

# Klinë/Klina

April 2008

## 1. Area and Population

- Klinë/Klina municipality is seated in the west of Kosovo, on the edge of Dukagjini valley and the Drenica region, and has an area of 308 km<sup>2</sup> covering 54 villages and Klinë/Klina town. Having such geographic position, Klinë/Klina possesses good communication and transportation facilities. A highway from Prishtinë/Priština to Pejë/Peć runs through the municipality while regional roads to Gjakovë/Djakovica, Istog/Istok and Skenderaj/Srbica provide an excellent transportation and communication network. In addition, Klinë/Klina has good railway line connections. The line from Prishtinë/Priština running east to west (Pejë/Peć) and south (Prizren/Prizren) respectively uses Klinë/Klina town as the dissection point. The Drini i Bardhë/Beli Drin River (the major river in Kosovo) runs from north to south across the municipality. There are also four other rivers passing through the municipality. One of them, Mirusha (Ujvara), is well known for its beautiful lakes and waterfalls (12km south from the main town).

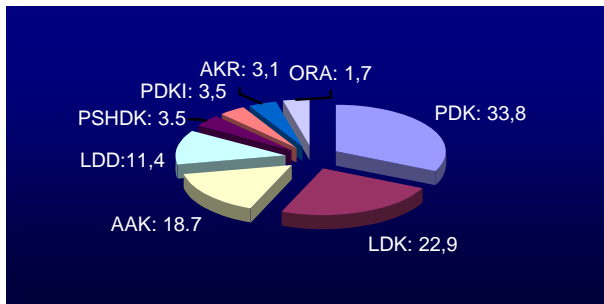
- The number of people registered in Klinë/Klina municipality since 2005 is 32,457 (17,084 males / 15,373 females). The actual population is likely to be higher than this, approximately 55,000. Minority communities in Klinë/Klina Municipality include Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians (around 2,000).

- The Kosovo Serb community consisted of up to 10,000 persons before the 1999 conflict, most of whom are yet to return to the municipality. In the area of returns, Klinë/Klina became the first municipality to seriously undertake concrete steps to create the conditions and environment for return of Kosovo Serb internally displaced persons. More than 180 rural houses have been reconstructed to accommodate returning Kosovo Serbs. In town, 87 houses and apartments have been reconstructed/refurbished to host urban returnees. The total number of returnees to the municipality is between 200 and 400 as many of the registered returnees spend a significant amount of time outside of Kosovo. The returns process is ongoing.

## 2. Governing Structures

### • Legislative

The total number of Municipal Assembly seats is 31. After elections of 17 November and second round on 8 December 2007, PDK won the position of the Mayor, and majority in the Municipal Assembly.



PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo  
LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo  
AAK - Alliance for the Future of Kosovo  
LDD - Democratic League of Dardania  
PSHDK - Albanian Christian-Democratic Party of Kosovo  
PDKI - Demochristian Party for Integration  
AKR - Alliance New Kosovo  
ORA - Reformist Party ORA

### • Executive

The Board of Directors is composed of a Mayor and Directors. There are seven Directors, including five from PDK, and two from LDD. In addition, there is also the Head of Municipal Community Office and Head of Department of Administration and Personnel, who are members of the Board of Directors *ex officio*. Currently, the position of the Head of Communities Office is vacant, awaiting the recruitment procedures to be completed. The Mayor is Mr. Sokol Bashota of the PDK. There are 137 civil servants in the municipality.

### • Judiciary

Since January 2000 six Kosovo Albanian judges are appointed to Klinë/Klina municipality. Three are working in the Municipal Court and three in the Minor Offences Court. The Public Prosecutor's Office in Pejë/Peć covers also Klinë/Klina municipality as there is no prosecutor office in Klinë/Klina.

## 3. Political Overview

In the Municipal Elections of 2007, LDK which was a leading party in Klinë/Klina municipality lost the majority in the Municipal Assembly, while PDK won the elections, and AAK increased their support. The results were as follows: PDK 33% (10 seats), LDK 23% (7 seats), AAK 19% (6 seats), PSHDK 3% (1 seat), PDKI 3% (1 seat), AKR 3% (1 seat), ORA 1.6% (1 seat). PDK is in coalition with LDD, AKR

and ORA. The Mayor, Mr. Sokol Bashota of the PDK serves as the Chairperson of the Municipal Assembly.

#### 4. Economy

More than 1,000 businesses are registered in Klinë/Klina. Farming is the main occupation outside the town. Many small shops in the town have officially registered with the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Some 300 persons are working in industrial activities in the municipality. Six out of eight socially owned enterprises have been privatized so far, but are operating with limited capacities. The Public Administration remains the largest employer. On the other hand, there are three major private companies in the municipality. All together they employ about 200 workers. Small business loans and micro-credit programs funded by various loan agencies/banks have been initiated. The aim was to enable targeted beneficiaries to create and sustain their economic independency.

#### 5. Public Services

##### • Health

The Health House in Klinë/Klina serves as a primary health care unit (PHCU) for the local population and provides specialized services in pediatrics, psychiatry, and dental care. There are nine health clinics (ambulantas) in the municipality, which offer basic medical support to the communities. Water, sanitation, and power supply remain problematic in all clinics. The Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian population in the municipality have equal access to these services, while Kosovo Serb returnees prefer to use the parallel services provided in Osojan/Osojane vilage in Istok/Istog municipality.

##### • Education

Klinë/Klina municipality has three kindergartens, 15 primary schools, and one high school. The high school includes a regular gymnasium and a technical school. The schools are located in 26 buildings, all of which were more or less destroyed during the 1999 conflict. A total of 9,000 children attend kindergarten and primary schools. The secondary school has 1,180 students. Children of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities are successfully placed in Klinë/Klina schools, whereas a small number of Kosovo Serb returnee children attend the parallel school facility in the village of Videjë/Vidanje.

#### 6. Map of the Region

