

Factsheet 7:

HPP Fangu faced with local community clashes and protests over land appropriation

<p>Description</p>	<p>In 2009, the Albanian government tendered the concession of Fani i Madh & Fani i Vogel in Puke and Mirdite districts for exploitation of hydro energy capabilities. On 2 May 2011, Ayen AS Energji signed the Building Operation Transfer (BOT) contract No.5446 rep and No.1944 Kol with the Albanian Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy for the construction and operation of three run-off river and one dam storage hydropower plants through a concession period of 35 years and preliminary costs of 142.5 million Euros. On 20 December 2012, the National Council of Territory Regulation approved the construction of the Hydro Power plants on Fani i Madh and Fani i Vogel rivers. The construction works started in 2013 and are expected to finish in mid-2017. The local community in Qafe-Molla, Mirdita district have protested against the construction of the HPP without prior compensation of their legitimate land. They have smashed the company construction site, blocked the Company's worker enter the site and clashed with police special forces several times. 6 people have been arrested due to the protests. On 30 July 2014, due to an accident inside the tunnel, 3 workers died (2 Albanians +1 Turkish) due to demolition of the tunnel. Following, all 200 workers supported by the locals protested on the works safety and conditions.</p> <p>In addition, the local habitants of Gojan village in Puka have been facing conflicts with the AS –Energy (Albanian partner S.L) which led to setting in explosion the HPP in Gojan thus causing a damage of 3 EUR millions according to the company declarations. Police communications stated that two unidentified people tied up the HPP security guard and set the explosives.</p>
<p>Basic data</p>	<p>"Ayen AS Energji" is a joint-stock company owned by the Turkish companies AyenEnerji Co. Inc, AyelElektrikÜretimSanayiVeTicaret A.Ş., Fahrettin Amir and partners and Albanian company AS Energy with 82, 8, 1 and 9% shares, respectively.</p> <p>The first two hydropower plants (Gojan, Gjegjan) will utilize the upper stream of Fani i Madh River. The other two (Peshqesh, Ura e Fanit/Fangu) will utilize the hydropower capacities of both Fani i Madh and Fani i Vogel Rivers. The Fani i Vogel River deviates to Fani i Madh near Shkoret village, in Orosh commune. The first three power plants FHP1, FHP2, FHP3 are run-off-river power plants, meanwhile the fourth one is Dam Storage based power plant. With a total installed capacity of 110.56 MW, Fani i Madh and Fani i Vogel Cascade project will supply an estimated energy output of 367 640 MWh, equivalent to 7 % of the Albanian Active generation capacity and to 8 % of the supplied energy for 2012. Eight Francis turbines will be utilized together with three phases synchronous generators.</p>
<p>Graphic taken from Ayen. Company website for study purposes.</p>	
<p>Source of conflict</p>	<p>Land appropriation - 1st level of conflict Local employment - 2nd level conflict Environmental an water sources - 3rd level of conflict</p>
<p>Project details and actors</p>	<p>Ayen AS Energji 13,600,000,000 –142.5 million Euros.</p>
<p>Level of investment</p>	<p>Mirdita district Local habitants from Qafe-Molla village; Local media.</p>
<p>The conflict and mobilization</p>	<p>Street protest, lawsuit, clashes, media appearances, requests and petitions.</p>

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Conflict impact	<p>Observed and/or Potential Environmental impact: forest and water resources, landscape loss, water diversion,</p> <p>Observed Social –economic impact: Land appropriation, Water share, irrigation of land.</p>
Conflict outcome	<p>Partly constructed; under construction No institutional changes Not sure; The project is under construction.</p>
Sources and materials/References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.asp.gov.al/index.php/17-shqip/lajmet-e-fundit/9329-nga-seksioni-per-hetimin-dhe-parandalimin-e-krimeve-u-arrestuan-ne-flagrance-2-shtetas-gjeneralitetet-e-te-cileve-per-arsye-hetimi-nuk-jepen-per-vepen-penale-shkaterrimit-te-prones-me-eksploziv-kryer-ne-bashkepunim; ○ http://www.ayenas.al/project-description; ○ http://24-ore.com/?p=8631 http://shqiptarja.com/aktualitet/2731/puk-shp-rthim-tritoli-n-hec-in-e-gjegjanit-autor-t-lidh-n-rojen-357845.html Extract of AS Energy company from the National Licensing Centre.