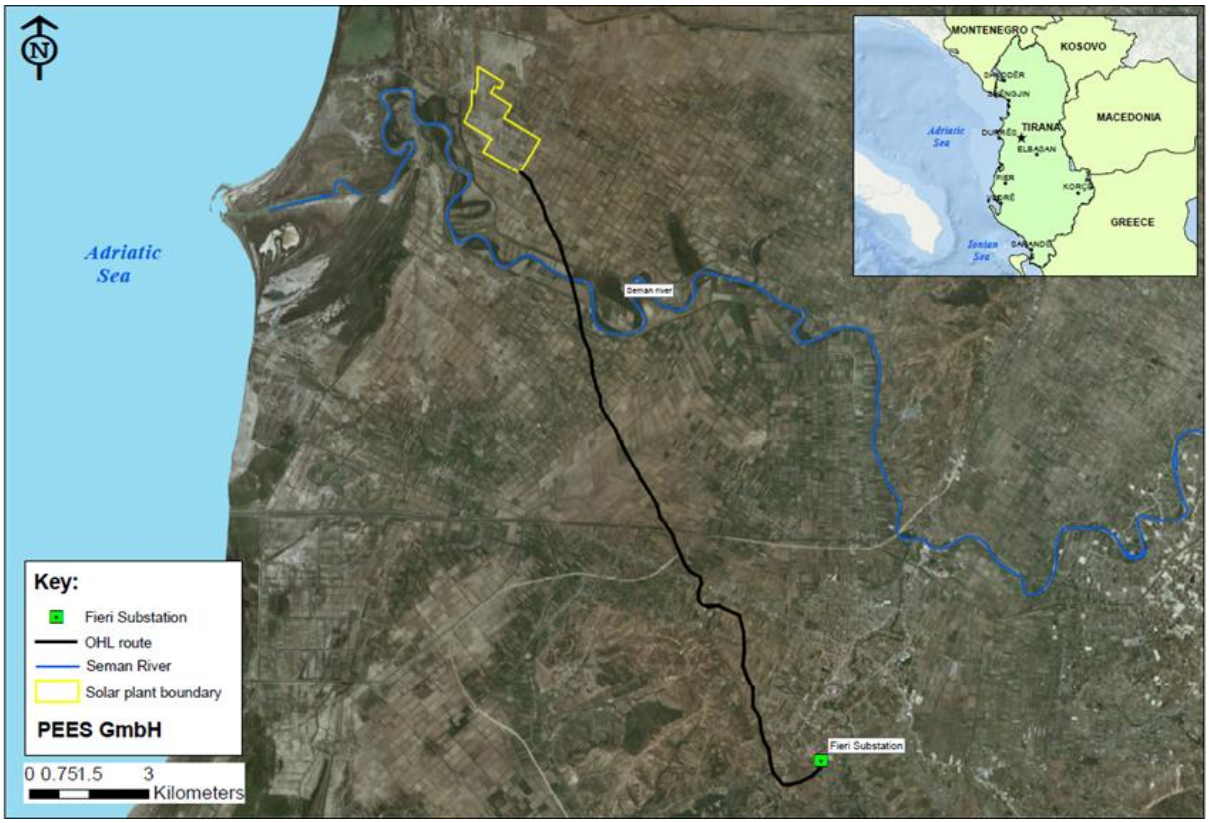
This document represents the Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP) for the Karavasta Project. In developing the LRP, the Company is committed to complying with Albanian law, the environmental and social policies of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and international best practice.

1.1 Project Overview

The Karavasta Solar Project (the Project) is a renewable photovoltaic (PV) energy development located in the Divjaka region of Albania (see Figure 1.1), which includes the following components:

- A photovoltaic plant (PV Plant) occupying 185 Ha with a peak installed capacity of 140 MW
- Approximately 19.2 km long 220 kV overhead line with 57 towers connecting the PV Plant with an existing electrical substation in Fier.

FIGURE 1.1: KARAVASTA SOLAR PV PROJECT LOCATION



1.2 Purpose and Objectives of the LRP

The purpose of this LRP is to characterise the displacement that will be caused by the Project land acquisition and access, and formalise the plan by which the community and affected households will be identified, compensated and provided with opportunities to restore their livelihoods to at least pre-project levels.

The Karavasta Project will result in a range of impacts on Project-Affected Households (PAHs). However, while economic displacement will occur, there will be no physical displacement (i.e., no residential dwellings will be impacted or need to move as a result of the project). In the case of projects involving economic displacement only, IFC Performance Standard 5 on Land Acquisition & Involuntary resettlement, and EBRD's related Performance Requirement 5, require that the client will develop a Livelihood Restoration Plan to compensate affected persons and/ or communities and offer other assistance that meet the objectives of the Standards.

The Livelihood Restoration Plan must establish the entitlements of affected persons and/or communities and ensure that these are provided in a transparent, consistent, and equitable manner. The mitigation of economic displacement will be considered complete when affected persons or communities have received compensation and other assistance according to the requirements of the Livelihood Restoration Plan, Albanian law, and the international standards, and are deemed to have been provided with adequate opportunity to re-establish their livelihoods.

1.3 Structure of the LRP

The LRP is organized according to the following sections:

Section 1: Introduction	A brief project overview, and rationale and structure of this LRP
Section 2: Project Description	A detailed discussion of the key project elements, and potential impacts in terms of land acquisition and access restrictions
Section 3: Institutional & Legal Framework	A discussion of the institutional and legal framework governing the Project, including Albanian legislation and international standards
Section 4: Baseline Data Collection & Analysis	A summary of baseline data gathering efforts, and presentation of the analysis of the data, which has been used to identify impacts, and inform the development of mitigation measures and household eligibility and entitlements.
Section 5: Stakeholder Engagement	A review of stakeholder engagement to date, and the process to be followed for ongoing and future stakeholder engagement as part of LRP implementation
Section 6: Identification of Project Impacts	Identification of Project impacts on directly impacted households and communities

Section 7: Compensation Framework	The identification of eligible groups and the determination of compensation and livelihood packages, including through development of the Compensation Values Study, and the Eligibility & Entitlement Matrix, including any required livelihood restoration measures, with particular attention to Vulnerable Households
Section 8: Voluntary Agreement and Expropriation Process	The procedure for engagement and securing of voluntary agreements and compensation agreements with affected households on compensation and livelihood restoration packages, consistent with the State expropriation process, and payment of compensation
Section 9: Land Access and Acquisition Strategy	Key steps to be followed in the land access and acquisition processes, including engagement with landowners consistent with Albanian legislation, incorporating land entry, exit and handback
Section 10: Livelihood Restoration Program	Description of the livelihood restoration programs developed to ensure restoration of livelihoods, including measures for identified vulnerable households, and the implementation process
Section 11: Protection of Cultural Heritage	Measures developed to ensure protection of cultural heritage, including development of a Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP)
Section12: Grievance Management	The approach to management of grievances, including an overview of the Grievance Resolution Mechanism
Section 13: Organizational Framework	The organizational framework for the Project, including key roles and responsibilities
Section 14: Budget & Schedule	A summary of the schedule and budget associated with LRP planning and implementation
Section 15: Monitoring & Evaluation	The approach to monitoring & evaluation, including arrangements for internal and external monitoring.
Section 16: Change Management	The approach to revision and updating of this LRP through the project implementation process.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Purpose

The Albanian Government is working towards a reliable and more sustainable energy sector, development of which is based on exploiting all energy options to meet Albania's energy demand and create added value for Albanian citizens, in alignment with the principles of environmental, economic and social responsibility.

Historically, electricity generation has been almost exclusively hydropower. In 2017 the country had a total installed capacity of about 2,100 MW, of which only 100 MW was thermal. In 2017 annual electricity consumption was about 7.1 TWh with a peak load demand of 1.4 GW. Albania therefore also imports electricity from neighbouring countries.

Albania benefits from an average of 360 days of sunshine in key locations, and therefore energy production from solar photovoltaic (PV) is an important potential source of electricity that will help to meet the goals of Albania's National Strategy on Energy, and will in particular assist in:

- Diversifying energy sources;
- Developing internal energy sources of primary energy in a sustainable and competitive manner;
- Reducing Albania's dependence on hydro and imported electricity;
- Increasing the reliability and security of energy supply;
- Improving the cost effectiveness of power supply systems;
- Achieving objectives for renewable energy sources and energy efficiency; and
- Achieving National Determined Contribution (NDC) Objectives for reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGs).

2.2 Main Project Components & Key Characteristics

The Karavasta Project consists of a 140 MW Solar PV Plant (Plant Site) and associated 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line (OHL).

2.2.1 PV Plant

The available land for the PV Project consists of 196 Ha of State land, with the proposed PV layout footprint occupying a total area of 185 Ha. The PV Plant land ownership will be transferred to Voltalia Albanie Sh.p.k (Albania).

The Project is designed as a 140 MW DC (Direct current) horizontal single-axis tracking photovoltaic (PV) park and will deliver 120 MW AC (Alternating current) to the grid. The Plant itself consists of the Solar PV modules themselves, module tracking systems, inverters, and step-up transformer/sub-station, allowing connection to the OHL and ultimately the national grid, through the sub-station at Fier, approximately 20km to the southeast.

The Project will also require a building to accommodate the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) equipment for the command, control and protection of the Project. This will be manned by technicians employed for the control, operation and maintenance of the Project.

In addition to the above key components the Plant Site will include the following infrastructure:

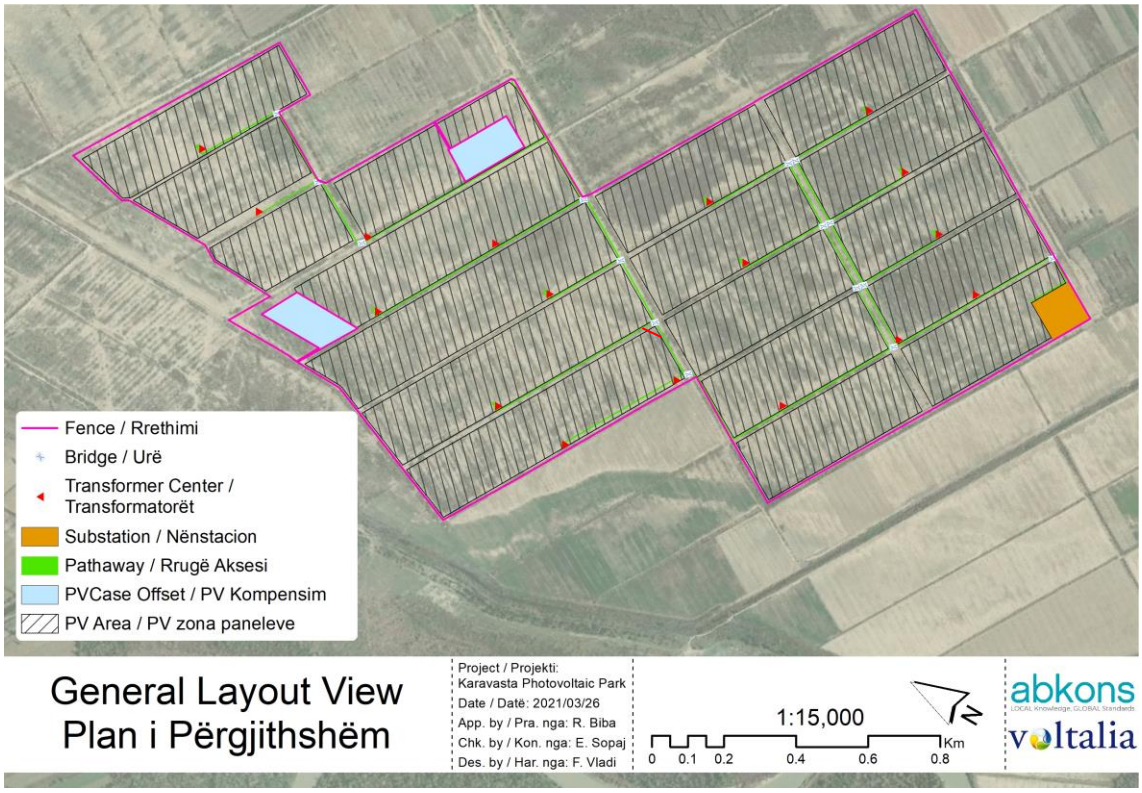
- Onsite (buried) cabling;
- Drainage systems;

- Fencing and security measures;
- Access tracks; and
- Material storage facilities.

During the early works and construction phases, two temporary construction compounds, including site offices, material and equipment storage etc., will be required, as well as temporary roadways to facilitate access to the Development site. The temporary construction compound(s) will occupy approximately 2 ha each and will be located on the boundaries of the PV plant site, on private land parcels. The temporary rental of the land will be agreed with the owners of the plots.

Figure 2.1 shows the footprint of the Plant Site, surrounded by the perimeter fence, with the location of the substation also shown.

FIGURE 2.1: PLANT SITE LAYOUT



Existing roads will be used to access the Plant Site. During the Plant Site construction phase, parts of the existing route may require temporary widening and related civil works (e.g., bridge strengthening) for key components to be transported to the Plant Site. This will require temporary land access and impact neighbouring land parcels. Any temporary loss of access and crops will be considered for compensation and livelihood restoration as per the Project Footprint areas.

The access road to the Plant Site, with identified potential areas for road widening / bridge strengthening, is shown at

Figure 2.2 below.

FIGURE 2.2: ACCESS ROAD TO THE PV PLANT SITE

2.2.2 Overhead Line (OHL)

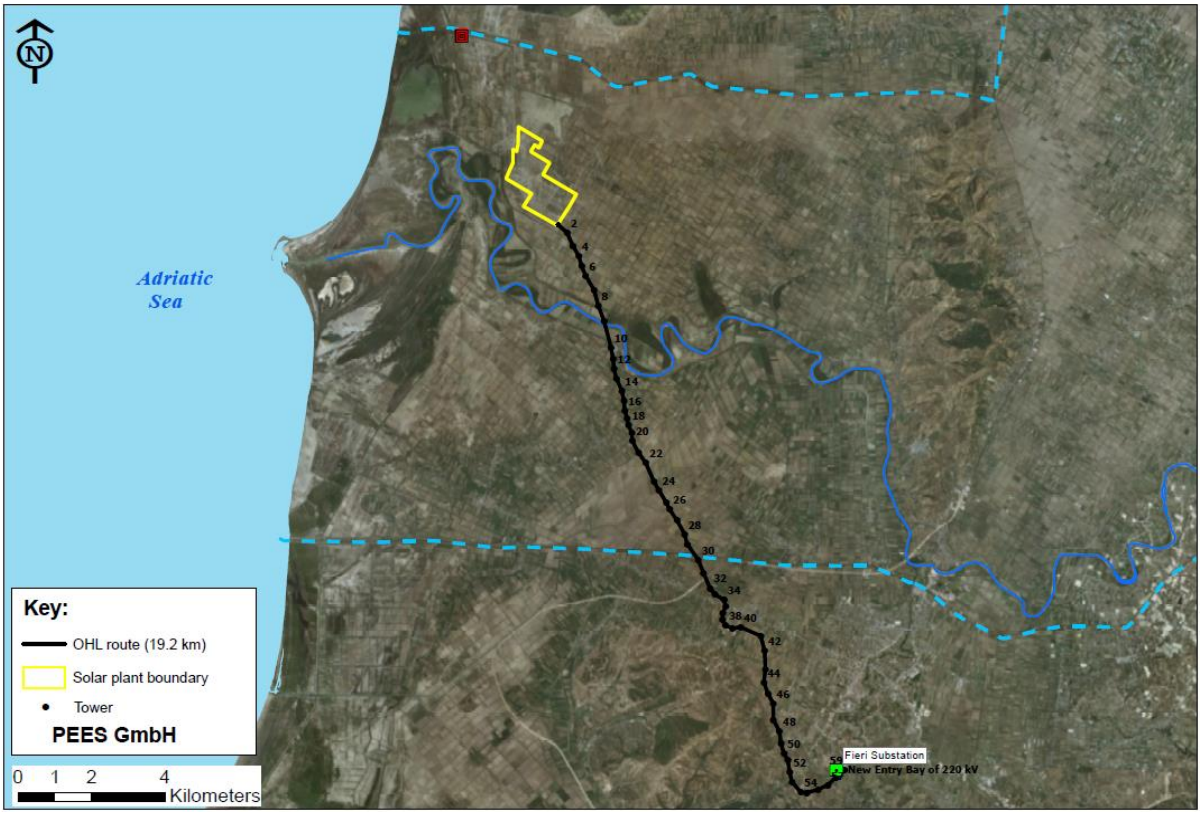
The Karavasta Solar Project requires a 220-kV Overhead Line (OHL) to enable transmission and connection to the national grid. The OHL will be approximately 19.2 km long, with 57 towers (see Figure 2.3). The footprint of each tower would be 10m x 10m, and the land required for these would be permanently acquired. Access roads to towers will be temporary during construction and will result in an estimate of 5m x 5m temporary land take per parcel.

The OHL will traverse 725 land parcels, and will consist of a Right of Way, and a wayleave of 25 m either side of the centreline. Temporary land access will be required to the Right of Way during construction of the OHL. No easement restrictions are currently foreseen in relation to the OHL Right of Way land uses.

The towers to support the OHL will be made of galvanized steel, lattice type, provided with six cross-arms (three on each side, in a vertical plan), suitable for mounting of two three-phase power lines. The trunk consists of a steel tower divided into several shafts, according to the overall height of the structure.

During the construction phase, access roads will be required to construct the pylons, as well as temporary access for installation of the OHL itself. Once built, the ownership of the OHL infrastructure will be transferred from Voltalia Albanie Sh.p.k to Operatori i Sistemit të Transmetimit (OST).

FIGURE 2.3: ROUTE OF OVERHEAD LINE



2.3 Project Phases and Activities

The Project can be divided into four key phases as follows:

- Mobilisation / Pre-construction: including site preparation, and mobilisation of equipment and materials to site;
- Construction and Installation: including civil works, electrical works, and equipment installation;
- Operation & Maintenance: Plant operation and routine maintenance; and
- Decommissioning or Extension: Dismantling of equipment and associated facilities and site restoration, or lifespan extension through renewal of components.

2.3.1 Mobilization / Pre-Construction

The mobilization phase includes the transportation of the project components, equipment and materials to the site, as well as site preparation which involves clearing, grading and levelling of the site and establishment of on-site facilities including a temporary construction compound.

During the site preparation period, the workforce required for site security, manual labour, civil works, transportation of goods and other similar services will most likely be drawn from the local labour pool.

2.3.2 Construction & Installation

The construction phase for the Plant Site will include many activities and phases, such as:

- Construction/improvement of internal and external access roads;
- Levelling off the ground;
- Fencing around the site;
- Installation of PV Power Units;
- Pile driving for mounting structure;
- Construction of electrical substation and foundations;
- Excavation, trenching and cable laying;
- Installation of septic tank;
- Construction of buildings;
- Erection of overhead HV power lines;
- Testing and commissioning; and
- Site clean-up.

A section of the site will be used as a laydown area where shelters, equipment, sanitary facilities (portable) and containers will be located.

To provide access to the site from the nearby public road a short access route will need to be prepared to levels that will be acceptable for the transport of equipment, material and people to and from the site (including diggers/loaders/bulldozers, cranes and transport trucks). The need for cut and fill areas and/or borrow pits at the PV sites, along roads and at substation/ transformer sites, will only be known after the final design has been completed.

The construction of the OHL will be undertaken in the following sequential steps:

- Preparatory work:
    - Micro-siting and finalization of the locations of towers and route of OHL
    - Mobilisation of engineering machinery to the OHL route
    - Construction of platforms for pylons and delivery of materials along the OHL route
- Construction work:
    - Marking out of foundation, earth works and excavations
    - Installation of foundations and grounding devices
    - Assembly, installation, alignment and fixing of pylons
- Installation work:
    - Rolling out and connecting wires and cables, lifting them onto pylons, stretching and fixing on pylons
    - Installation of vibration dampers, remote spacers and mounting loops.

It is envisaged that during the construction phase up to around 200 people will be employed for the construction of the Plant Site and associated OHL. This would include around 20 experienced engineers, 10 experts and 150-180 local skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers. The number of workers on site will build up over time until peak construction activity is reached and then will start to tail-off as construction nears completion and the Project enters the commissioning phase. No onsite workers' accommodation is planned as part of the project. The project will aim to employ unskilled and skilled labour from the surrounding communities for construction where possible, and non-local workers will be housed within the existing near-by accommodations. A Local Employment and Procurement Plan is being developed.

2.3.3 Operation & Maintenance

Due to the passive nature of solar PV plants, no emissions are expected during operation with a very limited quantities of waste being generated. No significant noise generating equipment or machinery will be operated and the need for storage of hazardous materials on site is limited.

Day to day facility operations will involve both regular on-site preventive and corrective maintenance tasks in order to keep the PV Plant in optimal working order, ensuring an extended system lifespan and compliance with manufacturer warranty requirements (e.g., cleaning of PV modules). Corrective maintenance will be undertaken as required in response to failures, such as repair or replacement of damaged or faulty equipment.

Once completed and commissioned, the OHL will be handed over to the State Transmission System Operator (Operatori i Sistemit të Transmetimit, OST) to manage operation and maintenance. Considering that the OHL line will be in full control from OST, Voltalia will not be able to compensate the impacts caused from OST's maintenance works. However, should affected people need to raise grievances for damages to crop or lands following OST's maintenance activities of the OHL, Voltalia will encourage affected people to raise grievances directly to OST. In the case where affected people would not be able to raise grievances to OST, Voltalia's grievance mechanism will be open to those grievances and Voltalia will support affected people in raising the grievance with OST.

Approximately 20 jobs will be created through the operation phase, including skilled and semi-skilled labour (such as electrical and mechanical technicians) and unskilled labour (such as module cleaners and security personnel). Approximately 10 jobs will be related to Health, Safety, and Environmental Services (HSES) at the beginning of the operations phase, which will be reduced over time. Approximately 10 jobs (full-time and part-time) will be dedicated to ongoing operations and maintenance.

2.3.4 Decommissioning or Extension

The Project is expected to have an economic lifespan of 30 years, and the power plant infrastructure would either be decommissioned or extended and upgraded (if a new license is granted) once it has reached the end of its economic life.

Extending and upgrading the Project would consist of replacing old PV modules for new ones, increasing the total peak power of the plant (a process called "repowering") or increasing the power of the plant by adding new elements such as trackers, PV modules or transformers.

If the Project is to be decommissioned, then the site will be returned to close to its original state. Decommissioning would be expected to take between 6 and 12 months, and a Decommissioning Plan would be prepared in advance to manage any temporary impacts arising from decommissioning works.

2.4 Project Schedule

The construction of the Project is planned to commence in Q3 2022 and be in full operations in Q2 2023. The expected duration of the construction period consists of 3 months site preparation, and 10 months construction. The final construction schedule will be specified during the detailed design phase.

Table 2.1 shows the key dates.

TABLE 2.1: PROJECT SCHEDULE KEY DATES

Project Stage	Estimated Duration	Estimated Date Range
PV Plant Site		
Permits and Approvals	3 months	Oct 20 - May 22
Early Works	2 months	July 22 – Aug 22
Construction Phase	11 months	Jul 22 – Aug 23
Testing & Commissioning	3 months	Aug 23 – Oct 23
OHL		
Permits and Approvals	3 months	Aug 22 – Oct 22
Construction Phase	10 months	Sep 22 – Aug 23
Testing & Commissioning	2 months	Aug 23 – Oct 23

2.5 Actions to Avoid or Minimize Displacement

The proposed location for the PV Plant Site was defined by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of Albania. This has the advantage that the land is in State control and has no impact on individual landowners. Also, due to the poor quality of the land for agriculture, there is no crop farming.

There is informal grazing and seasonal herding activities occurring in the area of the Plant Site, but no farming activities. In order to minimize disturbance, continued access will be assured for informal grazing to areas in the vicinity of the Plant Site. The impacts on grazing activities within the PV plant area are minimal. In addition, following construction, access to the plant site for grazing of sheep will also be facilitated. This is aligned with standard practice, as grazing of sheep is normally used in PV Plant Sites to prevent grass and other plants from obstructing solar panels. The Project will engage with herders in advance to ensure grazing activities are carried out in a safe way. As such, no compensation for grazing activities will be provided.

Due to the poor condition of the road to the east of the Plant Site boundary, the Plant Site area and surroundings is crossed by informal tracks, used to access the coast and lagoon area for small-scale and recreational fishing activities, and some touristic recreational activities. As part of the Plant Site development the existing road will be rehabilitated, offering improved access to the coast and lagoon, and avoiding impacts on other areas of grazing land. During construction, continued access for residents or visitors who may have previously crossed the Plant Site area to reach the coastline/lagoon will be assured.

In determining the route of the OHL, the key principle followed was to avoid as much as possible the following areas:

- Populated areas and housing;
- Forested areas;
- Parks and natural reserves;
- Special landscapes or locations with an architectural and historical value;
- Geologically unstable areas; and

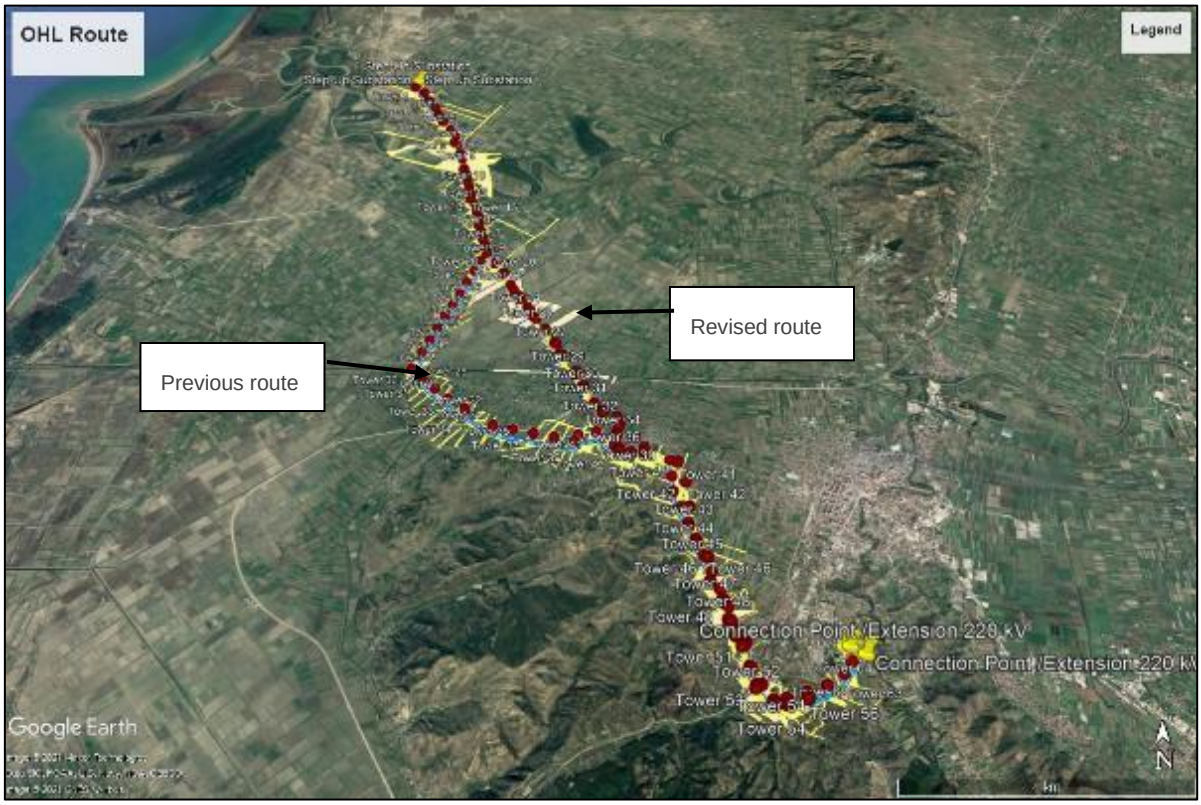
- Farming lands, especially those with vineyards and orchards.

The proposed route has been selected specifically to avoid the need for any physical displacement. The route also avoids to the extent possible land parcels planted with perennial trees, including orchards and vineyards, which may take longer to recover following any construction disturbance.

The route has been refined several times in order to reduce the potential impact to land parcels and affected communities.

The first rerouting resulted in a refinement to reduce further the number of agricultural land parcels impacted by the project, as shown at Figure 2.4 below.

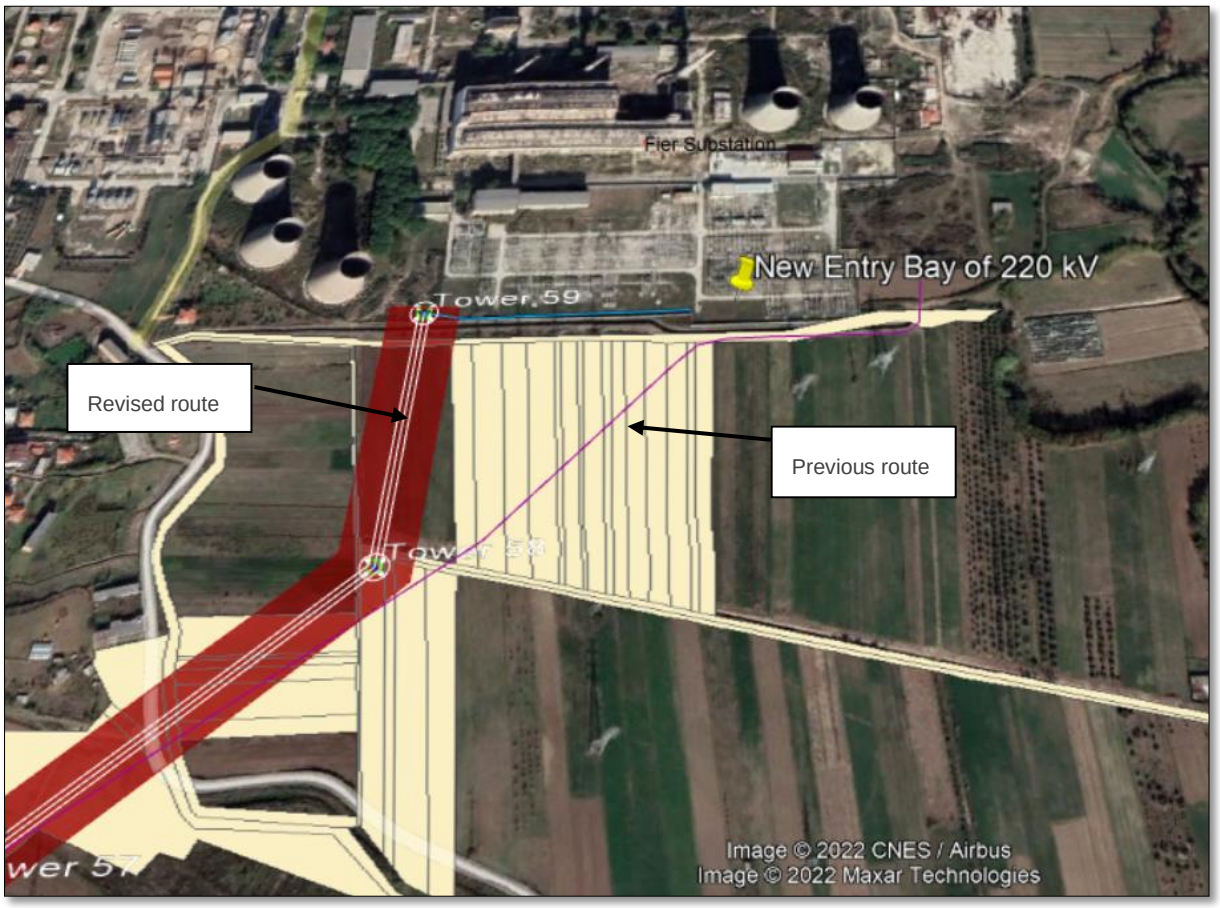
FIGURE 2.4: REVISED ROUTE OF THE OHL TO AVOID NUMBER OF PARCELS IMPACTED



Further refinements are focusing on the location of individual pylons – where feasible these are being located at the boundary/edge of farm parcels. This will reduce the impacts of permanent land take for the pylons on the utilization of the remaining farm parcel, including the efficient use of farm machinery on the parcels. Locating pylons at the boundaries also reduces the risk of creating 'orphaned land' (remaining land which is rendered uneconomical as a result of project infrastructure) as much as possible.

Other adjustments were made to the updated route to minimize impacts to parcels with perennial crops in the last part of the route (especially olive trees and vineyards), as well as impacts to economic activities which could be disturbed during the construction period (e.g., businesses close to the Wayleave – 25m either side of the Overhead Line). These adjustments consisted of relocating towers, adjusting wayleaves (a narrower wayleave can be agreed with OST following a technical assessment), and the design of an overhead line instead of underground cabling in the area close to Fier substation, which is predominately planted with perennials. The overhead line will be less soil-invasive, resulting in less perennial crops affected.

FIGURE 2.5: REVISED ROUTE OF THE OHL AT SUBSTATION - AVOIDING NUMBER OF PARCELS IMPACTED AND MOVING TO OHL AS OPPOSED TO UNDERGROUND CABLING



Finally, construction methodologies employed will minimize the impact on annual and perennial crops as much as possible. OHL construction activities, including 'stringing' of the overhead cables, will involve access and crop disturbance on any one parcel being of minimal duration (approximately half a day), while impacts on perennial crops and trees will be avoided as much as possible.

2.6 Summary of Project Land Take & Impacts

The Project will incorporate further efforts to avoid and minimize displacement in the detailed design and construction phase. However, key land take impacts can be accurately estimated at this stage, which will be taken into account in the development of this LRP to address all impacts.

The key estimated land impacts are summarized at Table 2.2.

TABLE 2.2 : ESTIMATED PROJECT LAND TAKE & IMPACTS

Project Phase	Component	Estimated Land Take	Estimated Land Parcels	Duration	Potential Impacts
Construction	Plant Site	185 Ha	21 land parcels	Permanent	Impacts on informal grazing and other activities; access restrictions
	Plant Site Construction camps and laydown areas	4 Ha	2 land parcels	Temporary	Impacts on informal grazing; access restrictions
	Plant Site Access Roads	To be determined	25 land parcels	Temporary	Impacts on informal grazing and other activities; access restrictions; loss of crops
	OHL Pylons	57 pylons with on average 10m x 10m land take	57 land parcels	Permanent	Loss of land; loss of crops and agricultural income
	OHL Pylons access roads	57 land parcels access roads (estimation of 5m x 5m temporary land take)	57 land parcels	Temporary	Temporary loss of land, Loss of crops and agricultural income; land disturbance
	OHL Access Roads and Construction Corridor	Approx. 17 Ha	725 land parcels*	Temporary	Loss of crops and agricultural income; land disturbance
Operations	OHL Right-of Way	25m Wayleave each side of OHL	725 land parcels*	Permanent (partial restrictions)	Easement restrictions relating to permitted uses on any urban land in Right of Way and Wayleave**

*634 land parcels surveyed in Dec 21, and 32 new land parcels identified for the reroute of the OHL, and 50 new land parcels affected by access roads to the OHL

The project shall not impose easement restrictions on agricultural or forest lands. However, landowners who have construction (formally designated urban) land within the 25 m corridor of each side of OHL in practice may not be able to construct in these lands anymore, even though no legal restriction will be imposed on these lands. In these cases the Project Urban Easement Rates will be paid.

3 INSTITUTIONAL & LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This section outlines the Project's Institutional and Legal Framework. This includes a description of relevant institutions and the outline of the regulations and policies that will govern Project planning and implementation.

Best practice requires that all laws of the host country that are applicable to land acquisition are identified. Additionally, where national legislation falls short of meeting the conditions prescribed by International Standards applicable to the Project, namely EBRD Environmental Social Policy and Performance Requirements, as well as the IFC Performance Standards and Sustainable Policy, the project proponent will ensure the project meets the Performance Requirements. The proponent will identify gaps between national law and EBRD/IFC policy and propose a strategy to address those gaps, without infringing on issues of national sovereignty.

Accordingly, this section of the LRP outlines the following:

- Albanian Institutional Framework
- Albanian Legal Framework
- International Standards & Guidance
- Voltalia Corporate Policies
- Comparative Analysis of National Law and EBRD/IFC Requirements.

3.1 Albania Institutional Framework

Since the Administrative Territorial Reform of 2015, Albania is divided into twelve administrative counties (or Qarqe), which are further subdivided into 12 districts (or Rrethe), which are further divided into 61 municipalities (or Bashki), Administrative Units, and villages (or Fshatra). There are overall 2980 villages or communities in the entire country, formerly known as localities (lokalitete). The municipalities are the first level of local governance, responsible for local needs and law enforcement.

The Project footprint covers an area located in the Fier district within one municipality – Fier. 5 Administrative Units are affected - Libofshe, Qendër, Levan, Topoje, Ndërmenas - and 12 villages. The PV Plant Project will be developed in Libofshe and Remas Administrative Units.

3.2 Albania Legal Framework

3.2.1 Constitution (Kushtetuta e Republikes se Shqiperise)

The Constitution of the Republic of Albania is the highest law, and contains personal, political, economic, social and cultural rights and freedoms, organization of the state and independence of the state bodies. The Albanian Constitution is generally in line with Human Rights protection principles as contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 41 guarantees private property, and provides for the expropriation of properties only in the benefit of public interest and provided there is fair compensation.

3.2.2 Relevant Laws / Acts

Table 3.1 below identifies the key legislation relevant to land acquisition and displacement applicable to the LRP for the PV Plant Site.

TABLE 3.1: KEY LEGISLATION RELEVANT TO LAND ACQUISITION

Albanian Name	English Name	Key Components
Kodi Civil i Republikës së Shqipërisë	Civil Code of the Republic of Albania	Legal rights related to immovable properties (such as ownership, easement-servitudes and usufruct rights, lease, etc.), including the modalities of acquisition of rights. Rights in property, whatever their nature (ownership, usufruct) are to be registered in the Public Registry
	Land Law No. 7501, dated 19.07.1991 "On the Land"	Agricultural land is given in ownership or for use to local legal or natural persons without remuneration. All lands were state lands in the communist regime and were re-distributed in 1991 through this law. The law regulates the re-distribution of former state lands to private individuals. In the AMPT the parcel was assigned to the head of the agricultural family, but every family member alive in 1991 has equal share to the land. The land was re-distributed on a per-capita basis: the area of land a household would acquire depended on the number of household members. Usually, a household would acquire 4000 m^2 of land per person, but this depended on the population density in each district or village. A government land commission within the Ministry of Agriculture, as well as land commissions in the executive committees, and people's council of districts and of villages, are set up for the distribution of land as ownership. Article 19 contains certain rules regarding to expropriation.
Për Kadastrin	Law No. 111/2018 on the Cadaster	The new State Agency of Cadastre will take over the responsibilities of three current state authorities: 1) Immovable Properties Registration Office, 2) Agency of Legalization, Urbanization and Integration of Informal Constructions and 3) Agency of Inventory and Administration of Public Properties. The new law provides a new digital Cadastre which facilitates the procedure of obtaining updated information related to immovable properties in due time.
Për kthimin dhe kompensimin e pronës dhe ndryshimet	Law No. 9235/2004 on the restitution and compensation of property & amendments	Regulates issues of property rights arisen from expropriation, nationalization, or confiscation; and the procedures for accomplishing restitution and compensation of property and the administrative bodies charged with its completion
Ligji nr. 8561, datë 22.12.1999, "Për shpronësimet dhe marrjen në përdorim të përkohshëm të pasurisë, pronë	Law No. 8561, dated 22.12.1999, "On expropriation and temporary use of private property for public interest", amended to some	Regulates the right of the state to expropriate or take in temporary use, for public interest the properties of legal entities or individuals and the protection of the rights and interests of the expropriated owners

Albanian Name	English Name	Key Components
private, për interes publik", i ndryshuar (ligji nr. 20/2016, ligji nr. 11/2020)	articles in accordance with Law No. 20/2016 and Law No. 11/2020	• Expropriation is subject to public interest "in accordance with general principles of international law" • Expropriation is subject to "fair compensation" • Temporary occupation of land (e.g., for construction works) may be for up to 2 years, and subject to compensation. Law No. 11/2020 amends article 11, point 1 of Law No. 8561 with the following changes: "*The request for expropriation is submitted to the State Agency for Expropriation (SAE), while the proposal to the Council of Ministers for the approval of the request for expropriation is made by the minister responsible for urban development."* SAE established by DCM No. 395, dated 13.05.2020
Për planifikimin dhe zhvillimin e territorit	Law No. 107/2014 on territory planning and development, amended to some articles in accordance with • Law No. 73/2015 • Law No. 28/2017 • Law No. 42/2019 • Law No. 119/2020	Ensures sustainable development of the territory through the rational use of land and natural resources, assessing the actual and future potential of the territory development on a local and national level by balancing natural resources with economic demand and public and private interests. It also aims to integrate the urban planning legislative framework into a single law and includes the concept of protection of natural and cultural heritage for territory planning. The law and its by-laws require declaration prior to any construction.
Për Mbrojtjen e Tokës Bujqësore që modifikon Ligjin Nr. 9244/2014	Law No. 131/2014 On Agricultural Land Protection" that modifies Law No 9244/2014.	Determines the protection status of given agricultural fields. The project is obliged to inform the local authority of any damage to agricultural land from the operations. The authority will assess the damages and will require the land user to restore any damage in agricultural land.
Për krijimin dhe funksionimin e strukturave për administrimin dhe mbrojtjen e tokës dhe ndryshimet.	Law No. 8752/2001 On the establishment and functioning of the structures for the administration and protection of land & amendments.	Regulates land uses issues, and their compatibility with Regional Planning. The land administration department of each municipality is responsible for land management and leasing of state-owned land. This authority will be responsible for the coordination of the implementation procedures and execution of the compensation during the project implementation.

Albanian Name	English Name	Key Components
Mbi shqyrtimin e vlefshmërisë ligjore të titujve të pronësisë për tokat bujqësore dhe ndryshimet	Law No. 9948/2008 On examination of the legal validity of ownership titles for agricultural lands & amendments	Lays down the rules and procedures for examining the validity of agricultural land ownership titles and defines the responsible State authorities as well as their tasks and responsibilities. This Law provides local government structures with more time to finalize the documentation.
Ligjit Nr. 20/2020 datë 5.3.2020 "Për përfundimin e proceseve kalimtare të pronësisë në Republikën e Shqipërisë".	Law No. 20/2020 dated 5.3.2020 "On the completion of the transitional ownership processes in the Republic of Albania".	Defines the procedures and the state body responsible for the completion of the administrative-legal processes, registration of property titles for real estate and private ownership in the Republic of Albania, as well as inventory, transfer, treatment, and final registration.

Source: Ecolex, and FAOLex, 2021

3.2.3 Expropriation Process

Albanian law provides for expropriation or limitations in the exercise of a property right in the public interest, provided fair compensation is provided (as stated in article 41 of the Constitution). Expropriation for public interest in favour of a private entity occurs where investments are in the public interest, such as the energy sector.

The key steps in the expropriation process are shown below (

Table 3.2). It should be noted that the expropriation process does not preclude voluntary agreements with the owners of the land subject to the expropriation notice in advance or at any time during the process. The approach proposed in this project has been to secure voluntary agreements as a priority wherever possible.

TABLE 3.2: EXPROPRIATION PROCESS KEY STEPS

Expropriation Process		Voluntary Agreement Process
Step	**Details**	
Step 1: Request for Expropriation submitted by the Department of Expropriation of OST to the State Agency Expropriation (SEA) under the supervision of the MIE (Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy)	The request/application should provide the details of the Project: • Public interest requiring expropriation • Technical design • Verified copies of the cadastral office • Proof of expropriation funds (provided by Voltalia SA) • Permits and authorizations issued by the public authorities • Identification of the land owners that are subject to expropriation *(In the case of the Project, the request / application for expropriation will be filed & handled by OST, and supported by Voltalia)*	Voluntary agreement with landowner where possible
Step 2: SEA receives the file from the Dept of Expropriation of OST (the "*Applicant*")	SEA reviews the Request for Expropriation (10 days) *(In the case of the Project, this is submitted by the Department of Expropriation of OST)*	
Step 3: The SAE establishes a Special Commission of Expropriation	The Special Expropriation Commission is composed of legal/engineers/financial team and verifies the footprint of the Project, undertakes an analysis of the Request and determines the compensation value of each owner.	
Step 4: If meets the criteria, the SEA approves the Expropriation Plan and notifies OST and landowners. At the same time, SEA publishes the decision of expropriation in the Official Gazette and on the website	Within 10 days as from the notification to OST/landowners, and publication in the Official Gazette, two options are given to the landowner: • **Option 1: Voluntary agreement.** The landowner and SEA have 10 days to sign an agreement on the expropriation terms and in any case not later than 30 days (value, rights and obligations) • **Option 2 No voluntary agreement** (the landowner and SEA do not have an agreement on the expropriation terms). Interested third parties can present a claim within 15 days from the publishing in the Official Gazette (such legal action does not suspend the expropriation process[1])	

[1] The owners of properties subject of expropriation and third interested parties can challenge the expropriation process in the court within 30 days but such legal action does not suspend the expropriation process.

Expropriation Process		Voluntary Agreement Process
Step	**Details**	
Step 5: SEA submits the draft of the Expropriation Decision for approval to the MIE, which in turn forwards the draft to the Council of Ministers (CoM)	Not later than 30 days from the notification of the Expropriation Plan to OST/landowners and publication of the decision in the Official Gazette.	
Step 6: Following approval, Council of Ministers transfers and registers ownership with the State Cadastre Agency	The compensation agreements signed with the landowner should be put in place after the publication of the decision by the CoM. The compensation payment will be secured on an escrow accountuntil the effective transfer of properties (following the agreement between OST and the landowner)	

Source: SRA, 2021

The proposed Project approach to land access and acquisition, including calculation of compensation, eligibility and entitlements for affected households, and mechanisms to secure voluntary agreements where possible, while consistent with both national legislation and international standards and best practice, is detailed in following sections of this LRP.

Regarding the temporary use of private land, according to Albanian law, temporary use of private lands can be granted only in cases where there is a public interest and is effectuated through an expropriation process. The taking into temporary use of private lands is rendered in the same Council of Ministers Decision which approves the expropriation of the property. Article 31, paragraph 2 of the law on expropriation states that this mechanism is used for the needs of the central state institutions or projects that are implemented on account of the state in a national scale.

Key aspects of the process: an application is filed by OST to the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy requesting to the minister to allow the taking into temporary use of private land. The Ministry of infrastructure and energy sends expropriation proposal for approval to the Council of Ministers the along the proposal for taking into temporary use of private land. The private property can only be granted for temporary use for a maximum of two years.

In addition, Article 31, paragraph 1 states that the taking of land into temporary use can also be submitted to the Mayor or Administrator of the Administrative Unit who provides his opinion and sends it for approval to the Prefect. The easement right can only be established for a maximum period of 2 years.

3.2.4 Valuation Process

As noted above, the value of land affected by a project is established by approval of the Council of Ministers (CoM) of the valuations provided by the MIE. In cases where no price is determined, the value is estimated based on the average value of sale prices within the last 3 months, as indicated in the State Cadastre Agency Register. If the Agency of the region affected by the expropriation lacks any data on land value, the evaluation is made based on a comparison with sale and purchase values in other areas, according to the characteristics of the area (e.g., touristic, urban, suburban, rural), and the engineering ability of the land to support constructions.

The value of crops, plants, orchards, forests, and permanent nurseries is defined based on the average value of their sale price in the relevant area as indicated in the Register. Where the State Cadastre Agency cannot provide reference values, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development may be requested to undertake a specific technical valuation and to calculate the value of the assets subject to the expropriation. For annual crops the evaluation is made based on the expected production and the market value. With regard to orchard trees, the evaluation is based on costs (investment and growth expenses including amortization) based on guidelines of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. evaluation is made per each tree for orchard trees (e.g., olives, oranges etc.), and per measured surface in case of wines, nurseries and strawberries.

The criteria for forest and pasture lands are based on the quality of the lands and their sustaining capacity, environmental and ecologic values, geographical location (mountainous, seaside area etc.), value of wooden and non-wooden material, medicinal plants, wild fauna etc., and level of investment and infrastructure.

3.2.5 Grievance Mechanisms (GMs)

According to Albanian law, parties affected by expropriation can bring actions before courts against the expropriation process. However, this may only be regarding ownership disputes or compensation values, and not the process of expropriation itself. Neither does such legal action suspend the expropriation process. The Grievance Mechanism (GM) for this Project will handle all types of grievances and claims, in alignment with International Standards (see Section 3.5).

3.3 International Standards and Guidance

The project is guided by, and committed to, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards (PS) on Environmental and Social Sustainability and the Sustainable Policy, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Environmental and Social Policy and related Performance Requirements (PRs).

3.3.1 IFC Performance Standards

The IFC's Policy and Performance Standards on Social and Environmental Sustainability have become the international benchmark for good practice. Central to the standards is the IFC's principle of "do not harm" to people or the environment. Negative impacts should be avoided where possible, and if these impacts are unavoidable, they should be reduced, mitigated or compensated for appropriately. In particular, the IFC is committed to ensuring that the costs of economic development do not fall disproportionately on those who are poor or vulnerable, that the environment is not degraded in the process, and the natural resources are managed efficiently and sustainably.

The IFC also recognizes that the roles and responsibilities of the private sector in respecting human rights are emerging as an important aspect of corporate social responsibilities.

The full series of Performance Standards, designed to improve social and environmental outcomes, consist of the following:

- Performance Standard 1: Social and Environmental Assessment and Management System;
- Performance Standard 2: Labour and Working Conditions;
- Performance Standard 3: Pollution Prevention and Abatement;
- Performance Standard 4: Community Health, Safety and Security;

- Performance Standard 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement;
- Performance Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management;
- Performance Standard 7: Indigenous Peoples; and
- Performance Standard 8: Cultural Heritage.

Private sector related displacement is particularly defined by the IFC's Performance Standard 1: Social and Environmental Assessment and Management System, and Performance Standard 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement. These are briefly described below.

3.3.1.1 Performance Standard 1: Social and Environmental Assessment and Management System

Performance Standard 1 structures the way in which environmental and social issues are to be handled and serves as the core around which the other Standards are framed. Performance Standard 1 requires that affected communities be appropriately engaged on issues that could potentially affect them. Key pre-requisites include:

- Ensuring free, prior and informed consultation, and facilitating informed participation;
- Obtaining broad community support;
- Focusing on risks and adverse impacts, and proposed measures and actions to address these;
- Undertaking consultation in an inclusive and culturally appropriate manner; and
- Tailoring the process to address the needs of disadvantaged or vulnerable groups.

3.3.1.2 Performance Standard 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement

The Objectives of Performance Standard 5 are:

- To avoid or at least minimize involuntary resettlement wherever feasible by exploring alternative project designs;
- To mitigate adverse social and economic impacts from land acquisition or restrictions on affected persons' use of land by: (i) providing compensation for loss of assets at replacement cost; and (ii) ensuring that resettlement activities are implemented with appropriate disclosure of information, consultation, and the informed participation of those affected;
- To improve or at least restore the livelihoods and standards of living of displaced persons; and
- To improve living conditions among displaced persons through provision of adequate housing with security of tenure at resettlement sites.

In particular, PS 5 notes that there should be consultation and informed participation of affected persons and communities in decision-making processes related to resettlement. A grievance mechanism should also be established to receive and address specific concerns about compensation and relocation.

3.3.2 EBRD Performance Requirements

EBRD has defined specific Performance Requirements (PRs) for key areas of environmental and social sustainability as follows:

- PR 1 – Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Impacts and Issues;
- PR 2 – Labour and Working Conditions;
- PR 3 – Resource Efficiency, Pollution Prevention and Control;
- PR 4 – Health and Safety;
- PR 5 – Land Acquisition, Involuntary Resettlement and Economic Displacement;
- PR 6 – Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources;
- PR 7 – Indigenous Peoples;
- PR 8 – Cultural Heritage;
- PR 9 – Financial Intermediaries; and
- PR 10 – Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement.

Of particular importance to development of this LRP are the following PRs:

- PR 1 – Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Impacts and Issues;
- PR 5 – Land Acquisition, Involuntary Resettlement and Economic Displacement; and
- PR 10 – Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement.

These are briefly described below.

3.3.2.1 PR 1 – Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Impacts and Issues

PR 1 outlines the responsibilities of the project proponent in the process of assessing the potential environmental and social impacts and issues associated with the Project, and developing and implementing procedures for managing and monitoring these impacts and issues, noting that engagement with project stakeholders is an integral part of this process.

The key objectives include:

- Identifying and evaluating environmental and social impacts and issues of the project;
- Adopting a mitigation hierarchy approach to address adverse environmental or social impacts and issues to workers, affected communities, and the environment from project activities;
- Promoting improved environmental and social performance through the effective use of management systems; and
- Developing an Environmental and Social Management System tailored to the nature of the project, for assessing and managing environmental and social issues and impacts.

3.3.2.2 PR 5 – Land Acquisition, Involuntary Resettlement and Economic Displacement

The key objectives of PR 5 are to:

- Avoid or, when unavoidable, minimize involuntary resettlement by exploring alternative project designs;
- Mitigate adverse social and economic impacts from land acquisition or restrictions on affected persons' use of and access to assets and land by: (i) providing compensation for loss of assets at replacement cost; and (ii) ensuring that resettlement activities are

implemented with appropriate disclosure of information, consultation, and the informed participation of those affected;

- Restore or, where possible, improve the livelihoods and standards of living of displaced persons to pre-displacement levels; and
- Improve living conditions among physically displaced persons through the provision of adequate housing, including security of tenure at resettlement sites.

PR 5 notes that compensation for loss of assets is usually calculated as the market value of the assets plus the transaction costs related to restoring such assets. Project proponents should identify and consult with all persons and communities that shall be displaced by land acquisition, to obtain adequate information about land titles, claims and use. Project proponents should seek valuation by external independent professional valuation experts or other professionals with relevant expertise acceptable to EBRD.

Section 11 states that the Project should consider feasible alternative project designs to avoid or at least minimize displacement, while balancing environmental, social, and economic costs and benefits.

Section 13 highlights that the project must take into account any individuals or groups that may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, take necessary actions to ensure that vulnerable groups are not disadvantaged in the displacement process, are fully informed and aware of their rights, and able to benefit equally from project opportunities and benefits.

As per Section 17 of PR 5, the project proponent will offer all displaced persons and communities compensation for loss of assets at full replacement cost and other assistance. As per Section 37 assistance may include transitional support to economically displaced persons, as necessary, based on a reasonable estimate of the time required to restore their income-earning capacity, production levels and standards of living. This is intended to restore, and potentially improve, their standards of living and/or livelihoods of displaced persons to pre-displacement levels. In this regard displaced persons may be classified as persons: (i) who have formal legal rights to the land; (ii) who do not have formal legal rights to land at the time of the census, but who have a claim to land that is recognized or recognizable under national laws; or (iii) who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land they occupy.

3.3.2.3 PR 10 – Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement

The objectives of PR 10 are to:

- Outline a systematic approach to stakeholder engagement that will help clients build and maintain a constructive relationship with their stakeholders, in particular the directly affected communities;
- Promote improved environmental and social performance of clients through effective engagement with the project's stakeholders;
- Promote and provide means for adequate engagement with affected communities throughout the project cycle on issues that could potentially affect them and to ensure that meaningful environmental and social information is disclosed to the project's stakeholders; and
- Ensure that grievances from affected communities and other stakeholders are responded to and managed appropriately.

For projects, stakeholder engagement should include stakeholder identification and analysis, stakeholder engagement planning, disclosure of information, consultation and participation, a functioning grievance mechanism, and ongoing reporting to relevant stakeholders.

3.4 Corporate Policies and Standards

Voltalia's Sustainability Policy emphasizes the Company's commitment to build long-term relationships with the communities in which the Group operates. To understand its stakeholders' expectations and offer them the most suitable options, Voltalia develops tailored engagement tools to involve them at each stage of the projects, from the development phase through to construction and operation of the power plant.

Through its Ethics Guide, Voltalia undertakes to respect internationally recognized human rights in the International Charter for Human Rights and the fundamental conventions of the International Labor Organization. Voltalia's Code of Conduct emphasizes the need to fight against discrimination and harassment.

3.5 Comparative Analysis of National Law and International Standards

Table 3.3 below compares national laws and regulations with IFC and EBRD policy, identifies any gaps, and proposes strategies to address such gaps. The identified strategies are articulated further in the following sections of this LRP and are the subject of disclosure and agreement with all relevant stakeholders.

TABLE 3.3: GAP ANALYSIS OF NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Component	Albanian Legislative Requirements	International Standards (EBRD/IFC)	Gap	Strategy
Avoidance & Minimization	National legislation does not detail requirements to avoid and minimize displacement where possible	Requires the project proponent to demonstrate efforts to avoid, or at least minimize displacement arising from the Project	International standards require efforts to avoid or minimize displacement to be undertaken and documented	The proposed location for the PV Plant Site was defined by the Ministry of Infrastructure of Albania. This has the advantage that the land is in State control, and does not impact individual landowners (See Section 2.5)
Stakeholder Engagement	Expropriation law refers to the need to notify expropriated persons, as well as publishing notices in local and national newspapers	All affected stakeholders should be identified, and consultations should continue throughout the project lifetime, ensuring affected households understand the project and compensation processes	International standards require extensive engagement and information disclosure throughout the project process	Project has developed a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) to document and guide stakeholder engagement. A Guide to Land Acquisition and Compensation (GLAC) will be prepared to explain the project approach to land access and acquisition, including provision for negotiation with affected households

Component	Albanian Legislative Requirements	International Standards (EBRD/IFC)	Gap	Strategy
				(See Section 5)
Baseline Surveys	National law requires the assessment for valuation purposes of all affected assets, including through asset surveys	A census and socio-economic survey of all affected households is required – critical for development of appropriate mitigation measures and identification of vulnerable households	In addition to survey of affected assets, a census and socio-economic survey is required	Project will undertake a census and socio-economic survey of all affected households, in tandem with a land, farm, and crops survey. In addition, a baseline agronomic assessment of affected farm parcels will be undertaken to establish a productivity baseline, and inform land restoration techniques and future monitoring and evaluation. (See Section 4.3.6, and 4.3.7) A Route Impact Social Register will be developed to ensure any impacts beyond the project footprint (e.g., loss of access) are also identified and mitigated (See Section 4)
Entitlement Cut-Off Date	The date of the decision of the Council of Ministers (CoM) on the expropriation process is regarded as the Cut-Off Date	In the absence of national procedures, completion of assets inventory and surveys taken as the cut-off date. Cut-off date should be well understood and disseminated throughout project area	No substantive gap – however, date of CoM is late in the process, especially if voluntary agreements are being pursued	Project will inform regarding the cut-off date through the baseline survey engagements and the GLAC, and through individual consultation and negotiation with affected households. Crops will still be reassessed at Land Entry stage. (See Section 4.4)
Asset Valuation	Valuation is based on the assessment of the Special Expropriation	Compensation for loss of assets to be provided at full replacement	National legislation considers depreciation in valuation of	Compensation will be calculated on the basis of full replacement cost, and the full compensation due will be paid by the Project

Component	Albanian Legislative Requirements	International Standards (EBRD/IFC)	Gap	Strategy
	Commission, and approved by the Council of Ministers. Valuation allows for depreciation to be taken into account	costs, including transaction costs, and without depreciation	assets, and does not consider transaction costs	under Compensation Agreements with owners and users. This payment will be made regardless of additional payments that owners may receive in accordance with the expropriation process (See Section 7)
Eligibility & Entitlements	National legislation is concerned with titled landowners only, or those with a claim to lands	Considers those who have formal legal rights, those who have no formal rights to affected assets at the time of the census, but who have a claim to land that is recognized or recognizable under national laws, those who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land they occupy	National legislation does not consider impacts on those with no legal right or claim to land they occupy	Project will consider impacts on all land users, including those with no legal right to land they are occupying, and explore assistance where required (e.g., through establishing ownership or user rights, or through crop compensation, livelihood programs and transitional assistance, if required) (See Section 7.6 and 7.7)
Livelihood Restoration	National legislation makes no provision for livelihood assistance or restoration other than compensation for loss of assets	Assistance may include transitional support to economically displaced persons, as necessary, based on a reasonable estimate of the time required to restore their income-earning capacity, production levels and standards of living. This is intended to restore, and potentially improve, their standards of	International standards require that in addition to compensation, additional assistance is considered to restore pre-displacement livelihoods in as timely a manner as possible	Project will incorporate appropriate livelihood assistance measures to ensure restoration of affected farmland and associated standards of living in as timely a manner as possible (See Section 9)

Component	Albanian Legislative Requirements	International Standards (EBRD/IFC)	Gap	Strategy
		living and/or livelihoods of displaced persons to pre-displacement levels.		
Transitional Support & Vulnerability	General provision in national legislation for social assistance and services to vulnerable persons, but no specific identification of vulnerables households or assistance as a result of expropriation process	Project must take into account any individuals or groups that may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, take necessary actions to ensure that vulnerable groups are not disadvantaged in the displacement process, are fully informed and aware of their rights, and able to benefit equally from project opportunities and benefits	Project must identify and consider vulnerable households throughout the project process	As part of the stakeholder engagement and survey processes, project will identify vulnerable households. Measures will be incorporated to ensure to the extent possible their full participation in the project process. Where households are at risk of project-induced vulnerability, measures for transitional support and assistance will be developed (See Section 9)
Gender Considerations	Payment of compensation would be to the registered owner, generally the male head of household	Project should consider gender throughout the process, including provision for stakeholder engagement with women, recognizing differing project impacts on women, and ensuring equal access to project benefits (e.g., compensation and livelihood opportunities)	Project needs to specifically consider gender and potential impacts on women in particular	Project will ensure through stakeholder engagement process women are engaged with and their concerns and potential project impacts understood and addressed (See Section **Error! Reference source not found.**) Project will promote opportunities for women as part of local employment and procurement policies.

Component	Albanian Legislative Requirements	International Standards (EBRD/IFC)	Gap	Strategy
Grievance Management	Expropriation law allows for challenges to compensation amounts or land claims to be heard in court, but no other issues related to the expropriation process	Culturally appropriate grievance mechanism required as early as possible in the project process, to receive and resolve complaints and grievances on any aspect of the project process in a transparent accessible manner, at no costs and without retribution.	National legislation only allows for recourse to courts on limited grounds	Project has developed a grievance mechanism to receive and address complaints and grievances internally, while still allowing recourse to courts where attempts to resolve grievances through the project grievance mechanism fail (See Section 11)
Monitoring & Evaluation	No specific requirements for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of theexpropriation process and affected households post payment	Monitoring of the displacement and livelihood restoration processes must be undertaken and should involve the participation of key stakeholders such as affected communities.	Project must incorporate monitoring and evaluation of all processes, including provision for participatory monitoring	Project will develop a monitoring and evaluation plan to assess all aspects of the land access and acquisition process, including provision of compensation, and any transitional support and livelihood programs, with clear indicators to determine success and closure (See Section 14)

4 BASELINE DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

According to international standards, displacement impacts assessment should be informed by the baseline socioeconomic circumstances of displaced persons, leading to identifying the potential risks and impacts of the project to them.

The data collection and analysis process serves as a crucial tool for informing the LRP for the Karavasta Project. Gathering and analysis of data serves five main purposes:

- It assists in the identification of owners and users;
- It yields basic community and household level social and economic information needed to assess potential socio-economic impacts;
- It provides information needed to establish the entitlements for household compensation and assistance;
- It provides social and economic information needed to develop appropriate livelihood restoration and transitional assistance measures; and
- It provides quantifiable baseline data for future monitoring and evaluation of LRP implementation.

This section of the LRP summarises:

- Relevant secondary socio-economic baseline information referred to in development of the LRP (e.g., ESIA);
- Primary data collection and analysis undertaken to inform the LRP, including:
    - Due diligence process of the state land acquisition of the PV Plant Site;
    - Analysis of Land Ownership and Cadastral Information;
    - Socio-economic surveys of directly affected households;
    - Asset surveys and agronomic baseline assessment of affected land parcels;
- Entitlement Cut-off date requirements; and
- Data management.

4.2 Compensating ESIA Baseline Data Collection & Analysis

The ESIA Study Area, as identified for the Project ESIA (2021) for the 140MW Karavasta Project, covers the municipalities of Divjakë and Fier. This includes the settlements near and within the PV plant, as well as the OHL affected area, incorporating the villages of Ndërnenas, and Hasturkas (Libofshe Administrative Unit), Seman I Ri, Seman, Gjokalli (Topoje Administrative Unit), Hoxhare, Havaleas, Dërmenas, Çlirim, Radostinë (Dërmenas Administrative Unit) and Zhupan, and Vadhiz (Qendër Administrative Unit).

The ESIA includes detailed information on socioeconomic indicators at a national, district, municipal and project-level, such as demographics, economy, livelihoods, land use and tenure, health, education and infrastructure and public utilities. The ESIA is based on primary and secondary data, as follows:

- Primary data. Initial site visits undertaken as part of the ESIA consisted of a combination of walk overs and visits to the villages nearby the PV Plant Site and OHL, informal stakeholder engagement, formal consultations with communities, and formal meetings and engagements with administrative authorities at national and local level. Project ESIA consultants conducted a socioeconomic survey and engaged in consultation meetings

and informal discussions with community members in the villages of Ndërmenas and Hasturkas, and with other communities living close by the transmission line route.

- Secondary data. The INSTAT Census database was reviewed as part of the ESIA process in order to compare the Study area baseline data findings with national trends.

The ESIA-related socioeconomic baseline findings are summarized below.

4.2.1 Administrative Organization of ESIA Study Area

Since the Administrative Territorial Reform of 2015, Albania is divided into twelve administrative counties (or Qarqe), which are further subdivided into 12 districts (or Rrethe), and which are in turn broken into 61 municipalities (or Bashki), Administrative Units, and villages (or Fshatra). There are overall 2,980 villages or communities in the entire country, formerly known as localities (lokalitete). The municipalities are the first level of local governance, responsible for local needs and law enforcement.

Table 4.1 below shows the administrative organization and the villages considered for the socioeconomic survey for the ESIA.

TABLE 4.1 : ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION OF THE AREA INTERSECTED BY THE PROJECT

No	Municipality	Administrative Unit	Village	Affected By/Nearby to	Residents
1	Fier	Libofshe	Ndërnenas, Hastukas, Adriatik	PV plant and OHL	6149
2		Topoje	Seman i Ri, Seman,	OHL	4246
3		Dërmenas	Dërmenas, Radostinë, Sulaj.	OHL	7788
4		Qendër	Zhupan, Vadhiz, Çlirim, Drize	OHL	4207
5		Levan	Peshtan I Vogel	OHL	8159
6	Divjakë	Remas	Karavasta e Re	PV plant, OHL	4449
Total residents					34998

** Note that the villages surveyed by the ESIA include a wider area than the Project footprint, and due to the further updates of the OHL design to avoid impacts, some villages affected by the OHL line are not included here, but are considered in the baseline surveys informing the LRP (see Section 4.3.6).*

4.2.2 Demographics and Household Composition

According to the Albanian Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) as of January 1st 2021, Albania had a population of 2,829,741 people, experiencing a decrease by 0.6 % compared to 1st January 2020. Tirana, Durres and Fieri have the highest weight in the total population. According to the National

Census of 2011[2], Fier has a resident population of 310,331, being the second highest in Albania, after Tirana.

Table 4.2 below presents the population of the Administrative Units inside the ESIA Study Area.

TABLE 4.2: POPULATIONS IN THE ESIA STUDY AREA

Municipality	Administrative Unit	Residents
Fier	Libofshë	6149
	Topojë	4246
	Dërmenas	7788
	Qendër	4207
	Levan	8159
Divjake	Remas	4449
Total residents		34998

Source : INSTAT census, http ://www.instat.gov.al/.

The socioeconomic survey revealed that there are more men than women in the Study Area (54.70% of men compared to a 45.30% of women). The dominant age group of the family members is between 30 and 65 years old, accounting for 44.67 % of total household members.

The typical family structure in Albania consists of three generations living under the same roof: the elders, their married son and their grandchildren. In these cases, the main income provider is considered the man of working age. The socioeconomic survey results showed that the average number of family members in a household is 3.47 members.

4.2.3 Language, Ethnicity and Religion

Albania is a secular country since 1967. According to the 2011 Census[3] 58.79% of Albanians are Muslims, 16.99% Christians and the remaining portion is either atheist or belongs to other religious groups. Religion in the Study area reflects the country's trends, as there is a larger group of Muslims (48.52%) compared to Christians.

Albania is mostly inhabited by ethnic Albanians (82.58%). The country is composed of six national minorities including Aromanians (Minority from Romania), Balkan Egyptians, Greeks, Macedonians, Montenegrins and Roma. Ethnics in the Study area reflect the country's trends, as 77.71% are Albanians. 99% of the people in the Study area speak Albanian.

4.2.4 Employment, Livelihood, and Economy

According to the World Bank Group, the level of GDP per capita in Albania for 2019 was 558,302 ALL[4]. Within the Study area, the average income amount per capita is 11,642 ALL (94 Euro) per month, or 139,711 ALL (1135 Euro) per year. This amount is nearly five times less than the national average. However, these families do not only live on the income they earn, as they meet

[2] INSTAT 2011 CENSUS http://www.instat.gov.al/.
[3] INSTAT 2011 CENSUS http://www.instat.gov.al/
[4] Bank of Albania https://www.bankofalbania.org/

part of their nutritional needs from their own agriculture and farming resources, and thus have their own food basket, meat and dairy products. 11.3% of the households also get some profit by leasing their land instead of farming it on their own. However, the income resulting from this is not very high.

The economic activities of the ESIA Study Area are mainly focused on farming. No business activities other than shops and retail have been identified in the Study area. The data analysed for the Study area shows that almost half (46.4%) of the heads of family (considered as the main income provider for the household) are engaged in agricultural and livestock activities. Another 10% report being employed in other activities in the private sector, public sector, or self-employed, and 34.6% of the respondents are retired pensioners. 7.4% of the respondents are unemployed and actively looking for a job. Within the Study area, most of the families report that they own private land, which is used for the household economic needs. Some households also receive income from remittances (16.8%). These families report to have family members abroad who support their families in their homeland.

According to the ESIA socioeconomic survey, 90.4% of the households in the Study area cultivate their land for households needs and sporadically for selling. The most cultivated are annual crops, especially wheat, maize, vegetables, and alfalfa (for feeding animals). Farming also presents a number of concerns and issues, such as the lack of irrigation, lack of markets, and drainage.

Regarding livestock, 70.9% of the households reported they owned livestock. The most common are cows and chickens, followed by goats and sheep. Almost half of the household residents reported they use livestock products for household consumption exclusively.

4.2.5 Land Use, Land Cover, and Ownership

The Study area is characterized by a uniformly flat landscape with the absence of significant woodland or scrub cover. The land cover is almost entirely dominated by crops, which present as a characteristic patchwork of rectangular fields.

Most of the households (96.4%) reported to own a land plot. The quantity of land owned in the area ranges from 0.5 ha up to 2ha or more than 2 ha per household (HH). The majority of the households possess 1 to 1.5 ha.

The most common use of land is for agriculture. Some parcels of land are also used for grazing due to the difficulty of planting crops in salty areas. The PV Plant Site is mostly saline due to its vicinity to the seashore and the infiltration of sea waters, and therefore is not used for growing crops.

Being quite exclusively cultivated with annual crops, the ESIA reports that farmers usually harvest in the period of May-June. Also, it was reported that some herders travel from other areas of Albania to the Study Area during the summer season. Some of these herders were met during the ESIA socioeconomic survey, and reported that they use the PV Plant Site area and surroundings as pathways during spring and summer time to access agricultural parcels at the other side of the PV plant.

4.2.6 Infrastructure and Utilities

4.2.6.1 Road Infrastructure

The road infrastructure is relatively good except the road that connects the villages of Ndërmenas and Hasturkas with the coastline, which is in very bad condition and difficult to drive. This is one of the main issues raised by the local community. The access roads to the PV solar plant are also in bad condition, in particular during rainfall seasons.

4.2.6.2 Energy

The energy used for cooking is mainly derived from natural liquid gas (46.4%), electricity (10.1%) or wood burning (43.2%). The most used energy for heating is derived from wood burning (84.7%). The vast majority (90%) of residents heat their homes by means of wood burning stoves. Other forms of heating are electrical heaters and fireplaces. There are frequent power cuts in the Study Area.

4.2.6.3 Water

Water supply comes in the form of a piped system in 40.5% of the households. However, the water is perceived to be of bad quality (non-drinkable) and most of the residents buy drinking water. Almost 93% of the resident families in the villages Ndërmenas and Hasturkas reported that they buy the drinking water from the water tank truck (Kondi shpk) that comes to the villages daily. Some of the residents in villages also make use of groundwater wells for drinking water and irrigation.

4.2.6.4 Sanitation

Most of the villages lack connection to the sewage system, and use septic tanks. The majority of the dwellings have toilets that are located inside the house and a minority have toilets outside the dwellings.

4.2.6.5 Waste Management

It was reported that the urban waste is collected by the Municipality. However, most of the residents burn domestic waste or use illegal dumpsites or disposal areas.

4.2.7 Education

In 2015, the overall literacy rate in Albania was 98.7%: the male literacy rate was 99.2% and the female literacy rate was 98.3%[5]. The Education System in Albania is based on primary, secondary, and tertiary levels and is mostly supported by the state. In most of the villages, there are primary and secondary schools, while the high schools are located in the bigger villages where the Administrative Units are located.

4.2.8 Health

Within the Study Area, 77.1% of the respondents' reported that there is a Health Care Centre (HCC) in their village, which offers basic services and first aid. However, due to a lack of staff, equipment and the state of the buildings, the residents reported that for more specialized treatment they use the health centre located in Fier City. The main hospital in the area is located in Fier City. The most common disease reported is hypertension (high blood pressure).

4.2.9 Gender and Vulnerable Groups

For cultural and religious reasons, women have traditionally been considered as 'those who have to take care of the family" but this is gradually changing. In rural areas, the tendency to not let the women frequent university still remains and only in rare instances do women own a piece of land or house (in cases when their husband has passed away or due to inheritance law).

[5] INSTAT Census

As reported by the survey, 3.8% of the families receive social assistance. These are typically families with members with disabilities, widowed women or families that have no means of income at all (those who rely almost entirely on agriculture activities and where incomes are up to 15,000 ALL).

4.2.10 Cultural Heritage

Figure 4.1 shows the location of the closest cultural heritage assets in relation to the PV Project site and along the OHL route. According to the Cultural Heritage Survey carried out by archaeologists, there were no significant cultural heritage assets identified and there is a low potential for unknown cultural heritage to be uncovered during the construction process. Figure 4.2 shows the location of cultural heritage assets in the PV Plant site, as well as the negligible nature of the potential impacts.

FIGURE 4.1: CULTURAL HERITAGE MAP OF THE STUDY AREA

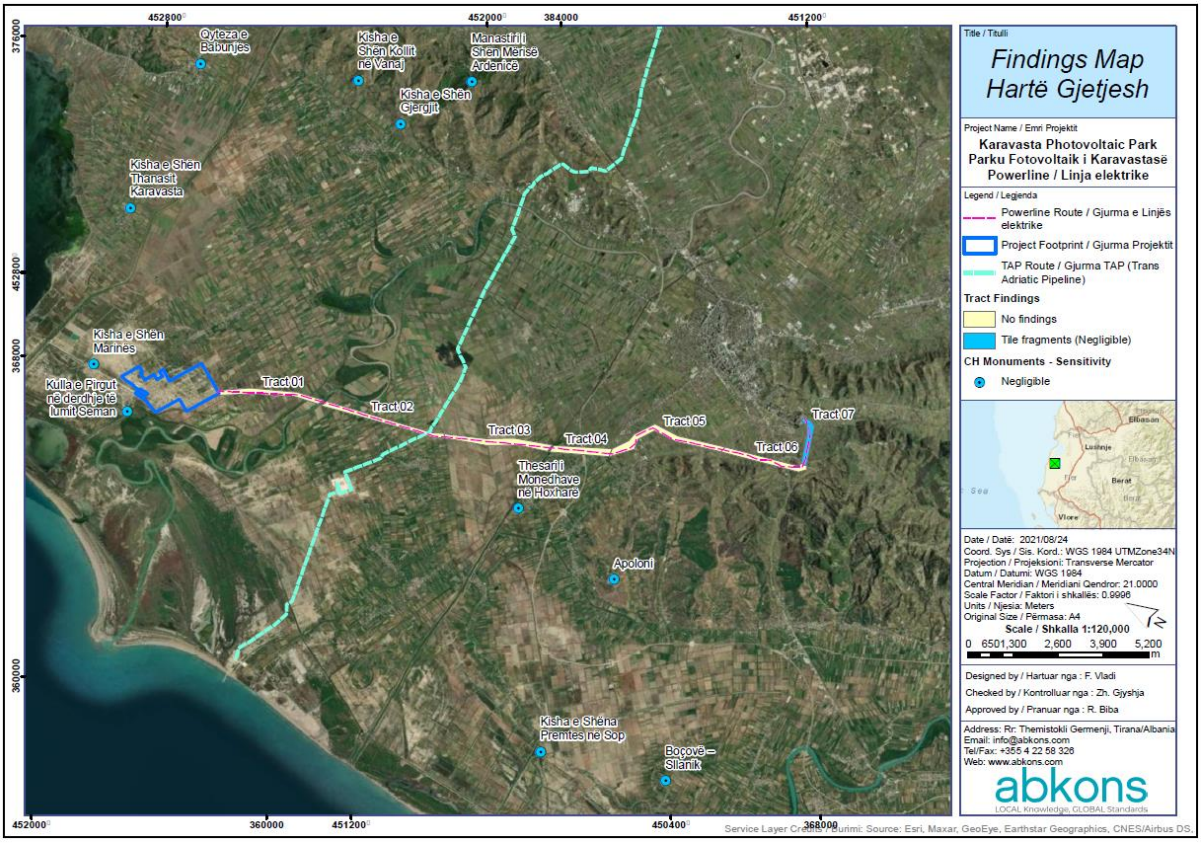
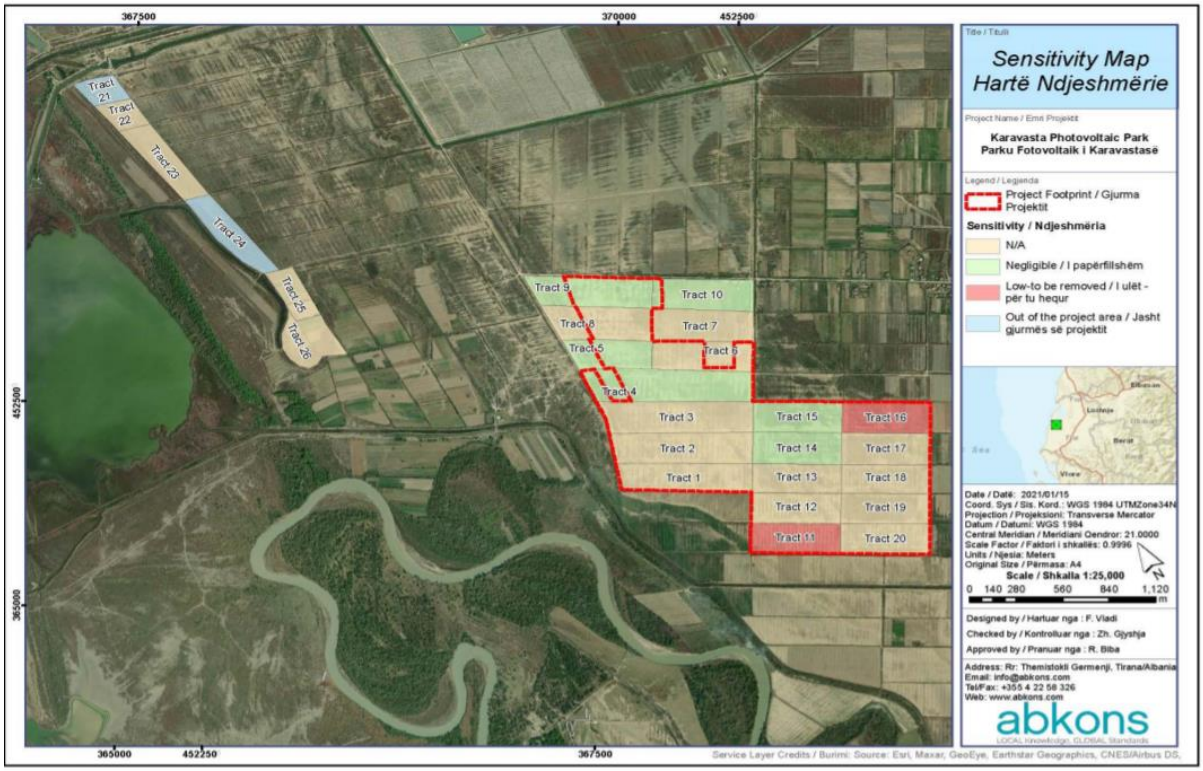


FIGURE 4.2: CULTURE HERITAGE ASSETS IN PV PLANT SITE



Source: ESIA, 2021

4.3 LRP Baseline Data Collection & Analysis

4.3.1 Site Visits & Walkovers

Initial site visits and walkovers of the Project footprint were undertaken in August 2021 to understand the predominant land uses at the PV Plant Site location and on the OHL Route. Figure 4.3 shows pictures of the PV Plant Site and preliminary engagements with local farmers / herders using/accessing the land on site.

FIGURE 4.3 : PV PLANT SITE VISIT & PRELIMINARY ENGAGEMENTS

4.3.2 Analysis of Historic Land Acquisition – PV Plant

The land for the PV Plant Site is state owned. However, a due diligence assessment of the original land acquisition process was required to ensure consistency with International Standards regarding any potential historic land acquisition processes which may have been undertaken, the present status of current informal land users, and potential eligibility and entitlements of any parties who are currently using the land.

The below subsections show the steps which have been followed to undertake the due diligence process.

4.3.2.1 Desktop Review

An initial desktop review of relevant documentation was undertaken to gather information regarding previous land acquisition processes, in close cooperation with relevant government authorities. This included the key activities:

- Initial land use analysis of the PV Plant Site, based on up-to-date satellite imagery;
- Obtaining and reviewing available documentation on land ownership in the Plant Site area, including from the Cadastral Register;
- Obtaining information from the Cadastral Register on any historic land acquisition process relating to parcels affected by the PV Plant Site; and
- Engagement of local communities / neighbours / village heads regarding any previous landowners/users potentially affected by land acquisition processes.

4.3.2.2 Field Activities

Further onsite investigations consisted of the following activities:

- Undertake meetings with relevant authorities with information on potential land acquisition processes for the PV Plant and current status (e.g., State Expropriation Agency, Cadastral offices);
- Undertaking ground truthing of satellite imagery analysis and confirming land use and assets on land of the PV Plant Site;
- Undertaking due diligence assessment of the land acquisition process, including identification of any outstanding claims or grievances; and
- Identifying any impacts and any need for additional supports in order to address any shortcomings and ensure compliance with the relevant standards (for both previous and current users).

Based on the Due Diligence Assessment undertaken, it can be concluded that the land which is impacted by the Plant Site has remained in State ownership and was never subject to redistribution to private owners by the State following the Land Law No. 7501/1991. This may be due to the fact that the land is regarded as unproductive for farming purposes. Informal users of the land (grazing livestock) are aware the land is in State ownership.

4.3.3 Analysis of Land Ownership and Cadastral Information

4.3.3.1 Land Ownership of Agricultural Land

Following World War II, Albania embarked on a process of nationalization of all agricultural land. In 1946, the land in estates and large farms was expropriated and redistributed among small peasants, and in the 1950s, the land was reorganized into large-scale collective farms.

The post-communist land privatization reform (Land Law No. 7501/1991) redistributed land back to private households. However, the land was not returned to the former owners, but distributed according to the shares held by households in cooperatives in accordance with the directives of Village Land Commissions. The land distribution legal reforms resulted in ownership certificates (AMTPs) issued to each household. At the present moment, the process for ownership registration in the cadastral registry consists of two key steps:

- **Distribution of AMTP**. As indicated, the land privatisation reform that started in 1991 resulted in the issuance of administrative certificates of ownership (AMTPs). AMTPs included, amongst other things: the name of the household head; a list of parcels assigned to the household; their area; the main use of land in each parcel; and the "local" names of the bordering parcels.
- **Registration of the AMTP** in the Cadastral Registry. The second step to register the land property is to register the ATMP with the local cadastral offices (in Albanian, abbreviated as ASHK). The cadastral registries have changed format and organisation greatly over time. The digitization process of the cadastral registry records (or 'kartelas' in Albanian) as well as the cadastral maps has resulted in missing information.

4.3.3.2 Cadastral Register Reviews

The Project has undertaken a cadastral register review in order to identify ownership of the affected land parcels. The below subsections show the steps which have been followed to determine the ownership status.

4.3.3.2.1 Initial Cadastral Registry Review

The Project carried out an initial cadastral registry review based on cadastral register records and the available digital maps of the cadastral register. For some identified land plots in the cadastral survey records, cadastral information was missing or was inaccurate. In addition, there was no cadastral information on the village of Adriatik. Figure 4.4 below shows the route of the OHL in red font, and the land parcels containing cadastral information in white font. The cadastral information is stored in a separate excel file.

FIGURE 4.4: CADASTRAL REGISTER DATABASE LAYOUT

4.3.3.2.2 Field Verification & Follow-Up Investigations

An on-site verification of the available cadastral information was conducted in tandem with the baseline surveys, to confirm the owners of the affected parcels. The socioeconomic questionnaires included a verification of the owner'' AMTPs against the available cadastral information. Inaccuracies and mismatches between owners and parcels were observed. In addition, the absence of cadastral information on multiple land parcels prevented the identification of all owners for the household socioeconomic surveys, especially in Adriatik village.

During the field surveys, inaccuracies were also identified between the plot sizes used by households and the sizes reported in the AMTPs. This can be due to a myriad of reasons, from inaccuracies when defining the land parcel borders, to expressly registering less area to avoid tax payments.

In order to access all available information from the Cadastral Register, Voltalia and OST submitted a formal written request to the Cadastral Registers of the Municipalities of Fier and Lushnje, requesting access to all necessary data (cadastral and transaction data), including 32 additional land parcels resulting from rerouting following detailed design, and 50 land parcels affected by access roads to the OHL. Information was received in January 2022 and is currently being analyzed and crosschecked with collected information on site, combined with follow up meetings with the Cadastral Agency. This may reduce the number of parcels with unknown ownership information, and allow for additional household socio-economic surveys to be

undertaken of additional identified privately owned parcels. See Section 4.5 for further information on the approach to follow-up surveys.

4.3.4 LRP Survey Matrix Development

In order to ensure that all the types of data to be collected with regard to directly impacted households are identified for the basis of LRP development, and the most effective data collection methods are selected, a Survey Matrix was developed. The Matrix helps to identify all data to be collected, determine the most appropriate data collection methods, while also avoiding unnecessary duplication of data collection and potential community survey fatigue.

In developing the Survey Matrix, survey timings were also considered, to ensure maximum participation and minimal inconvenience (e.g., ensuring daily activities and Albania's farming seasons are considered where possible).

4.3.5 Analysis of Secondary Sources

The Project has continued to identify and examine relevant secondary data sources related to the project-affected communities and areas, particularly in order to provide a comparison with survey findings for the directly-impacted population, including:

- Government education, health, livelihood, business, tax and other socio-economic records and reports at a national level, as well as comparative communities in the area
- State and local development plans
- Field studies and prior reports
- Academic and international donor agency reports.

4.3.6 Household Socio-Economic Survey

While a sample of households in the wider Study Area is sufficient for ESIA development, detailed information is required for all directly impacted households for effective LRP planning, development, monitoring and evaluation. The LRP socio-economic survey has aimed to cover 100% of directly-impacted households. Surveys were undertaken between October 2021 and February 2022. The survey execution has been overseen by the Voltalia Environmental & Social Manager.

Table 4.3 below shows coverage of the socio-economic surveys, based on identified private owners. The socio-economic survey gathered detailed individual and household data on current living standards, income, and livelihoods, to identify potential adverse impacts and vulnerable households; refine livelihood supports; and serve as a baseline to measure the effectiveness of restoration plans and mitigation measures in ensuring restoration, and ideally improvement, in the economic conditions and social well-being of affected people and communities. As previously indicated, the absence of cadastral information on multiple parcels prevented the identification of all owners for the socioeconomic household surveys. Also, in some cases, a socio-economic survey could not be undertaken due to internal and external migration of the households, or in some cases, refusal to complete the survey.

TABLE 4.3: NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY BY VILLAGE

Village	No. Completed socio-economic surveys	No. Migrated	No. Refusals	No owner identified*
Adriatik	-	-	-	-
Çlirim	26	14	8	60
Dermenas	14	0	3	32
Drize	23	11	3	4
Peshtan I vogel	5	1	2	4
Radostine	18	1	9	11
Seman	32	2	0	1
Seman i ri	8	1	0	5
Sulaj	6	2	0	0
Vadhize	22	0	3	1
Zhupan	25	2	13	3
Totals	**179**	34	41	121

**Including Inheritance issues, incorrect cadastral information*

As per Eurostat data, in 2019 Albania had about 1.5 million citizens outside its territory (corresponding to about half of the country's population of 2.8 million)[6]. Most migrant communities are present in neighbouring countries, like Italy and Greece, although there is a growing trend of Albanians residing in other European Union Member States as well as in North America and Canada[7]. Migration levels at a Project level follow the national migration trends. 34 identified PAHs migrated mainly to Greece, other areas of Albania, and Germany. The Project tried and will continue to try to contact landowners by following a consistent strategy of engaging with heads of the Administrative Unit, parcel and household neighbours, and other inhabitant groups (e.g., elders).

Regarding refusals, no PAH presented a strong opposition against the Project itself. 22 (representing 54% of the refusals) expressed they did not want a pylon in their land parcel, and 19 (representing 45% of the refusals) did not express an opposition to the Project, but refused to conduct the socioeconomic survey for other reasons, such as: future plans to build on the land parcel even if the land parcel was considered agricultural land without permit of construction; fear of retaliation due to social/legal local problems with the community; and time unavailability. In case of refusals, the survey team conducted a strategy to re-engage with the PAHs refusing to conduct socioeconomic surveys based on an additional communication plan that reinforced the

[6] Eurostat, Migration on Enlargement countries
[7] 2017, National Strategy on Migration, National Statistics Albania

transparency and clear communication on the use of the surveys, the project development, and the voluntary agreement / expropriation process.

Section **Error! Reference source not found.** provides further reference on the land access and acquisition process for cases of unidentified and absent owners.

Key socio-economic data and trends which has informed LRP development are discussed further below. The baseline data gathered as part of the LRP baseline surveys covers the affected PAHs in the Project Footprint area and has been cross-checked where relevant with data from the ESIA Study Area (as detailed in Section **Error! Reference source not found.**). The ESIA Study Area and surveys of non-project affected people can also act as a control group for monitoring purposes during and after project implementation.

4.3.6.1 Administrative Organisation of Project Footprint Area

The Project footprint covers an area located in the Fier district within one municipality – Fier. 5 Administrative Units are affected–- Libofshe, Qendër, Levan, Topoje, Dërmenas–- and 12 villages. The PV Plant Project will be developed in Libofshe and Remas Administrative Units.Table 4.4 below shows the administrative organization and the villages who are directly affected by the Project footprint.

TABLE 4.4: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION OF THE AREA AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT FOOTPRINT

District	Municipality	Administrative Unit	Village
PV Plant Site			
Fier	**Divjakë**	Remas	Karavasta e Re
	Fier	Libofshe	Hasturkas
			Ndërmenas
Overhead Transmission Line			
	Fier	Libofshe	Adriatik
		Qendër	Drize
			Çlirim
			Vadize
			Zhupan
		Levan	Peshtan i Vogel
		Topoje	Seman
			Seman i Ri
		Dërmenas	Sulaj
			Dërmenas
			Radostine

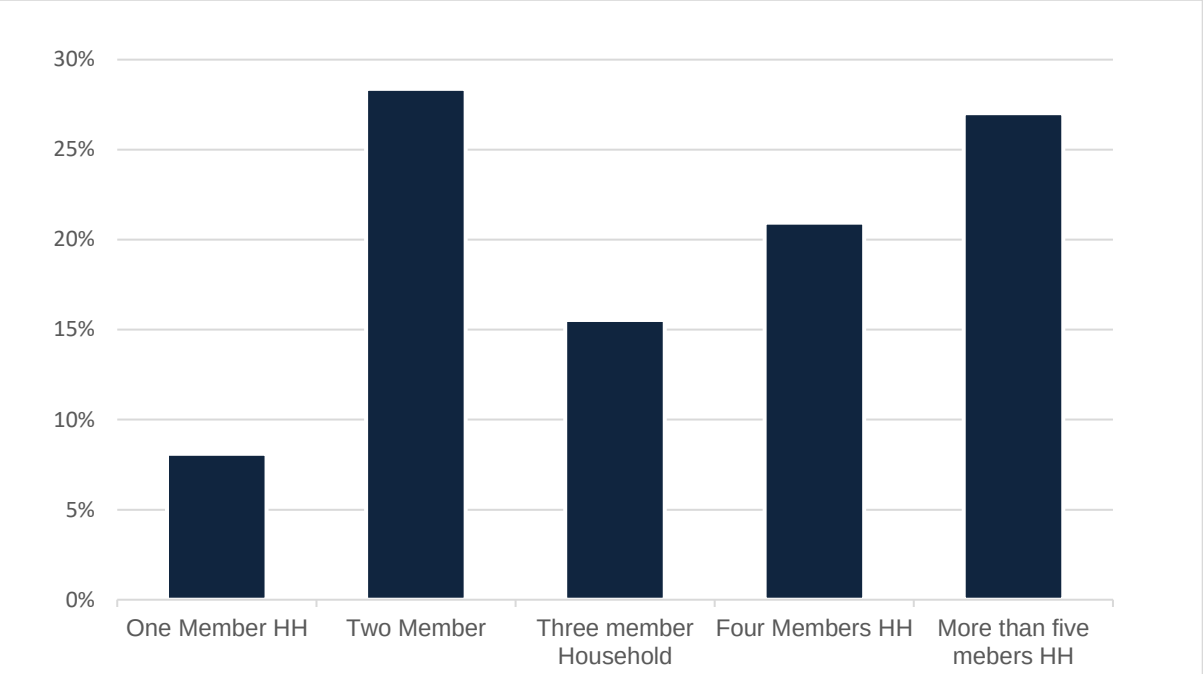
4.3.6.2 Demographics and Household Composition

In line with national trends, the demographic landscape of the PAHs affected by the project is heavily influenced by population movements and migration trends. 46% of affected PAHs report having experienced the migration of at least one person in their family in search of better living conditions and employment opportunities.

In terms of household composition, although there are some larger households, and the average household size is aligned with the wider ESIA Study Area, migration has impacted on the household structure of affected PAHs, as one third of households consist of one or two older

members (see Figure 4.5 below). Single-member households represent 8% of the affected PAHs, almost double the national figure of 4,76% overall or 4,34% in rural areas[8].

FIGURE 4.5: NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AMONGST THE AFFECTED PAHS



The average age of the surveyed population is 44.39 years old, almost 3 years above the national average age, which is reported as 37,2 years old[9]. Among surveyed households one in three families report having at least one child, while almost half of the households report having elderly members, showing high dependency rates among households. The marital status of the population reflects the incidence of aging among the respondents, as the proportion of widowed PAHs is almost 10% of the surveyed population.

A summary table of the key demographic indicators is present in Table 4.5.

TABLE 4.5: KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS OF PAHS IN PROJECT AREA

Average Household Size	3.49
Average Number of Female members per household	1.51
Average Number of Male members per household	1.91
Average age of surveyed population	44.7
Share of Households with children	30%
Share of Households with elderly members	47%

[8] Last survey census 2020, INSTAT
[9] Last survey census 2020, INSTAT

Share of Elderly people within the PAHs (age above 64)	19.3%
Share of Children within PAHs surveyed (age below 16 years old)	18.3%
Share of single member households	8%

4.3.6.3 Language, Ethnicity, and Religion

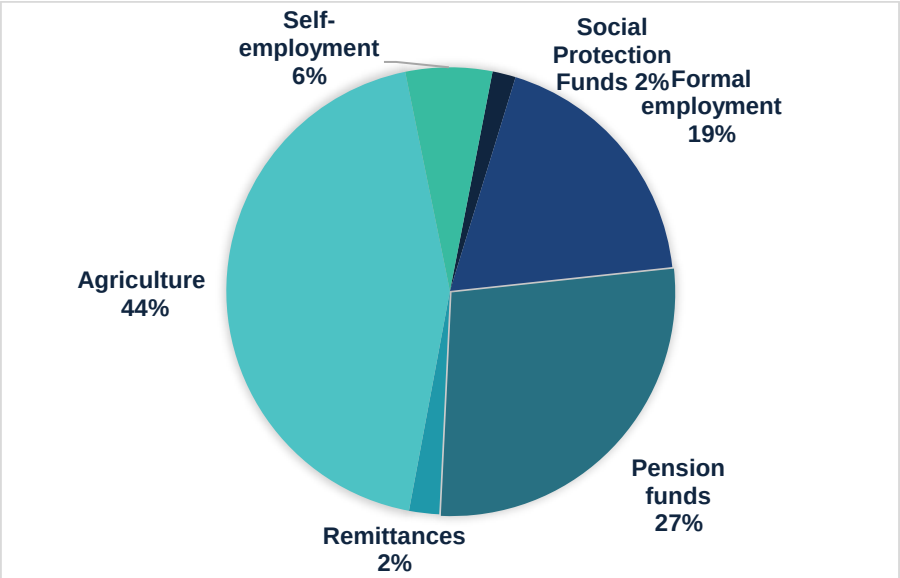
The language, ethnicity, and religion profile of the project-affected PAHs follows the trends of the wider ESIA Study Area, and at the country level. Amongst the affected PAHs, almost all (97%) are reported to be Albanians, and only four households report to have members from Greece or other countries.

4.3.6.4 Employment, Livelihood, and Economy

The district of Fier ranks third in Albania in terms of economic importance. It has a strong economy and is the centre of Albani''s oil and gas, and agricultural industries. Fier has large reserves of oil and natural gas and produces approximately 2800 barrels of oil per day, as well as 5 million m3 of natural gas per year. Other natural resources include oil sand, inert materials and clay. From the point of view of agriculture, Fier is one of the most productive agricultural areas in Albania. This region has the largest planted area in the country with 87,900 ha (out of 417,000 ha at a national level), i.e. about 21% of the cultivated land.

Among the Project Affected Households, as shown in Figure 4.6, agriculture is the main source of income for just under half of the PAPs in the Project Affected Area, followed by pension funds. These PAPs may be more affected by land acquisition/land disturbance related to the Project.

FIGURE 4.6: MAIN INCOME SOURCES FOR PAPS



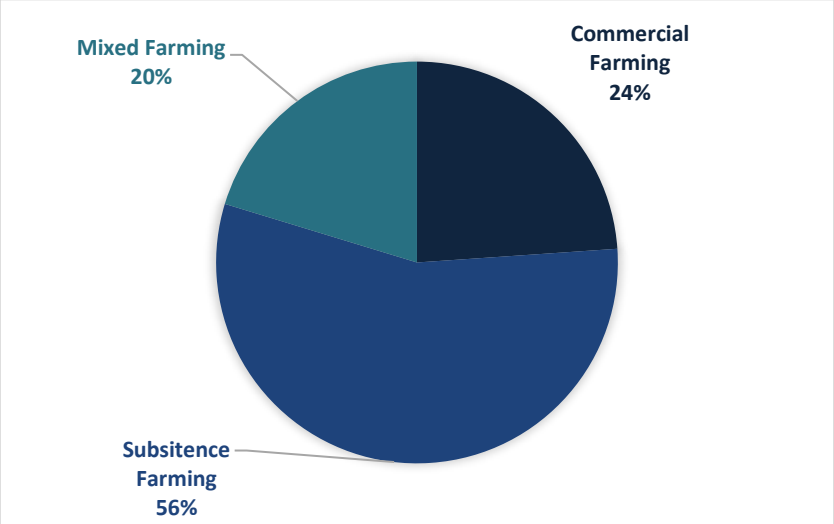
Formal employment and self-employment are low, representing 19% and 6% respectively. The unemployment rate among the surveyed population is reported to be 12,6%, almost 1% higher than the official national unemployment rate which is reported to be 11,7% in 2020. Among the unemployed individuals, 1.9% is due to disability and roughly 1% is due to unpaid housework.

Despite the economic impacts arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, 84% of PAHs report that their main economic sources have not changed in the last five years. 15% of PAHs reported having loans, while only 3% of PAHs reported having household cash savings. Only 9% of PAHs reported having borrowed money in the last 12 months. The percentage of PAHs who have bank accounts is very low (35%), although the majority have reported having investments (75%).

At the household level, women tend to contribute more to income sources from pension and social protection funds, while their male counterparts tend to contribute more to income sources from agriculture, self-employment, and salaried employment.

Regarding the type of agriculture practiced in the Project footprint area, subsistence agriculture is the most common amongst the PAHs (see Figure 4.7 below).

FIGURE 4.7: PAHS ENGAGED IN SUBSISTENCE/COMMERCIAL/MIXED FARMING[10]



While the previous graphic (Figure 4.7) analyses the proportion of PAHs dedicated to subsistence/commercial/mixed agriculture, the following two graphs (Figure 4.8 and Figure 4.9) provide a breakdown of the share of agricultural produce destined for self-consumption, commercial sale, and mixed use.

Figure 4.8 below shows the share of the agriculture product which is normally consumed by PAHs. Of those who consume more than 70% of the production, 78% do not sell any of the crops they produce.

FIGURE 4.8: SHARE OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCT CONSUMED FOR HH NEEDS

[10] For the purposes of this LRP, subsistence agriculture refers to PAHs consuming more than 70% of their cultivated products, commercial farming refers to PAHs selling more than 70% of their cultivated products, and mixed farming refers to PAHs consuming/selling less than 70%.

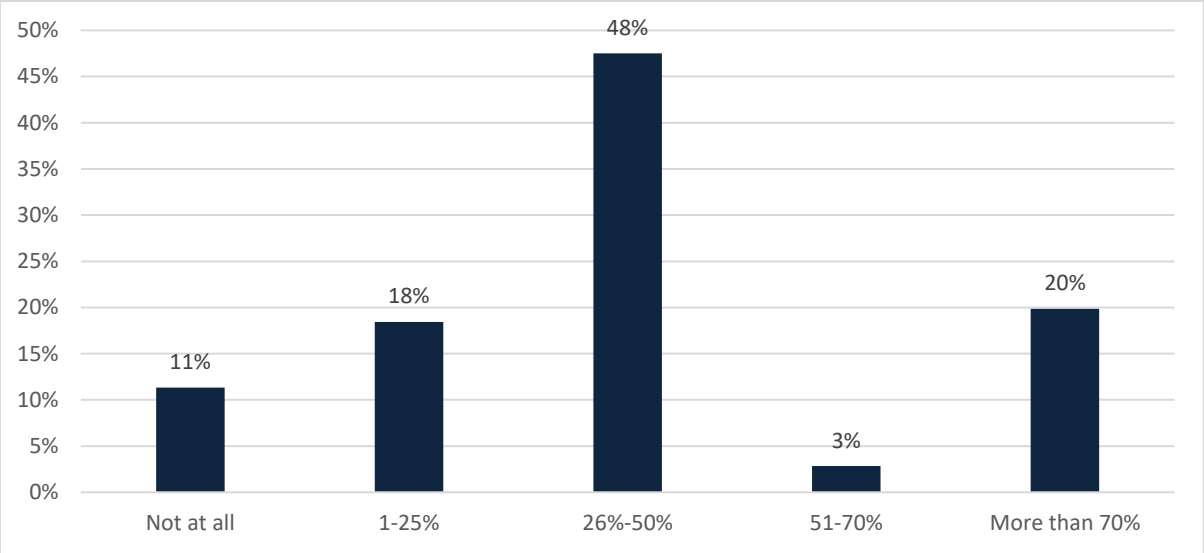
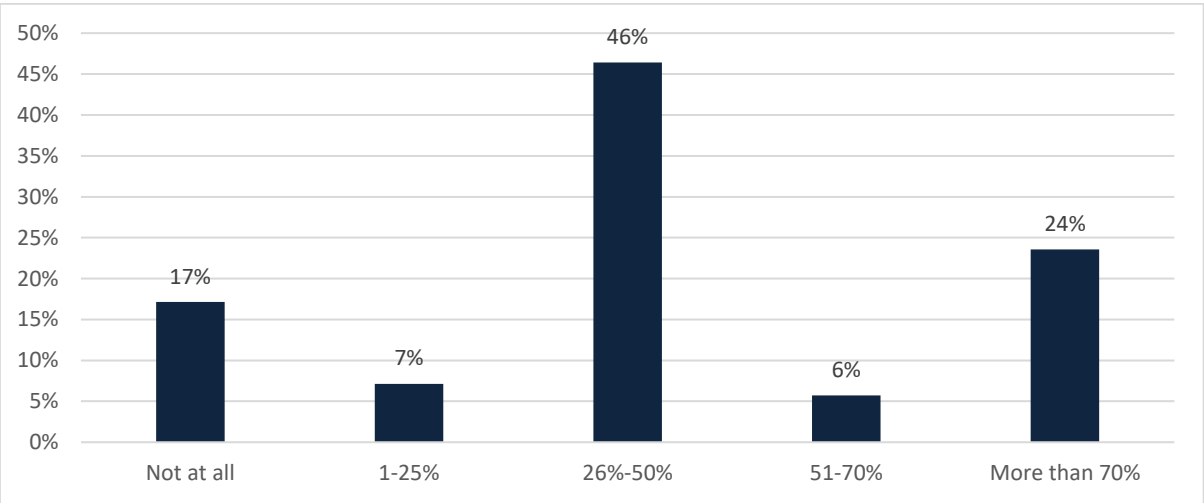


Figure 4.9 refers to the share of agriculture product sold in the market. More than half of the PAHs (68%) reported that most farm produce is sold at the farm gate. Among the surveyed areas, Ndërmenas and Topoje are more heavily engaged in commercial agriculture, where the produce is sold at the farm gate, mainly to wholesalers. Only 1% of households have reported selling produce for export markets (one household in Ndërmenas).

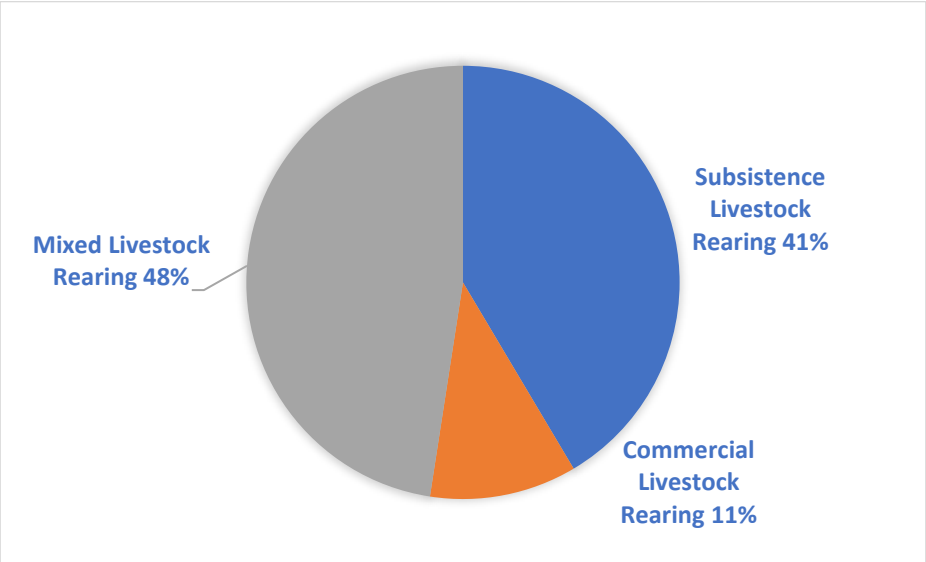
FIGURE 4.9: SHARE OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCT SOLD IN THE MARKET



Regarding agricultural techniques, 92% of the PAHs reported using improved seeds for their agricultural activities, 96% reported using fertilizers, and 92% reported using pesticides. This information is key to informing livelihood restoration measures post-construction, particularly agricultural advice to affected PAHs (see Section 9.1.2).

Livestock rearing is also common amongst the affected PAHs. 53% of affected households have livestock (e.g., cows, guinea fowls, chicken, etc.). Based on the survey results, most of the PAHs use livestock for both family consumption and for selling in the market. 41% of the PAHs that have livestock use it only for family consumption, and 11% sell all the livestock they manage.

FIGURE 4.10: PAHS ENGAGED IN SUBSISTENCE/COMMERCIAL/MIXED LIVESTOCK REARING[11]

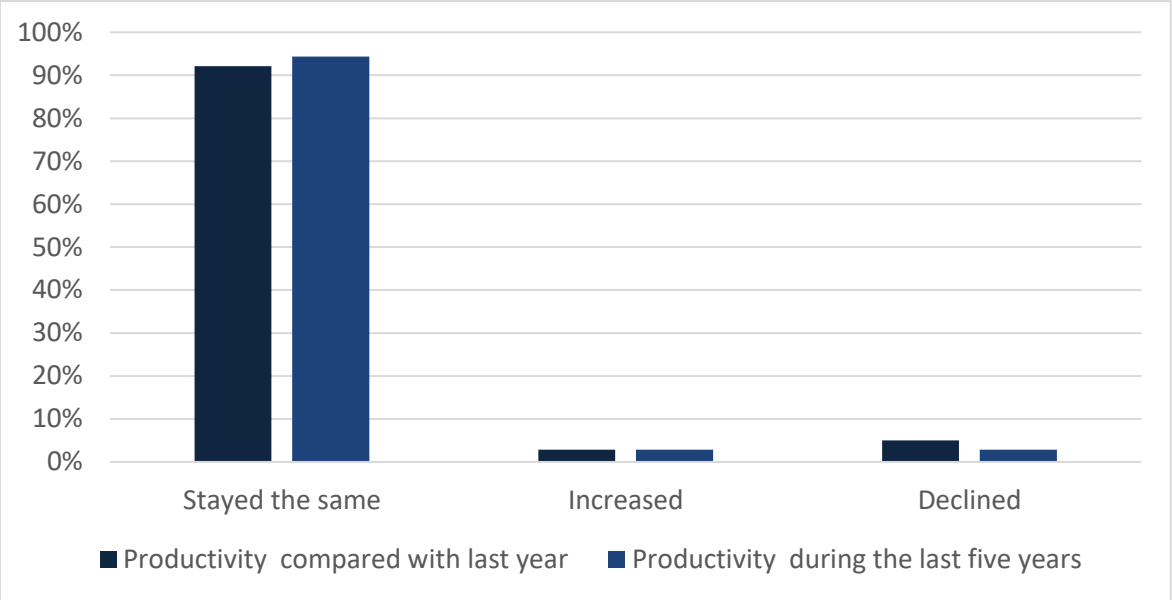


4.3.6.5 Land Use, Land Cover, and Ownership

Consistent with the wider ESIA Study Area, the land of the affected land parcels is overwhelmingly used for agricultural purposes. Most affected PAHs owning or using agricultural land parcels report that land productivity has been stable over the last 5 years, and during the last year, as shown in Figure 4.11 below.

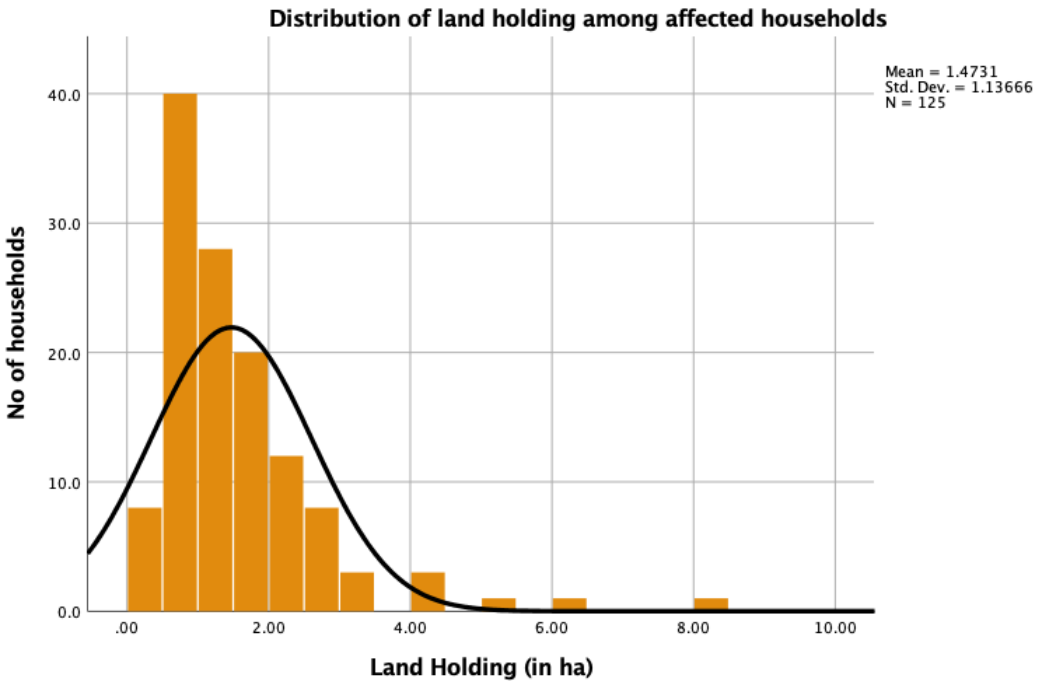
FIGURE 4.11 LAND PRODUCTIVITY FOR THE LAST YEAR, AND THE LAST 5 YEARS

[11] For the purposes of this LRP, subsistence livestock rearing refers to PAHs consuming more than 70% of their livestock, commercial livestock rearing refers to PAHs selling more than 70% of their livestock, and mixed livestock rearing refers to PAHs consuming/selling less than 70%.



Amongst the total land owned by the PAHs, average land holding per households is reported to be 1.4 ha, with the smallest agricultural land holding reported to be 0.15 ha (see Figure 4.12). Land holdings among PAHs that, in addition to agriculture practice livestock grazing, is higher than average (1.6 ha), while land holdings among those who practice subsistence agriculture are three times lower than the average (0.5 ha). Likewise, land holdings among farmers who employ people in their agricultural activity are also higher than the average (1.9 ha). Land holdings are also higher than the average in the case of farmers who sell 70% or more of their agricultural production (1.75 ha).

FIGURE 4.12 AVERAGE LAND HOLDINGS PER HOUSEHOLD AMONGST AFFECTED PAHS



Land holdings also vary across village areas. Amongst surveyed PAHs, those belonging to Peshtan i Vogel, and Seman have the highest average land holdings, ranging from 2.7 ha in Peshtan i Vogel to 2.07 ha in Seman.. The lowest average land parcel size is recorded in Drize, where land holdings are three times lower than the average.

In relation to the plots where there will be permanent land acquisition for the installation of the pylons, Table 4.6 below shows the total proportion of affected land of each household affected in relation to the proportion of permanent land acquisition due to the installation of the pylons (an estimate of 0.05 Ha permanent land acquisition is assumed for each parcel to allow for the pylon base). This serves to anticipate the overall impact of permanent land acquisition on landowners and users, and ensure that PAHs continue to have sufficient remaining land, and total land holdings, available for their crops. Note that the table below only includes the land parcels affected by permanent land acquisition where owners could be identified for participation in the socio-economic survey (as at February 2022).

TABLE 4.6: PROPORTION OF PERMANENTLY ACQUIRED LAND FOR THE PROJECT (TOWER PARCELS) IN COMPARISON TO TOTAL LAND HOLDINGS*

Cadastral No.	No. Parcel	Land Holding (in ha)	Parcel affected area (in ha)	Share of Land affected (%) in comparison to all land holdings per affected PAH
3143	73/16	3.0	0.05	2%
3143	67/7	1.1	0.05	5%
3143	25/38	1.3	0.05	4%
1414	47/1	0.5	0.05	10%
1471	13/12	0.9	0.05	5%
1471	124/9	0.7	0.05	7%
3300	29/8	3.0	0.05	2%
3300	22/3	3.0	0.05	2%
Average				**5%**

* Note that this is based on identified and surveyed parcels (socioeconomic survey) affected by permanent land acquisition (as of February 2022).

Parcels with significant permanent land take will be included in a 'Vulnerability Watchlist' (See Section 9.2) in order to assess the potential need for additional assistance and support, to ensure household socio-economic situation is restored, and ideally improved.

4.3.6.6 Infrastructure and Utilities

Infrastructure and utilities within the Project footprint area reflect the conditions found within the wider ESIA Study Area, as discussed in the ESIA section. Section 4.3.7.3 provides further specific information relating to drainage and irrigation systems in the affected land parcels.

4.3.6.7 Education

Migration trends in the area result in an aging population profile and loss of human capital due to the migration of young and educated people. Most of those affected report having between 4 and 8 years of primary education (41%) and secondary education (27%). The share of illiteracy is also higher than the national average[12], with 19% of respondents reporting no schooling or having completed only 4 years of schooling, predominately women. Only 12% of respondents have completed higher education, compared to 21.2% at the national level.

4.3.6.8 Health

The health profile amongst the affected PAHs in the Project footprint area follows the trend of the wider Project area, with the most common health problems in the last 12 month reported to be hypertension (32%), heart diseases (27%), and diabetes (18%).

4.3.6.9 Gender and Vulnerable Groups

Gender rates of illiteracy amongst the surveyed PAHs show that the gender profile in the Project footprint area follows the rural trends in Albania. Consideration of Gender and Vulnerable Groups is further developed in Section 9.2.

4.3.6.10 Cultural Heritage

The survey results did not identify any relevant cultural heritage aspects of relevance to be considered (see Section 4.2.10 and Karavasta Solar Cultural Heritage Report).

4.3.7 Asset (Land, Farm & Crops) Survey

The Asset (Land, Farm & Crops) Survey has taken place in parallel with the Household Socio-economic Survey. The purposes of the Land, Farm and Crops Surveys is to record any crops prior to the declaration of the Entitlement Cut-off date and identify any structures or other improvements to the land. The Asset Survey has also been utilized to reconfirm farm boundaries and ownerships, using the Cadastral Survey already undertaken as a reference, as well as identifying land users (formal and informal).

The following information has been gathered by the survey teams:

- Basic Occupier information;
- Reconfirmation of farm boundaries;
- Crop information;
- Dated photographs; and
- Sign-off by relevant owners and users where present.

The Asset Survey execution has been overseen by the Voltalia Environmental & Social Manager, and the Project valuation experts.

An **Agronomic Baseline Assessment** has also been undertaken, in tandem with the Asset (Land, Farm and Crops) Surveys, in order to assess the baseline conditions of the land regarding land conditions, soil quality, weeding, ploughing techniques, and farm management pertaining to each land parcel. The Agronomic Baseline Assessment was undertaken by a qualified agronomist.

[12] Last survey census 2020, INSTAT

This Assessment is key to:

- Establish the baseline conditions against which effective reinstatement of the parcels post-construction will be assessed;
- Inform land reinstatement techniques which will be appropriate to use; and
- Inform potential livelihood measures which may be beneficial to the farmer post-construction, including provision of agricultural advice.

Key findings from the Asset Survey and the Agronomic Baseline Assessment, which has informed LRP development, are discussed further below.

4.3.7.1 Agricultural Crops in Project Affected Land Parcels

In the Fier district, significant quantities of wheat, maize, olives, tomatoes, potatoes, grapes, apples, watermelons and fodder are produced. Crops on these agricultural lands are different according to the seasons, but mainly seasonal fruit and vegetable crops prevail in the plain part, as well as vineyards and olive groves in the mountainous reliefs of Frakulla, Cakran and Libofsha. There is also a considerable amount of poultry and livestock.

Cereals are a widespread crop in this region, where 31,176 ha (15,190 ha of wheat, 10,715 ha of maize and 596 ha of barley and 4,675 ha of oats) are cultivated, which represents about 23.6% of the total cultivated area in the country. For the cultivation of vegetable crops, the Fier region represents the most important area in the country where more than 7,000 ha are cultivated with vegetables (representing the 21% of the whole country). The cultivation of fodder crops is quite developed in this area, as it is the most developed livestock farming area in the country. Some 44, 641 ha are planted with fodder plants in this area, (representing 20.3% of the whole country).

In addition to the cultivation of cereals, fodder crops and vegetables, farmers in this region successfully cultivate fruit trees, olive trees, citrus fruits, and vineyards. Specifically, 1,579,000 fruit trees are currently planted in the Fier region (representing 114% of the whole country), 2,617,000 olive trees (25.4%), 381,000 citrus trees (25%) and 2,144 ha of vineyards (19.5%).

For the Project affected area, a total of 643 land parcels were surveyed, out of which 176 parcels are channels and roads, 467 were agricultural parcels. From the 467 agricultural parcels, 208 had crops planted, and 259 parcels were non-cultivated at the time of survey. 116 land parcels had trees and vineyards, which were either mixed with other crops or in lands where there were channels and roads.

The Agronomic Assessment was conducted in December 2021 and showed that 55% of the observed agricultural land plots were not cultivated at the time of survey. On a large proportion of these uncultivated plots, farmers had already grown crops in the past months (e.g., land parcels where parts of maize plants were still visible), and many of the other plots were already ploughed, showing that farmers plan to cultivate these plots during the spring period. Among the uncultivated plots, in 137 plots (representing 53% of the uncultivated plots) farmers were found to use their land for grazing livestock, feeding them with the remains of plants harvested from previous crops.

A vast diversity of crops was observed in the cultivated land parcels during the Agronomic Assessment, in alignment with the Fier district agriculture yield data and the wider ESIA Study Area.

The area is very productive in dairy products and processing. Consequently, the structure of agricultural crops is oriented towards fodder crops. The key fodder crop is alfalfa. There were 95 plots planted only with alfalfa and another 3 plots partially planted with alfalfa. These represent 46.9% of all predominant crops in the land affected parcels. In addition to alfalfa, 8 plots were observed with fodder mixture, representing 4.4% of all evaluated plots. Oats are also a very important forage crop. During the Agronomic Assessment, 66 plots were found to be planted with

oats, representing 29.2% of the cases. Clover is also a forage crop grown by farmers in this area, but in a lower percentage than the two previous crop groups. Only 8 plots were found to be planted with annual clover, representing 3.8% of the total planted crops.

Cereals are also a predominant crop in the area. Wheat was present in 77 plots and another 3 plots were identified as partially planted with wheat, which represents 38.2% of the total planted crops. In addition to wheat, 22 plots were planted with barley, representing 10.5% of all cases. Only one cabbage plot was found, representing only 0.5% of the total planted crops.

As part of the Agronomic Assessment, it was possible to develop a calendar reflecting key crops and farming cycles in the Project Area. Figure 4.13 below shows the Project Area Crop Calendar and indicates the % of land parcels found to be cultivating each of the crops during the Agronomic Assessment that took place December 2021. This information is also shown in a descriptive table below (See Table 4.7).

FIGURE 4.13: PROJECT AREA CROP CALENDAR / PREDOMINANT CROPS AND PLANTING

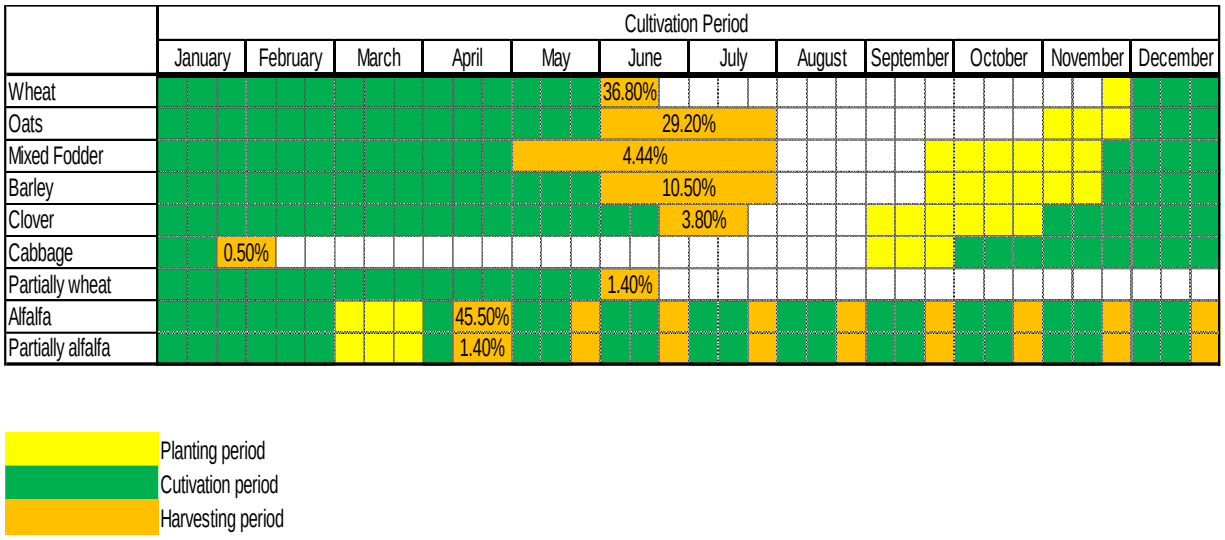


TABLE 4.7: PROJECT AREA PREDOMINANT CROPS AND KEY CULTIVATION PERIODS

Key crop	No of parcels*	% of agriculture land	Key Cultivation Periods
Wheat	77	36.8%	Dec–- Jun
Oats	61	29.2%	Dec–- May
Mixed Fodder	8	4.4%	Dec–- May
Barley	22	10.5%	Dec–- May
Clover	8	3.8%	Nov–- Jun
Cabbage	1	0.5%	Oct–- Jan
Partially wheat	3	1.4%	Dec–- Jun

Key crop	No of parcels*	% of agriculture land	Key Cultivation Periods
Alfalfa	95	45.5%	Perennial
Partially alfalfa	3	1.4%	Perennial

**Number of parcels varies from the total of land agricultural parcels as one parcel might have more than one crop.*

The information regarding crop calendars and crop types can help determine potential impacts from land access at key times of the year. This will in turn inform efforts to minimize impacts on farming during the construction phase where possible.

4.3.7.1.1 Annual and Perennial Crops

As shown in Table 4.7 above, most of the affected plots are cultivated with annual agricultural crops: mainly cereals and a small part of green vegetation intended to produce fodder for livestock in the early spring period. Farmers generally use agricultural production to meet their own requirements, but also sell some surpluses on the local market. Perennial crops do not have a wide range of development in this area. Most land plots are planted with alfalfa, which is used to feed the livestock owned by the farmers.

In the agronomic evaluation it was also found that a small part (3.7% of all land parcels surveyed) of the evaluated plots have planted a combination of annual and perennial crops. In this case, farmers seek to provide both for their family consumption and to produce fodder crops for livestock.

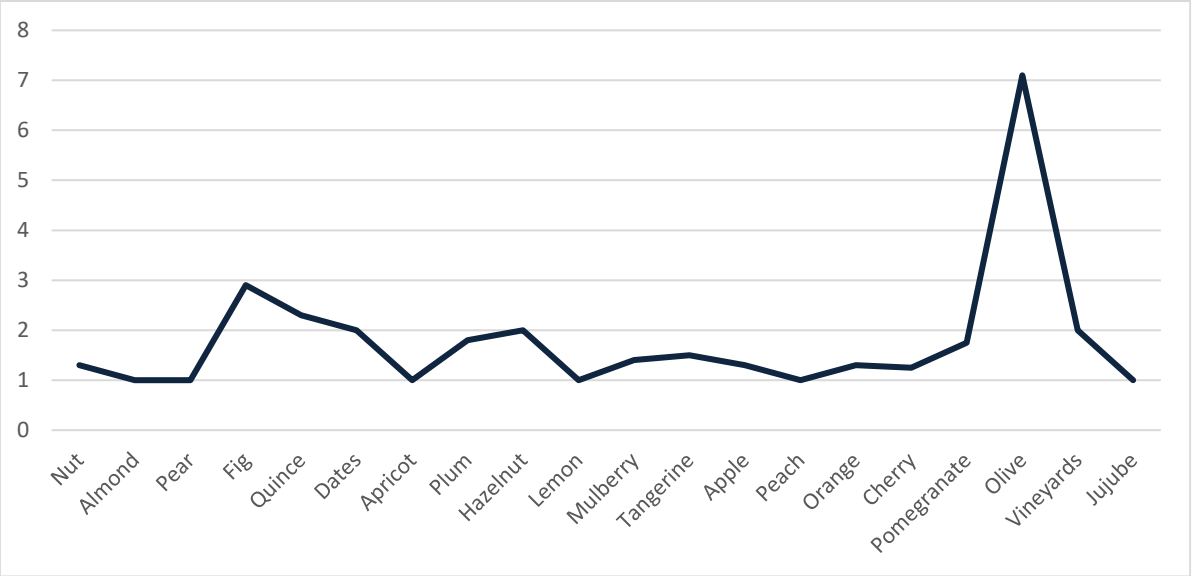
4.3.7.1.2 Fruit Trees and Forest Trees

During the Agronomic Assessment, it was found that a total of 284 plots were planted with fruit trees and vineyards. Of the 284 plots, 245 had fruit trees (representing 86.3% of the total number of parcels with trees) and 39 plots had forest trees (representing 14.7% of the total number of parcels with trees).

4.3.7.1.3 Fruit Trees

Farmers in the Project area are progressively cultivating fruit trees to increase their income from the agricultural land. In most cases, fruit tree cultivation is combined with the cultivation of annual or perennial crops as most fruit trees are still young and in their growth period and have not yet reached their full canopy. In this way, farmers can earn additional income from annual or perennial crops on the same plot where they cultivate the growing fruit trees. Figure 4.14 below shows that fruit trees in the affected land parcels are young. The average age of the fruit trees is 1.7 years. However, olive trees tend to be older (average 7 years).

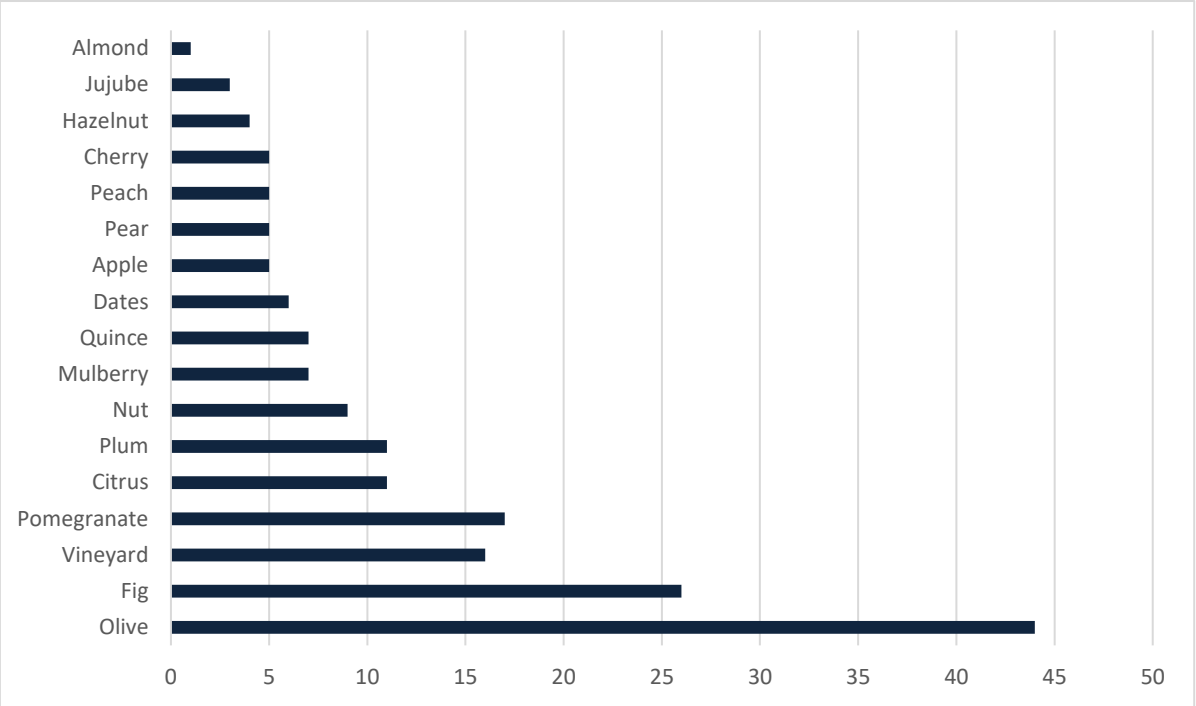
FIGURE 4.14 AVERAGE AGE OF TREES IN PROJECT AFFECTED PARCELS



The Asset Survey and Agronomic Assessment recorded many types of fruit trees in the affected land parcels. Olive trees were the most predominant fruit tree: 106 land parcels had olive trees, and 2 parcels were partially planted with olive trees. Olive trees represent over 44% of the total parcels planted with fruit trees / vineyards. Following olive trees, the fig tree is the second most predominant fruit tree for the affected land parcels, with 26 land plots cultivating fig trees, representing 10.6% of the total land parcels planted with fruit trees / vineyards. 16 parcels were planted with vineyards, towards the end of the OHL route at Fier. These land parcels represent 6.5% of the total land parcels planted with fruit trees / vineyards.

Other fruit trees observed in the land affected parcels are: pomegranate, citrus, plum, nut, mulberry, quince, dates, apple, pear, peach, cherry, hazelnut, jujube, and almond trees. Figure 4.15 below shows the amount of land parcels having the different types of fruit trees and vineyards mentioned above.

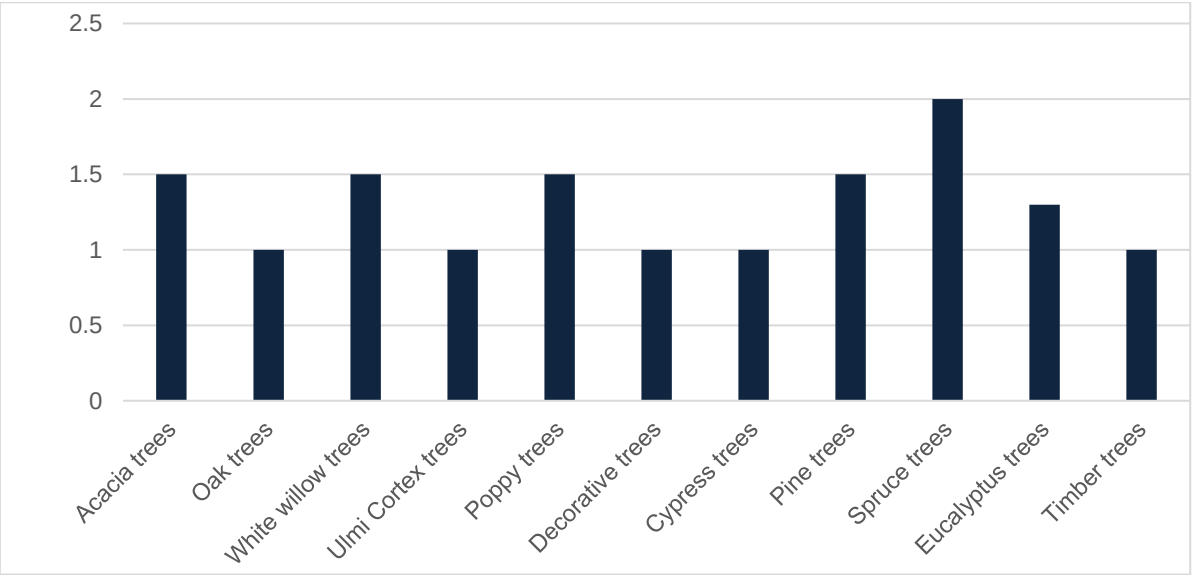
FIGURE 4.15 PREDOMINANT FRUIT TREES AND VINEYARDS IN AFFECTED PARCELS



Forest Trees

The Asset Survey and Agronomic Assessment found 39 parcels planted with forest trees. Figure 4.16 below shows that forest trees in the affected land parcels are young. The average age of the forest trees is 1.3 years.

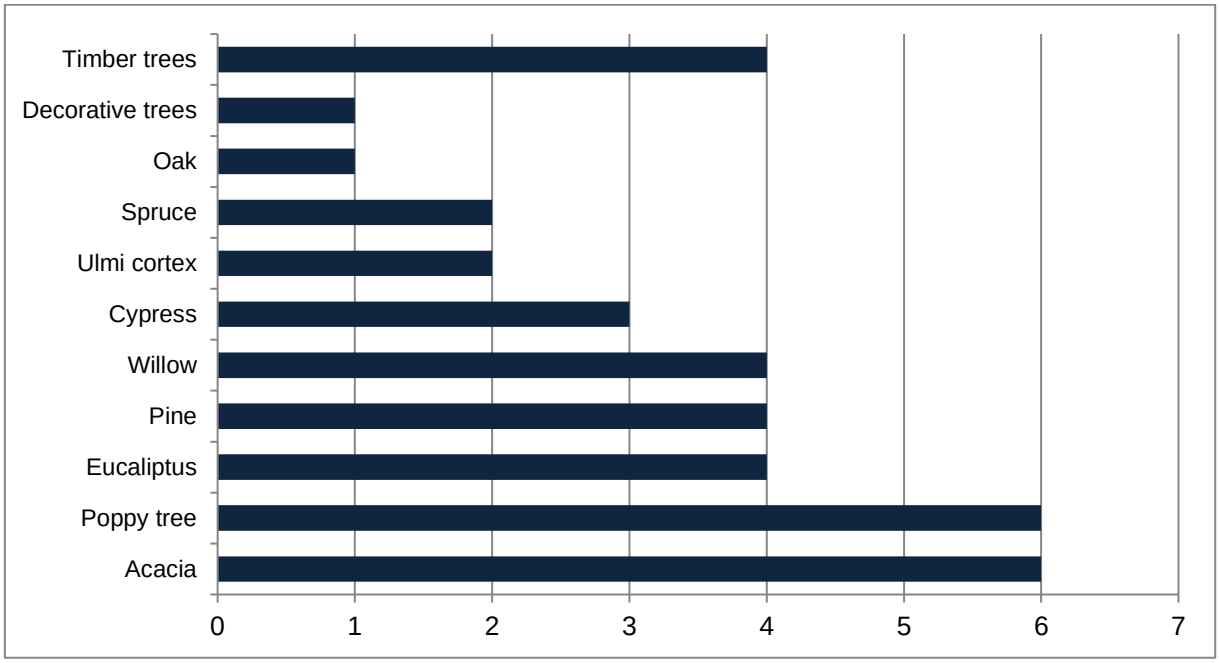
FIGURE 4.16 AVERAGE AGE OF FOREST TREES IN THE AFFECTED LAND PARCELS



The most common are acacia and poppy, which are present in 6 land parcels (representing 15.4% of the land parcels cultivated with forest trees). Following acacia and poppy, eucalyptus, pine, and white willow trees were also common (representing 1.3% of the forest tree parcels). The least present forest tree were cypress trees, which were only present in 3 land parcels (representing 7.7% of the forest tree parcels), ulmi cortex trees in only 2 cases (representing 5.1% of the forest

tree parcels), timber trees, which were only present in 3 land parcels (representing 7.7% of the forest tree parcels), spruce trees in 2 cases (5.1%), 1 parcel with oak tree (2.75%), and 1 parcel with decorative trees set up for a family business (2.75%). Figure 4.17 below shows the amount of land parcels having the different types of forest trees mentioned above.

FIGURE 4.17 FOREST TREES IN PROJECT AFFECTED LAND PARCELS



4.3.7.2 Land Productivity in Project Affected Land Parcels

As part of the Agronomic Assessment, the fertility assessment of the agricultural land affected by the Project was based on the physical-productive indicators of cultivated plots and some uncultivated plots that had evident indicators of fertility quality. This resulted in the evaluation of the land fertility of 398 land plots.

In general, the land through which the OHL will pass has a good level of fertility. Over the years, farmers have taken care to maintain and improve the fertility of the land in many of the affected land plots.

Most of the assessed plots have good fertility levels and a high potential for agricultural production. A total of 257 plots were reported to have good land fertility, i.e., almost 65% of all surveyed plots. In addition, 60 plots were identified as having superior fertility conditions (representing 15% of the total surveyed land plots). It was observed that farmers take great care of these lands, as they can obtain high yields from them. 26 land plots (representing 6.5% of the total surveyed land plots) were found to have moderate or medium fertility levels. These plots are generally located near the river and/or within the river embankments or near the salty area of the Karavasta Lagoon. Some farmers are adding significant amounts of organic manure to these plots, obtained from livestock sheds. These plots have the potential for fertility improvement in a short time.

Only 3 plots had a poor state of agricultural land fertility. These plots are located close to the PV Plant Site, which has poor soil quality as it is a saline area close to the Karavasta Lagoon. These 3 plots represent only 0.75% of the cases.

4.3.7.3 Drainage and Irrigation Systems in Project Affected Land Parcels

From the total evaluated land parcels, 84% had drainage systems. For those land parcels having drainage systems, only three systems (less than 1% of surveyed land parcels) were reported to be in bad condition and not guaranteeing an adequate service to the land parcels. In these plots neither the drainage board nor the farmers had intervened in cleaning the channels to guarantee adequate drainage of the parcels.

However, while the drainage system in the individual land parcels affected by the project is reported to be adequate, the agronomist assessment notes that the overall functioning of the wider area drainage system is not functional and has regular failures.

From the total evaluated land parcels, 69% have some form of irrigation system. For those land parcels having irrigation systems, in 30 cases (representing 9.3% of the cases), the irrigation channels were in poor condition, resulting in the plots not being irrigated, even if there was a water supply in the vicinity. However, 87% of cases have functioning irrigation systems, due to regular maintenance work by the farmers, who clean the irrigation systems during the rainy seasons. 4% reported to have functioning irrigation systems but not properly maintained.

4.3.8 Route Social Impact Register

While an LRP is primarily concerned with impacts on directly-affected households, a Route Social Impact Register (“RSIR”) has been developed to ensure any impacts beyond the project footprint (e.g., loss of access) are also identified and mitigated. During construction, loss of access to areas beyond the Project footprint may impact agricultural areas, livestock, households, businesses, etc. At the same time, the RSIR has allowed identification of potential community health and safety issues which need to be mitigated as part of construction execution planning, as well as potential damage to structures due to construction impacts (e.g., vibrations).

An initial desk-based assessment of the Plant Site and the OHL using satellite imagery identified potential impacts, which were then verified through ground-truthing. Confirmed impacts were assessed and given a risk rating, with recommended mitigation measures identified to address and manage impacts.

The RSIR will be used to inform a cross-functional assessment and management of critical social impacts between land management, social, environmental and cultural heritage issues, and construction management. The Register collates applicable site-specific constraints and associated mitigation measures which will be further developed to support the compliance assurance process. The Register will be used to assist the Construction Contractor or EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) in the implementation of social commitments and to serve as tools in ensuring the supervision of implementation.

The Register will be a living document through the construction period, updated on a weekly basis, by the Social Officer and Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) (updating information, and actions as needed).

4.4 Entitlement Cut-Off Date

The purpose of the Entitlement Cut-Off date is to record all affected households using the land at a specific point in time so that mitigation measures can be developed, and to prevent further speculative development in anticipation of project benefits. It is mandatory that the Entitlement Cut-Off date is well-documented and disseminated throughout the affected community.

A clearly communicated Entitlement Cut-Off date is required as part of Project communications, to avoid influx and in order to determine eligibility for any mitigation measures including livelihood

programs or local employment priorities. Persons occupying the Project area after the cut-off date will not be eligible for assistance or compensation.

The Entitlement Cut-off date for the Project has coincided with the socio-economic and asset surveys. The project has ensured this is clearly explained to households at the time of the socio-economic survey with each household. However, in accordance with the national expropriation process, any crops planted on agricultural land up to the expropriation process being triggered will be eligible for compensation. Also, in actuality, when land entry occurs, the crops present on the land at the time of entry will be assessed for compensation purposes, including the quantity of crops impacted.

4.5 Further Surveys

As noted above, additional information requested from the Cadastral Registers of Fier and Lushnje may result in additional owners of land being identified – this may include parcels previously identified as State land, and parcels for which no ownership information existed previously.

Detailed design changes have also resulted in new owners and users being identified.

Also, it is possible that during the land entry procedures prior to construction, persons may come forward claiming ownership of lands, or usage rights.

In all cases, household socio-economic survey information will be required, particularly in order to identify any potential household vulnerability, while the socio-economic data can also further inform compensation and livelihood program development. In the case of households claiming ownership, these claims will be simultaneously investigated.

A ‘rapid’ socio-economic survey questionnaire will be developed in order to gather this data at the time of Land Entry.

4.6 Storage & Analysis of Baseline Data

The Project scale and informational requirements necessitate the secure storage of a large amount of data in accordance with data protection requirements. The data must also be analysed in order to develop mitigation programs and determine and pay compensation.

Data will be housed in an integrated Project database (SPSS) that will be developed for the effective storage and analysis of all baseline data. The database will contain all baseline survey details within a secure system, allowing for effective data analysis. The data will also be linked to a mapping system, which will include all Project Area lands. Data privacy will be ensured.

The database will be used to assist in survey data analysis, assessment, asset valuation for compensation, compensation payment, sign-off, land exit and future project monitoring and evaluation.

5 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

This Section outlines the national and international regulations guiding the approach to engaging with Project stakeholders in Albania. It identifies key stakeholder groups and describes the methods utilized to consult with them. It also describes the planned engagement strategy going forward. This chapter refers to stakeholder engagement activities specifically related to land access and livelihood restoration measures. It needs to be read in conjunction with the overall Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

5.1 International Best Practice

International Standards emphasise the importance of identifying key stakeholders and ensuring engagement planning, consultation and disclosure of Project information is undertaken in a timely, relevant, and understandable fashion. Information must be accessible to everyone, including any segments of the population who might be considered vulnerable or marginalized. It encourages Project proponents to use engagement methods that are culturally appropriate, and free of manipulation, interference, coercion, and intimidation.

Albania has ratified several regulations relevant to access to information and community participation in decision-making. The level and nature of 'participation' is not explicitly defined in the legislation but suggests that members of the local communities should work in partnership with local authorities to reach an optimal result in local decision-making and policy development.

5.2 Purpose & Objectives of Stakeholder Engagement

The overall aim of Stakeholder Engagement is to improve and facilitate decision-making and create an atmosphere of understanding that actively involves individuals, groups, and organisations that can affect, or be affected by, Project development. It also aims to identify the actions the Project needs to undertake to ensure that a timely, consistent, comprehensive, coordinated and culturally appropriate approach is taken to consultation and project disclosure.

Effective planning requires regular consultation with a wide range of project stakeholders. Early consultation helps manage public expectations concerning project impacts and anticipated benefits. Subsequent consultations provide opportunities for the Project Proponent and representatives of affected populations to negotiate compensation packages, eligibility requirements, assistance, and activity timing.

The Stakeholder Engagement specific objectives are to:

- *Work closely with key government departments, other organisations, community representatives, and communities in a coordinated way to enhance participation*
- *Continuously engage with all stakeholders through information disclosure, consultation, and participation in monitoring project activities to build positive relationships, minimise risks, and maximise opportunities for social development. This includes local communities and authorities*
- *Involve affected stakeholders in assessing and monitoring the Project's LRP*
- *Effectively and efficiently respond to stakeholders' concerns and complaints based on two-way engagement and the Project's Grievance Mechanism*
- *Provide periodic updates on evolving Project design changes and other developments and issues through established communication mechanisms appropriate and accessible to local, national, and international stakeholders*.

5.3 Stakeholder Identification & Analysis

5.3.1 Stakeholder Group Identification

The Project has a variety of stakeholders, people, agencies, and organisations that could be directly or indirectly affected (positively or negatively) by the Project displacement or that could influence the Project (positively or negatively). In order to develop an effective stakeholder involvement program, it is necessary to identify the various stakeholder groups, as different outreach methods may be required for different groups. In addition, primary concerns will likely differ between various stakeholder groups.

Table 5.1 presents a stakeholder identification and analysis of the key stakeholders of relevance for the LRP.

TABLE 5.1: KEY STAKEHOLDERS FOR THE PROJECT LRP

Stakeholders	Interest and role in the project	Stakeholders' analysis	
		Influence on project	Impact of project on stakeholder
National level			
Ministry of Infrastructureand Energy (MEI)	The Ministry oversees the expropriation process for public interest in favour of a private entity where investments are in the public interest, such as the energy sector. The Ministry will also be transferring the state land to Voltalia for the purpose of the development of the 140 MW Karavasta Project (PV Plant Site)	High	High
State Agency Expropriation (SEA)	The SEA is a national agency, under the supervision of the MIE, and has the following competences in regards to the expropriation process: (i) the planning and treatments of expropriations; (ii) the calculation of expropriation value per each property subject of expropriation; (iii) the supervision of the expropriation process; (iv) maintaining the expropriation data base; (v) the right to negotiations with the subjects of expropriation regarding the value of the negotiations and the payment terms of the expropriation	High	High
Ministry of Agriculture andRural Development (MARD)	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) is responsible for managing water resources, irrigation, drainage, and flood protection. The Ministry coordinates priorities among different purposes and different users of water resources. The Ministry is also in charge of technical valuations and calculations of assets subject to expropriation (including crops and lands)	High	High

Stakeholders	Interest and role in the project	Stakeholders' analysis	
		Influence on project	Impact of project on stakeholder
Ministry of Culture	This Ministry ensures the protection and conservation of the National cultural heritage. It shall be informed in case of chance findings during the construction activities.	Medium	Low
National Territorial Planning Agency (NTPA)	National Territorial Planning Agency (NTPA) is a public institution responsible for spatial and urban planning, crucial steps in the development process for infrastructure projects, within MEI.	Low	Low
National Agency of Property Compensation and Restitution	The change of political system Albania experienced in the early 1991 paved the way to a wide national range of privatization process of the state owned and common properties. The new transformation process required the creation of private ownership, taking as a basic reference the four main categories of land and property use, such as housing properties, agricultural fields, industrial or service buildings and lands, as well as properties being claimed for restitution by their legally documented owners before 1945. From 2006, Property Restitution and Compensation Agency (AKKP) is the responsible authority for managing the restitution and compensation process in Albania.	Low	Medium
Ministry of Tourism and Environmental	Ministry of Tourism and Environmental is institution responsible for Environmental protection	High	High
National Environmental Agency	Is responsible for monitoring how the company implements the requirements of the Environmental Statement. If the Company does not implement correctly them, then the NEA gives penalties bazet on law.	High	High
National Agency of Protected Areas	NAPA is responsible for Protected area, for biodiversity and endangered species	High	High
Regional & local level			

Stakeholders	Interest and role in the project	Stakeholders' analysis	
		Influence on project	Impact of project on stakeholder
Prefecture of Fier Region	Reporting key concerns/opinions to the Government. Role in facilitation of the public engagement	Low	Medium
Regional Council Fier	Reporting key concerns/opinions to the Government. Role in facilitation of the public engagement	Low	Medium
Regional Directorate of Environment	Supervision and implementation of the public consultation process. Certification of the public consultationprocedure.	Low	Low
Regional Agriculture Directorate	Authority in charge of elaborating and implementing agriculture and land use related programs	Low	Low
Agricultural and Rural Development Agency	National state agency aiming to support Albanian entrepreneurs in the agriculture and food sector, preparing the institution to benefit from EU and other donors' funding.	Low	Low
Libofshe and Remas Administrative Units, Municipality of Fier	Role in facilitation of the public engagement and hearing process.	Medium	Medium
Mayor of Fier Municipality	Elected representative of the community, reporting key concerns/opinions to the Government. Role in facilitation of the public engagement and hearing process.	Medium	Medium
Mayor of Divjakë Municipality	Elected representative of the community, reporting key concerns/opinions to the Government. Role in facilitation of the public engagement and hearing process.	Medium	Medium
Local Communities & PAHs			
Directly Affected Households	Those losing land permanently or temporarily, or losing access to land or established crops and natural resources	Medium	High

Stakeholders	Interest and role in the project	Stakeholders' analysis	
		Influence on project	Impact of project on stakeholder
Vulnerable Persons / Groups	Vulnerable groups may be affected by the Project by virtue of their physical disability, social or economic standing, limited education, lack of employment or access to land. Appropriate engagement practices and tools will be adopted to ensure adequate access to information and participation.	Medium	High
Users of the land to be acquired	Grazers and farmers using the land in the Project footprint will be affected by construction of the PV Plant and access roads, and associated infrastructure	High	High
Others			
NGOs	NGOs with direct interest in the Project, and its social and environmental aspects and that can influence the Project directly or through public opinion. NGOs may also have useful data or insights into the local and national issues raised by the Project. International NGOs include organisations based within and outside Albania with an interest in the Project. They include international NGOs, multilateral, and bilateral organisations.	Medium	Medium
Local Leaders and Groups (e.g., farmers, women's associations…)	Organizations with direct interest in the Project, and its social and environmental aspects and that can influence the Project directly or through public opinion. Such organisations may also have useful data and insight and may potentially become partners to the Project in areas of common interest such as the implementation of community investment as applicable.	Medium	High
Media	Media are able to influence the public opinion and can be useful to disseminate Project information	Medium	Medium

5.3.2 Identification of Women and Vulnerable Groups

The planning process considers the situation of women and youth and adapts the engagement process as necessary to ensure that women have a role in decision making.

This includes the identification of:

- Women's means of income generation and livelihoods, including non-formal activities such as gathering natural resources;
- Women's social and economic networks, including extended family ties; and
- Women's ownership of affected land and crops, to appropriately compensate them.

Women's status in Albania remains somewhat marginalized. The primary issue facing rural women is a lack of economic empowerment, resulting from traditional custom, and having limited access to employment and income-generating opportunities, a lack of skills training, and a general detachment from economic development.

Their intimate knowledge of issues such as land management, water resources, and food security make woman essential contributors to a consultation process. They can provide valuable information to specialist studies and are frequently in a good position to identify community needs and priorities that can be supported by social development programs.

The following specific steps are being taken to promote women's equitable and meaningful participation:

- Consultative events such as meetings are timed to consider the various demands on women's time such as other work, childcare, and meal preparation
- Baseline social profiles compiled as part of the economic displacement process include an analysis of gender dynamics and disparity between men and women's participation in the local and district/region economy. This information is used as a basis for further planning to involve and meet the needs of female community members
- When monitoring the effects of ongoing community consultation, data is collected and recorded in a gender-disaggregated manner so as to provide insight into the differential impacts of the Project on women and men.

5.4 Stakeholder Engagement to Date

This Section provides a summary of the stakeholder engagement activities undertaken so far. Community participation and inputs into Project development to-date have been assured through the following mechanisms:

5.4.1 Public Meetings

In accordance with national EIA legislation, a Public Hearing was organized to present the ESIA process to stakeholders. Invitation letters with 30 copies of the non-technical summary of the ESIA were made available to the local communities and sent to the municipality of Divjakë, Fier and the Regional Environmental Authority (REA). The same letter with 10 copies of the ESIA non-technical summary was sent to the Administrative Unit (AU) of Remas, Libofshe, Topoje, Dermenas and Qender. Posters with information about the public hearing and contact details were placed in the villages near the site of the PV plant and along the route of the transmission line. In addition, an announcement was published in the local and national press and was disseminated through radio and television for 20 consecutive days. For stakeholders who could not be present at the public hearing, a link was shared to enable online participation.

5.4.2 Consultation Meetings

Consultation meetings were organized during both the scoping and ESIA phases of the Project to provide stakeholders with background information about the proposed project and to give stakeholders the opportunity to raise issues and/or concerns. Invitation to stakeholders were sent via invitation letters and emails. All the letters of notification were distributed to key stakeholders' groups identified. Other forms of notifications used for consultations included putting of posters and delivering leaflets in the affected villages and residential settlements.

For the draft scoping report, an online consultation meeting was organized to discuss relevant issues related to the scoping report disclosure and preliminary findings. In total 7 participants including; 1 national level, 2 regional and local level and 4 NGO`s participated in the meeting. All the stakeholders identified in the first phase of engagement were notified through email for the publication of the scoping report and then for the online consultation after 30 days disclosure period. In addition, posters and flyers was used to inform local communities. The Scoping Report was made available on the project website and officially delivered to each of the AU`s crossed by the project.

The following onsite engagement meetings were carried out:

- Between the 21st – 25th September 2020, a total of 16 meetings with the participation of 53 officials were carried out with national, regional, and local authorities.
- In October 2020, engagement with local communities was conducted through ad hoc meetings with more than 30 community members in the villages of Ndërmenas and Hasturkas.
- In February 2021, engagement with local communities living along the transmission line route was carried out (after the confirmation of the route alignment).

5.4.3 ESIA Socio-economic Survey

A socioeconomic survey was also undertaken to collect relevant socioeconomic baseline information and to engage with stakeholders. The team distributed leaflets to 364 households interviewed during the socio-economic survey.

According to the socioeconomic survey, the biggest issues the households residing in the area are facing relate to unemployment problems and economic issues, as well as infrastructure and public utilities, such as access to drinking water, and sanitation, and poor health service provision.

5.4.4 ESIA Disclosure Meetings

Based on the requirements of the IFC and EBRD Environmental and Social Policies on the public disclosure of the ESIA, a series of meetings were held in the project area to inform the general public about the impacts and mitigations presented in the ESIA final report. For each of the village affected, posters were placed at least two weeks in advance of the meetings announcing the reason of the meeting, the location and venue of the meeting and the date and time. In addition, posters were placed in each Administrative Unit Office and in the venues of the meetings.

All head of the villages affected were met during this period of engagement inviting them and the local population to participate in the meeting and during the two weeks period before the meeting, additional phone calls with head of villages and other community leaders, such as the administrators of the respective AU were held to invite them to and to renew the invite for the local population to participate in these meetings.

The meetings were held in the following date and venues:

- Meeting for the villages of Ndërnenas, Hasturkas and Karavasta e Re was held in the premises of the Ndërnenas School the 22nd of June 2022 at 10:00.
- Meeting for the villages of Seman, Seman I Ri and Gjokalli was held in the premises of the Community Center in Seman villagethe 22nd of June 2022 at 14:00.

- Meeting for the villages of Zhupan, Vadhiz, Clirim and Drizë was held in the premises of the Qender Administrative Unit in the 23rd of June 2022 at 10:00.
- Meeting for the villages of Sulaj, Dërmenas and Radostinë was held in the premises of the Dërmenas Administrative Unit in the 23rd of June 2022 at 14:00.
- Meeting for the villages of Peshtan I Ri was held in the premises of the centre of the village the 24th of June 2022 at 11:00.

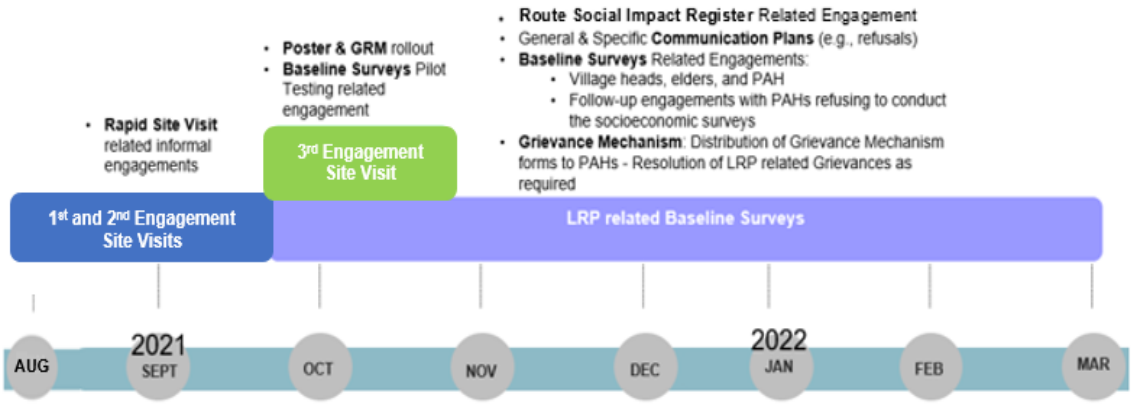
In addition to ESIA, Voltalia team also presented the Ecosystem, LRP and GLAC documents and their main principles.

5.4.5 LRP-Related Stakeholder Engagement

Extensive stakeholder engagement was undertaken as part of the LRP-Related on site activities, especially during implementation of baseline surveys, and development of the Route Social Impact Register.

Stakeholder engagement related to the LRP commenced in September 2021 and is still ongoing in the Project Footprint area, as project rerouting has required the surveying of additional land parcels. Figure 5.1 presents a summary of the onsite engagement carried out to date:

FIGURE 5.1: OVERALL ONSITE ENGAGEMENT TO DATE*



**It is expected that all baseline surveys will be concluded in March 2022,* Source: SRA, 2022

LRP-related stakeholder engagement consisted of several engagements with Project Affected Households directly and indirectly affected by the Karavasta Project:

- The Route Social Impact Register included stakeholder engagement with households in the immediate surrounds of the PV Plant Site and the OHL that could potentially be affected by the Karavasta Project (e.g., potential short temporary land access restrictions during construction)
- The LRP-Related Baseline Surveys engaged with Project Affected Households whose land parcels will be directly affected by the Project impacts (permanent land take, and land disturbance) guided by specific Communication Plans.

In addition, LRP-related stakeholder engagement included placing informative posters in the villages nearby the Project footprint, distributing Grievance Redress Mechanism forms, and engaging with Administrative Units' employees, elders of the villages, neighbours, and other groups and inhabitants (e.g., elders).

These activities are further described in subsections below.

5.4.5.1 Communication Plans

Communication Plans were developed to guide key external engagement activities, such as execution of baseline surveys. For the baseline surveys, the following Communication Plans were developed:

- A General Communication Plan to guide baseline surveys related engagement, which included key messages on project overview, design, process, impacts, voluntary agreements/expropriation procedures, related impacts, and the importance of baseline surveys. The Communications Plan included guidance on engaging with stakeholders which was followed by the survey teams when conducting the socioeconomic and asset surveys.
- Additional Communication Plans targeted at PAH refusing to conduct the socioeconomic survey. In the cases where the PAH refused to conduct the socioeconomic survey, additional Communication Plans included additional key messages on the project process, the importance of baseline surveys and voluntary agreements, and answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) identified to date.

5.4.5.2 Baseline Surveys Related Engagement

Engagement as part of the LRP-related baseline surveys was conducted starting in October 2021 and is ongoing for the survey of new parcels identified on the basis of design/route changes. Meetings with PAHs to collect socioeconomic data begin with an introduction to the project design, process, and the purpose of the survey, and include discussions to collect baseline data information to inform the LRP. Households also have an opportunity to ask questions about the Project, and survey teams are guided by FAQs. When PAHs decline to conduct the socioeconomic surveys, they are re-contacted at later stages by senior personnel, following a specific Communication Plan (5.4.5.1 Communication Plans).

In addition, engagement with Administrative Unit employees, elders of the village, neighbours, and other groups (e.g., elders) has been undertaken periodically. These engagements are critical in raising general awareness of the Project, and in verifying ownership information for some of the parcels affected by the Project. In these engagements, updated information on project design, process, schedule and impacts are provided.

5.4.5.3 Project Information Posters

In October 2021, posters were placed in the main villages where socioeconomic surveys were conducted: Adriatik, Çlirim, Ndërmenas, Radostinë, Drize, PeshIan for a Vogel, Seman, sIman i Ri, Sulaj, Vadize, and Zhupan. The posters provide a brief description of the Project, and a direct hotline and email to contact the Project directly in case of questions, comments, and grievances. Figure 5.2 shows the poster placed in the Project nearby villages

FIGURE 5.2: VOLTALIA POSTER PLACED IN THE PROJECT NEARBY VILLAGES

Source: Voltalia, 2021

5.4.5.4 Grievance Mechanism Rollout

The commencement of the LRP-related baseline surveys in October 2021 coincided with the Grievance Mechanism Rollout. The means by which Grievance Mechanism related information was made available to all interested and affected parties to make a complaint, grievance, suggestion, or question was threefold:

- Posters with a contact number and an email address where to contact the Project (see Section 5.4.5.3 Project Information Posters);
- Delivery of a Complaint Mechanism Form to all PAHs who were required to answer the socio-economic questionnaire, and all other interested parties; and
- Verbally introducing and explaining the process, and providing the contact number and e-mail address where to contact the project, not only to surveyed PAHs, but also to the village chiefs, neighbours, and other inhabitants (e.g., elders).

To date, Voltalia has been contacted by 4 PAPs through the Grievance Mechanism, mainly to require more information about the Project, and, in one case, to inform the Project that a household was the owner of one of the affected parcels and wanted to conduct the socioeconomic and asset surveys. In addition, resolution of LRP related grievances is undertaken by the baseline survey teams in the field as required.

5.4.5.5 Route Social Impact Register

As described in Section 4.3.8 From the total evaluated land parcels, 84% had drainage systems. For those land parcels having drainage systems, only three systems (less than 1% of surveyed land parcels) were reported to be in bad condition and not guaranteeing an adequate service to the land parcels. In these plots neither the drainage board nor the farmers had intervened in cleaning the channels to guarantee adequate drainage of the parcels.

However, while the drainage system in the individual land parcels affected by the project is reported to be adequate, the agronomist assessment notes that the overall functioning of the wider area drainage system is not functional and has regular failures.

From the total evaluated land parcels, 69% have some form of irrigation system. For those land parcels having irrigation systems, in 30 cases (representing 9.3% of the cases), the irrigation channels were in poor condition, resulting in the plots not being irrigated, even if there was a water supply in the vicinity. However, 87% of cases have functioning irrigation systems, due to regular maintenance work by the farmers, who clean the irrigation systems during the rainy seasons. 4% reported to have functioning irrigation systems but not properly maintained.

Route Social Impact Register (RSIR) was developed to ensure any impacts beyond the project footprint (e.g., loss of access) are also identified and mitigated. The RSIR included an initial desk-based assessment of the Plant Site and OHL using satellite imagery, followed by verification through ground-truthing. The field verification activities were combined with initial engagements with PAHs proximate to the project footprint on potential impacts. Figure 5.3 shows stakeholder engagement related activities carried out on site during RSIR field verification.

FIGURE 5.3: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WITH PAHS DURING RSIR GROUND-TRUTHING

Source: SRA, 2021

5.5 Future Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Stakeholder engagement on all displacement-related issues will continue to occur through a variety of processes and activities, as discussed below.

5.5.1 Information and/or Briefings to Key Stakeholders

- Information and/or briefings on the Project will be regularly provided to the following:
- National Ministries/Agencies:
    - Transmission System Operator (OST)
    - State Agency for Expropriation (SAE)
    - Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
    - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
    - Ministry of Culture
    - National Territorial Planning Agency
    - National Agency of Property Compensation and Restitution
    - National Environmental Agency
    - National Agency of Protected Areas.
- International, national and local environmental and human rights NGOs;

- International, national, regional and local media;
- Regional and Local Institutions, Officials and Agencies:
    - Prefecture of Fier Region
    - Regional Council of Fier
    - Regional Agriculture Directorate
    - Regional Directorate of Environment
    - Agricultural and Rural Development Agency
    - Fier Administrative Unit
    - Libofshe Administrative Unit
    - Mayor of Fier Municipality
    - Mayor of Divjakë Municipality
- Local Leaders and Groups.

Initial briefings may be provided through formal meetings with stakeholders at all levels. Regular briefings will then continue via regular meetings, or through written correspondence, as preferred or appropriate to each stakeholder group.

This approach ensures key government stakeholders feel well informed and involved in the project development, and more inclined towards closer cooperation. Copies of formal briefings will also be made available.

All the information and/or briefings to key stakeholders will be done following the provisions of COVID-19 restrictions, in alignment with Section 4.2.1 of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) developed as part of the ESIA process.

5.5.2 Communication Plans

Communication Plans to guide key external engagement activities will continue to be developed as required, related to key Project milestones, such as disclosure of LRP and Guide to Land Acquisition & Compensation (GLAC), the Voluntary Agreement, Expropriation and Project Compensation Agreement processes, and Land Entry and construction. Communication Plans may also be developed to undertake specific engagements with a particular stakeholder group on specific issues as required.

The Voltalia Community Liaison team will lead development and implementation of the Communication Plans, supported by Voltalia Management as required.

5.5.3 Guide to Land Acquisition & Compensation

A GLAC has been prepared to explain the project approach to land access and acquisition, and the approach to compensation. It has been developed in a way to make the land access and acquisition process understandable and accessible to all stakeholders, particularly impacted households. This includes, amongst other aspects, the following:

- Project information and rationale for implementation;
- Project impacts;
- Key steps and timing for the compensation process;
- Compensation principles for land users;
- Valuation methodologies and compensation per type of land use;
- Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs); and
- Overview of grievance mechanisms.

In addition to initial household visits to explain and disclose the GLAC, all directly-affected households receive follow-up visits to explain changes and innovations in the compensation

process, developed due to the inability of households to obtain ownership documentation (as discussed in Section 9 below).

5.5.4 Livelihood Restoration Plan

The Preliminary Livelihood Restoration Plan was widely disclosed in parallel with ESIA disclosure. As part of LRP development, three key phases are envisaged, involving the development of Preliminary, Interim and Final LRPs. The trigger for development of these documents, the level of detail, and broad timing, are discussed in more detail at Section 15. As such, the LRP is a 'living document' which is updated over time, and is not merely documentation to serve as the basis of approvals by management or external parties.

The Project will develop appropriate livelihood restoration measures, advice and monitoring to ensure restoration of livelihoods in as timely a manner as possible. Post-construction the implementation of the Livelihood Restoration Program will be a key mechanism for ongoing engagement with affected households.

5.6 Stakeholder Engagement Schedule

The Stakeholder Engagement Schedule covering the period of LRP development, voluntary agreements and expropriation, and project construction, is shown below, including methodologies andfor aa to be employed. This schedule will be periodically reviewed for effectiveness, and adapted according to project needs and stages of development.

TABLE 5.2: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SCHEDULE

Methodology & Stakeholder Group	Format	Frequency
Consultations		
Briefing for OST (including presentation of compensation matrix, GLAC, LRP, etc.)	meetings and written correspondence	During design - ad hoc meetings; During construction - as required; and During operation - as required.
State Agency for Expropriation (SAE) (including presentation of compensation matrix)	Written correspondence as required	As required
Briefing for Ministries/Agencies: • Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy • Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development • Ministry of Culture • National Territorial Planning Agency • National Agency of Property Compensation and Restitution	Initial formal meeting followed by written correspondence	Quarterly
Briefing for Regional and Local Institutions, Officials and Agencies:	Initial formal meeting followed	Quarterly

Methodology & Stakeholder Group	Format	Frequency
• Prefecture of Fier Region • Regional Council of Fier • Regional Agriculture Directorate • Regional Directorate of Environment • Agricultural and Rural Development Agency • Fier Administrative Unit • Libofshe Administrative Unit • Mayor of Fier Municipality • Mayor of Divjakë Municipality	by written correspondence	
Briefing for Regional Media	Initial formal meeting followed by written correspondence	Quarterly
Focus group work shops with special interest groups including Civil Society Groups (NGO), Business, Women Groups	Initial formal meeting followed by written correspondence	Quarterly
Dissemination of Information & Grievance Resolution		
GLAC Disclosure to Regional and Municipal Departments and Agencies	Formal meetings	April 2022
GLAC Disclosure to PAHs	Household visits	|June 2022
Engagement with PAHs having submitted a grievance to the Project if required	Ad-hoc meeting	Ad-hoc
Engagement with PAHs whose land is required for baseline geological studies on site	Ad-hoc meeting	Ad-hoc
Household Voluntary Agreements, Project Compensation Agreements, & Sign-off		
Face to Face meeting with the PAH (household head and spouse) to present Compensation Offer and GLAC	Household visit	One-off
Further visits to PAH (household head and spouse) for sign-off on Voluntary Agreements or Project Compensation Agreement. Enhanced engagement for identified vulnerable PAHs	Household visits (2-4 meetings, as required)	Biweekly and weekly (one off)
Land Entry & Exit		

Methodology & Stakeholder Group	Format	Frequency
Construction Manager and CLO engagement with PAHs to sign Land Entry Protocols	Household visit	During construction as required
Construction manager, Agronomist and CLO engagement with PAHs to sign Land Reinstatement & Exit Form	Household visit	During construction / post-construction as required
Dissemination of Information & Grievance Resolution		
Information boards in each village re: employment, training, safety issues, and construction schedule	Public notice boards	As required
Scheduled visits by Community Liaison Officers to each village	Initial meeting and visits by CLO(s) in each village	Weekly or as required
Livelihood and Vulnerables Programs		
Livelihood and Vulnerables Programs: information on eligibility, types of programs, and timings	Household visit as part of Sign-off process	As required

6 IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

6.1 Efforts to Avoid or Minimize Project Impacts

As referred to at Section 2.5 Actions to Avoid or Minimize Displacement, a range of measures have been taken to date to avoid or minimize project impacts.

The proposed location for the PV Plant Site was defined by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of Albania. This has the advantage that the land is in State control, and has no impact on individual landowners.

There is informal grazing and seasonal herding activities occurring in the area of the Plant Site, but no farming activities. In order to minimise disturbance, continued access will be assured for informal grazing to areas in the vicinity of the Plant Site. Following construction, access to the plant site for grazing of sheep will also be facilitated. This is aligned with standard practice, as grazing of sheep is normally used in PV Plant Sites to prevent grass and other plants from obstructing solar panels. The Project will engage with herders in advance to ensure grazing activities are carried out in a safe way.

Due to the poor condition of the road to the east of the Plant Site boundary, the Plant Site area and surroundings is crossed by informal tracks, used to access the coast and lagoon area for small-scale and recreational fishing activities. As part of the Plant Site development the existing road will be rehabilitated, offering improved access to the coast and lagoon, and avoiding impacts on other areas of grazing land. During construction, continued access for residents or visitors who may have previously crossed the Plant Site area to reach the coastline/lagoon will be assured.

In determining the route of the OHL, the key principle followed was to avoid as much as possible the following areas:

- Populated areas and housing;
- Forested areas;
- Parks and natural reserves;
- Special landscapes or locations with an architectural and historical value;
- Geologically unstable areas; and
- Farming lands, especially those with vineyards and orchards.

The proposed route has been selected specifically to avoid the need for any physical displacement. The route also avoids to the extent possible land parcels planted with perennial trees, including orchards and vineyards, which may take longer to recover following any construction disturbance.

Further route selection has resulted in a refinement of the route to reduce further the number of agricultural land parcels impacted by the project.

Further refinements to the final routing are focusing on the location of individual pylons – where feasible these are being located at the boundary/edge of farm parcels. This will reduce the impacts of permanent land take for the pylons on the utilization of the remaining farm parcel, including the efficient use of farm machinery on the parcels. Locating pylons at the boundaries also reduces the risk of creating ‘orphaned land’ (remaining land which is rendered uneconomical as a result of project infrastructure) as much as possible.

Finally, construction methodologies employed will minimize the impact on annual and perennial crops. OHL construction activities, including ‘stringing’ of the overhead cables, will involve access and crop disturbance on any one parcel being of minimal duration (approximately half a day), while impacts on perennial crops and trees will be avoided as much as possible.

6.2 Identifying Project Impacts

The identification of project impacts has been based on:

- Baseline data collected as part of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)
- Site assessments undertaken as part of the ESIA and LRP
- The Asset (Land Farm & Crop–) Sur–vey - To determine the extent of impacts on farm parcels and crops
- The Household Socio-economic Sur–vey - Of directly affected households, to establish baseline data for development of appropriate mitigation measures, identification of potential vulnerable households, and to aid effective monitoring and evaluation of impacts and mitigation measures
- The Route Social Impact Register (RSIR) – to examine if there will be any impacts on households, farms or businesses beyond the Project footprint as a result of loss of access or other disturbance during the construction period, and allow mitigation and compensation measures to be developed as required
- Land Access focused stakeholder engagement - Which allowed additional interaction with affected households at key stages, and an opportunity to gather feedback on potential impacts and stakeholder concerns. This included engagement as part of survey procedures and will continue with development and dissemination of the Guide to Land Acquisition and Compensation, and general engagements day-to-day through the work of Community Liaison Officers and the operation of the Grievance Mechanism.

As noted at Section 2.6 Summary of Project Land Take & Impacts, the extent of direct land access impacts arising from various project components are summarized at Table 6.1 below.

TABLE 6.1: LAND ACCESS IMPACTS

Project Phase	Component	Estimated Land Take	Estimated Land Parcels	Duration	Potential Impacts
Construction	Plant Site	185 Ha	21 land parcels	Permanent	Impacts on informal grazing and other activities; access restrictions
	Plant Site Construction camps and laydown areas	4 Ha	2 land parcels	Temporary	Impacts on informal grazing; access restrictions
	Plant Site Access Roads	To be determined	25 land parcels	Temporary	Impacts on informal grazing and other activities; access restrictions; loss of crops

Project Phase	Component	Estimated Land Take	Estimated Land Parcels	Duration	Potential Impacts
	OHL Pylons	57 pylons with on average 10m x 10m land take	57 land parcels	Permanent	Loss of land; loss of crops and agricultural income
	OHL Pylons access roads	57 land parcels access roads (estimation of 5m x 5m temporary land take)	57 land parcels	Temporary	Temporary loss of land, Loss of crops and agricultural income; land disturbance
	OHL Access Roads and Construction Corridor	Approx. 17 Ha	725 land parcels*	Temporary	Loss of crops and agricultural income; land disturbance
Operations	OHL Right-of Way	25m Wayleave each side of OHL	725 land parcels*	Permanent (partial restrictions)	Easement restrictions relating to permitted uses on any urban land in Right of Way and Wayleave**

*634 land parcels surveyed in Dec 21, and 32 new land parcels identified for the reroute of the OHL, and 50 new land parcels affected by access roads to the OHL

** The project shall not impose legal easement restrictions on agricultural or forest lands. However, landowners who have construction (formally designated urban) land within the 25 m corridor of each side of OHL in practice may not be able to construct in these lands anymore, even though no legal restriction will be imposed on these lands. In these cases the Project Urban Easement Rates will be paid.

Based on the stakeholder engagements, data analysis, and project characteristics, the assessment of impacts is considered below.

TABLE 6.2 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS

Stakeholder	Assessment of Impact		
	Impact Sources	Identified Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed
Project Component: Plant Site			
Landowners	All land relating to the Plant Site is State owned and has not previously been in	No impact from acquisition of Plant Site.	None

Stakeholder	Assessment of Impact		
	Impact Sources	Identified Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed
	private hands or previously expropriated. Use of private parcels for temporary construction camps / laydown areas will be rented for an estimate of one –ear - land is currently not utilized other than for informal grazing	(However, see also comments below re impacts on Livestock farmers / herders)	
Farmers	There are no farmers growing crops on the land affected by the Plant Site.	No impact from acquisition of Plant Site.	None
Livestock farmers / herders	The area of the Plant Site is used informally for grazing of sheep. The entire PV Plant area is not ideal for grazing, due to the patchy and sparse vegetation. As noted in the Project Ecosystem Services Assessment, within 5 km of the site, the PV Plant covers ~12% of the accessible/non-cultivated grazing land, which is of similar or better quality.	Grazing land supply will be impacted to a very minor extent as abundant alternative accessible grazing is available and will not be functionally impacted by the Project. Further, there will be opportunities to access the Plant Site during operations for grazing – the land within the plant site may offer improved grazing from protection and more periodic use. The PV Plant land also includes tracks that are used to access grazing land in the surrounding area. Alternative access will be provided during construction and operation to avoid impacts.	Impact addressed through construction management measures

Stakeholder	Assessment of Impact		
	Impact Sources	Identified Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed
Fishers	Fishers use informal tracks through the scrubland of the Plant Site and surrounding areas to access the coast and the lagoon. The road to the east of the plant site is in poor condition, and dissuades vehicles from using this road, hence the use of informal tracks to the coast.	As part of Project development, improvements to the road should improve access to the coast / lagoon, while reducing impacts on the scrubland from the use of informal tracks.	Impact addressed through project development / access improvements, resulting in net benefit
Project Component: Plant Site Access Roads			
Landowners	Where access roads leading to the plant site require use of private land (e.g., road widening to facilitate construction traffic, and civil works such as bridge strengthening) the impact of the temporary loss of land will need to be addressed. This can only be determined when THE Construction Contractor or EPC undertakes detailed design of the Plant Site access.	As a result of development of access roads to the Plant Site landowners outside the project footprint could temporarily lose access to their lands, and may be impacted by loss of crops. The Construction Contractor or EPC will take measures to ensure continued access to all lands outside the Project footprint during construction.	Temporary loss of land, and loss of crops compensation relating to access roads to be considered in Project Compensation Framework.
Farmers	Where access (either temporary or permanent) leading to the plant site require use of additional private or state land (e.g., road widening to facilitate construction traffic) the loss of any crops impacted will need to be addressed.	As a result of development of access roads to the Plant Site farmers outside the project footprint could temporarily lose access to their lands. The Construction Contractor or EPC will take measures to ensure continued access to all lands outside the Project footprint.	Crop compensation relating to access roads to be considered in Project Compensation Framework.
Project Component: OHL Pylons and Access Roads			

Stakeholder	Assessment of Impact		
	Impact Sources	Identified Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed
Landowners (including holders of AMTP certificate without formal registration)	Landowners will be impacted by permanent loss of land. Where possible the pylons are located at the edge of a land parcel to minimize disturbance to farming practices and minimize the potential for orphan land (in some cases an area of land between the permanent land take and the edge of the parcel may be rendered uneconomical for farming due to the remaining size and/or shape).	Landowners will be impacted by permanent loss of land due to land take for the Pylons (10m x 10m). They can also be impacted by orphaned land.	Permanent land take compensation (including orphaned land where applicable) to be considered in Project Compensation Framework
Farmers (both landowners and land users)	Farmers will be impacted by a potential loss of crops (annual and perennial) related to permanent land take for pylons, and loss of crops related to temporary land access during construction. Temporary land access may include temporary access roads to the Pylon locations. As a result of development of access roads to the Pylon locations, farmers outside the project footprint could temporarily lose access to their lands. The Construction Contractor or EPC will take measures to ensure continued access to all lands outside the Project footprint.	Landowners and users will potentially be impacted by a loss of crops (annual and perennial)	Permanent and temporary land access and subsequent loss of crops to be considered in Project Compensation Framework
Project Component: OHL Right-of Way and Access Roads			
Farmers (both landowners and land users)	Farmers will be impacted by a potential loss of crops (annual and perennial) related to temporary land access	Landowners will be temporarily impacted during access to land for construction	Permanent and temporary land access and subsequent loss of crops to be

Stakeholder	Assessment of Impact		
	Impact Sources	Identified Impact	Mitigation Measures Proposed
	during construction. Temporary land access will include temporary access roads to the Right of Way, and access to the Right of Way for stringing of the powerlines between pylons. This will impact part of the Right of Way along the route of the OHL. Land access in any one parcel will be less than one day duration. As a result of development of access roads to the Right of Way farmers outside the project footprint could temporarily lose access to their lands. The Construction Contractor or EPC will take measures to ensure continued access to all lands outside the Project footprint.	Landowners and users will potentially be impacted by a loss of crops (annual and perennial)	considered in Project Compensation Framework
Project Component: OHL Wayleave Restrictions			
Landowners of Urban Land Parcels	The project will not apply any legal easement restrictions to the lands.	In practice, landowners having construction (formally classified as “urban”) land within 25 m of the OHL corridor (each side) may not be able to use the land for construction anymore.	Portion of construction land falling within the 25m corridor on each side of the OHL will be compensated as per the ‘Project Urban Easement Value’.

7 COMPENSATION FRAMEWORK

7.1 Key Considerations & International Best Practice

The Compensation Framework, according to international standards, should specify all forms of asset ownership or use rights among the population affected by the project and the project’s strategy for compensating them for the partial or complete loss of those assets.

This section therefore outlines the Compensation Framework for the Project. The Compensation Framework has been refined through extensive consultation with stakeholders, including relevant government authorities, international funding institutions, and affected households, culminating in the development of a final *Eligibility and Entitlement Matrix* outlining the eligibility and entitlements of Project Affected Households (PAHs) in respect of compensation and other assistance. This is also summarized in the *Guide to Land Acquisition and Compensation (GLAC)* which is presented to all directly-affected households.

Under the applicable standards, the Project proponent is required to compensate and/or assist people affected by economic displacement. Affected persons includes:

- Those who have formal legal land or asset rights;
- Those who do not have formal legal land or asset rights, but have a claim to land or assets that is recognized or recognizable under national law; and
- Those who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land or assets they occupy or use.

The entitlement options offered to affected people are based on the stakeholder engagements and consultations, analysis of socio-economic and asset surveys, and the assessment of impacts.

The Compensation Framework, according to international standards, specifies all forms of use rights among the population affected by the land acquisition for the construction of the Project and the project's strategy for compensating them for the partial or complete restriction / loss of assets / access to land.

7.2 Compensation Framework Objectives

Key objectives of the Compensation Framework are to:

- Provide a comprehensive basis for engagement with stakeholders on all aspects of compensation and mitigation in relation to the Project;
- Provide a basis for open and transparent engagement to secure voluntary agreements on compensation values and related assistance with affected households, with expropriation utilized only as a last resort;
- Define compensation policies and procedures in a comprehensive manner;
- Provide Project-affected people and households with fair and timely compensation sufficient to offset all losses; and
- Restore, and ideally improve, the livelihoods and welfare of Project-affected people and households such that they are equal to, or better off than before the Project impact.

7.3 Compensation Principles

General principles adopted by the project in relation to compensation are as follows:

1) Voltalia seeks to achieve voluntary agreements with affected persons and households, with expropriation utilized only when required – in practice due to the difficulty in households obtaining the necessary ownership documentation for sale purchase agreements, the expropriation process will be followed in the vast majority of cases. In these cases, Voltalia will enter into Compensation Agreements with households to pay the full compensation in advance (see Principle 3 below). Compensation will be at full replacement value, without depreciation, and taking account of all transaction costs
2) When utilizing the expropriation process for households who have previously entered into the voluntary agreement process, Voltalia will pay the full compensation amount due in advance of land entry, notwithstanding payments which may be forthcoming through the

expropriation process. Procedures for the expropriation process are initiated prior to the start of construction;

3) For households refusing the voluntary agreement process, Voltalia will make available a top-up payment following the expropriation process to ensure all affected households receive full compensation at project rates;
4) In addition to compensation for assets, additional livelihood measures will be developed as required to ensure effective and timely restoration of affected farm parcels; and
5) Identified vulnerable households will be eligible for additional transitional assistance.

Key principles to be adopted by the project in relation to compensation for the various identified impacts are detailed below.

7.3.1 Permanent Land Acquisition

Permanent land acquisition will be required in respect of the PV Plant Site (185 Ha) and the bases for pylon installation (57 pylons with a 10m x 10m base).

PV Plant: Most of the permanent land will be required for the implementation of the PV Plant (185 ha). The land required for the construction of the PV is state land. According to the contractual agreement, the land for the PV Plant will be transferred from the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy to Voltalia for the purpose of the construction of the PV Plant.

In the development of access roads to the Plant Site, existing routes will be used to the extent possible. In some cases, road widening may be required, which may result in permanent land take for households not directly-impacted by the Project footprint, but who will then be impacted by access roads development. These areas, if any, will be identified by the Construction Contractor or EPC during detailed construction design and execution planning, and any land take will follow Project principles.

Pylon Installation: The installation of 57 pylons with a 10m x 10m base will require land to be acquired permanently (at least for the entire construction and operation phase). A land acquisition process will be undertaken by which the Project will acquire land from current landowners and will permanently change their status.

For the compensation process referred above, the following principles will be followed:

- Compensation to be paid for land at the ‘Project Land Acquisition Rate’;
- Compensation to be paid for any standing crops at ‘Project Crop Rates’;
- Reinstatement of all farm parcels following construction to pre-project conditions; and
- Affected households eligible for any livelihood restoration measures developed to ensure effective restoration and utilization of affected farm parcels.

7.3.2 Temporary Land Acquisition

Temporary land acquisition will be required in respect of the two private parcels at the boundary of the PV Plant Site, which will be temporarily used for construction camps / laydown areas (4 ha). The owners of the two land parcels are currently being engaged by the Project.

The following principles will be followed:

- Compensation to be paid for land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, paid annually, for a minimum of one year;
- Compensation to be paid for any standing crops at ‘Project Crop Rates’;
- Reinstatement of all farm parcels following construction to pre-project conditions; and

- Affected households eligible for any livelihood restoration measures developed to ensure effective restoration and utilization of affected farm parcels.
- No parcel impacted by the construction of the OHL fall into this category.

7.3.3 Temporary Land Access

Temporary land access differs from temporary land acquisition, as it relates to land access during construction of the Plant Site and OHL. Any use of access roads and the Right of Way for construction of the OHL will generally be of approximately one-day duration in any one parcel. Where construction activities (e.g. in relation to the pylons) leads to a duration of over two months, Temporary Land Acquisition measures would apply.

For construction of the Plant Site, road widening and bridge strengthening in relation to the access roads may require temporary land access. Where construction activities result in a duration of over two months, Temporary Land Acquisition measures would apply.

Temporary Land Access will be required in respect of:

- Temporary access roads to the PV Plant during construction;
- Temporary access roads to the pylons for construction; and
- Temporary access roads and a construction corridor in the Right of Way for stringing of the cables between the pylons of the Overhead Line (OHL).

The following principles will be followed:

- Compensation to be paid for land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, pro rated to the period of land use during construction (from land entry to land exit);
- Compensation to be paid for any standing crops at 'Project Crop Rates';
- Reinstatement of all farm parcels following construction to pre-project conditions; and
- Affected households eligible for any livelihood restoration measures developed to ensure effective restoration and utilization of affected farm parcels.

7.3.4 Orphan Land

The project will assess instances of orphaned land both during pre-construction surveys and during project construction. Criteria to assess whether land is orphaned will include:

- Size and nature of the potentially orphaned land portion;
- Typical farming techniques employed (e.g., use of machinery); and
- Expert opinion of project agronomists on the viability of the potentially orphaned land.

Orphan land can be caused by Permanent/Temporary Land Acquisition (see subsections below).

7.3.4.1 Permanent Land Acquisition

Where permanent land acquisition results in any portion of the land parcel being deemed uneconomical, the project will compensate the remaining land deemed uneconomical as per the Permanent Land Acquisition principles above (section 7.3.1 Permanent Land Acquisition).

It is anticipated that permanent acquisition of land for pylons, will allow agricultural activities to continue on the affected farm parcels. However, there may be instances where a portion of land (e.g., between the pylon base and the farm boundary) may be separated from the remainder of the farm parcel and considered uneconomical to cultivate. This land will therefore be considered 'orphaned land'.

7.3.4.2 Temporary Land Acquisition

Land may be 'orphaned' temporarily – for example where temporary acquisition of a farm parcel for construction works restricts access to farm other parcels. Where temporary land acquisition results in any portion of the land parcel being deemed uneconomical or inaccessible, the project will compensate the remaining land deemed uneconomical as per the Temporary Land Acquisition principles above (see section 7.3.2 Temporary Land Acquisition

Temporary land acquisition will be required in respect of the two private parcels at the boundary of the PV Plant Site, which will be temporarily used for construction camps / laydown areas (4 ha). The owners of the two land parcels are currently being engaged by the Project.

The following principles will be followed:

- Compensation to be paid for land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, paid annually, for a minimum of one year;
- Compensation to be paid for any standing crops at 'Project Crop Rates';
- Reinstatement of all farm parcels following construction to pre-project conditions; and
- Affected households eligible for any livelihood restoration measures developed to ensure effective restoration and utilization of affected farm parcels.
- No parcel impacted by the construction of the OHL fall into this category.

Temporary Land Access).

7.3.5 Easement Restrictions

The Project will not apply any legal easement restrictions. However, in practice people having construction land under the OHL route, may not be able to use this land for construction in the future. To mitigate this, the project will compensate the portion of construction land within the 25m corridor on each side of the OHL route in accordance with the project 'Urban Easement Values'.

The following principles will be followed:

- Any urban land will be compensated at a set percentage of the overall land value – the 'Project Urban Easement Values'; and
- Affected households eligible for any livelihood restoration measures developed to ensure effective restoration and utilization of affected farm parcels.

7.4 Compensation Values Study

According to International Best Practice, all affected assets must be replaced at replacement value. The Project has undertaken a Compensation Values Study (CVS) to determine appropriate compensation values in respect of all affected assets, including determination of:

- Project Land Acquisition Rates;
- Project Crop Rates; and
- Project Urban Easement Values.

The methodology utilized was as follows:

Step 1: Identification of Existing Applicable Values:

- Identified and obtained information on compensation values from Albanian Government Agencies involved in land acquisition activities;
- Identified official statistics from relevant study sources for the purpose of calculations;

- Reviewed and compared methodologies used and whether they can achieve market value and full replacement cost;
- Reviewed the relevant national principles on the categorization of land;
- Identified and reviewed existing compensation values in the project area (both market values and government valuations);
- Considered underestimation of transactions (e.g., for tax reasons);
- Reviewed values against national requirements and international standards;
- Identified and reviewed official inflation rates and ALL/Euro exchanges for last five years; and
- Identified and reviewed available official statistics on prices of agricultural produce.

Step 2: Development of replacement rates and values for affected assets:

- Developed an appropriate professionally-based categorization of affected agricultural land (using criteria such as arable/pasture, irrigated/dry, soil type, etc.), based on official classifications of land according to production potential;
- Developed a categorization of affected non-agricultural land using relevant spatial planning categories (urban residential, non-urban residential, industrial, etc.);
- Developed a geographical categorization of land relevant to valuation;
- Prepared a matrix by crossing categories;
- Calculated the current replacement value for each of the sub-categories consistent with international standards and national requirements;
- Obtained relevant Government agencies reference transactions for each of the sub-categories and associated prices per square meter and established a market value for each of the sub-categories of land;
- Evaluated transaction costs (cost of registration and any taxes, fees, rights, etc.) which may be additional to the land value);
- Determined the compensation methodologies and values for permanent land acquisition and crop compensation; and
- Proposed an update formula taking into account recent and upcoming inflation.

Step 3: Development of the detailed Compensation Matrix.

7.5 Compensation Values Matrix

The resultant Compensation Matrix for the Project is summarized below. This is also presented in the Guide to Land Acquisition and Compensation (GLAC) issued to all directly-impacted households.

TABLE 7.1: COMPENSATION MATRIX

Type of Impact	Type of Compensation
1. Permanent Land Acquisition	To Landowner (including holders of Akti i Marrjes së Tokës në Pronësi (AMTP) certificate without registration): Purchase of land required at Project Land Acquisition Rate. Compensation for any fixed asset affected at full

Type of Impact	Type of Compensation
	replacement value (e.g., irrigation, drainage structures, sheds, wells etc.)
	To Land User: Compensation for loss of crops at full replacement value
2. Temporary Land Acquisition	To Landowner (including holders of Akti I Marrjes së Tokës në Pronësi (AMTP) certificate without registration): Compensation for land at 12.5% of the Project land Acquisition Rate (the Project Land Rental rate), paid annually To Land User: Compensation for loss of crops** at full replacement value
3. Temporary Land Access	To Landowner (including holders of Akti i Marrjes së Tokës në Pronësi (AMTP) certificate without registration): Compensation for land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, pro rated to the period of land use during construction (from land entry to land exit) To Land User: Compensation for loss of crops at full replacement value
4. Orphan Land	Subject to case-by-case review by expert opinion of project agronomists. Where land access results in any portion of the land parcel being deemed uneconomical, the project will compensate the remaining land deemed uneconomical as per the principles above.
5. Easement Restrictions* **	Formal Urban Land: 90% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate

**Project Land Acquisition Rate: The market value of land of equal productive use or potential located in the vicinity of the affected land, plus the cost of preparation to levels similar to or better than those of the affected land, plus the cost of any registration and transfer taxes.*

***Project Crops Rate: The replacement cost for perennial plants and trees should be equivalent to current market prices given the type, age and productive value of the plants and/or trees, including lost future productivity.*

****The Project will not apply any legal easement restrictions. However, in practice people having construction land under the OHL route, may not be able to use this land for construction in the future. To mitigate this, the project will compensate the portion of construction land within the 25m corridor on each side of the OHL route in accordance with the project 'Urban Easement Values'.*

7.5.1 Determining Replacement Values for Affected Parcels

The various Land Categories were determined as follows:

- Formal/Informal Urban land: Land that is generally used for residential, commercial or light industry. Informal urban land has the same land use, but is not formally zoned as 'urban'.

- Agricultural Land: Land used for farming. The crops may be annual or perennial (trees). The crops may also be irrigated or not. Affected land is divided into 5 different categories.
- Forest Land: All land officially classified as Forest Land, which may be state owned or private owned.
- Pasture Land: Land generally not suited for farming, but better used for pasture.

Crop Values were determined as follows: Compensation is based on full replacement value. The major contributors of full replacement value are:

- Agricultural yield;
- Density of cultivation;
- Producers prices;
- Production costs; and
- Other (e.g., subsidies).

The replacement value is calculated as: Income (yield, market price, subsidies etc.) + expenses (transaction costs) = full replacement value.

Factors affecting compensation for annual crops include: type of crop, yield, market price, production costs, other (e.g., subsidies). Factors affecting compensation for perennial crops (trees) include: type of crop/tree, yield, age of tree, production/life-cycle of tree, market price, profit, production costs, other (e.g., subsidies).

The Project will reimburse project-affected households for any subsidy that is lost as a result of Project activities. The specific amount that may be due will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

7.5.2 Detailed Tables of Compensation Values

The GLAC presents the full tables of Compensation Values, which are also attached to the LRP as **Appendix A**. These include:

- Project Acquisition Rates for Agricultural Land;
- Project Acquisition Rates for Formal/Informal Urban Land;
- Project Easement Rates for Formal/Informal Urban Land;
- Project Annual Crop Rates; and
- Project Perennial Crop Rates.

7.6 Eligibility Framework: Identification of Eligible Groups

PAHs are eligible for compensation and other assistance if they have a “legitimate interest” in Project Area “immoveable assets” that are in place (i.e., established, in the case of crops; or constructed, in the case of buildings and other structures) at the time of the Entitlement cut-off Date.

“Legitimate Interest” in immoveable assets at the household level is usually held by a single member: the household head. Through traditional and family practice, the household head is typically the most senior male member of the household. However, in most instances, the legitimate interest is hold jointly, i.e., by the household head and his/her spouse, or with other members of the extended family. If the household head dies, the Project will require that other household members to identify the inheritor through a court order before compensation is paid.

Note that “Legitimate Interest” is not synonymous with ownership. Even those Project-affected persons/households/communities with no recognizable legal right or claim to the assets they are occupying are considered eligible for assistance. It is likely that there will be cases where PAHs

may not have proof of ownership of land. In Albania it is common for land to be identified as State Land, but ownership is claimed by a household who have not completed the ownership registration process. A system will be developed by the Project whereby such cases will be investigated, and the claimant will be assisted in obtaining necessary ownership documents, while compensation is held in escrow. Where a land user claims ownership of crops, this will be confirmed with any landowner (if private land), neighbouring parcels, and local leaders, such as the village head.

The inventory of immoveable assets, supported by household socio-economic data, forms the basis for compensation of PAHs. Immoveable Assets that are planted (in the case of crops) or constructed (in the case of buildings) *after the Entitlement cut-off Date* are not included in compensation calculations.

7.7 Eligibility & Entitlement Matrix

In addition to the Compensation Matrix, the Project has developed a full Eligibility and Entitlement Matrix, to reflect the full range of supports offered to project-affected households, including livelihood restoration measures and transitional supports to vulnerable households.

The Eligibility and Entitlement Matrix identifies:

- All categories of affected people;
- All types of loss associated with each category; and
- All types of compensation and assistance to which each category is entitled.

The Eligibility and Entitlement Matrix forms a part of this LRP, and is presented as Table 7.2 below.

TABLE 7.2: ELIGIBILITY & ENTITLEMENT MATRIX

Category of Impact	Category of PAH	Package	Eligibility Rules
Permanent Land Acquisition	Landowners (including holders of AMTP without formal registration)	Compensation for affected land at Project Land Acquisition Rate If also land user, compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates If also land user, eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must have been owner at time of Entitlement Cut Off date
	Land users (if not landowner)	Compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates Eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must be user at time of land entry protocols
Temporary Land Acquisition	Landowners (including holders of AMTP without formal registration)	Compensation for affected land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, paid annually If also land user, compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates If also land user, eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must have been owner at time of Entitlement Cut Off date

Category of Impact	Category of PAH	Package	Eligibility Rules
	Land users (if not landowner)	Compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates Eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must be user at time of land entry protocols
Temporary Land Access	Landowners	Compensation for land at 12.5% of the Project Land Acquisition Rate, pro rated to the period of land use during construction (from land entry to land exit) Reinstatement of land parcel following construction If also land user, compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates If also land user, eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must have been owner at time of Entitlement Cut Off date
	Land users (if not landowner)	Compensation for standing crops at Project Crop Rates Eligible for Livelihood Programs	Must have been user at time of surveys
Easement Restrictions	Landowners	Compensation for any restrictions on use at Project Easement Values	Must have been owner at time of Entitlement Cut Off date
Orphan Land	Landowners	Compensated at Project Land Acquisition Rate, except where Easement Restrictions impact orphaned land, then compensated based on Project Easement Values	Orphan Land determined on case-by-case basis

8 LAND ACCESS & ACQUISTION PROCESS

8.1 Key steps

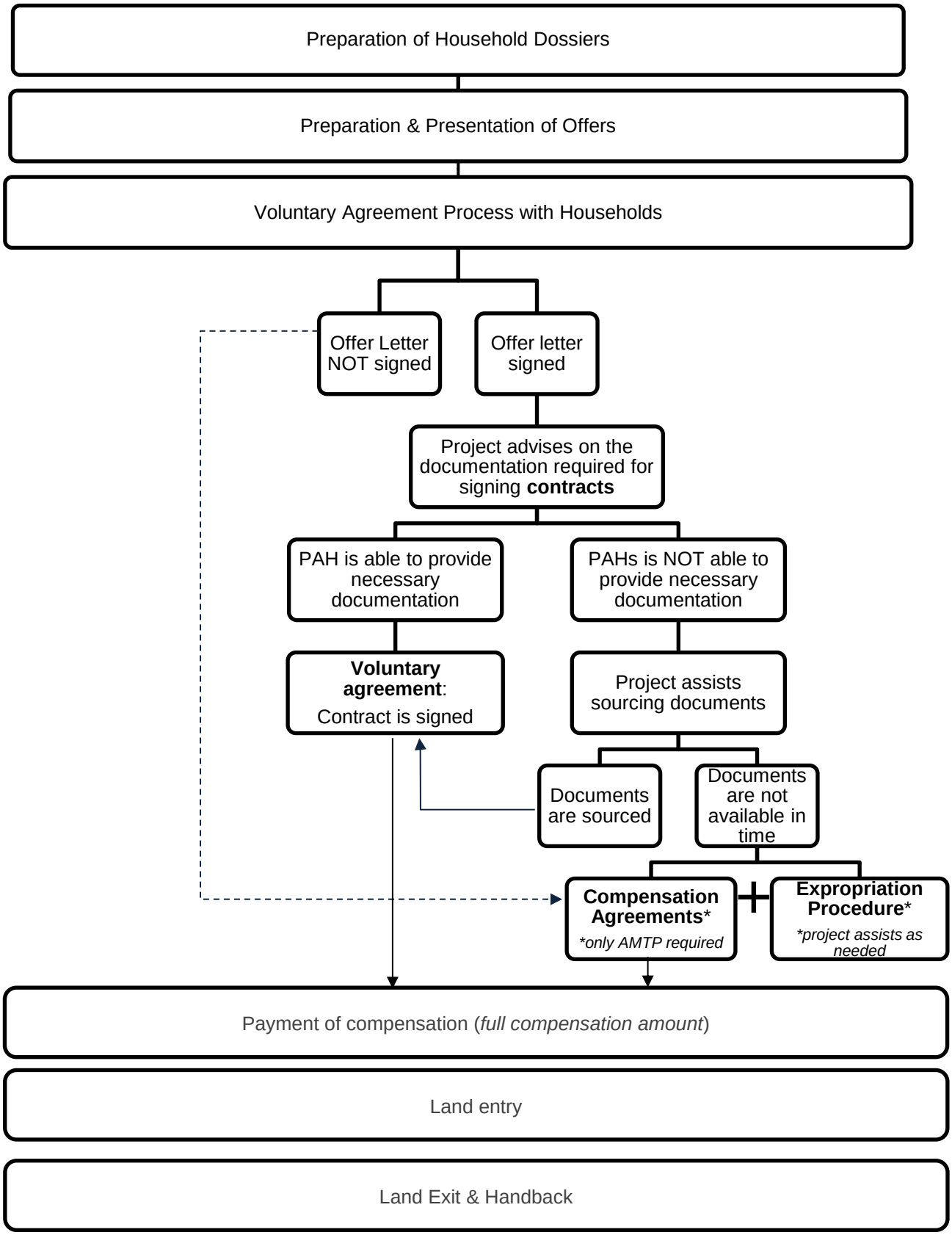
Based on the Compensation Framework and having due regard to national expropriation regulations and international standards and best practice, the following key steps have been followed in the Project land access and acquisition process in respect of permanent land acquisition.

1. Preparation of Household Dossiers
2. Preparation & Presentation of Offers
3. Voluntary Agreement Process with Households
4. Expropriation procedures
5. Compensation Agreements
6. Payment of Compensation
7. Land Entry
8. Land Exit & Handback.

Note that Voltalia will support and facilitate the land acquisition process for OST. Voltalia will lead on the Voluntary Agreement Process and the Expropriation Process will be also supported to ensure OST acquires the land for the Project. Voltalia will lead the compensation evaluation and payment on behalf of OST, but all transaction documents for land ownership transfer will be held by OST.

The key steps for permanent and temporary land acquisition are presented in graphic format and discussed further below.

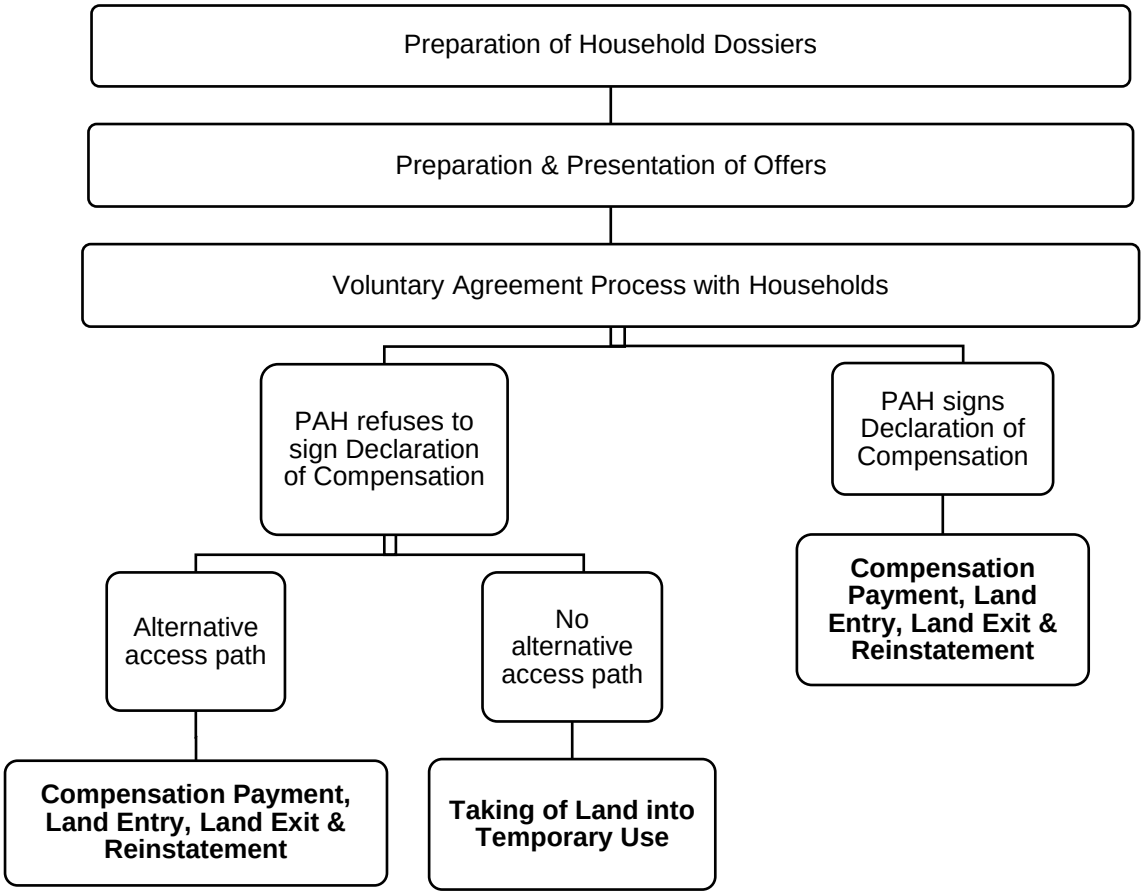
The flow chart below describes the steps for Permanent Land Acquisition (tower locations):


Preparation of Household Dossiers
Preparation & Presentation of Offers
Voluntary Agreement Process with Households
Offer Letter NOT signed
Offer letter signed
Project advises on the documentation required for signing **contracts**
PAH is able to provide necessary documentation
PAHs is NOT able to provide necessary documentation
Voluntary agreement: Contract is signed
Project assists sourcing documents
Documents are sourced
Documents are not available in time
Compensation Agreements*
*only AMTP required
Expropriation Procedure*
*project assists as needed
Payment of compensation (*full compensation amount*)
Land entry
Land Exit & Handback

The Project has made best efforts to engage with unidentified or absent owners before and during the Voluntary Agreement Process. In case of a conflict in the identification of owners or users, a verification process is carried out, and any compensation payment due is held in escrow pending determination of ownerships of land or assets (crops). Once the Voluntary Agreement Process is exhausted (when all voluntary agreements which have the required ownership certification have been completed) and there is enough evidence that the household is unable to provide the required documents in a timely manner, the Expropriation Process is initiated for those who have refused voluntary agreements, for those which are unidentified and/or absent, and for those where it is not possible to procure the required ownership certification or any other supporting documentation to complete the voluntary agreements.

Based on experience with the Voluntary Agreement Process to date, it is likely that almost all households will be unable to procure sufficient evidence of ownership or supporting documents required for the Voluntary Agreementl. Voltalia engaged with the households and supported the documentation for voluntary agreement, but after almost two months of engagement, no household managed to ensure the required documentation. As a result expropriation process will be utilized for all land parcels subject to permanent land acquisition. The Project will notify those households subject to voluntary agreement processes without sufficient ownership information that they will follow the expropriation process. This is critical in order to avoid delays in receiving permitting for project construction. However, in order not to disadvantage households subject to the voluntary agreement process, Voltalia will undertake Compensation Agreements with these households. This Agreement will undertake to provide households with the full compensation amount due for permanent land acquisition, at Project rates. This is further explained below.

The key steps for temporary land access (access of machinery and people to tower locations, and access to the OHL corridor for stringing of the lines) is different as there is no need for provision of official documentation to be eligible for crop compensation at Project rates. The head of the agricultural unit/family will sign the compensation agreements. The flow chart below describes the steps for Temporary Land Access:



Temporary Land Access will be reached through a Declaration of Compensation for both land users and owners, and Take of Land into Temporary Use ('Temporary Expropriation') will be used when temporary expropriation of the land is required.

For both permanent land acquisition and temporary land access, an escrow account will be set up for unknown/absentee landowners to retain the compensation amounts for a period of 5 years from commencement of construction. Where owners come forward within that time period and can be verified compensation payments will be made from this account in line with the LRP.

Finally, temporary land acquisition refers to the temporary leasing of land during the construction period for a period of at least one year. The Project will lease two land parcels adjoining the PV Plant Site during the construction period. The Project will enter into a lease agreement with the owner at Project Rates.

8.2 Preparation of Household Dossiers

The Project will prepare Household Dossiers, based on information collected in the asset (land, farm, and crops surveys) and socio-economic surveys, and the compensation values based on the Compensation Matrix.

The Household dossiers will include the following information for each household:

- Owner & Spouse (or any other representative female member of the household);
- Cadastral survey map;

- Map of affected land (for permanent land acquisition);
- Inventory of assets (land, farm and crops);
- Pre-Project Agronomic assessment;
- Details of compensation offer, in relation to permanent land acquisition, temporary land acquisition, or temporary land access, loss of crops/trees, as applicable; and
- Eligibility for specific livelihood programs.

Note that the Household Dossiers will include detailed compensation values for permanent land acquisition, based on the area of land to be acquired. Any compensation for crops will be indicative. Final crop compensation will be calculated as part of the Land Entry, Exit & Handback process, when the final impact on crops (based on what was planted at time of construction and extent of impacts) is known.

8.3 Preparation & Presentation of Offers

Details of the compensation offer per household, together with any additional assistance measures, will be presented to the project-affected household in writing. Where possible, this will be presented as part of a face-to-face meeting with the household (household head and spouse, , or any other female member of the household), in order to ensure a comprehensive voluntary agreement process (see below) alongside the expropriation procedures to be followed. Where a face-to-face meeting is not possible, telephone contact will be attempted. Failing this, the offer will be posted to the affected household, including details on next steps.

The process of presentation of offers will be done in a gender-sensitive manner, making sure spouses and any other related female members of the household are sufficiently engaged.

8.4 Voluntary Agreement Process with Households

The stakeholder engagement process detailed at Section **Error! Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found.** will ensure that affected households have been sensitized and informed regarding the land access and acquisition process, including through the Guide to land Acquisition & Compensation (GLAC), in advance of preparation and issuing of Offers.

During issue of the offer to PAHs, the process will be fully explained, and there will be an initial opportunity for the PAH to ask for clarifications on any aspect. Thereafter, for permanent land acquisition the PAHs will be given a period of two weeks to consider the offer, ask for further clarifications, and/or seek legal advice. A dedicated phone line, and the Project Community Liaison Officer (CLO), will be available to respond to queries. Gender issues, and women concerns will be observed throughout this process.

Following the two-week period, a further visit will be made to the PAH. If the PAH is happy with the offer, it is signed in the presence of a witness. If the PAH is not satisfied, further discussions may be held, and clarifications offered. The PAH will then be given a further week to consider the offer.

Following further consideration by the PAH, if they remain unwilling to sign the offer, a Minute of Disagreement will be signed and the negotiation process will be deemed unsuccessful, and expropriation proceedings will be followed. These procedures will be fully explained to the PAH, as outlined at Section 8.5 below.

The Project will make the best efforts for the Offer Letter to be signed by both the Household Head and spouse (or related female representative of the household), ensuring a transparent process within the family unit, and that the spouse or related female representative of the household has played a part in the final decision. Once the PAH has signed the Offer Letter, the

project will advise the PAH on the documentation required to prepare for the signing of the contracts for land rental, or transfer of ownership. Local notaries will be selected to assist with signing of contracts.

Where the PAH is unable to provide necessary documentation (e.g., ownership documents), the Project will assist with sourcing of ownership documents where available, or assist with the registration process. Where sufficient evidence of ownership is not available, as referred to above, it may be necessary to follow the expropriation procedure.

Based on experience with the Voluntary Agreement Process to date, it is likely that almost all households will be unable to procure sufficient evidence of ownership or supporting documents required for the Voluntary Agreement. Voltalia engaged with households and supported the documentation for voluntary agreement, but after almost two months of engagement, no household managed to ensure the required documentation. As a result expropriation process will be utilized for all land parcels subject to permanent land acquisition. The project will notify those households subject to voluntary agreement processes without sufficient ownership information that they will follow the expropriation process. This is critical in order to avoid delays in receiving permitting for project construction. However, in order not to disadvantage households subject to the voluntary agreement process, Voltalia will undertake Compensation Agreements with these households, as detailed at Section 8.6 below.

8.5 Expropriation Procedures

As noted above, if the PAH is absent, unidentified, refuses a voluntary agreement, or the household and Voltalia are unable to procure the required ownership certification in a timely manner, expropriation proceedings will be followed, as outlined at Section **Error! Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found.**.

Voltalia will also provide all available ownership information to the State Expropriation Agency to further facilitate the expropriation process.

The proposed management of the negotiation process in compliance with the legally mandated expropriation process, is outlined at Table 8.1 below.

TABLE 8.1: NEGOTIATION AND EXPROPRIATION PROCESS

Voluntary Agreement Process	Expropriation Process
Step 1: Stakeholder engagement with PAHs to inform them of land access and acquisition process in advance of triggering of expropriation proceedings (including GLAC)	Not started
Step 2: Update meetings with PAH to inform them of imminent expropriation proceedings and what to expect (i.e., letter of expropriation, plus visit from project personnel)	**Step 1**: Request for Expropriation submitted by OST to SEA (under the supervision of the Ministry of Energy and Industry)
	Step 2: SEA receives the file from the Dept of Expropriation of OST (the "*Applicant*")

Voluntary Agreement Process	Expropriation Process
	Step 3: The SAE establishes a Special Commission of Expropriation and determines value of compensation to be paid to affected persons
Step 3: Initial visit to PAHs with Offer letter, including details of additional assistance measures, and explanation of process **Step 4**: At least two follow up meetings with PAHs, and ongoing discussions, with aim to secure negotiated agreement	**Step 4:** If meets the criteria, the SEA approves the Expropriation Plan and notifies OST and landowners. The landowners have two options: 1) **Voluntary agreement**. **T**he landowner and SEA have 10 days to sign an agreement (in any case no later than 30 days) 2) **No voluntary agreement.** Interested third parties can present a claim within 15 days from the publishing in the Official Gazette (such legal action does not suspend the expropriation process)
Step 5: Minute of Disagreement signed and expropriation procedures followed in case of disagreement If the PAH is absent, unidentified, or the household and Voltalia are unable to procure the required ownership certification in a timely manner, expropriation proceedings will be followed	**Step 5**: The draft expropriation decision can be sent to the Council of Ministers only after the elapsing of a 30-**day** deadline from the moment of notification of the expropriation to the owners and publication of the expropriation in the Official Gazette.
	Step 6: Following approval, Council of Ministers transfers and registers ownership with the Immovable Property Registration Office (IPRO). The compensation agreements signed with the landowner should be put in place after the publication of the decision by the CoM. The compensation payment will be secured on an escrow account until the effective transfer of properties (following the agreement between OST and the landowner). OST will sign the agreement for the transfer of properties/ownership titles as OST becomes owner of the lands

8.6 Compensation Agreements

For all households subject to the voluntary agreement process who cannot provide sufficient evidence of ownership to complete contracts and must enter the expropriation process, Voltalia will enter into a Project Compensation Agreement. This Agreement will undertake to provide households with the full compensation amount due for permanent land acquisition. An Ownership Certificate is the preferred document for the completion of the agreements, and the project will make best efforts to support the household to obtain the document prior to land entry. However, in order to ensure compensation before actual impact occurs, the project may opt for an AMPT and other supporting documents that certify the legal owner of the land at the moment of land entry.

For Temporary Land Access and crop compensation, a Declaration of Compensation will be signed. For crop compensation no official document is required from the land user, whereas for landowner at least an AMTP will be required.

As with the Offer letter process above, the Project will make the best efforts for the Project Compensation Agreement and Declaration of Compensation to be signed by both the Household Head and spouse (or related female representative of the household), ensuring a transparent process within the family unit. As part of the sign-off, the Household will legally undertake the responsibility to ensure distribution of compensation according to the family ownership structure and entitlements.

Notwithstanding the Project Compensation Agreement, all households will still be eligible to follow up on expropriation payments following the conclusion of the expropriation process and subject to providing the necessary ownership certification. Voltalia will continue to assist households where possible to access ownership certification.

The project has made design changes to the OHL to minimize impacts as much as possible, but there are households that refuse cooperation. Those households who previously refused to enter into Voluntary Agreements may still take the opportunity to enter into a Project Compensation Agreement. After the expropriation decision from the government, Voltalia will inform the refusing households about the next steps and re-invite them to claim the project compensation amount. Temporary expropriation will be used in cases of landowner opposition to accessing the land.

Voltalia will also provide all available ownership information to the State Expropriation Agency to further facilitate the expropriation process.

8.7 Payment of Compensation

Payment will be made in as timely a manner as possible after an agreement has been signed (Voluntary Agreement or Compensation Agreement for Permanent Land Acquisition, Declaration of Compensation for Temporary Land Access and compensation of crops, and Land Lease Agreement for Temporary Land Acquisition) prior to entry onto the land and construction activities.. A construction corridor will be determined at Land Entry, allowing for payment of land rental and crop compensation prior to construction. In cases where there is any additional or accidental crop damage, this will be paid after Land Exit & Handback. The construction activities are not expected to cause significant impacts on the fruit trees. Therefore, the construction corridor shall not apply for perennial crops, and the compensation shall be made after land exit based on the actual impact on the trees.

Compensation for permanent land acquisition will be paid in one instalment in Albanian Lek into the bank account designated by the project-Affected Household and identified in the compensation agreements. This bank account needs to be a joint bank account, including the spouse or related female representative of the household. In case the beneficiaries do not have a bank account, they will be supported in opening one joint bank account for household head and spouse, or related female member of the household. Where compensation values are not significant (e.g. in the case of land rental in the OHL or crop compensation), and/or the household does not wish to operate a bank account, a cheque may be issued in the name of the household head and spouse, indicating that the cash compensation should be directed to related activities, and that this will be subject to monitoring by the Project.

The landowner will be requested to vacate, or make the land available, one week after payment. After such period, the Project will have the right to enter the land if required.

In the case of Temporary Land Access and Temporary Land Acquisition, the Pre-Project Agronomic Assessment, together with Land Entry assessments, will be used to agree with the owner and the spouse (or related female representative of the household) the baseline condition

of the land before work commences. Any crop compensation due will be calculated as part of the Land Exit & Handback process. Compensation for crops will be paid in one instalment in Albanian Lek into the bank account designated by the project-Affected Household and identified in the compensation agreements. This bank account needs to be a joint bank account, including the spouse or related female representative of the household.

8.8 Land Entry

As part of the Land Entry Protocol to be followed by the Construction Contractor (EPC), the landowner / user will sign a Land Entry Form prior to construction start. This will include details of the landowner and user, a record of the standing crops on the affected area (construction corridor), and any other affected assets, which will be compensated at Project rates. The Land Entry Form will be accompanied by photographs. The Form will be signed by the landowner and/or user, the contractor, and Voltalia representative, usually a Community Liaison officer. A copy of the Land Entry Form will be provided to the Landowner / user.

Where landowners and users are only identified for the first-time during Land Entry, a rapid socio-economic household survey will also be undertaken. In case of a conflict in the identification of owners or users, a verification process will be carried out involving witnesses (owners/users of neighbouring plots, village heads, etc.). Any compensation payment due will be held in escrow pending determination of ownerships of land or assets (crops).

In cases of private lands where both users and owners are absent or unidentified, the Land Entry will be signed by the Contractor, Voltalia representative and a possibly a witness. Any compensation payment due will be held in escrow pending the presentation of owner/user of land or assets (crops).

8.9 Land Exit & Handback

As part of the Land Exit Protocol to be followed by the Construction Contractor (EPC), the landowner / user will sign a Land Reinstatement & Exit Form. This Form will include a record of the final type and quantity of crops and other assets impacted. Any additional or accidental crop impacts since Land Entry will be compensated at Project rates.

The landowner / farmer will confirm that the land has been reinstated to pre-project conditions. A key objective will be to return the land to pre-project conditions and ensure timely return of the land to the landowner. Land reinstatement will be verified by both Project engineers and the Project agronomist, according to set criteria. Where additional works are required, these will be reported back to the Contractor.

Once reinstatement is complete, the Project will sign the Land Reinstatement & Exit Form with the landowner / user. The Form will be signed by the landowner and/or user, the contractor, and Voltalia representative, usually a Community Liaison officer. A copy of the Land Reinstatement & Exit Form will be provided to the Landowner / user.

9 LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAM

9.1 Livelihood Restoration Measures

Given the types of project impacts identified, the livelihood impact of the Project is expected to be slight, given:

- The limited extent of permanent land acquisition; and
- The temporary and very short-term nature of temporary land access during construction.

However, where there is a significant impact on any affected farm parcel, or the household may be vulnerable, additional assistance may be required in order to ensure a timely return to farming and effective restoration of productivity. Further, the Project will seek to ensure that where a portion of the farm parcel has been impacted by permanent land acquisition, the remaining parcel should be restored such that productivity and output returns to pre-project levels.

In order to achieve the above, the Project livelihood restoration measures are focused on:

- Parcel Reinstatement (see Subsection 9.1.1 Parcel Reinstatement)
- Agricultural Advice and Additional inputs on an 'as needed' basis (See Subsection 9.1.2 Agricultural Advice and Inputs)
- Agricultural Monitoring (see Subsection 9.1.3 Agricultural Monitoring & Close-Out Visits)
- Transitional Assistance for Vulnerable Households (See Section 9.2 Temporary Hardship & Vulnerable Households).

9.1.1 Parcel Reinstatement

Following temporary occupation of the land during construction, a key objective will be to return the land to pre-project conditions and ensure timely return of the land to the landowner.

The construction contractor will ensure that the following post-construction activities are undertaken:

- The original contours are restored;
- Topsoil that has been removed, and stored separately, is placed back on the impacted lands; and
- Land drainage infrastructure, damaged access roads and/or other networks and facilities, which were disturbed or moved during construction, are re-constructed.

A Project agronomist will advise the construction contractor on appropriate reinstatement, based on the parcel characteristics, in recognition that effective parcel reinstatement is key to timely restoration of farming activities and productivity. Land reinstatement will be verified by both Project engineers and the Project agronomist, according to set criteria. Where additional works are required, these are reported back to the Contractor. Once reinstatement is complete, the Project will sign a Land Reinstatement & Exit Form with the landowner.

9.1.2 Agricultural Advice and Inputs

Following reinstatement, the project agronomists will undertake follow up visits to each farmer to advise on agricultural methods to ensure restoration of productivity, and ideally improvements. This may include advice regarding recommended agronomic practices e.g., ploughing, and planting of specific crops to encourage soil restoration.

In some instances, the recommendations of the agronomist may include provision of inputs such as fertilizer. In such cases, inputs will be provided by the Project. However, these will only be provided based on assessed agronomic requirements, and not as a blanket entitlement. The agricultural advice and inputs required will consider the farming techniques already used by farmers (see section 4.3.6.5 where it is reported that almost all farmers already use pesticides, fertilizers, and improved seeds for their agricultural activities).

9.1.3 Agricultural Monitoring & Close-Out Visits

For those parcels identified as requiring additional inputs or actions, a follow-up visit will be made by the project agronomists after approximately 6 months. This visit will be used to confirm that productivity has been restored and to offer any further agronomic advice.

9.2 Temporary Hardship & Vulnerable Households

International Standards defines vulnerable groups as people who, by virtue of gender identity, ethnicity, age, disability, economic disadvantage or social status may be more adversely affected by project impacts than others and who may be limited in their ability to claim or take advantage of project benefits. Vulnerable individuals and/or groups may also include people living below the poverty line, the landless, the elderly, women and children headed households, refugees, internally displaced people, ethnic minorities, natural resource dependent communities or other displaced persons who may not be protected by national and/or international law. Such vulnerable groups should be identified early in the project process. The Project should take necessary actions to ensure that vulnerable groups are not disadvantaged in the process, are fully informed and aware of their rights, and are able to benefit equally from Project opportunities and benefits.

9.2.1 Defining Vulnerability

Vulnerability may be viewed in the context of two stages:

- Pre-existing vulnerability; and
- Transitional hardship vulnerability, caused by project related economic displacement.

Pre-existing vulnerability is vulnerability that occurs, with or without the Project development, whilst transitional hardship vulnerability occurs as a result of those directly affected by the Project being unable to adjust to new conditions due to shock or stress related to project activities.

The Project is chiefly concerned with avoiding, or mitigating, project-induced vulnerability. In addition, it is important to be aware of pre-existing vulnerabilities. Such households may be less well equipped to deal with the shocks of displacement, or may need additional assistance to engage effectively with the Project, understand their rights, and access potential assistance.

Involuntary land acquisition and economic displacement, if not managed well, may increase impoverishment, vulnerable households being particularly susceptible to the adverse effects of Project activities. The main hazards leading to impoverishment as a direct result of the land access and displacement process are:

- Landlessness – irreplaceable loss of land assets, including common property;
- Joblessness – loss of workplaces (temporary or permanent);
- General economic set-back;
- Food insecurity and malnutrition; and
- Loss of access to common assets.

Project compensation, combined with supplementary livelihood measures, will be the primary mechanisms to address project impacts. However, where vulnerable households are identified, additional transitional supports will be developed as required, both during project planning, and in the construction and post-construction periods.

9.2.2 Identification of Vulnerable Households

Vulnerability will be determined on a household basis. Identification of vulnerable households is being determined through stakeholder engagements, and on the basis of the asset and socio-economic surveys analysis. Vulnerable households may also be identified by Project Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) and other personnel. In addition, data will be triangulated through interfacing with local social welfare departments, NGOs, and other key persons.

An initial Vulnerability Risk Assessment was undertaken to identify potentially vulnerable households for inclusion on a 'vulnerability watchlist'. The Risk Assessment consists of weighted criteria, which considered:

- Project Impact: Level of exposure to adverse impacts (i.e., the portion of their parcel effected);
- Household Resilience: Capacity to adapt to change or deal with economic stress (i.e., reliance on subsistence farming and lack of other income sources); and
- Pre-existing vulnerability: Sensitivity to risk.

The Risk Assessment Criteria and Weighting are shown below.

TABLE 9.1: VULNERABILITY RISK ASSESSMENT

Factor	Risk Assessment Indicators	Weighting	PAHs
Project Impact (50%)	Project affecting > 20% of total landholdings	50	6
Household Resilience (20%)	Household income close to (+20%) national poverty line ($5 per day)	10	44
	Household relies substantially (>50%) on affected parcel for subsistence / income	10	21
Pre-existing Vulnerability (30%)	Head of Household / lead income provider unemployed	5	3
	Head of Household over 65 years	5	45
	Households living in very bad housing conditions	5	10
	Household Head or member with physical / mental disability	5	9
	Household head or member with chronic illness	5	35
	Female Head of Household with limited support	5	4

The ‘Vulnerability Watchlist’ has resulted in the identification of 17 vulnerable households. The identification was done following the vulnerability criteria set out in the table above (Table 9.1) and the weighting of each vulnerability criterion. Among the households surveyed there are 7 PAHs with severe livelihood risk factors and 10 PAHs with moderate vulnerability to poverty. PAHs were included in the ‘Vulnerability Watchlist’ in the cases where the weighting score was more than 25. Severe vulnerability has been registered for the weighting score of more than 55. This was based on statistical distribution, following the methodology used for poverty distribution studies carried out by the World Bank[13].

Following development of the ‘Vulnerability Watchlist’, further engagements will be undertaken with identified households to confirm / screen households for further assistance, and the ‘Vulnerability Watchlist’ will be updated accordingly. Final identified vulnerable households will be determined as ‘Predominately farming households’ and non-farming households. Predominately farming households are likely to benefit from additional agricultural assistance to re-establish productivity, while non-farming households (e.g., those retired and unable to farm) may benefit from other tailored supports such as access/linkages to health and housing supports.

9.2.3 Potential Assistance / Transitional Support

Support to identified vulnerable households can be required at three critical stages:

- Pre-construction;
- Construction; and
- Post-construction.

During project planning pre-construction, vulnerable households may be more socially isolated and may not be aware of project plans, and may not have been as able to participate in public meetings as part of the ESIA process. Stakeholder engagement with directly-affected households will make special efforts to meet with identified vulnerable ‘watchlist’ households. The project, and processes of land access, compensation, and additional supports, will be explained to them, with additional external supports present as necessary.

During construction, special efforts will be made to continually update vulnerable households on the process and the likely duration of works.

During and post-construction, transitional assistance packages may be developed for affected households, which may include food vouchers, and linking to state supports. Any assistance will be tailored to the needs of the affected household, and time-bound, with clear exit strategies.

10 PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

10.1 Assessment of Cultural Heritage

Based on the available published literature (e.g., National Institute of Cultural Heritage website), the results of the CH site survey of the “project "New Development Zone in the Administrative Unit of Rremas an” Libofshe", and information from stakeholder meetings (i.e., local communities, municipalities, etc.), there are no important cultural heritage assets in the Project area (including PV Plant and OHL proposed route). The information gathered and historical data also show that

[13] https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/21355

there is a low potential for unknown cultural heritage to be uncovered during the construction process.

The field reconnaissance conducted by the CH expert as part of the ESIA process also revealed tracts left by the drainage canals (6-angle drainage bricks and fragments thereof), fireplaces for the production of bricks and tiles of the cooperatives time, pottery for water retention during work and piles of garbage from various places and bars (beer bottles, dishes b‘fore the '90s, TV stands, construction waste, etc.), and bunkers of various sizes or bunker debris.

It is noteworthy to mention that recent site visits to the PV Plant Site have identified two war bunkers in the PV Plant Site area. Article 51 of the Law 27/2018 on Cultural Heritage and Museums of Albania, indicates that bunkers will be considered tangible cultural property under special protection upon designation. According to the CH expert engaged as part of the ESIA process, these bunkers of the communist period are not classified as archaeological objects or objects with any particular cultural heritage values, and therefore it is not anticipated that risks will arise from their presence within sites or even removal (if necessary) during the construction phase. Figure 10.1 below shows one of the bunkers found on the PV Plant Site.

FIGURE 10.1 BUNKER FOUND ON THE PV PLANT SITE

Special attention must be given to classified and unclassified CH assets (historical monuments, archaeological remains, historical towns, mosques, tekkes, graves, graveyards, and some natural landscapes) located within and in proximity of the Project’s area. The Project will ensure an archaeologist will be available during construction activities, and that Chance Find Procedures training of environmental/social professionals on site will be provided.

The following mitigation measures will be taken into account during construction works in proximity to observed and potential CH assets:

- During the implementation, as prescribed in the Cultural Heritage legislation, the earth works will be supervised as per Law no.27, dated 17“05.2018, " On Cultural Heritage a”d Museums", article 144-147

- The project activities will be scheduled in such a way to avoid/reduce impacts to the environment during significant events such as tekke's visits, religious days according to the community's calendar, or funerary ceremonies
- Regularly monitoring for cultural heritage findings during earthworks and other related construction works
- A Chance Finds Procedure will be developed for managing cultural heritage if any cultural heritage is discovered during construction. Examples of chance finds may include an archaeological site, which has remained unnoticed or undocumented in the past or a site of cultural / heritage significance which had not been identified previously
- Avoidance and minimization of disturbance to identified sensitive areas within a buffer of 100 m. If impacts on sensitive/important sites are found to be impossible to entirely avoid within the bounds of acceptable impact levels, then specific restoration and documentation activities will be developed.

11 GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT

11.1 International Best Practice

According to International Standards, a grievance mechanism should be set up as early as possible in the process, to receive and address in a timely fashion specific concerns about compensation and displacement that are raised by displaced persons, including a recourse mechanism designed to resolve disputes in an impartial manner. According to the IFC Performance Standards, the grievance mechanism should be proportional, culturally appropriate, accessible, transparent, accountable, and provide appropriate protection. This is explained further below.

The Project has developed a Grievance Mechanism (GM) to receive and address complaints and grievances internally, while still allowing recourse to courts where attempts to resolve grievances through the project grievance mechanism fail.

11.2 Key Principles

The following principles have been applied in the development of the Project grievance mechanism:

- Proportionality: a mechanism scaled to the potential risks and adverse impacts that the Project may impose on affected communities.
- Cultural appropriateness: a mechanism designed in a culturally appropriate manner.
- Accessibility: a clear and understandable mechanism that is accessible to all segments of the affected communities at no cost to them. Grievances may be received face-to-face, via telephone, email or post.
- Transparency and accountability: a mechanism that operates in a transparent way and that is accountable to all stakeholders.
- Appropriate protection: a mechanism that prevents retribution and does not impede access to other remedies, including public judicial or non-judicial mechanisms.
- The grievance mechanism shall not impede access to the country's judicial or administrative remedies. Complainants and affected persons are free to approach a court of law at any time, independently of the project level grievance mechanism.

11.3 Grievance Mechanism (GM)

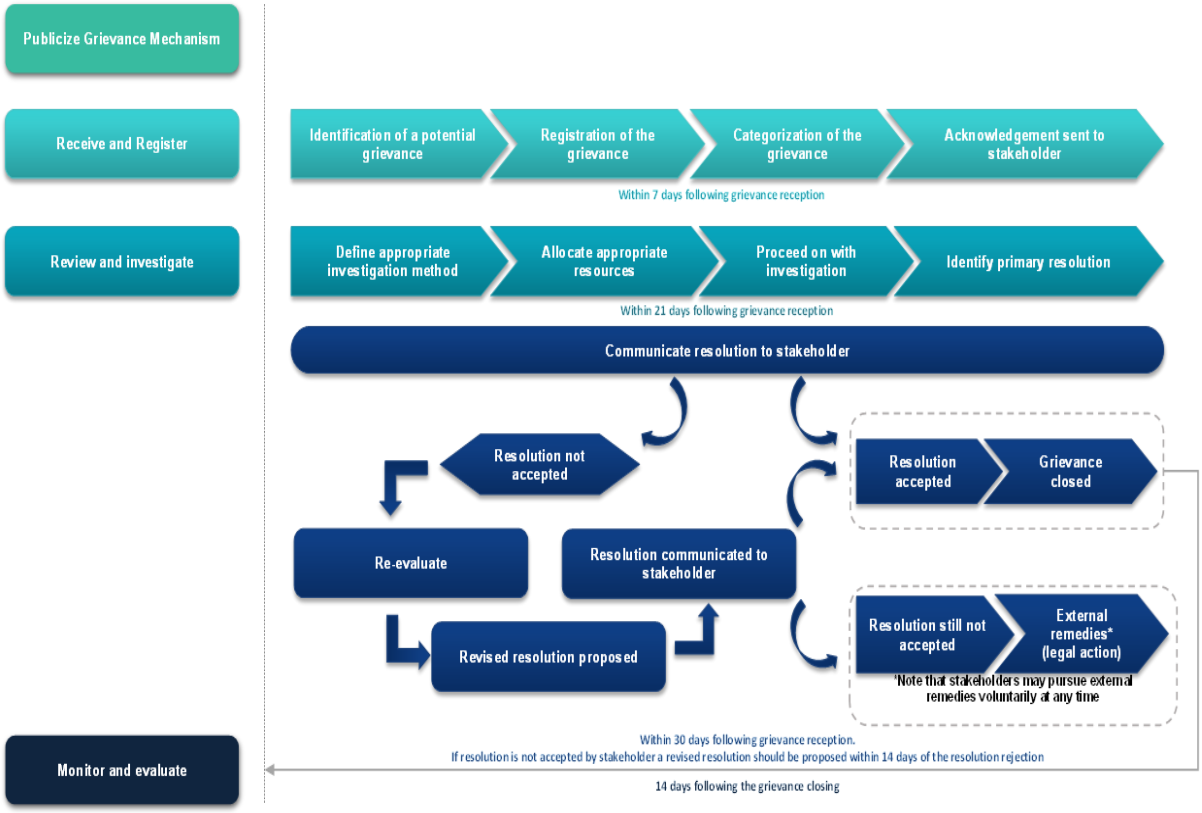
This section summarizes the Grievance Mechanism (GM) developed by Voltalia. The GM for the Project considers the national legislation, as well as EBRD, and IFC's requirements. In alignment with Voltalia's Code of Conduct, the GM will pay particular attention to all matters regarding fundamental rights, and will establish special means for matters regarding discrimination and harassment.

All individuals, groups and households and Affected People (Aps) and all stakeholder groups will have the opportunity to file complaints and queries on any aspect of Project activity and land acquisition. The Company will be responsible for establishment of this Grievance Mechanism (GM) and act as the GM secretary to make sure that the GM is operational to effectively handle environmental and social concerns of project affected persons. The GM is presented during all public consultations and published online. The Company will ensure that grievances and complaints on any aspect or issues that may arise, are addressed in a timely and satisfactory manner.

All possible avenues are made available to the Aps to resolve their grievances at the project level. Under the proposed project level grievance mechanism, affected households may appeal any decision, practice or activity connected with the resolution of a grievance. Aps will be made aware of the procedures they can follow to seek redress, including, if necessary, resort to administrative or judicial procedures as well as Lenders' grievance mechanisms. The project GM will be disseminated through the consultation meetings, FGDs, and KIIs as well as published on the Project's website.

Figure 11.1 presents the flow chart summarizing how a grievance is processed:

FIGURE 11.1 : GRIEVANCE MECHANISM KEY STEPS



The steps shown in Figure above are further described below:

11.3.1 Step 1 – Grievance Reception and Registration

11.3.1.1 Grievance Reception

Any person or stakeholder group may send comments, complaints and/or requests for information using the channels described below. The GM is designed to allow every stakeholder to raise grievances irrespective of their literacy level or access to infrastructure. Stakeholders can raise grievances in Albanian or English, and anonymously. Stakeholders with lower literacy level are encouraged to raise complaints verbally. Complaints will be received through the following channels:

- Face to face communication with Voltalia site management or contractors.

- Email addresses for Voltalia grievance management staff will be outlined on the information boards: karavasta@voltalia.com
- Phone number dedicated GM of Karavasta solar park: 0684027034
- Complaint boxes that will be placed at all entry points to the Karavasta project site.

Upon receiving a complaint/grievance, the receptor will explain to the complainant the process and timelines for the remaining steps in the procedure, and inform on how the complaint will be handled. The receptor will ensure confidentiality of the complainant from the lodging of a grievance onwards. Only those directly involved in the examination process will be provided with the grievance's details. Sensitive information will only be disclosed upon users' knowledge and approval.

The receptor will inform the complainant that the grievance can also be lodged anonymously should the complainant prefer it. However, in the case of an anonymous grievance, no follow up or resolution will be provided to the complainant.

11.3.1.2 Grievance Registration

Following reception, the grievance will be registered in the Grievance register **within 1 working day**.

The Grievance Register log is a Microsoft Excel which is used for logging, tracking and managing the complaints. This will assist in tracking overall trends and patterns in concerns, allowing emerging issues to be flagged and understood at an early stage. As a minimum, the following information will be recorded:

- Date;
- Details of complaint;
- History of other complaints/queries/questions;
- Prioritization using a common scale to assist with timelines for resolution; and
- Resolutions agreed with the party(ies) in question, and actions implemented.

All registered issues will be discussed with the responsible board, to provide fast and efficient solutions.

11.3.1.3 Grievance Acknowledgement

All incoming grievances will be acknowledged within **7 days** of grievance reception. On reception of the grievance by Voltalia an acknowledgement letter will be issued to the complainant. Complainant should also be provided with contact information of the person responsible for the resolution of their grievance and the estimated time for completion. If it is decided that a grievance is not valid or doesn't fall under the company's jurisdiction, the person responsible for the grievance resolution will notify the complainant **within 14 days** from receipt of the grievance, and where possible direct them to the responsible third parties. The acknowledgement form includes:

- Formal confirmation, date and a complaint number;
- Name of the complainant;
- Name of the person who received the complaint;
- Signature of the complainant whenever possible;
- Contact details including phone number in case the complainant has any question; and
- Expected timeline for response.

When grievances are submitted in person, the acknowledgement form will be provided to the complainant immediately using a dedicated form (see Voltalia Karavasta Solar Project Grievance Mechanism).

11.3.2 Step 2 – Review and Investigation

The initial review, classification and validation of grievances received will be performed by Voltalia Environmental and Social (E&S) Manager within 7 days of having received the grievance. The timeframe will be communicated to the complainant in the acknowledgement of grievance delivery, in written form, and verbally if needed. Examination of grievances will be undertaken in order to verify the validity of the complaint, determine its causes and develop corrective actions to minimize or avoid recurrence of the causes. If the grievance requires a more thorough investigation, the complainants will be notified by Voltalia Environmental and Social Manager of the process to be followed and who will be the responsible person in charge of investigating.

11.3.3 Step 3 – Resolution and Grievance Response

Voltalia Environmental and Social Manager will perform the resolution process and inform the complainant about progresses in written form and verbally if required. Grievance's resolution status can be:

- **Preliminary:** resolution aims at informing the complainants about the assessment and/or status of their claim; or
- **Conclusive:** resolution aims at communicating a decision (including rationale) and ask for complainant's agreement to close out the claim (refer to Appendix 3)
- Non-conclusive:
  - If complainants are not likely to be satisfied with the outcome of the preliminary resolutions, the Voltalia Environmental and Social Manager shall invite the complainant to collect additional evidence, obtain additional arguments, conduct further investigations and clarify the company's position. Voltalia E&S Manager could get direct support from Voltalia Country Manager, Voltalia E&S Corporate Officer, Voltalia Head of Projects and/or the Director.
  - If complainants are not satisfied with the outcome of a conclusive resolution, Voltalia will appeal to external dispute-resolution mechanism (extra-legal party).

11.3.4 Step 4 – Grievance Close-out

Voltalia Social project manager will communicate the outcome of the investigation to the complainant and request feedback on the resolution. This initial response will include a summary of what is planned and when it is likely to be implemented, or an explanatory note clarifying why action is not required.

Any further response from the complainant is recorded to help assess whether the grievance is closed or whether further action is required. The Grievance Manager will use appropriate communication channels to confirm whether the complainant has understood and is satisfied with the response. This communication will also be recorded in the grievance register. Based on the complainant response (resolution accepted or resolution rejected with no further review), the Environmental and Social manager can close the grievance.

11.3.5 Step 5 – Resolution Evaluation

The Environmental and Social manager will evaluate the resolution efficiency following its implementation based on the complainant satisfaction, the non-recurrence of the aspect that

prompted the grievance in the first place, and the absence of recourse to external remediation process by the complainant.

11.4 Monitoring & Reporting

In an effort to measure the effectiveness of the grievance mechanism and the efficient use of its resources, the grievance mechanism will be regularly monitored and evaluated by the Environmental and Social Manager and E&S Corporate Manager.

Reviewing and monitoring the grievance mechanism will help identify common or recurrent grievances that may require structural solutions or a policy change, and enable Voltalia to capture improvement opportunities and any “lesson learned” while assessing grievances.

The grievance mechanism efficiency will be assessed based on the following KPIs

Performance Indicator	Limits / Objective to achieve
Number of grievances communicated	No high grievances reported
Proposed resolution rate	A resolution was proposed to all complainants
Timing for grievance resolution	All grievances receive a resolution proposition within the defined timeframe
Resolution acceptance rate	Proportion of resolution accepted and considered satisfactory by the complainant following the resolution evaluation process
Recourse to external remedy system	Number of complaints not solved though the GM going to administrative, judicial or third-party remedy systems.

Further information on the Grievance Mechanism and related forms is contained within the Karavasta Solar Project Grievance Mechanism, available on the Karavasta Project Website: https://karavastasolar.com/.

12 ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK

12.1 Overall Project Organigram

The overall project organization takes into account the role of Voltalia and the various government organizations critical to project success.

Key roles and responsibilities in this regard are as follows:

Voltalia SA

Providing support to Voltalia Albania at all stages.

Voltalia Karavasta BV (Voltalia Albania)

Responsible for overall oversight of the Project, including ensuring adherence to Albanian legislation and building regulations, international finance institutions policy and performance requirements, and Corporate policies and standards.

Karavasta Solar sh.p.k (Albania)

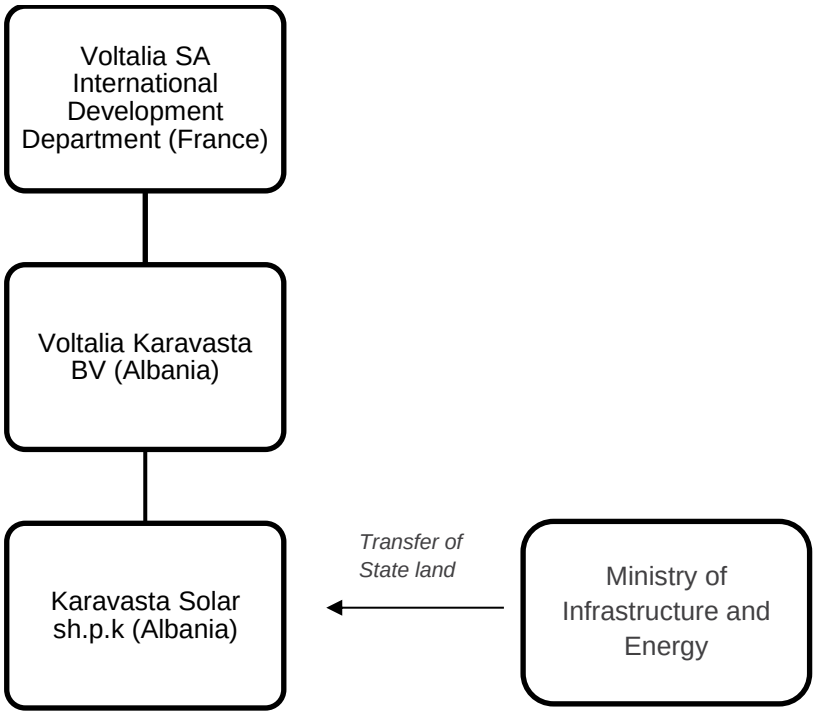
Day-today management of the Project, including management of construction contractors, and liaison with all external stakeholders, including government agencies and local communities and households.

Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

Responsible for transferring state land of 185 ha to Voltalia for the Karavasta Solar sh.p.k (Albania).

The key actors and the interrelationship in project planning and management is represented visually below.

FIGURE 12.1: PROJECT ORGANOGRAM



12.2 LRP Organogram

In order to execute the Project, the Voltalia team draws on both in-house and external expertise. This allows for effective management of all social and land related impacts arising from the Project.

The key roles are as follows:

Country Manager

Responsible for overall planning and management of the Project, including the land access and acquisition processes and procedures, and management of compensation and livelihood restoration measures.

Health, Safety, Environmental & Social Manager

Oversight of all health, safety environmental and social aspects.

Social Officer

Leads stakeholder engagement and household consultation and sign-off efforts related to the LRP process, as well as oversight of construction contractors in relation to social commitments. Also responsible for management and maintenance of the grievance mechanism, and overseeing compensation payment processes.

Land Access & Resettlement Manager (TBC)

Responsible for LRP implementation, including the voluntary agreement and expropriation process, compensation processing and payments, land entry and exit, and roll-out of the livelihood restoration program.

Community Liaison Officers (CLOs)

Responsible for managing the day-to-day stakeholder engagement process, as well as oversight of construction contractors in the field.

Legal Team

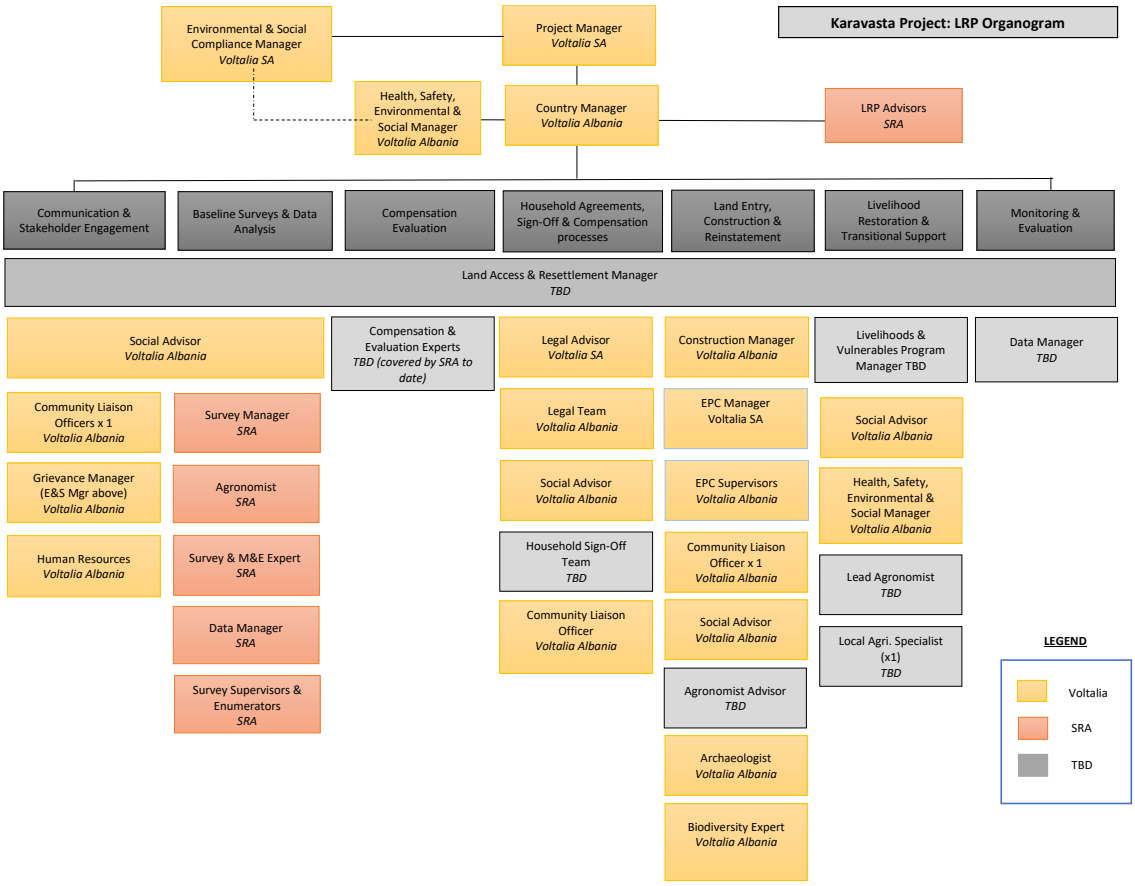
Advise on the land acquisition process, including preparation of contracts for sign-off with affected land users, land entry and exit protocols, and payment of compensation.

Land Access & Livelihood Consultants (TBC)

The consultants include social experts in land access, displacement and livelihood restoration, who work with the Voltalia Project Team to plan all aspects of the land access and livelihood restoration program, including development of this LRP. The Consultant team also includes survey teams to undertake the required baseline surveys of directly affected households, compensation and valuation experts to input to the development of the compensation matrix, and agronomic experts to advise on development and management of livelihood programs.

The Voltalia LRP Organogram is shown below.

FIGURE 12.2: LRP ORGANOGRAM



Note that not all personnel are required for the duration of the LRP, and may transition between roles over time. For example, the baseline surveys and data analysis team members will complete their work prior to the household sign-off process, and some of these will form the household sign-off team, which will also ensure continuity in terms of a consistent long-term relationship with households. Similarly, the agronomist involved in the baseline surveys will lead the land reinstatement and livelihood restoration efforts in relation to the land parcels.

The organogram presented in the chart above may be subject to changes during the course of the LRP implementation. Also, Voltalia may decide to hire internal staff or outsource certain position presented in the chart above. In any case, Voltalia will ensure that adequate competent staff is hired so that the LRP implementation timeline and quality is ensured.

12.3 Some roles may be covered by the same person. For example, the Community Liaison Officer may cover the Grievance Management role.Community Involvement

The Project will ensure the involvement of project-affected households throughout the process, as well as interacting with key stakeholders including village representatives as appropriate. In addition to ongoing consultation and engagement of households throughout the process, the affected households, through the monitoring and evaluation program, will be involved in participatory monitoring of key Project activities, particularly reinstatement and livelihood restoration.

13 SCHEDULE AND BUDGET

13.1 LRP Schedule

A detailed LRP schedule was prepared early in project development. The LRP schedule is fully integrated with overall project design and construction schedules in order to ensure:

- Sufficient time is allowed for effective consultation and agreement with affected households;
- All compensation for permanent land acquisition can be paid in advance of land access and construction activities;
- Where possible, affected households have an opportunity to harvest crops in advance of construction; and
- Any livelihood programs and additional assistance are fully designed and ready to be rolled out, in order to ensure restoration of farming as quickly as possible.

The LRP schedule has been updated on a weekly basis throughout the LRP process.

A summary of the LRP Schedule, showing key dates, is at Table 13.1 below.

TABLE 13.1: LRP HIGH-LEVEL SCHEDULE

13.2 LRP Budget

The Final LRP Budget will only be determined when all construction activities are completed, and livelihood restoration programs have concluded. This is because:

- Detailed pre-construction design and construction activities may result in reduced or additional land take and crop damage.
- The crop structure used for the crops assessment was determined by the asset survey realized in the field during the period November-December 2021. The crops impacted will depend on the period when the works will start as the affected plots are planted with different crops during the year. This may significantly affect the final crop compensation amounts.
- Livelihood restoration measures may require less or more interventions than anticipated in order to ensure farm parcels have been restored to pre-project productivity.
- The budget estimation (euros) may fluctuate depending on the exchange rate.

However, based on estimated permanent and temporary land take, likely crop cover, and the livelihood restoration program, the LRP budget estimate is provided below.

TABLE 13.2: LRP BUDGET ESTIMATE

LRP Budget Estimate		
Asset		**Amount (€)**
Permanent Land Acquisition	€	87,084.00
Temporary Land Acquisition	€	10,000.00
Annual Crops	€	11,919.74
Perennial Crops	€	76,680.42
Easement Compensation	€	5,000.00
Livelihood & Vulnerable Program	€	98,640.00
Contingency for remedial restoration works	€	30,000.00
Total	**€**	**319,324.16**

14 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and Evaluation are key components of the LRP process. The Monitoring and Evaluation process examines what worked with the process and why, what did not and why it did not, and what adjustments or changes need to be made.

Monitoring is the measurement that indicates the movement toward the objective or away from it. Monitoring provides the raw data to answer questions. Evaluation is putting those data to use, thus giving them value. Evaluation is where the learning occurs, questions are answered, recommendations are made, and improvements are suggested. Yet without monitoring, evaluation would have no raw material to work with.

Monitoring verifies that:

- Actions and commitments for compensation, land access, and development in the LRP is implemented fully and on time;
- Entitled persons receive their compensation on time;
- Compensation and livelihood investments are achieving sustainable restoration and improvement in the welfare of Project-affected persons, households and communities;
- Complaints and grievances are followed up with appropriate corrective action; and
- Vulnerable persons are tracked and assisted as necessary.

In brief, monitoring answers the question: Are Project compensation, displacement and other impact mitigation measures on time and having the intended effects?

In the particular case of the 140 MW Karavasta Project, the proposed M&E is intended to provide among others, indicators to continuously track: the level of compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; Project impacts on directly affected households and communities; the extent to which displacement compensation package and other interventions are on track to achieve sustainable restoration and improvements in the welfare of the affected people; progress and closure of the LRP; and, the health of the relationship between the Project and its stakeholders.

Monitoring and evaluation will have the following general objectives:

- Monitoring specific situations or difficulties arising from the implementation, and of the compliance of the implementation with objectives and methods set out in the LRP;
- Evaluating emergent, mid-and long-term impacts of the Project on the welfare of impacted households, communities, and local government; and
- Sufficient involvement of the project affected persons in participatory monitoring and evaluation of short-term, mid-term and long-term project activities and effects.

14.1 M&E Process

14.1.1 Internal M&E Process

The Project will conduct monitoring and evaluation to track the LRP Implementation. The monitoring and evaluation will give particular attention to the Project-affected communities, especially vulnerable groups, such as female-headed households.

Internal monitoring will look at inputs, processes, outputs, and outcomes of compensation, economic displacement, and other impact mitigation measures.

- **Input** monitoring will establish if staff, organisation, finance, equipment, supplies, and other inputs are on schedule in the requisite quantity and quality.
- **Process** monitoring will:

  - Assess Program implementation strategies and methodologies and the capacity and capability of Program management personnel to effectively implement and manage the Programs.
  - Document lessons learned and best practices and provide recommendations to strengthen the LRP design and implementation.

- **Output** monitoring will establish if agreed-upon outputs are realised on time for:
  - Communication with the affected communities.
  - Agreed economic displacement and compensation policies, procedures, and rates.
  - Crops building, and lost opportunity compensation.
  - Livelihood Program delivery and uptake.
  - Grievance resolution.
  - Attention to vulnerable people.

- **Outcome** (or effectiveness) monitoring will determine the degree to which the Program objectives and performance targets have been achieved.

M&E indicators to assess PAH economic status, including livelihood measures, will be able to measure impacts (change over time) to determine whether PAH living standards are restored or improved compared with their pre-displacement position. As such, indicators will be "outcome-based" – considering household socio-economic status – and not just "output-based".

M&E indicator selection will be guided by the following principles:

- Preference for fewer indicators that have significant validity over more indicators of less significant value;
- Preference for indicators used by national institutions in order to be able to compare results with control groups in other parts of Albania;
- Measuring outcome and impacts on the following levels:
  - Monetary livelihood measuring through a quantitative income or expenditure survey
  - Qualitative indicators measuring PAH perceptions
  - Livelihood improvement proxy indicators
  - Direct comparison of livelihood restoration inside and outside the project footprint.

Quarterly internal monitoring progress reports will be prepared.

14.1.2 External M&E Process

An external audit will be conducted by an external party to assess LRP implementation compliance. The Project will hire a qualified external Social Auditor with significant land access and displacement experience, hands-on M&E experience, no previous Project involvement, and proven ability to identify actions to improve implementation and mitigate negative displacement impacts to conduct an annual compliance assessment of social commitments contained in Albanian legislation, EBRD/IFC Standards, LRP, and the ESIA and its attached social action plans. The Social Auditor will work closely with the Project-affected communities to track the LRP implementation progress.

External review objectives for the 140 MW Karavasta Project are as follows:

- To assess overall LRP compliance and determine whether corrective actions are required;
- To verify that measures to restore and enhance PAP livelihoods are being implemented and to assess their effectiveness; and
- To assess the extent to which affected communities' livelihoods are being restored in an appropriate manner and how their living standards have been improved.

Compliance Monitoring will:

- Verify results of internal monitoring;
- Assess whether objectives have been met, and, specifically, the extent to which Livelihood Programs have contributed to PAP livelihood restoration and living condition improvement;
- Assess efficiency, effectiveness, impacts, and sustainability, drawing lessons for future economic displacement activities and recommending implementation process improvements;
- Ascertain whether displacement entitlements are appropriate to meet the objectives, and whether the objectives are suitable to PAP conditions;
- Assess grievance records to identify implementation problems and grievance resolution status;
- Ensure LRP implementation is in compliance with International Standards; and
- Focus on vulnerable persons and assess methods for assisting them.

14.2 Community Involvement

The PV Plant Site component of the 140 MW Karavasta Project will involve affected households and external partners, such as local government representatives. This will increase the transparency and trust building of the Project, and project affected households will be more likely to be able to confidently report the facts to their constituents.

Community representatives and other external representatives will be involved in undertaking and overseeing project-related surveys.

14.3 Key Performance Indicators

A number of indicators will be monitored to track LRP implementation progress:

- Process Indicators: Project inputs, expenditures, staff deployment, etc.
- Output Indicators: Number of compensated PAHs, interventions undertaken, etc.
- Outcome Indicators: Level of immediate project objective achievement, observable changes in performance, behaviour, or resource status that occur as a result of LRP implementation.
- Impact Indicators: Long-term effect, change of state, or restored/improved living conditions of PAHs toward which the project is contributing.
- Assumption Indicators: Fundamental circumstances which may counteract - or at least delay - the attainment of results.

The first three indicator types are related to process, immediate outputs, and results. The final two longer-term impact indicators will focus on assessing whether the overall project objectives are being met, and will use the defined impact indicators as a basis for their evaluation. Data collected for the baseline socio-economic surveys will serve as the benchmark for measuring and evaluating LRP implementation success.

Monitoring parameters will include:

- Compensation delivery;
- Grievance resolution;

- Land access;
- Household asset increase or decrease;
- Agricultural productivity;
- PAHs satisfaction levels; and
- Number of PAHs with restored and/or improved livelihoods.

14.4 Reporting

Internal monitoring will be reported to management on a quarterly basis. External monitoring will be reported annually, and a summary report prepared for stakeholder disclosure.

14.5 Completion Audit

Voltalia will organise that a completion audit be carried out by an external auditor. The overall goal of the completion audit is to verify that the Livelihood Restoration Plan developed has been effective in restoring Project affected peoples' standards of living and livelihoods. Accordingly, the completion audit has the following objectives:

- Assess the effectiveness of measures to avoid and minimize displacement impacts by comparing Project actual impacts on land and people versus those documented in the LRP;
- Verify that all entitlements and commitments described in the LRP have been delivered;
- Determine whether LRP measures have been effective in restoring or enhancing affected peoples' living standards and livelihood;
- Check on any systemic grievances that may have been left outstanding; and
- Identify any corrective actions necessary to achieve completion of LRP commitments.

The Completion Audit will focus on livelihood restoration. Methods to assess whether livelihoods are restored will be carefully devised. In addition to a comparison of parcel conditions and productivity inside and outside the Project footprint, quantitative surveys will allow a comparison with the baseline data. This will be done over a statistically significant[14] sample of affected households chosen from all interested components of the Project. Macro-economic factors will be taken into consideration when interpreting the results of the comparison (for example inflation, general growth of the economy or recession).

In addition, the Completion Audit will utilize qualitative approaches to gather data and assess household standards of living. Particular attention will be paid to assessing the impact of land acquisition on the circumstances of vulnerable households.

The Completion Audit report will present conclusions on the effectiveness of livelihood restoration and identify any corrective measures that would be necessary to complete rehabilitation of PAHs.

15 CHANGE MANAGEMENT

As part of LRP development, three key phases are envisaged, involving the development of Preliminary, Interim and Final LRPs. The trigger for development of these documents, the level of detail, and broad timing, are indicated in Table 15.1.

[14] In accordance with good practice, a margin of error of 5% for a confidence level of 95% will be targeted.

As such, the LRP is a 'living document' which is updated over time. It should not be viewed merely as documentation to serve as the basis of approvals by management or external parties, but as a key management tool which guides the process of land access and livelihood restoration planning and implementation.

TABLE 15.1 : LRP CHANGE MANAGEMENT

No.	LRP Version	Triggers	Detail	Broad Timing
1	Preliminary LRP	Completion of baseline surveys	Analysis of households. Final compensation matrix and livelihood programs Detailed budget estimates	March 2022
2	Interim LRP	Pre-Construction	Amendments to household agreement, compensation and expropriation processes to ensure timely land access and payment for households	August 2022
2	Final LRP	Post-Construction	Final impacts. Final budgets. Implementation of livelihood programs. Initial M&E findings	June 2023

APPENDIX 1 TABLES OF COMPENSATION VALUES

Project Acquisition Rates for Agricultural Land

Land Category	Fieri Region		
	Irrigation system (Yes/ No)	Project Agricultural Land Acquisition Rates In Albania Leke and Euro per square metre	
		All/m2	Euro/m2
I	Yes	1068	8.76
I	No	641	5.25
II	Yes	887	7.27
II	No	621	5.09
III	Yes	694	5.69
III	No	555	4.55
IV	Yes	502	4.12
IV	No	452	3.70
V	Yes	299	2.45
V	No	269	2.21

Project Acquisition Rates for Formal/Informal Urban Land

Fieri Region			
Cadastral No.	**Village**	**Project Rates for Formal / Informal Urban Land**	
		All/m²	**Euro/m²**
1002	ADRIATIK	1120	9.2
1414	ÇLIRIM	1500	12.3
1471	DERMENAS	1410	11.6
1557	DRIZE	1300	10.7
2939	PESHTAN I VOGEL	1120	9.2
3143	RADOSTINE	1450	11.9
3300	SEMAN	1115	9.1
3301	SEMAN I RI	1155	9.5
3545	SULAJ	1450	11.9
3691	VADIZE	1120	9.2
3934	ZHUPAN	1240	10.2

Project Urban Easement Rates

Fieri Region			
Cadastral No.	**Village**	**Project Rates for Easement on Formal Urban Land (90%)**	
		All/m²	**Euro/m²**
1002	ADRIATIK	1008	8.3
1414	ÇLIRIM	1350	11.1
1471	DERMENAS	1269	10.4
1557	DRIZE	1170	9.6
2939	PESHTAN I VOGEL	1008	8.3
3143	RADOSTINE	1305	10.7
3300	SEMAN	1004	8.2
3301	SEMAN I RI	1040	8.5
3545	SULAJ	1305	10.7
3691	VADIZE	1008	8.3
3934	ZHUPAN	1116	9.1

Fieri Region			
Cadastral No.	**Village**	**Project Rates for Easement on Informal Urban Land (75%)**	
		All/m²	**Euro/m²**
1002	ADRIATIK	840	6.9
1414	ÇLIRIM	1125	9.2
1471	DERMENAS	1058	8.7
1557	DRIZE	975	8.0
2939	PESHTAN I VOGEL	840	6.9
3143	RADOSTINE	1088	8.9
3300	SEMAN	836	6.9

3301	SEMAN I RI	866	7.1
3545	SULAJ	1088	8.9
3691	VADIZE	840	6.9
3934	ZHUPAN	930	7.6

Project Annual Crop Rates

No.	Crops / Soil categories	Compensation Value (ALL/ Ha / Year)	Compensation rate ALL/m^2	Compensation Value (Euro/ Ha / Year)	Compensation rate Euro/m^2
1	Wheat, 2nd category	117,617.09	11.76	964.07	0.10
2	Wheat, 3rd category	101,988.52	10.20	835.97	0.08
3	Wheat, 4th category	79,915.17	7.99	655.04	0.07
4	Maize, 2nd category	187,220.63	18.72	1,534.60	0.15
5	Maize, 3rd category	166,489.94	16.65	1,364.67	0.14
6	Alfalfa, 2nd category	176,761.83	17.68	1,448.87	0.14
7	Alfalfa, 3rd category	117,617.09	11.76	964.07	0.10
8	Alfalfa, 4th category	77,641.24	7.76	636.40	0.06
9	Barley (Elbi)	85,930.29	8.59	704.35	0.07
10	Trefoil (Tërfil)	69,818.36	6.98	572.28	0.06
11	Green Fodder (Haselle)	67,670.11	6.77	554.67	0.06
12	Fodder (Foragjere thate)	90,226.81	9.02	739.56	0.07
13	Forage Maize (Miser foragjer), 2nd categ	88,314.86	8.83	723.89	0.07
14	Forage maize, 3rd categ	69,569.17	6.96	570.24	0.06
15	Rye (Thekerr)	33,297.99	3.33	272.93	0.03

No.	Crops / Soil categories	Compensation Value (ALL/ Ha / Year)	Compensation rate ALL/m²	Compensation Value (Euro/ Ha / Year)	Compensation rate Euro/m²
16	Oats (Tershera)	53,706.43	5.37	440.22	0.04
17	Tomatoes, 2nd category	1,040,293.61	104.03	8,527.00	0.85
18	Tomatoes, 3rd category	710,792.83	71.08	5,826.17	0.58
19	Tomatoes, 4th category	577,788.84	57.78	4,735.97	0.47
20	Pepper, 2nd category	671,303.56	67.13	5,502.49	0.55
21	Pepper, 3rd category	490,655.53	49.07	4,021.77	0.40
22	Bean, 2nd category	610,843.01	61.08	5,006.91	0.50
23	Bean, 3rd category	504,619.20	50.46	4,136.22	0.41
24	Bean, 4th category	389,771.22	38.98	3,194.85	0.32
25	Potatoes, 2nd category	890,082.09	89.01	7,295.75	0.73
26	Potatoes, 3rd category	664,928.61	66.49	5,450.23	0.55
27	Spring Bean (Bishtaja, barbunja)	939,862.58	93.99	7,703.79	0.77
28	Garlic (Hudhra)	961,345.15	96.13	7,879.88	0.79
29	Bulb onion (Qepë e thatë)	606,882.69	60.69	4,974.45	0.50
30	Spring Onion (Qepë të njoma)	483,357.90	48.34	3,961.95	0.40

No.	Crops / Soil categories	Compensation Value (ALL/ Ha / Year)	Compensation rate ALL/m^2	Compensation Value (Euro/ Ha / Year)	Compensation rate Euro/m^2
31	Leek (Presh)	622,994.62	62.30	5,106.51	0.51
32	Carrot (Karotë)	848,561.64	84.86	6,955.42	0.70
33	Lettuce (Sallatë jeshile)	789,484.57	78.95	6,471.18	0.65
34	Spinach (Spinaq)	649,847.84	64.98	5,326.62	0.53
35	Forage Cabbage (Lakër foragjere)	167,564.07	16.76	1,373.48	0.14
36	Cabbage (Koke Lakër)	515,581.76	51.56	4,226.08	0.42
37	Cauliflower (Lule lakër)	569,288.19	56.93	4,666.30	0.47
38	Brocoli	774,750.00	77.48	6,350.41	0.64
39	Watermelon (Shalqi)	966,715.80	96.67	7,923.90	0.79
40	Melon (Pjepër)	934,491.94	93.45	7,659.77	0.77
41	Cucumber (Kastravec)	939,862.58	93.99	7,703.79	0.77
42	Durum wheat (Gruri forte)	46,187.53	4.62	378.59	0.04
43	Eggplant (Patëllxhan)	934,491.94	93.45	7,659.77	0.77
44	Okra (Bamje)	934,491.94	93.45	7,659.77	0.77
45	Tritikale	37,594.50	3.76	308.15	0.03

No.	Crops / Soil categories	Compensation Value (ALL/ Ha / Year)	Compensation rate ALL/m^2	Compensation Value (Euro/ Ha / Year)	Compensation rate Euro/m^2
46	Peas (Bizele)	596,141.41	59.61	4,886.40	0.49
47	Lentils (Thjerrza)	210,529.22	21.05	1,725.65	0.17
48	Sugarbeats (Panxharsheqeri)	64,447.72	6.44	528.26	0.05
49	Sunflower (Luledielli)	263,161.52	26.32	2,157.06	0.22
50	Tabacco (Duhan)	204,084.45	20.41	1,672.82	0.17
51	Soy (Soje)	143,933.24	14.39	1,179.78	0.12
52	Celery (Selino)	816,337.78	81.63	6,691.29	0.67
53	Radishes (Rrepa)	741,148.78	74.11	6,074.99	0.61
54	Chicory (çikore)	827,079.07	82.71	6,779.34	0.68
55	Zucchini (Kungulli)	966,715.80	96.67	7,923.90	0.79
56	Beats (Panxhar i kuq)	848,561.64	84.86	6,955.42	0.70
57	Faba (Bathe)	542,434.97	54.24	4,446.19	0.44
58	Tomatoes in Greenhous (domate ne serra) (medium technology)	3,007,560.25	300.76	24,652.13	2.47
59	Pepper (Speca)	913,009.36	91.30	7,483.68	0.75

Project Perennial Crop Rates

Crops	Age	Compensation Rate			
		ALL/Ha	(ALL per tree)	Euro/Ha	Euro per tree
Vineyard	0-1	1,966,799.1	NA	16,121.3	NA
Vineyard	2-3	2,214,625.0	NA	18,152.7	NA
Vineyard	4	3,308,701.1	NA	27,120.5	NA
Vineyard	5-30	5,778,846.4	NA	47,367.6	NA
Vineyard	>30	4,581,483.2	NA	37,553.1	NA
Apple Extensive	0-1	919,949.6	2,299.9	7,540.6	18.9
Apple Extensive	2-5	1,099,374.7	2,748.4	9,011.3	22.5
Apple Extensive	6-9	3,122,928.8	7,807.3	25,597.8	64.0
Apple Extensive	10-25	6,297,104.1	15,742.8	51,615.6	129.0
Apple Extensive	>25	5,087,319.3	12,718.3	41,699.3	104.2
Olive tree	0-1	677,394.5	3,079.1	5,552.4	25.2
Olive tree	2-6	2,071,573.5	9,416.2	16,980.1	77.2
Olive tree	7-10	2,789,304.9	12,678.7	22,863.2	103.9
Olive tree	11-100	4,572,921.1	26,899.5	37,483.0	220.5
Olive tree	>100	3,252,716.5	19,133.6	26,661.6	156.8

Crops	Age	Compensation Rate			
		ALL/Ha	(ALL per tree)	Euro/Ha	Euro per tree
Peach	0-1	954,440.0	2,386.1	7,823.3	19.6
Peach	2-3	1,292,560.0	3,231.4	10,594.8	26.5
Peach	4	2,763,810.0	6,910.9	22,654.2	56.6
Peach	5-30	4,119,286.0	10,298.2	33,764.6	84.4
Peach	>30	4,576,176.0	11,440.4	37,509.6	93.8
Apricot	0-1	708,554.0	1,771.4	5,807.8	14.5
Apricot	2-5	954,226.0	2,385.6	7,821.5	19.6
Apricot	>5	3,298,596.0	8,246.5	27,037.7	67.6
Plum	0-1	627,020.0	1,567.6	5,139.5	12.8
Plum	2-4	815,340.0	2,038.4	6,683.1	16.7
Plum	5-30	3,327,700.0	8,319.3	27,276.2	68.2
Plum	>30	2,974,600.0	7,436.5	24,382.0	61.0
Cherry	0-1	670,890.0	1,677.2	5,499.1	13.7
Cherry	2-4	1,030,410.0	2,576.0	8,446.0	21.1
Cherry	>5	4,638,450.0	11,596.1	38,020.1	95.1
Pear	0-1	1,368,316.0	2,280.5	11,215.7	18.7

Crops	Age	Compensation Rate			
		ALL/Ha	(ALL per tree)	Euro/Ha	Euro per tree
Pear	2-4	1,965,804.0	3,276.3	16,113.1	26.9
Pear	>5	10,199,240.0	16,998.7	83,600.3	139.3
Hazelnut	0-1	980,120.0	1,633.5	8,033.8	13.4
Hazelnut	2-4	1,331,080.0	2,218.5	10,910.5	18.2
Hazelnut	>5	9,030,800.0	15,051.3	74,023.0	123.4
Walnut	0-1	991,248.0	3,965.4	8,125.0	32.5
Walnut	2-4	1,064,864.0	4,259.7	8,728.4	34.9
Walnut	>5	4,866,360.0	19,465.4	39,888.2	159.6
Orange	0-1	1,209,100.0	2,686.8	9,910.7	22.0
Orange	2-4	1,697,020.0	3,770.7	13,910.0	30.9
Orange	>5	13,458,460.0	29,907.6	110,315.2	245.1
Mandarin	0-1	1,378,160.0	2,297.3	11,296.4	18.8
Mandarin	2-4	1,866,080.0	3,110.5	15,295.7	25.5
Mandarin	>5	19,405,520.0	32,342.9	159,061.6	265.1
Pomegranate	0-1	748,572.0	1,247.6	6,135.8	10.2
Pomegranate	2-4	1,190,268.0	1,983.8	9,756.3	16.3

Crops	Age	Compensation Rate			
		ALL/Ha	(ALL per tree)	Euro/Ha	Euro per tree
Pomegranate	>5	4,893,324.0	8,155.5	40,109.2	66.8
Almonds	0-1	492,628.0	985.5	4,037.9	8.1
Almonds	2-4	735,732.0	1,471.3	6,030.6	12.1
Almonds	>5	2,784,140.0	5,568.3	22,820.8	45.6

Crops	Compensation Rate	
	(ALL per tree)	(Euro per tree)
Akacie (Acacia) <5 years	1498	12.3
Akacie (Acacia) ≥ 5 years	2354	19.3
Dellinje (Juniper) <5 years	535	4.4
Dellinje (Juniper) ≥ 5 years	749	6.1
Fik (Fig) <5 years	1712	14.0
Fik (Fig) ≥ 5 years	3210	26.3
Frasheri (Ash tree) <5 years	1498	12.3
Frasheri (Ash tree) ≥ 5 years	2354	19.3
Ftoj (Quince) <5 years	1605	13.2
Ftoj (Quince) ≥ 5 years	3210	26.3
Gorrice (Wild Pears) <5 years	428	3.5
Gorrice (Wild Pears) ≥ 5 years	856	7.0
Kullumbri (Sloe) <5 years	588.5	4.8
Kullumbri (Sloe) ≥ 5 years	1284	10.5
Lofate <5 years	642	5.3

Crops	Compensation Rate	
	(ALL per tree)	(Euro per tree)
Lofate ≥ 5 years	1391	11.4
Man (Mullberry) <5 years	1284	10.5
Man (Mullberry) ≥ 5 years	2675	21.9
Mollcinke (Wild Apple) <5 years	642	5.3
Mollcinke (Wild Apple) ≥ 5 years	1605	13.2
Oak (Ash tree) <5 years	1498	12.3
Oak (Ash tree) ≥ 5 years	2354	19.3
Shelg (Salix) <5 years	214	1.8
Shelg (Salix) ≥ 5 years	749	6.1
Thane (Cornel bush) <5 years	428	3.5
Thane (Cornel bush) ≥ 5 years	1070	8.8
Pjergulla (Pergola) 0-5	2929	24.0
Pjergulla (Pergola) 6-10	11187	91.7
Pjergulla (Pergola) > 10 years	18960	155.4

Crops	Compensation Rate	
	(ALL/m^2)	(Euro/m^2)
Raspberry 0-1	244.0	2.0
Raspberry 2-3	351.0	2.9
Raspberry 4 - 10	535.0	4.4
Blackberry 0-1	216.1	1.8
Blackberry 2-3	313.5	2.6
Blackberry 4-10	478.3	3.9
Strawberry0-1	269.6	2.2

Crops	Compensation Rate	
	(ALL/m^2)	(Euro/m^2)
Strawberry 1 -3	436.6	3.6
Sage 0 -1	41.7	0.3
Sage 2 - 4	105.9	0.9
Sage 5 - 6	76.0	0.6
Oregano 0 - 1	41.7	0.3
Oregano 2 - 4	86.7	0.7
Oregano 5 - 6	49.2	0.4

Acronyms

AC	Alternative Current
AMPT	Land acquisition deed (Acronym in Albanian)
ALL	Albanian Lek (currency)
AU	Administrative Unit
CH	Cultural Heritage
CoM	Council of Ministers
CLO	Community Liaison Officer
CRMP	Cultural Resources Management Plan
CVS	Compensation Values Study
DC	Direct current
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESA	Ecosystem Services Assessment
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
EPC	Engineering, Procurement, and Construction
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FG	Focus Group
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
GM	Grievance Mechanism
GLAC	Guidance on Land Acquisition and Compensation
GW	Gigawatts
Ha	Hectares
HCC	Health Care Centre
HH	Household
HoH	Head of Household
HV	High Voltage
IFC	International Finance Corporation
INSTAT	Institute of Statistics of Albania
IPRO	Immovable Properties Registration Office
KII	Key Person Interview
Km	Kilometres
kV	Kilovolt
LRP	Livelihood Restoration Plan
M	Metres
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MIE	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
MW	Megawatt
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
NDC	National Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NTPA	National Territorial Planning Agency
OHL	Overhead Transmission Line
OST	Transmission System Operator
PAH	Project- Affected Households
PAP	Project-affected People/Population
PR	Performance Requirement
PV	Photovoltaic
REA	Regional Environmental Authority
RSIR	Route Social Impact Register
SAE	State Agency for Expropriation
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan