

Република Северна Македонија
Општина Врапчиште



Republika e Maqedonisë së Veriut
Komuna e Vrapçishtit

Municipality of Vrapchishte

PROJECT APPRAISAL DOCUMENT - GRANT APPLICATION

***Reconstruction of the local road for Village
Gradec-Settlement Shabanaga***

September 2020

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. BACKGROUND

Vrapchishte is rural municipality, located on the northwest part of the Republic of North Macedonia, on the slopes of Shar Mountain, at approximate altitude of 709 m.a.s.l. It covers an area of 157.98km². The municipality is bordering with municipalities of Bogovinje to the north, Brvenica to the east, Gostivar to southeast, and Restelica (Republic of Kosovo) to the west. This rural municipality belongs to Polog planning region and has 16 settlements with a total population of 27,550 inhabitants.

Urban audit prepared for the Municipality of Vrapchishte and adopted by the municipality Council, define five out of sixteen settlements as socially undeveloped and poor areas. As in the ISPI table, those are Shabanaga (3), followed by Pozharane (4), Kalishte (6), Gorjane (6) and Novoselo (6) and those settlements are most deprived with quality of life given the underserved public services.

As per the ISPI table¹ of the Urban Audit for Municipality of Vrapchishte the local roads are least accessible for the settlements: **Shabanaga, Pozharane, Novo Selo**. The population in settlements except **Gradec, Vrapchishte and Negotino** are mostly without access to ecology and sanitary services. The buildings for services (schools, kindergartens) are concentrated in the center settlement of **Gradec, Vrapchishte and Negotino**.

The ISPI table of the Vrapchishte's UA presents 16 settlements. The quantitative scores per each settlement are ranging from 0 (poor) to 16 (good). Namely, each settlement was given proper score per services (from 0 to 4). By summing up the assigned scores (0 to 4) by the 4 types of services, each settlement could have final quantitative scores from 0 to 16 depending on the access to and the quality of the supply of the proper services.

The scoring of settlements as per the accessibility of public services thus, as per the UA for Vrapchishte is illustrated in the next table.

	Settlements	Final results
1	Shabanaga	3
2	Pozharane	4
3	Kalishte	6
4	Gorjane	6
5	Novoselo	6
6	Lomnica	7
7	Zubovce	7
8	Toplice	7
9	Gjurgjevishte	8
10	Galate	8
11	Vranjovce	9
12	Senokose	11
13	Vrapchishte	13
14	Gradec	13
15	Negotino	13
16	Dobridol	14

¹ ISPI table is part of the Urban Audit.

Vulnerability and exclusion from public services for the citizens of Vrapchishte

The following settlement/neighborhood is most deprived as per the ISPI analysis with quality of life given the underserved public services: Shabanaga with the lowest ranks of 3 as per the draft UA of Vrapchishte.

Shabanaga is placed northwest of Gradec and at 560 meters above the sea level with some 300 citizens. Younger population are emigrating. People are active mostly in agriculture. The local road connecting this settlement with Gradec and Senokose is endangered also with landslide thus, making it difficult for the local population to commute. That is why now the population is using alternative earth road that is in bad condition. Municipal staff reports that if the roads are in better conditions and reconstructed it will also help in relieving traffic jam on the regional roads.

The conclusion of the municipality of Vrapchishte as per the Deficiencies and needs are:

- Ecology and sanitary services (water supply, sewage, solid waste disposal) are in need in these higher altitude settlements and the municipality is considering the eventual start-up of the planned project **Rusino** for proper land field.
- Need of improving the local roads services and connections between settlements (**Shabanaga** especially with the dangerous land-slide).

The decision to allocate poverty social inclusion grant available funds to the settlement Shabanaga is based on the actual situation with needed infrastructure for those settlement. Settlement Shabanaga is the poorest settlement from the five settlements above mentioned. This settlement does not have sewage system and proper local roads. This settlement is located on northwest side of village Gradec. It is located at an altitude of 560 meters. Declining attitude in the migration trend of young people abroad characterizes this settlement. Otherwise, the settlement has distinct hilly mountainous features with agro-ecological-climatic conditions. The inhabitants of this settlement are engaged in land cultivation, fruit growing, beekeeping and animal husbandry. Clean air, water, environmental food, the richness of flora and fauna are characteristic of the settlement and are ideal for rural development, development of rural and mountain tourism. In recent years, on the existing local road that connects the villages Gradec and Senokose, a landslide of large scale has appeared, which makes it difficult to communicate with these places and there is a danger of cutting off these settlements if a new landslide occurs. That is why the population is currently force to use a temporary alternative small-scale land route. The Municipality of Vrapchishte has prepared complete technical documentation for this local road. The written request for solving this problem was send by the residents of this settlement to the municipality. Also, the meeting with the citizens from settlement Shabanaga was held on 15.03.2020 in v. Vradec to discuss settlements problems and reconstruction of this local road. According to the above, the Municipal Council decided to invest in the reconstruction of the local road for the settlement of Shabanaga.

Municipality of Vrapchishte signed with Ministry of Finance Agreement for MSIP2 sub-loan no. 10 from 25.07.2019 on amount of 30,614,694.00 denars equal 497,799.90 euro for implementation of project “Construction of water treatment plants in v. Negorino and in v. Dobri Dol”. Municipality of Vrapchishte signed contract no. 31-175/14 from 10.01.2020 for implementation of this project with contractor ZV Hidrostroj-Sofija, R. Bulgaria and Eurovia DOOEL Tetovo on amount of 32,804,000.00 denars equal 533,398.40 euro. This project is 50% technically completed wail financial disbursement is 35%.

According to the sub-loan agreement and after signing the contract with the contractor as well as the completion of the Urban Audit, the Municipality of Vrapchishte obtained the right to receive a poverty social inclusion grant in the amount of 8.265.967.00 denars (27% from the sub-loan amount since the contract signed between the Municipality and the Contractor is higher than the MSIP sub-loan). The draft Urban Audit for the Municipality of Vrapchishte was present on the MSIP Coordinative Committee meeting on 22.05.2020. After completion of the Urban Audit the Council of the Municipality of Vrapchishte adopted the Urban Audit with Decision, no.09-826/1 dated 29.05.2020. Based on the detected needs of the citizens from the settlement Shabanaga which is part of the village Gradec and available grant funds, the Council of the Municipality of Vrapchishte with Decision no. 09-826/1 dated 29.05.2020 decided that the project for "Reconstruction of the local road for village Gradec-Shabanaga" is a priority for the Municipality and will be financed by the poverty social inclusion grant. The total estimated investment cost of the project "Reconstruction of the local road for village Gradec-Shabanaga" is 9.979.080.00 denars equal 162,262 euro where 8.265.967.00 denars equal 134,406.00 euro will be financed by the MSIP2 grant, and 1.713.132.00 denars equal 27,856.00 euro will be financed by the Municipality of Vrapchishte as co-financing of the project.

B. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Shabanaga is one of the settlements in the municipality that need development and improvements in some spheres as the sewage system and local roads. According to the Urban Audit, the settlements that are ranked from 3 to 6 are settlements with the lowest values or living conditions of the citizens in terms of density, housing, roads, environment sanitation services and settlements that are ranked from 6 to 14 are in a better position. The settlement Shabanaga according to the ISPI table is ranked with 3, which means that it is undeveloped in all living conditions. Settlement Shabanaga is a mountainous settlement at 560 meters above sea level. Part of the villagers from the village are migrating to western European countries but a lot of them come to visit the country and their birthplace and every time they come, they expect the living conditions of the village to be better for them and for the villagers who are permanent residents that are approximately 80.

According to the data from the state statistics for 2013, the total length of the local roads in the municipality of Vrapchishte is 130 km, of which asphalted 65 km (50%), coated with an 8 km cube (6.15%), macadam roads 40 km (30.77%), earthy 14 km (10.77%) and non-cutting 3 km (2.31%). The local road to the settlement of Shabanaga is damaged asphalt with 2.5-3m width which impedes the movement of passengers and cars during the rain and winter because of mud and holes full of water. The road is about one kilometer long. Poor condition of this road makes difficulties for cleaning snow and soil deposits during rainstorms also.

Figure 1. Pictures from the current situation of the local road to the village Gradec - Settlement Shabanaga.



With this, grant funds the municipality plans to finance the “Reconstruction of the local road for village Gradec-Shabanaga. Selected local road connects the regional road and the settlement Shabanaga that is part of village Gradec. The project has no negative environmental impact.

The project assumes reconstruction of the local road where the start point begins from the regional road in the west side of village Gradec and finishes in the village Gradec on the other side of the village. This local road connects the settlement with the village and regional road. The length of the local road is 0.893 km. With this project the old damage asphalt will be completely removed and new compacted gravel layer and asphalt placed. The width of the new road is 4m and 2x1m sidewalks from the both sides of the road.

Direct beneficiaries of this sub-project are nearly 300 citizens living in v. Gradec-settlement Shabanaga out of which 145 are men and 155 are women. In addition, there are indirect beneficiaries 2,000 citizens that are living in village Gradec and using this road to reach their living homes.

II. TECHNICAL SOLUTION

The subject of this project is the reconstruction of a local road along an existing route for communication between Regional road and village Gradec settlement Shabanaga. The route for this local road separates from the regional road (the beginning of Village Gradec from the left side and ends on the middle of the village Gradec on regional road) and leads to the village Gradec. The mileage of the route starts at km 0+000 to km 0+893.

The technical documentation for the Reconstruction of the local road for village Gradec-Shabanaga in the municipality of Vrapchishte has a technical number 0308-67-511 from December 2019, prepared by "PRIMA INGEENERING" Skopje. The submitted documentation for reconstruction of the local road complies with the technical requirements and have design audit, prepared by "ALDING INGEENERING" doeel Skopje, no.P089/A . Reconstruction permit for this project is with number 26-5 dated 30.01. 2020.

The total length of the road that is subject to this appraisal is 893 m. Based on the current

asphalt, humus, mechanical excavation of earth material, loading and transporting to landfill, compacting the sub layer under the road $d = 30$ cm and 20 cm under the sidewalk, construction of earth embankment and planning of the slopes. Upper layer works include transport and installation of asphalt BNHS 16A $d = 7$ cm, transport and installation of concrete paver elements for sidewalk $d = 6$ cm placed on fine sand of 3-5 cm and installation of concrete curbs 18/24 MB 40 on a foundation of MB20. Drainage works include transport and installation of concrete channalets MB 40 based on MB20 foundation and construction of one well.

The envisaged construction time for this project is 4 months.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The main project goal is to provide a better and more meaningful life for the inhabitants of settlement Shabanaga, thus helping the local development of the municipality. The project will ensure reconstruction of the existing road that connects the settlement Shabanaga with village Gradec and with the main regional road in direction for the cities of Gostivar and Tetovo. The road is passing through the mountainous part of the municipality. The total length for reconstruction of the existing road is 893 m (km 0 + 893).

Figure 4 shows the location of the local road. The road is passing through a populated area, surrounded by individual family houses.



Figure 4: Location of local road from settlement Shabanaga to regional road connection

According to the national legislation (*Law on environment – Official Gazette No. 53/05, 81/05, 24/07, 159/08, 83/09, 124/10, 51/11, 123/12*) and secondary legislation, the Project for construction of the local roads belongs to the Annex I Chapter X – Infrastructural projects, Part 1: construction of local roads and streets. Consequently, the EIA Report for the reconstruction of “local road for v. Gradec settlement Shabanaga” was prepared and approved by the Municipality of Vrapchishte with No. 09-827/1 from 29.05.2020.

The project activities can be divided in three phases: preparatory, construction and operational phase. Environmental impact can be expected because of project activities within

the phases. Main project activities with environmental aspects and general environmental risk assessment are present in Table 1.

Table 1: Project activities with environmental impacts for each phase

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Environmental risk</i>	<i>General environmental risk assessment</i>
<i>Preparatory phase</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fencing and marking (putting signs along the construction site, • Clean up the site from waste and shrubs and transportation of waste to landfill 	- OH&S risk for the workers and local population	Local and short term with major significance
	- Air emissions	Local and short term, certain to happen, minor significance
	- Increased noise level	Local and short term, certain to happen, minor significance
	- Waste generation	Local and short term, certain to happen, minor significance
	- Water pollution	Possible, local and short term with major significance
<i>Construction phase</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavation of soil, • Installation of drains, • Putting bituminous emulsion, asphalt, concrete tile etc. 	- OH&S risk for the workers and local population	Local and short term with major significance
	- Air quality	Local and short term, certain to happen, minor significance
	- Increased noise level	Local and short term, certain to happen minor significance
	- Waste generation	Local and short term, certain to happen minor significance
	- Water pollution	Possible, local and short term with major significance
<i>Operational phase</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting the local road into operation and every day usage of the road 	- Waste generation	Local and long term, certain to happen minor significance
	- Water pollution	Possible, local and short term with major significance
	- Increased noise level	Local and long term, certain to happen, minor significance
	- Air emission	Local and long term, certain to happen minor significance

This section of the road is the only traffic connection for the inhabitants of the Settlement Shabanaga with village Gradec and other bigger towns/cities in the wider area. Therefore, the Municipality of Vrapchishte must discuss with the local inhabitants the traffic regime in order to prevent complaints and inconveniences, especially with focus for emergency cases and regime after the working hours of the Contractor, prior to starting the works on the road. The Contractor shall adjust the Program of works in line with his **Community Health and Safety Plan** considering the communicated needs of the local population. The Municipality must inform the local inhabitants with written notices 2 days before any closure of the road section (e.g. when asphaltting will take place).

MAIN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND SENSITIVE RECEPTORS

Prior to starting with the activities, the **Traffic Management Plan** should be prepared in order to prevent adverse environmental impacts and to ensure regular transportation of goods and people across the settlement in the municipality. This Plan should include the re-routing directions and works time schedule. Safety access to the individual households must be provided. The **Information note/Press** about the re-routing direction of traffic and information about project activities (start, timeframe, etc.) need to be prepared and announced via municipality board, web site <http://www.komunavrapcisht.gov.mk/> and

additional information notice placed at nearby important public stops. A publicly available Complaints Dropbox shall be placed at an appropriate place in the village; effective follow-up mechanism for prompt response shall be established by the municipal administration.

The **Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) Plan** also should be prepared by the Contractor, approved (before starting with activities) and implemented during all project phases in order to minimize the adverse health and safety impacts of the workers and the population living near the construction site. This plan should include mitigation measures such as providing adequate fencing, marking and putting signs on the construction site, mandatory usage of personal protective equipment for workers in accordance with the good construction practice. Considering the current situation with pandemic COVID-19 infective disease in the country, in addition to the measures for safety and protection at work, the OH&S plan should also include measures for prevention of COVID-19. The Contractor is required to follow/update and implement the measures that are currently in force and adopted by the Government as binding at national level, as well as the Guideline considerations provided by the World Bank through the MSIP/PIU. Official site for information related to COVID 19 on national level is www.koronavirus.gov.mk

Increased noise and air emission are expected during all phases of the project. Operation of construction equipment and machinery and presence of workers on site will produce **high noise level** during preparatory and construction phase, while in the operational phase increased noise will be a result of traffic jam. Taking into account the surrounding of the local road under construction and the requirements of the national legislation on noise limits, the maximum allowed noise level of project location should be 45 dBA for night and 55 dBA for day and evening (area with II degree of noise protection).

Air emissions (dust, exhausted gases) are also in link with operation of construction machinery during excavation work and traffic jam in operational phase.

The inert and mixed communal waste that will be generated in small quantities on the construction site will be collected and finally disposed on the municipal landfill, which is 5km away. Contractor is responsible for proper waste management that includes preparation and implementation of the **Waste Management Plan** (identification of possible waste types and quantities, waste categorization according *List of waste –Official Gazette of RM No.100/05*, proper storage and handling and responsible authorities for collection of different waste types). There is a municipal Public Enterprise “JP Vrapchishte” that will be in charge to communicate with the Contractor for timely and proper waste management and to prepare the Annual Waste Report including the waste quantities and type of waste generated during this project. The designated landfill site for disposing of the municipal inert waste is at 5 km distance from the project site near village Negotino.

Table 2 presents estimated types and quantities of generated waste on site (according EIA Elaborate).

Table 2: The estimated values of generated waste streams (according to the EIA Elaborate and Bill of Quantities)

Type of waste	Waste code	Quantity
Excavated old asphalt	17 03 02	2765 m ²
Excavated soil surplus	17 05 06	2058 m ³
Excavated old concrete elements	17 01 01	635 m ²

At the location, endangered and protected species of animals and plants are not recorded. However, the project location and village Gradec settlement Shabanaga are located in mountainous, forest area. In this respect, the Environmental Mitigation Plan proposes measures for careful works with due attention to minimize the impacts of degradation of the natural landscape.

According to the *Decree on the categorization of watercourses, lakes, reservoirs and groundwater* (“Official Journal of the Republic of Macedonia” No. 18/99), the **river Mazdraca** (located in the southern part of the village at a distance of 3 km) is categorized with a water quality of Class II at the given location. The categorization indicates rivers with moderate eutrophic status, with higher organic load and increased primary production (this river is not suitable for fish stock cultivation and use for recreational activities without its prior treatment: filtering, coagulation, etc.). In order to prevent possible further deterioration in the quality and status of this water recipient, the disposal of waste generated in or near the riverbed of Mazdraca river during the project activities is prohibited. Environmental impacts are long term and local (waste generation, noise level and air pollution) with minor significance. Good communication between Contractor, Supervisor, municipal staff, Environmental Inspector, Communal Inspector, and other relevant persons from Municipality of Vrapchishte is essential for providing continuous performance of the project activities and successful completion of overall project. The regular meetings, discussion on any problems related to environmental issues, community safety or OH&S issues are essential.

The main responsibilities of the Contractor are to follow the proposed environmental measures provided in the EIA Report and in the following Environmental Management Plan. Supervisor should perform the monitoring of the implementation of the proposed environmental measures. The detailed relevant Environmental Mitigation Plan and Monitoring Plan for the project are given in the following Tables A and B.

A. ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PLAN

Potential impact	Impact scale	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility
Project activity: Marking out the route for “Reconstruction of the local road for village Gradec-Shabanaga “			
<p>Possible adverse social and health impacts to the population, drivers and workers due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of ensured safety measures at the start of construction works Injury passing near by the construction sites Not compliance with strict OH& S standards and work procedure Inappropriate public access within the district 	<p>Local/within the Municipality of Vrapchishte short term during the construction due to short length (893 m) of the road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with local community; Preparation, approval and implementation of Traffic Management Plan together with the municipal staff and local inhabitants of Gradec settlement Shabanaga prior to the start up of activities; Provision of the information via municipal TV, radio and web site about the construction activities – start and finish of work for each day, duration of work and temporary traffic access; The information should be posted on the local community’s notice boards, local market, etc.; Placement of a publicly available Complaints Dropbox at appropriate place in the village; effective follow-up mechanism for prompt response shall be established by the municipal administration Preparation, approval and implementation of the Occupational Health & Safety Plan for the workers, including measures/plan for prevention of COVID -19, which will contain a section on Community Health & Safety; Application of good construction practice for marking out the construction site including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the appropriate marking out the construction site Marking out the construction material near the street Warning tapes and signage need to be provided Forbidden of entrance of unemployed persons within the warning tapes Community and Worker’s OH&S measures should be applied (first aid, protective clothes for the workers, appropriate machines and tools) The street and surrounding area near the houses should be kept clean Machines should be handled only by experienced and trained personnel, thus reducing the risk of accidents Constant presence of firefighting devices should be ensured in case of fire or other damage; Flammable liquids may be placed and kept exclusively in vessels constructed for that purpose; Larger quantities of flammable liquids should not be kept on the site along the construct street; All workers must be familiar with the fire hazards and fire protection measures and must be trained to handle fire extinguishers, hydrants and other devices used for extinguishing fires; Devices, equipment and fire extinguishers should be always functional, so in case of need they could be used rapidly and efficiently; The portable toilet should be placed on the construction site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor Supervisor Municipality staff (Construction Inspector/Environmental Inspector/Traffic Engineer)
Project activity: Reconstruction of the local road of village Gradec Settlement Shabanaga			
<p>Possible impacts on landscape and visual aspects</p>	<p>Local/within the village Gradec settlement Shabanaga short term /minor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimization of the construction area as much as possible (carefully planning and design of the project activity according the Traffic Management Plan for a certain period of time) In case tree vegetation needs to be extracted, a Vegetation Restoration Plan shall be done for the locations where these trees shall be planted (appropriate selection of the sites / soil landfill, number and types of trees, period for planting and watering in the first 3 months). Species of trees must be selected based on the species that are part of the natural ecosystem nearby, thus ensuring complete remediation of the natural habitat. Planting ratio is 1:3 for excavated: planted tree. Fully clean up of the construction site immediately after accomplishment of construction activities section by 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor Supervisor Municipality staff (Environmental Inspector/Traffic Engineer)

Potential impact	Impact scale	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility
		<p>section</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection of the generated waste on daily basis, selection of waste, transportation and final disposal on appropriate places (according the type of waste – more details under Waste management issue) 	
<p>Possible emissions by transportation vehicles and impact on air quality due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gases emissions of dust-suspended particulates traffic congestion will be caused as well causing changes in existing traffic circulation 	<p>Local/within the village Gradec settlement Shabanaga short term /minor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction site, transportation routes and materials handling sites should be water-sprayed on dry and windy days; Construction materials should be stored in appropriate places covered to minimize dust; Vehicle loads likely to emit dust need to be covered Usage of protective masks for the workers if the dust seems to be appeared Restriction of the vehicle speed within the construction location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor Supervisor Municipality staff (Environmental Inspector)
<p>Possible noise disturbance as a result of outdoor equipment usage and transportation vehicles driving around the site</p>	<p>Local/within the village Gradec settlement Shabanaga short term /minor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The level of noise should not exceed more than 55 dB during the day and evening and below 45 dB during the night The construction work should be not permitted during the nights, the operations on site shall be restricted to the hours 7.00 -19.00 The Contractor should use outdoor equipment / construction machinery and equipment, that possess Statement of Conformity for generation of noise lower than 102 dB (A); 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor Supervisor Municipality staff (Environmental Inspector)
<p>Potential impacts to Watercourses</p> <p>Disposal of different fractions of hazardous and non-hazardous waste at or near the riverbed of the river Mazdraca will lead to possible negative impacts on the quality of the water recipient</p>	<p>Local / about 3km south of the project site in the municipality of Vrapchishte</p> <p>Short term / Significance - Large</p>	<p>Temporary or final disposal of various waste fractions at or near the riverbed of the Mazdraca River located approximately 3 km south.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The construction site should be kept in a clean state in order to prevent possible / eventual spillage of engine oil or dust which, in heavy rains, may drain into the water recipient located in the immediate vicinity of the construction site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor Supervisor Municipality staff (Construction Inspector and Environmental Inspector)
<p>Possible adverse environmental impact and health effects could be occurred as a result of generation of the different waste streams</p> <p>The inappropriate waste management and not in time collection and transportation of waste streams</p>	<p>Local within the village Gradec settlement Shabanaga short term/minor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of the different waste types at the construction site (soil, sand, road surfacing, bottles, food, etc. Classification of waste according the national List of Waste (Official Gazette no.100/05) The main waste would be classified under the Waste Chapter 17 “Construction and demolition wastes with the waste code 17 05 06 –Excavated soil, 17 03 02 – old asphalt and 17 01 01 – old concrete. Small amount of solid municipal waste could be found (food, beverages), as well as packaging waste (paper, bottles, glass, etc. Transportation and final disposal of the inert waste to the designated site near village Negotino in 5 km distance from the project site. Fulfillment of the Annual Report for non-hazardous waste management by the Mayor of Municipality of Vrapchishte and reporting to the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning The construction waste could be re-used if it is possible Possible hazardous waste (motor oils, vehicle fuels) should be collected separately and authorized collector and transporter should be sub-contracted to transport and finally dispose the hazardous waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor Supervisor Municipality staff (Communal Inspector/ Environmental Inspector) JP Vrapchishte
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No environmental impacts are expected during the Operational phase 			

B. MONITORING PLAN

What parameter is to be monitored?	Where is the parameter to be monitored?	How is the parameter to be monitored?	When is the parameter to be monitored (frequency of measurement)?	Why is the parameter to be monitored?	Cost		Responsibility	
					Construction	Operations	Construction of the Local road for the village Gradec settlement Shabanaga	Operations of the street
Project stage: Start up of the construction work (marking out the construction site)								
Traffic Management Plan prepared	On the construction site	Visual check and reporting to the Municipality staff	At the beginning of the project activities (before the works start)	To ensure safety and easy re-route of the traffic across around roads/streets			Contractor Supervisor Construction inspector at the Municipality of Vrapchishte	
Information prepared and announced about the traffic redirection	At the municipality public relation office	Information/ Press release prepared and announced	At the beginning of the project activities (before the works start)	To inform the citizens of Vrapchishte, about planned construction works			Municipality staff/ Construction inspector at the Municipality of Vrapchishte	
Safety traffic flow around Road in Vrapchishte	At the spot	Visual monitoring	During the project implementation	To ensure the coordinated traffic flow within Vrapchishte and the surroundings			Municipality staff/ Communal inspector at the Municipality of Vrapchishte	
The safety protection measures applied for the residents of the Municipality of Vrapchishte	On the construction site	Visual checks	At the beginning of the construction work (first day) Every working day during the project activities	To prevent community health and safety risks – mechanical injuries due to the very urban area			Contractor /Supervisor Construction inspector at the Municipality of Vrapchishte	
The occupational health and safety measures applied for the workers Application of preventive measures against COVID-19 by all workers on the site	On the construction site	Visual inspection of the necessary documentation and check if it is in line with national legal requirements	Before start of the project activities and each of working day	To avoid occupational and safety risks (injuries)			Contractor Supervisor Construction Inspector at the Municipality of Vrapchishte	
Project stage: Reconstruction of the local road of village Gradec settlement Shabanaga								
Separated hazardous and non-hazardous waste	On the construction site	Visual monitoring and reporting	During the project activities	To avoid disposal of hazardous waste on municipal landfill			Contractor Supervisor Municipal staff (Communal inspector and Environmental Inspector)	
Fulfilled Annual Report for transportation and disposal of waste	Local self-government administration	Review of documentation – Identification waste List	After the accomplishment the task of collection, transportation of waste on daily/monthly basis	To improve the waste management on local and national level To be in compliance with national legal requirements			Mayor /Director of the CSE “JP Vrapchishte” – Vrapchishte	

What parameter is to be monitored?	Where is the parameter to be monitored?	How is the parameter to be monitored?	When is the parameter to be monitored (frequency of measurement)?	Why is the parameter to be monitored?	Cost		Responsibility	
					Construction	Operations	Construction of the Local road for the village Gradec settlement Shabanaga	Operations of the street
Exposure the citizens to noise disturbance from vehicle machine and electric tools	On the site	Review the noise level technical specifications of the used vehicle mechanization and equipment for their use outside	Before the beginning of the work (first day)	To protect the workers against exposure to loud noise taking into account the technical specifications of the equipment and time duration of the work outside			Contractor Supervisor Environmental inspector/ Municipality of Vrapchishte	
Nature / land remediation	On/around the construction site Contractor's documentation	Review of documentation – excavated biomass treatment; supply and planting of new vegetation, Visual checks of the planted vegetation Visual checks of the disposed excavated biomass	During the works and at the end	To minimize/prevent land degradation and to ensure proper remediation process of the natural habitat			Contractor Supervisor Environmental inspector/ Municipality of Vrapchishte	
Disposal of the waste streams (solid and liquid) near the River Mazdraca as potential pollution of good ecological status of water course	Near the project areas	Visual check if waste is disposed near the River Mazdraca	During the construction period (once per week)	To ensure good status of water quality			Contractor Supervisor Environmental inspector/ Municipality of Vrapchishte	
Noise level	On the site	Monitoring of the noise levels dB (A) with appropriate monitoring devices	On regularly basis during the work, through site visits, in accordance with the national legislation, in case of public complaints	To monitor if the noise level is above/or below the acceptance noise level for that type of area - II exposure area for noise protection as residential district (55 dB (A) during the day time)			Contractor Company authorized to performed noise levels measurements sub-contracted by the Contractor – Bidder	

IV. SOCIAL IMPACT

A. SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY

The project envisages reconstruction of a local municipal road where the settlement Shabanaga will be connect with the Municipality of Vrapchishte. The local road in presence is very damaged asphalted road through which the citizens of the settlement Shabanaga pass every day and use it.

The settlement of Shabanaga is located northwest of the village of Gradec. It is located at an altitude of 560 meters. is characterized by a decline in the migration trend of young people abroad. Otherwise, the settlement has distinct hilly mountainous features with agro-ecological-climatic conditions.

This study is based upon the methodological concept of World Bank summarized as Five Entry Points, One Result. This concept requires exploration of five components: social diversity and gender, institutions, rules and behavior, stakeholders, participation and social risk. The assessment anticipated desk and onside research, holding interview and focus group and constant communication with municipal representatives to get available information on interest and attitudes of stakeholders.

The interviews and communications were organized with 8 municipal officials: Mayor, representative from the financial sector, representative from the municipal administration and 19 counselors from different political sides. The counselors were from different settlements within the Municipality of Vrapchishte. Between the interviewers, there were 4 women from the ruling political party. On 15.03.2020 in v. Gradec meeting with 12 people who lives in settlement of Shabanaga also was taken. They all presented their opinions about the role and influence of various stakeholders in the process of decision making relevant to the project, as well as the level of information, capacities and readiness of the residents to support the project.

Taking their delegation and duties into account, the above-mentioned officials proved to be useful interpreters of the opinions of the residents since being their representatives and having frequent meetings with them, they are very familiar with the needs, attitudes and opinions of the local population and the project. The answers from the interviews are very indicative a very good insight in the local processes to the project.

After the urban audit for the Municipality of Vrapchishte was prepared and approved, with a decision of the Municipal Council it was decided to invest a grant for poor areas / social inclusion in the reconstruction of a local road for the village Gradec settlement Shabanaga.

In the Municipality of Vrapchishte, the local road subject to this appraisal, there are residents from different social groups (including minorities, gender, young couples, etc.) There are different age groups, including children, youths and elderly people. Most of the male population in the municipality go to work abroad while the female population, their children and elderly people stay in their native settlements. The emigrated residents come back and invest in their birthplace by construction of new and beautiful houses and opening new businesses.

According to the last revised Census data for 2002, the total number of population in the municipality of Vrapchishte was 25,399. The total number of households was 5.225 i.e. 4.86 residents per household. The municipality has a high density of 160.77 inhabitants per km² which is almost 2.1 times higher than the national average of 78.6 inhabitants per km².

The statistical data on gender structure in 2002 shows that female is represented with 51.09%.

Majority of population in the municipality are Albanians 83.1%. From other minorities there are: Turks (4.1%), Macedonians (4.1%), and other with less than 0.5%.

Municipality of Vrapchishte has a high share of population younger than 15 years (15.81%), whereas persons 65 and older have a share of 8.40%. In 2016, the number of population 15-64 was by 4.95 pp. higher compare to the population on same age in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The local inhabitants of the settlement Shabanaga within the Municipality of Vrapchishte are about 300 of which 145 are men and 155 are women use the local road subject to this appraisal for communication with the center of the municipality, the settlement of Vrapchishte, where many institutions are located, such as: municipality building, primary and secondary school, health center, early childhood development center, police station and post office. Especially women with small children and elderly people need fast transport to hospital and other public institutions.

The main municipal priority is to improve the quality of life through economic development and employment of the local population, but also to improve the infrastructure, through construction of streets, sewerage network, storm water system and water supply services. According to the population that lives and uses the location that is subject to this appraisal, the existing road is in very bad condition with many holes and mud during the rainy days, and its using is unsafe. The councilors of the community confirm the construction of the road subject to this appraisal as a municipality priority that was already emphasized by the overall population that lives in the local settlements.

The reconstruction of the road will be beneficial for the safety of women with children, schoolchildren, elderly people and residents with special needs, but also creating favorable conditions for foreign investors to come and work in the municipality and for agricultural and rural tourism development, which additionally will improve the economic situation.

According to the interviewees' opinions, the selected contractor must provide guarantees for the realization of the project. The municipal Council might request information from the Mayor in reference to the project's realization at any time. There are 45 employees in the Municipality administration, of who 9 women and 36 man. In addition, based on experience with other similar projects and the overall existing streets in the municipality of Vrapchishte, the municipal administration has the capacity to maintain the realization of the project and the road after project implementation. In that way, the municipality has an administration that has experience to monitor the progress of the project. Even there is one Communal State Enterprise (CSE) in the municipality, the municipality itself will be responsible for maintenance of the road. The CSE is responsible for water supply and sewage, while for winter maintenance and restoration of the road structure the municipality an outsourcing company. The municipality provides regular maintenance to the local roads in length of 50km and the regional road from village Vranjofce to the village Gradec, i.e. 30km of the regional traffic network. Every new rain provides new damages of the existing road-proposed for this project, including holes, erosion and the road is unsuitable and unsafe for normal traffic and everyday communication of the local residents. This is a financial burden for the municipality budget. The proposed technical solution for reconstruction of the local road should provide long-term improvement of the local road, which will reduce the costs for its maintenance.

Local communities are not under the municipal jurisdiction. There is a president of each local community chosen by the local population in the current settlement. Their obligation is to contribute and find solution to solve local problems of the inhabitants. Local communities are

not directly involved in the maintenance of the local road subject to this appraisal, but they can contribute by request of the residents and municipality.

According to the interviews, the private companies and the inhabitants will have great benefits from the construction of the local road. The construction will provide easy access to all consumers, which will increase earnings and trade. This information was confirmed by the focus group and interviewed participants, especially in the interest for opening new businesses from foreign investments.

The main occupation of the inhabitants of the settlement Shabanaga is agriculture and livestock. Livestock farmers use the local road.

The residents have submitted their complaints about the current situation in the road that is subject to this appraisal, which again implies that the residents are fully in favor of the project. The residents are fully informed about this project since it has been recognized as a priority in the Urban Audit and has been discussed with local community.

Residents, through their local communities raise issues considering communal infrastructure, maintenance of public facilities (water supply network, roads, etc.) environmental protection, they provide initiatives on landscaping of the area, public transport, education, health protection, social protection, cultural and sport manifestations, development of good inter-settlement relations, purchase of stocks and services, as well as protection of customers and other issues significant for everyday life and work for residents. The residents can influence the decision-making process, as their opinions are always taken into consideration by the mayor and the council.

High social risk for carrying out the project cannot be perceived. In the Municipality of Vrapchishte, the municipal council organizes meetings to discuss the priorities of municipality development and their realization. In spite of their political orientation, the councilors cannot endanger the realization of the project. As elaborated earlier, the councilors have already expressed their support for the project.

The Municipality of Vrapchishte officially communicates with the citizens in several ways. The most effective communication mechanism is the official website of the Municipality of Vrapchishte and the official e-mail addresses of the departments and heads of the special units of the local administration, where citizens receive information, serve questions, publish daily, and receive answers. In addition, the municipality uses the social network Facebook, where the municipality often promotes, publishes news and shares information. The mayor also has the practice of holding individual or group meetings with citizens. Meetings are held every Friday with citizens who had scheduled an appointment with the mayor. Occasionally, the municipality issues an official newsletter announcing all-important activities, projects, meetings and decisions. The municipality has a well-established practice of civic engagement activities in monitoring the project implementation process. This includes setting up feedback and annual public consultation with published results. These participatory practices provide an opportunity for residents to influence needed changes if they occur during project implementation if needed. The municipality will take all possible actions to protect the investment. The project is expected to affect the overall well-being of the municipality, and the residents are expected to provide full support during the implementation of the project.

B. OTHER ISSUES OF CONSIDERATIONS

The construction of the local road subject to this appraisal is expected to improve the overall living conditions in the Municipality of Vrapchishte. The implementation of the project is expected to create savings in the municipal budget for regular maintenances on the long-term basis. The implementation of the project is also expected to improve local public finances and

reallocate them to other municipal services. Moreover, increased property value because of the improved infrastructure will result in growth of revenues from property taxes.

C. RESETTLEMENT ISSUES

The project is not a subject to resettlement issues because it involves reconstruction of a local road on the existing road for the settlement Shabanaga in the Municipality of Vrapchishte. The existing road is located on a municipality land. The reconstruction of the road will improve the transport and will allow economic development of the municipality through opening new and development of the existing local small businesses and tourism development. The increased number of businesses will open new jobs for the local population and contribute to the employment of young people.

D. CONCLUSION ON THE PROJECT POTENTIAL SUCCESS AND RECOMMENDATION

The main drivers of the change that will bring about prosperity are the municipal authorities (Mayors and councilors) who have initiated and made the decision for seeking funding from the World Bank funded MSIP 2 poverty social inclusion grant. Since the problem of bad infrastructure exists for many years it has been publicly declared and discussed on few occasions. Direct beneficiaries of the project are the residents who live in the settlement Shabanaga (300) and there are indirect beneficiaries (2,000) that are people who using this road to reach their fields that are located above the village Gradec.

A part of the vulnerable and poor groups identified by the municipality (people with special needs, single mothers and elderly people), as well as kids and school children have special needs considering paved road that will allow easier and faster access to the relevant institutions (hospitals, schools, administrative offices, post office) in the central settlement of Vrapchishte and other municipalities. Gender balance needs to be incorporate in the strategic approach of the municipality and public communal enterprise towards all development efforts.

High socials risks for carrying out this project cannot be perceived. There are no issues connected with ethnic distribution of population or inter-local community rivalry: the action will allow benefits for all nationalities; it will cover the majority of residents and there are no land ownership concerns that need to be resolved.

V. FINANCIAL DATA

The total estimated investment cost of the project “Reconstruction of the local road for village Gradec-Shabanaga“ is 9.979.080.00 denars equal to 162,262 euro. The basic project design presents division of the investment costs into the following categories: preparatory works, earth works, upper layer, drainage.

Table 3: Distribution of investment costs

Type of works	Net value	VAT	Total with VAT
Preparatory work	553.890	99.700	653.590
Earthworks	772.750	139.095	911.845
Drainage	177.432	31.938	209.370
Upper layer	6.952.775	1.251.499	8.204.274
Total:	8.456.847	1.522.232	9.979.080

It is assuming that construction works will last approximately 4 months, what means that all the above-mentioned investment costs will be carried out end 2020/mid 2021.

The Municipal Council adopted Decision no. 09-827/1 dated 29.05.2020 that establishes “Reconstruction of the local road for village Gradec-Shabanaga“ as priority project for the Municipality of Vrapchishte which will be financed with MSIP2 poverty social inclusion grant in the amount 8.265.967.00 denars and municipality co-financing in the amount of 1,713,132.00 denars. Those the MSIP grant funds will cover 83% (134,406.00 euro) of the total investment value (162,262.00 euro) while the remaining 17% (27,856.00 euro or 1,713,132.00 denar) will be financed by the Municipality of Vrapchishte.

Table 4 Project value and financing structure

“Reconstruction of the local road for village Gradec-Shabanaga“	Total (denars)	Total (euro)	%
MSIP social inclusion grant	8.265.967.00	134,406.00	83%
Co-financing (Municipality of Vrapchishte)	1.713.132.00	27,856.00	17%
Project value	9.979.080.00	162,262.00	100%

Social and economic benefits will be achieved by reconstruction of the existing extremely damaged local road in the village Gradec i.e. in the settlement Shabanaga. Safe traffic will be provided for all traffic participants, local residents of the settlement Shabanaga, residents of village Gradec and transporters of commercial goods and services, producers and transporters of agricultural products to the local market and beyond, cattleman’s transport of goods to sheepfolds, transporters of students to/from school etc. For all of them, the time needed to approach the center of the Municipality as well as the neighboring towns Gostivar and Tetovo will be shorter so the citizens will have faster and easier access to the social services (hospitals, police, firefighting, post office etc. located there.