

## Pilot Municipal Unit Junik

April 2008

### 1. Area and Population

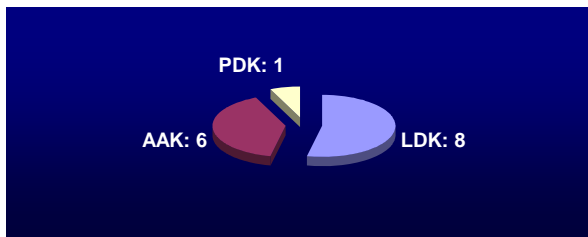
- The Pilot Municipal Unit (PMU) Junik/Junik is located in the west of the Dukagjini Plain between Deçan/Deçane and Gjakovë/Đakovica along Kosovo's mountainous border with Albania. The PMU is composed of cadastral zones Junik, Voksh/Vokša, Sllup/Slup, Jasiq-Gjocaj/Jasić-Đocaj and Rastavicë/Rastavica with a total of 86.2 square kilometers.
- Pursuant to the statistical data from the year 1981 and some estimations by the PMU and local registrations that followed the 1999 conflict, it is assumed that the PMU has approximately 12.500 inhabitants. Apart from one Kosovo Bosniak family, the PMU is mono ethnic Kosovo Albanian.

### 2. Governing Structures

The Pilot Municipal Unit (PMU) Junik was established in July 2005 within Deçan/Deçane municipality, based on the "Framework for Reform of Local Self Government" and Administrative Direction 2005/11 and Administrative Instruction 2006/2. In December 2007 the SRSG extended the applicability of Administrative Direction 2005/11 until the Pilot Phase will be repealed by another legislation.

#### • Legislative

Based on the results of the 2002 local elections in the PMU Junik territory, a provisional Municipal Assembly was established by the United Nations' Special Representative to the Secretary General. The seats were allocated as represented in the chart below. The PDK seat has so far remained vacant as the party was not satisfied with the current structure of the PMU and its territory. The provisional Municipal Assembly held its first session on 26 September 2005 when it also elected the provisional Municipal Assembly President and a Deputy President.



LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo  
AAK - Alliance for the Future of Kosovo  
PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo

#### • Executive

After a relatively long planning period a civil service was gradually built up. By the end of June 2006 an Executive Director was hired and subsequently the heads of sectors and their staff. There are currently five sectors: general administration; economy, budget and finance; education, youth and sports; healthcare and public welfare. PMU Junik's civil service comprises 19 staff members. In the education and health sectors the PMU employs 108 staff members. Following the November 2007 elections the Executive Director resigned due to participation in the elections and no new Executive Director has been recruited yet.

#### • Judiciary

There are no courts located in the territory of the PMU Junik. Court cases from Junik inhabitants are heard by the Deçan/Deçane Municipal Court which deals with civil and penal cases, and a Minor Offences Court which deals with traffic violations, illegal woodcutting and some trafficking issues.

#### • Security presence

There is a Kosovo Police Substation in Junik village which is linked to the police station in Deçan/Deçane. There is no permanent presence of KFOR or Kosovo Protection Corps in the PMU. There are however regular contacts between the PMU and KFOR Liaison Monitoring Team. The Kosovo Protection Corps is involved in de-mining activities in two villages, Jasiq/Jasić and Gjocaj/Đocaj.

### 3. Political Overview

The Municipal Assembly is dominated by an LDK majority; both the PMU Municipal Assembly President and Deputy are LDK members. The split of LDK has so far not resulted in a division in the PMU, although an LDD branch has been established in the PMU. The AAK has six seats in the Municipal Assembly and is critical towards the administration but usually in a constructive manner. Although one PDK member was appointed to the Municipal Assembly by the United Nations' Special Representative to the Secretary General, this person never attended any Municipal Assembly meeting as the Junik PDK branch boycotts the

PMU. Prior to the November 2007 elections the Alliance for a New Kosovo (AKR) has opened a branch in Junik with several sub-branches and a youth forum. Following the November 2007 municipal elections for Deçan/Deçane municipality, the AAK claims it has the right to a stronger representation in the municipal institutions. The party boycotts the Municipal Assembly as long as the current composition remains in place. Apart from political entities, organizations such as Vetëvendosje (Self Determination) or the War Veterans Association are not active in the PMU.

One of the issues of concern to PMU officials is the resistance of inhabitants of the villages Rastavicë/Rastavica, Sllup/Slup and Voksh/Vokša who prefer to remain part of Deçan/Deçane municipality. The inhabitants base their argument on historical ties; practical reasons relate to distance; political affiliation might play a role as well. They state that this has nothing to do with the performance of the PMU. Especially people from Sllup/Slup and Voksh/Vokša boycotted debates organized by the PMU in their villages and seem to be unwilling to accept investment by the PMU. The PMU recently strengthened the link with Rastavicë/Rastavica by supporting activities in the local primary school which now falls under the responsibility of the PMU. Furthermore, the PMU did some maintenance projects for the primary school in Voksh/Vokša.

#### 4. Economy

The economy of PMU Junik is mainly based on extensive agriculture. The vast majority of inhabitants are in some way involved in agricultural activities. As in the rest of Kosovo, unemployment is a problem. However, after the 1999 conflict, there was an increase in registrations of private businesses in the territory of the PMU and currently more than 50 businesses are registered. Most of the enterprises are family run, especially trade enterprises. The municipal administration is currently the largest employer. The PMU inhabitants see the vast forests around Junik and the natural beauty as the main asset of the PMU and the administration seeks possibilities for investing in the development of tourism.

#### 5. Public Services

The PMU has a fully operational civil registry office and it has assumed full responsibility in healthcare and education. The PMU is investigating possibilities for the establishment of a garbage collection company and a fire brigade. Services such as drinking water supply and irrigation are currently delivered by regional companies.

- **Health**

As of 1 January 2007, the PMU assumed full responsibility in the field of healthcare. There is one main Family Health Centre, which operates in two shifts and employs 22 staff. The healthcare sector has improved since the establishment of the PMU as opening hours were extended and the number of staff has increased.

- **Education**

As of 1 January 2007, the PMU assumed full responsibility in the field of education. There are two primary schools in the PMU; one in Junik and one in Rastavicë/Rastavica. The secondary school in Junik is operating as a satellite school of the secondary school in Deçan/Deçane. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has provided funds for a secondary school building, which is currently being constructed in Junik town and will enable better teaching conditions for the students. The PMU employs 71 members in this sector and the schools are attended by a total of 1,324 pupils.

#### 8. Map of the Region

