

THE INCREASE OF AWARENESS AMONG  
LOCAL COMMUNITIES RELATED TO THEIR CO-  
LIVING WITH THE GAS PIPELINE  
BENEFITS AND SAFETY

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# Introduction

- Promote the development and new ideas.
- Influence policy public awareness about the economic and social challenges in Albania.
- Impact the community through implementation of advocacy initiatives and supportive programs for the groups of interests.
- Advocating to increase transparency and accountability and to strengthen civic engagement in social-economic issues through cooperation and partnership with key stakeholders.
- Professional training and capacity building in areas according to the needs in various sectors.
- Measurement of risk management at various institutions, standardization and improvement of management in them.
- Monitoring of performance and standards.

# Important Issues

- Even requested in most of the cases by law, safety is not a key priority in technical activities and other engineering operations. We can easily verify:
  - Accidents in work
  - People injuring during installment and constructing activities as they are not aware of the risks while co-living in the areas where these take place
  - Wrong local employment and hiring due to increased political demand on local employment (local people are not very well skilled nor safety instructed or educated)
  - People injured as they co-live with the investment done, even intensive communication has been taking place earlier during the public discussions on the investment and its benefits (companies are more focused on identifying benefits rather than risks to be consider)
- It is also evident that due to the late industrial development Albania may lack behind some legal improvements related to safety

# Important Actions

- Interventions in the Albanian laws covering safety issues with amendments and improvements in order to follow up and answer to the actual problematic related to safety in every sector of economy.
- Increase public awareness on the implementation of the law and the rules under it related to safety.
- Education of the employees and the working power in the country related to safety under the international standards.
- Certification of these standards and putting those under obligatory order by each economic sector.
- Training and counselling of the public related to co-living with high risk qualified objects and installations
- Intensive and continuous communication on this basis with the public and local authorities regarding this co-living

# Conclusions

- Communication is necessary and important.
- It is important to define the proper model and the ways of communication, in order to target and serve easier to the public.
- There must be done studies related to the identification of the most frequented media or mean of information for each area where the installations are set.
- Law implementation empowerment and enforcement is requested.
- Continuous training, counseling and explanatory communication must be established.
- Proactive marketing mostly helps in understanding and welcoming safety operations by the locals.

**Thank you for your attention!**