



DEVELOPMENT OF A PROJECT DOCUMENT FOR A WATER-ENERGY-AGRICULTURE NEXUS INTERVENTION AT THE GJANCI RESERVOIR IN KORCA, ALBANIA

In the framework of the
“SEE Nexus Project”



Funded by



Implemented by



In partnership with



This project is developed in the framework of the “SEE Nexus Project” (“Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in South-eastern Europe, through the use of the Nexus approach”)

Funded by the Austrian Development Agency (**ADA**) and implemented by the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (**GWP-Med**) in partnership with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (**UNECE**).



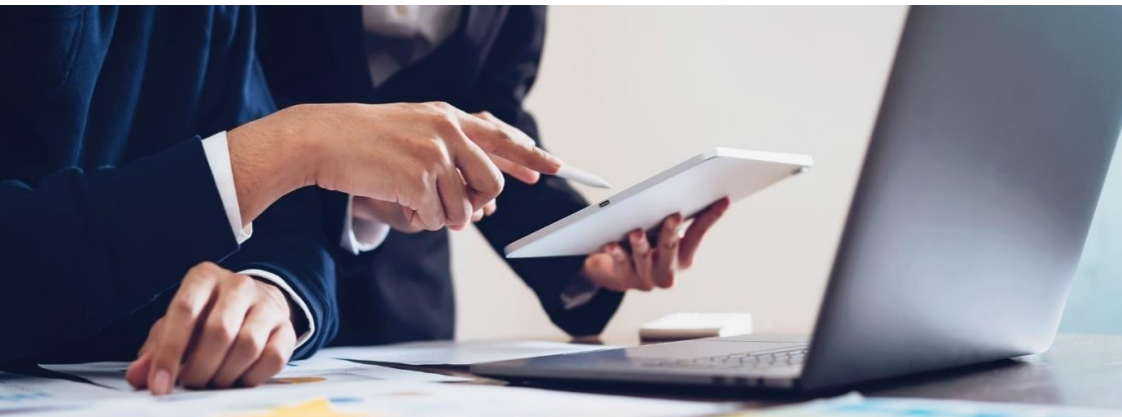
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The focus of this project is "**Gjançi Reservoir**", which is the main water source for:

- **The Irrigation of agricultural plots**
- **Energy production**

The dual use of the same water source causes contradictions between two users with different interests.

The main purpose of this study is to **meet current and future water needs for all local actors through the application of the NEXUS approach.**

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PHASES

1

Inception report phase (*1 month*)

2

Concept note phase (*2 months*)

3

Project Document phase (*2 months*)

PHASE 1

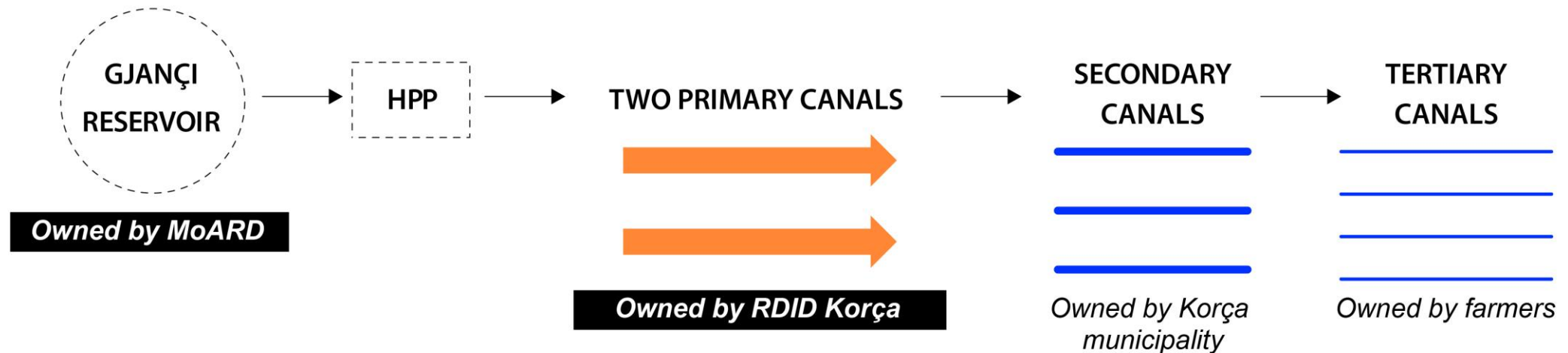
Inception report
phase

The first phase served for the preliminary analysis of the existing situation. During this period, the project team conducted a series of initial consultations with representatives from:

- Regional Directorate of Irrigation and Drainage, Korça
- Municipality of Korça
- Irrigation and Drainage Unit, Korça
- Agricultural Technology Transfer Center, Korça
- Regional Agency for Agricultural Extension, Korça
- Representatives from Gjançi Hydropower Plant
- Farmers

Through the initial meetings it was concluded that the situation of ownership / administration is as follows:

- Gjançi Reservoir is owned by MoARD and administered by RDID Korçë
- The two primary canals of the irrigation scheme are owned and administered by RDID Korçë
- Secondary canals are owned and administered by the Municipality of Korçë
- Tertiary canals are managed / maintained by farmers themselves



Contractual agreements:

- The water use agreement is signed between the Gjanç Hydropower Plant and MoARD, represented by the Regional Directorate of Irrigation and Drainage.
- The concession agreement for the use of the hydropower plant is signed between the Concessionaire of the Hydropower Plant, MEI, MoARD and MFE.

Current state of the irrigation and drainage infrastructure:

- The primary left canal was rehabilitated during 2018-2019. During this repair, the cross section of the canal was reduced and currently its carrying capacity reaches up to 1200 l / sec (before rehabilitation it could transport 1500 l / sec).
- The primary right canal presents even more issues, currently most of it is out of order. MoARD has set a specific budget for its rehabilitation.



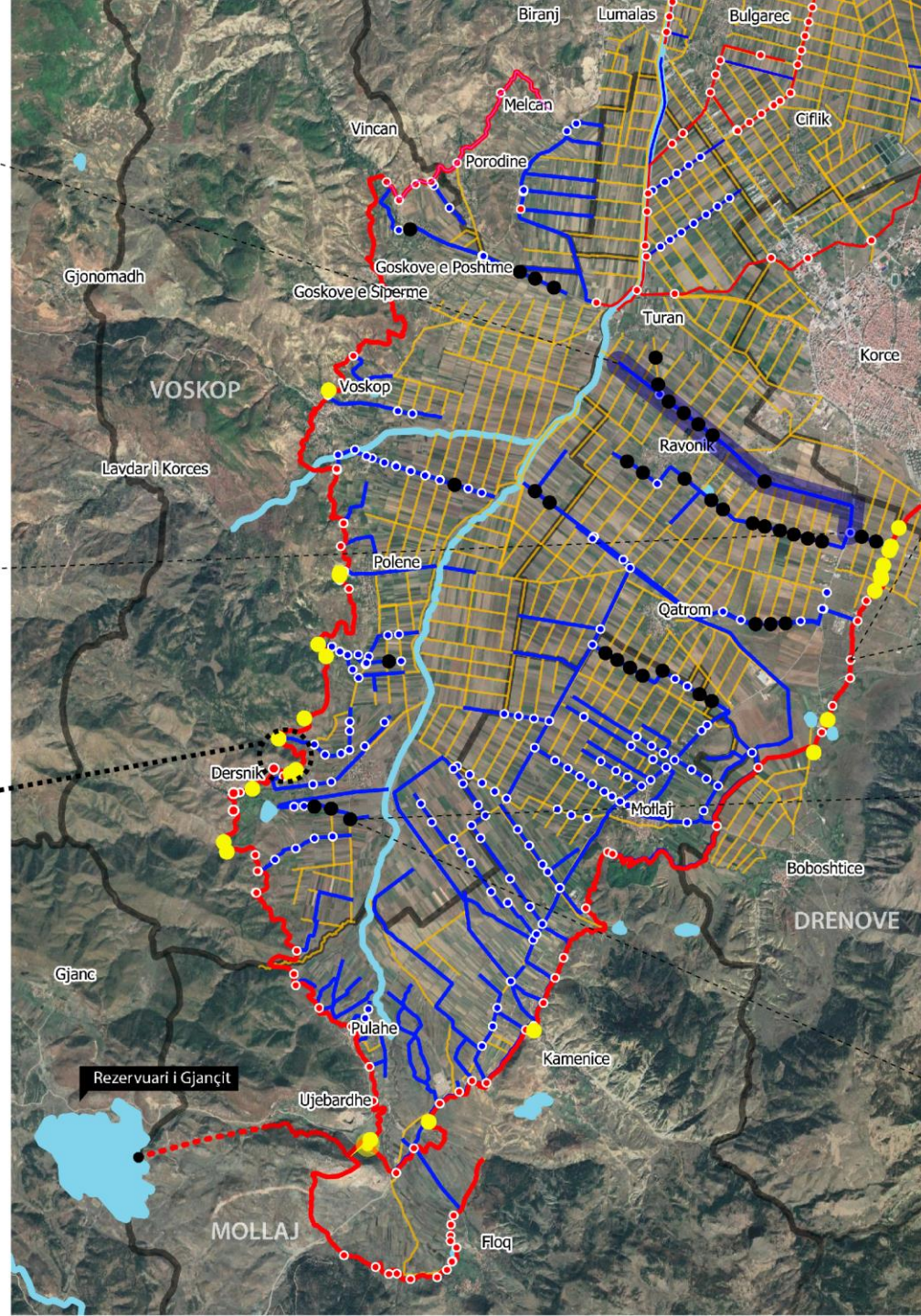
Secondary canal - **OUT OF FUNCTION (6.4 km)**

30 illegal openings by farmers.
Loss caused 350 liters

Interventions in assets:

25 assets in primary canals

42 assets in secondary canals



Outlet in primary canal - **MISSING**



Gate in secondary canal - **MISSING**



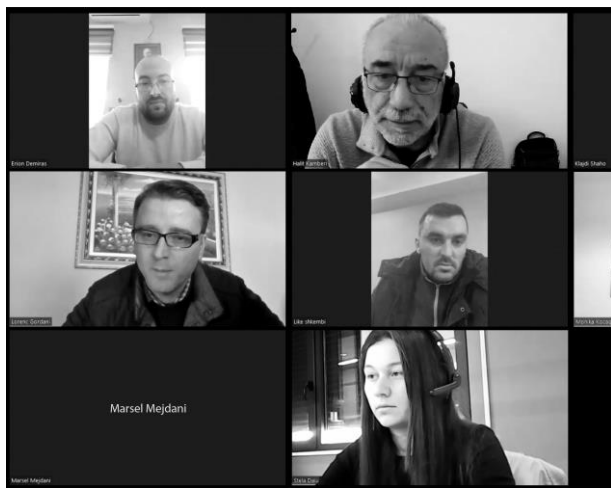
PHASE 2

Concept note phase

The Concept note drafting phase, which was implemented during the period February - April 2022, served to better understand the issues and challenges identified during the initial phase of the project and to address them with a particular focus on providing solutions for better management of the water source of Gjançi reservoir, in line with the NEXUS approach.



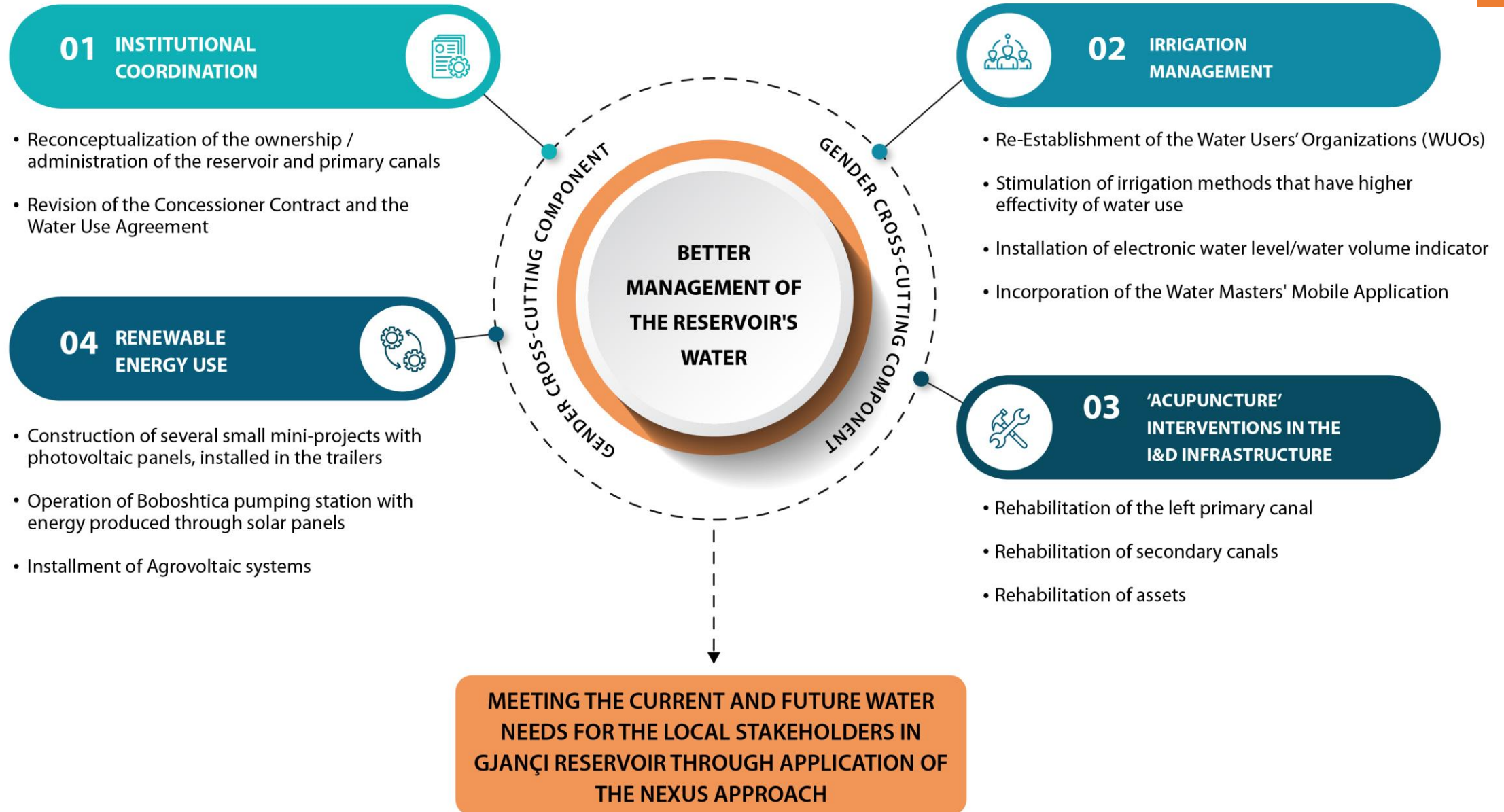
A SERIES OF CONSULTATIONS WERE HELD DURING THIS PHASE WITH A NUMBER OF STAKEHOLDERS, TO CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THE ISSUES AND NEEDS OF EACH SECTOR



The most raised issues during these consultations by the participants were:

- The complex relationship of ownership and administration of the Gjanç Reservoir and the irrigation scheme supplied by it
- Lack of important details in the water use agreement
- Current state of irrigation and drainage infrastructure and lack of investment in it
- Illegal abuses / interventions in infrastructure by farmers
- Non-operation of Boboshtica pumping station due to high cost
- Lack of support for women farmers

After reviewing and identifying current challenges and issues, we defined the main objectives for addressing them.



PHASE 3

Project Document
phase

We are currently in the third and final phase of the project, which consists of further detailing all the interventions proposed to improve the current situation. The final Project Document that we are drafting will include concrete steps and guidelines for meeting the objectives of each of the 4 main components.