

Field assessment report

From Pilot Municipal Units to Fully Fledged Municipalities: First Year Review

March 2010

***Disclaimer:** findings presented in this report pertain to the period up until August 2009. However results of the 2009 elections are also provided.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
2.	INTRODUCTION	4
3.	PILOT MUNICIPAL UNITS: BASIC FACTS.....	4
	3.1 Establishment and purpose	4
	3.2 Legal Framework	5
	3.3 Institutional Framework.....	6
4.	PERFORMANCE OF YOUNG MUNICIPALITIES	6
	4.1 Scope and Competences.....	6
	4.2 Financial management.....	7
	4.3 The legislative branch	9
	4.4 The executive branch	10
	4.4.1 Executive branch: Human resource management	11
	4.5 Institutional relations.....	12
	4.5.1 Young municipalities – Mother municipality	12
	4.5.2 Young municipalities – Central government	13
	4.5.3 Young municipalities – External relations/assistance	14
	4.6 2009 Local elections in young municipalities	14
5.	CONCLUSIONS.....	15
6.	RECOMMENDATIONS	16
7.	ANNEXES.....	18
	7.1 2009 Local elections results.....	18
	7.1.1 Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković Municipality	18
	7.1.2 Junik / Junik Municipality.....	19
	7.1.3 Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša Municipality.....	20

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The European Charter on Local Self-Government is the first multinational legal instrument to define and safeguard the principles of local autonomy. Its purpose is to preserve the rights of local authorities which are closest to citizens; to give citizens the opportunity to participate effectively in the making of decisions which affect their everyday environment; and to guarantee political, administrative and financial independence of the local authorities.

In October 2002, Michael Steiner, the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) and head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) announced a plan to further implement the spirit of the Charter, and bring the Kosovo government closer to residents at the local level through the creation of new locally-elected municipal units - some with sizeable non-majority communities. As elsewhere in the Western Balkans, the main objective was to provide a mechanism to allow communities, especially non-majority communities at municipal level, sufficient political control over the key public services. The first step in this local governance reform process was the establishment of pilot municipal units, which were intended to act as a test case for the creation of new municipalities in non-majority communities areas. The pilot municipal units were subsequently established in 2005 and over a period of three years competences were gradually handed over from the so-called mother municipality¹ to the pilot municipal unit.

In May 2008, the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OSCE) Monitoring Department published *Pilot municipal units: Past, Present, Future* a report assessing the progress of pilot municipal units since their establishment in August 2005. Based on research undertaken by the OSCE and six-month assessment reports by the Ministry of Local Government Administration, the report gave an overview of the establishment, functioning, and future challenges of the pilot municipal units on their path to becoming fully-fledged municipalities.

In August 2008, the three functioning pilot municipal units were converted to fully fledged municipalities. This present report, produced as an initiative of the OSCE Field Teams operating in the young municipalities, assesses the progress of the young municipalities in their first year as fully fledged municipalities, from August 2008 to August 2009.

The report shows that the three young municipalities have so far functioned without major obstacles and that in some areas they have been quite successful. The transfer of competences is almost complete and has proceeded smoothly in all former pilot municipal units. Their relationships with the respective mother municipalities have also been reasonably unproblematic.

Furthermore, the report shows that relations between the pilot municipal units and central level have been largely satisfactory. However, the central level should continue to prioritise these municipalities in replying to requests and queries until their capacity is further developed. To this end, the central level should avoid any budget reductions in regards to municipal civil service that amount to staff ceilings. This will foster the municipalities' ability to recruit an experienced and professional civil service.

A problematic area identified in the report is the efficiency and independence of the legislative branch. The research identifies the municipal assembly and its committees as one of the main topics for future capacity building projects for the former pilot municipal units.

¹ Mother municipality refers to the municipality from which a number of cadastral zones is carved to form a pilot municipal unit.

2. INTRODUCTION

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OSCE) carries out activities to encourage principles of good governance in municipalities across Kosovo. It aims to assess municipalities' compliance with the local government legal framework in accordance with human rights principles and good governance standards. It also seeks to promote one of the core principles of good governance – bringing services closer to residents.

The aim of this report is to assess how the former pilot municipal units have functioned since their conversion into fully-fledged municipalities in August 2008. After three years of operation under the Pilot programme these municipalities are now operating independently from the Ministry of Local Government Administration's direct guidance. This one-year assessment draws from the field research and subsequent careful analyses undertaken by the Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković, Junik / Junik and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša Field Teams who met on a semi-regular basis to review the performance of their respective municipalities. The group determined that this report would serve as a timely exercise to determine the main challenges, best practices and lessons learned from which final recommendations could be formulated for any future local government reform projects.

As a basic principle of good governance, the local governance reform aims to foster accountability, transparency, and to further encourage the adoption of ethical standards in the conduct of public affairs. Transferring services to the local level permits residents to play a more active role in decision-making of service provisions and offers them a better understanding of issues and facts permitting them to critically appraise the performance of their local government through local elections.

3. PILOT MUNICIPAL UNITS: BASIC FACTS

This chapter presents a brief overview of the establishment and purpose of the pilot municipal units and their legal and institutional framework.

3.1 Establishment and purpose

In April 2004, the UN Security Council issued a Presidential Statement calling for “*more effective local government through the devolution of central non-reserved responsibilities to local authorities and communities in Kosovo.*”² As a response to this, the Provisional Institutions of Self Government (PISG) together with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) created a Working Group on Local Government (Working Group). In July 2004, the Working Group co-chaired by the PISG and UNMIK representatives, in line with the European Charter of Local Self-Government³ developed a Framework for the Reform of Local Self Government (Framework) in Kosovo, which was endorsed by the Provisional Institutions of Self Government. The Framework envisaged the restructuring of some existing municipalities through the creation of a limited number of pilot municipal units.⁴

The implementation of the Framework started in July 2005 when the Special Representative of the Secretary General issued an Administrative Direction on the establishment of five pilot municipal units.⁵

² Press Release SC/8082 from the Security Council 4960th meeting held on 30 March 2004.

³ European Charter of Local Self-Government, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 15 October 1985.

⁴ Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković, Junik / Junik and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša pilot municipal units were established, while Gračanica / Gračanice and Parteš / Partesh never became operational due to the political considerations.

⁵ Administrative Direction 2005/11 on Pilot Projects implementing UNMIK Regulation 2000/45 on Self-Government of Municipalities in Kosovo.

Out of these five, two pilot municipal units were envisaged for Kosovo Albanian majority areas, one for a Kosovo Turkish majority area and two for Kosovo Serb majority areas.

Junik / Junik and Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković are predominately Kosovo-Albanian populated areas . Junik / Junik was established under the municipality of Deçan/Deçane in the northwest of Kosovo, covering five cadastral zones with approximately 9,000 inhabitants.⁶ Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković lies in south-eastern Kosovo on the border with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and was established under Kaçanik / Kačanik municipality. Its eleven cadastral zones are home to about 10,000 inhabitants.⁷

The pilot municipal unit of Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša was formed out of Prizren municipality, and is inhabited by approximately 5,500 residents, the majority of whom are Kosovo-Turks. Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša includes only one cadastral zone.⁸

The pilot municipal units in Gračanica / Graçanicë and Parteš / Partesh, planned in areas with a Kosovo Serb majority, have never become functional. The pilot municipal unit of Gračanica / Graçanicë would have covered five cadastral zones and the pilot municipal unit Parteš / Partesh three cadastral zones.

3.2 Legal Framework

The establishment and operation of the pilot municipal units is determined in UNMIK Administrative Direction 2005/11 on Pilot Projects implementing UNMIK Regulation 2000/45 on Self-Government of Municipalities in Kosovo, as amended by UNMIK Administrative Direction 2007/13. Article 4.1 of Administrative Direction 2005/11 states that: “[t]he scope of responsibilities and powers, structure, and procedures of representatives and executive bodies of pilot municipal units shall be *mutatis mutandis* as set out in UNMIK Regulation No. 2000/45[...].”

The territorial delineation of the pilot municipal units⁹ and the composition of the provisional assemblies of the pilot municipal units¹⁰ are determined by Executive Decisions issued by the Special Representative of the Secretary General. While the delineation is determined in all five pilot municipal units, provisional assemblies were only successfully appointed and became operational in Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković, Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša and Junik / Junik.

The rules of organization, functioning and structuring of the pilot municipal units are determined in Administrative Instruction 2006/2 on Internal Organization and Structure of the Pilot Municipal Units¹¹ issued by the Ministry of Local Governance Administration.

⁶ Junik / Junik profile, provided by the Junik / Junik OSCE Municipal Field Team.

⁷ Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković profile, provided by the Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković OSCE Field Team.

⁸ Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša profile, provided by the Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša OSCE Municipal Governance Team.

⁹ Executive Decision 2005/17 on the Territorial Delineation of the Pilot Municipal Unit Junik / Junik; Executive Decision 2005/18 on the Territorial Delineation of the Pilot Municipal Unit Parteš / Partesh; Executive Decision 2005/19 on the Territorial Delineation of the Pilot Municipal Unit Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković; Executive Decision 2005/20 on the Territorial Delineation of the Pilot Municipal Unit Gračanica / Graçanicë; and Executive Decision 2005/21 on the Territorial Delineation of the Pilot Municipal Unit Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša.

¹⁰ Executive Decision 2005/27 on the Provisional Assembly of the Pilot Municipal Unit Junik / Junik; Executive Decision 2005/28 on the Provisional Assembly of the Pilot Municipal Unit in Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković; and Executive Decision 2005/29 on the Provisional Assembly of the Pilot Municipal Unit Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša.

¹¹ Administrative Instruction No 2006/2 of the Ministry of Local Government Administration on the Internal Organization and Structure of Pilot Municipal Units.

3.3 Institutional Framework

The pilot municipal units were established in 2005, at a time when UNMIK Regulation 2000/45 on Self-Government of Municipalities in Kosovo was the applicable local legal framework. Despite the adoption of UNMIK Regulation 2007/30 amending UNMIK Regulation 2000/45 in October 2007 by most of Kosovo municipalities, the pilot municipal units continued to apply UNMIK Regulation 2000/45 until their conversion to full-fledged municipalities in June 2008, when the new legal framework came into force. Three months later, in an additional correspondence from the Ministry of Local Government Administration, the municipalities were given strict deadlines to apply the applied law on Local Self Government, as most other Kosovo municipalities had been doing since June 2008.¹²

The structure and competences of the legislative and executive branches of the municipalities are determined by the applied law on Local Self Government. According to this law, the municipal assembly is the highest legislative body of the municipality. The municipal assemblies' main responsibilities are to draft and approve the municipal statute, the rules of procedure of the municipality, and municipal regulations. During the period assessed in this report, the composition of municipal assemblies in the three young municipalities derived from the November 2002 election results in the respective mother municipalities. The political parties proposed candidates based on the percentages they won in the mother municipalities, and the candidates were endorsed by the Special Representative of the Secretary General. After the November 2007 elections, the mandate of the three provisional assemblies was extended upon the recommendation of the Ministry of Local Governance Administration through UNMIK Administrative Direction 2007/13 amending UNMIK Administrative Direction 2005/11.

In the 2009 November local elections the residents in the three former pilot municipal units voted for the first time to elect their mayors and municipal assembly members (see results in Annex 7.1).

4. PERFORMANCE OF YOUNG MUNICIPALITIES

This chapter assesses the performance of the municipalities since their conversion from pilot municipal units to fully fledged municipalities, or young municipalities, in August 2008. The legislative and executive branches are accountable according to the applied law on Local Self Government and its supplementary legislation.

4.1 Scope and Competences

The applied law on Local Self Government refers to the municipalities' own (article 17) and delegated (article 18) competences. In the pilot process, the young municipalities began taking over some of these competences from their respective mother municipalities of Deçan / Deçane, Kaçanik / Kačanik and Prizren. For the most part they have been successful in managing the transfer of competencies from their mother municipalities (administration of education, financial management, health services, and urbanism), as well as some from the central level.¹³

¹² The letter dated 18 September 2008 explicitly laid out the obligations of the municipalities to take measures in accordance with the applied law on Local Self Government. The letter gave authorization for the provisional assembly presidents to be converted to mayors of their respective municipalities, and clarified that he has no right to be a member of neither his respective municipal assembly, nor that of his mother municipality's municipal assembly. Furthermore, the municipal assemblies were to maintain the same number of members until the next local elections, and they had 60 days to approve their municipal statutes, 15 days thereafter to approve their rules of procedure.

¹³ Through the Inter-Ministerial working group set up to deal with issues of local governance reform the government plans to transfer competences in the following fields: Social Welfare; Local Public Enterprises; Culture, Youth, Sport; Business Registration Special Representative of the Secretary General (Delegated Competency); Primary Health; School Education; Municipal Property; Public Housing; Cadastral Records

The transfer of competences from the mother municipalities to the young municipalities has proceeded rather smoothly. The former pilot municipal units now have full and exclusive powers over each of the 'own competences' and 'delegated competences' with the exception of civil registration in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković and Junik / Junik.¹⁴ Most notably, Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša has inaugurated its municipal civil registration office in May 2009, thereby allowing its residents to obtain personal documents (ID cards, passports, etc.) without having to travel to Prizren/Prizren for this reason.

The weak capacity of the Department of Cadastre, Geodesy, and Urban Planning is still the main challenge these young municipalities have to face. For this reason, the Kosovo Cadastral Agency held a series of trainings¹⁵ to build the capacities of these departments throughout April 2009. Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, however, is awaiting the transfer of some cadastral records¹⁶ from its mother municipalities, which is causing further delays in the provision of cadastral and urbanism services to residents. Guidance and additional assistance is provided when needed to Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković by Kačanik / Kačanik and to Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša by its neighbouring Rahovec / Orahovac.¹⁷

In April 2009, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare transferred competences in the area of social services to all Kosovo municipalities. Young municipalities, contrary to their mother municipalities, do not have Centres for Social Welfare established within their boundaries. At the instruction of the Ministry, however, two staff members from the mother municipalities were transferred to the young municipalities to compensate for the absence of the centres.

These staff members sit in the municipal office for social work, together with the staff from the municipal departments for health and social welfare.¹⁸ The establishment of their own independent Centres for Social Welfare is still pending the allocation of additional funds. The above notwithstanding, the appointed staff have demonstrated their capacity in fulfilling their duties despite the lack of necessary provisions which they often have to share with other municipal departments.

4.2 Financial management

The positions of Temporary Financial Administrators¹⁹ were abolished at the end of 2008, giving the three former pilot municipal units full authority over their operations through their Directors of Budget

(Delegated Competency); Forestry Protection (Delegated Competency); Municipal Borrowing; Voter Registration (Delegated Competency).

¹⁴ Not due to a lack of political will or problem of the municipal leadership, but rather to a lack of capacity of the municipality with regard to office space and staff.

¹⁵ The Kosovo Cadastral Agency organized trainings in the respective municipalities for their staff regarding procedures and the system for recording data.

¹⁶ As of August 2009, Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković had received graphic records, it had not yet received the textual records from Kačanik / Kačanik.

¹⁷ A pragmatic solution to increase Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's capacity has been found with neighbouring municipality Rahovec / Orahovac, which does not involve the former mother municipality of Prizren / Prizren. From September 2009 until mid-2010, all cadastral measurements and cadastral documents related to Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša will be issued in Rahovec/Orahovac municipality, who will also provide training to employees of Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's cadastral department.

¹⁸ With the exception of Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša, whose two staff travel between Prizren and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša during the week, as defined by a Memorandum of Understanding between the two municipalities.

¹⁹ From 2007 the Ministry of Finance and Economy allocated operating grants from the Kosovo Consolidated Budget directly to the pilot municipal units, but the latter were only permitted to manage the expenditure of the

and Finance, who were thus entitled to independently manage their own finances.²⁰ Since then, the young municipalities have independently and successfully drafted budget proposals, increasing their operations and respecting budget restraints²¹ in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

The budget proposals for 2010 contain plans to increase the services provided by the former pilot municipal units, with the greatest increase proposed by Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša. The young municipality proposed an increase of 64 per cent²², allotting 32 per cent of its budget for capital investments.²³ Junik / Junik and Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković are remarkably running on budget surpluses from the previous years, unlike Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša, who fully spent its budget as well as the large sums of support received from external donors. The two municipalities are self sufficient, and both have managed to develop infrastructure projects and propose creative solutions to overcome their problems related to financial restraints. Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković had a budget surplus of 2 per cent at the close of 2008; its budget proposal for 2010²⁴ is € 1.24 million, a 7.25 per cent increase from the 2009 approved budget.²⁵ The municipality is planning for only a slight increase in the funds available for capital investments, from this year's 27 per cent to next year's 28 per cent. Junik / Junik municipality, after operating with a budget surplus of 16 per cent, or € 122,000, at the end of 2008,²⁶ adjusted its budget for the second half of 2009 to fund community projects including road and sidewalk construction, maintenance of roads and river beds, as well as improved land irrigation. Its 2010 budget proposal of €1 million was an increase by 1.6 per cent.

The young municipalities have started collecting property tax since January 2007 and they have since used the revenues to supplement their respective budgets. Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković successfully collected € 52,000 in 2008, and by the end of August 2009 it had already collected € 45,000. Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's property tax revenues amounted to € 14,000, compared to Junik / Junik's € 35,000.

Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković and Junik / Junik both held budget hearings to successfully carry out their financial planning in a transparent manner, while Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's municipal assembly submitted the mid-term budget review 2010-2012 directly to the Ministry without any budget hearings.

Kosovo municipalities are subject to fiscal auditing in order to “*ensure greater operational efficiency, budgetary and financial discipline and legal and regulatory compliance by public sector entities by*

operating grants through a Temporary Financial Administrator, appointed by the Ministry. Temporary Financial Administrators were responsible for making final decisions on all expenditures of the Pilot Municipal Units budget.

²⁰ The mayors had not received word of this information, and in January 2009 they assumed responsibility for their financial management.

²¹ At the beginning of the 2009 budget-year, all Kosovo municipalities were asked to make a 10 % reduction of the budgets in goods and services for 2009, which the former pilot municipal units complied with, despite their increase in capacity. (According to a note sent by the Ministry of Finance and Economy in mid-October 2008.)

²² The budget for 2008 was € 515,000 and for 2009 it was € 737,000. The proposed 2010 budget is € 1,209,000 for 2010, an increase of 64 % from the 2009 budget. The municipality saw a 43 % increase in its 2009 budget from the 2008 budget of € 515,000.

²³ € 391,000 is planned for capital investments in the 2010 budget proposal.

²⁴ As presented by the municipality to about 40 residents at its second budget hearing in August 2009.

²⁵ The approved budget for 2009 is € 1.15 million; after the mid-year budget review and making the necessary amendments to incorporate the € 14,000 income from municipal-own revenues.

²⁶ Junik / Junik spent only 84.1 % of its annual budget of € 770,000 in the 2008 fiscal year. The savings were in part due to delayed projects to be completed and paid in 2009, such as the construction of side-walks, as well as to the long and relatively slow process of upgrading Junik / Junik to a fully fledged municipality, which implies the hiring of new staff, creating new offices and directorates, expanding existing sections as well as implementing new services.

requiring each such public sector entity to subject its operations, records and management and control systems to regular, systematic and comprehensive internal audits".²⁷ As of October 2009, only Junik / Junik had recruited an internal auditor, who reports directly to the mayor. Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković municipal officials stated that they are unable to establish an internal audit unit due to staff ceiling restrictions. Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša foresaw an internal audit unit in the 2009 budget, but it has yet to be established. The municipality has incorporated the establishment of an internal audit unit in its 2010 budget.

4.3 The legislative branch

From August 2008 to August 2009, the legislative sections of the young municipalities began operating independently. They successfully drafted and adopted municipal statutes, all in line with the basic model statutes set out by the Ministry of Local Government Administration and the applied law on Local Self-Government. All three young municipalities elected chairpersons to lead the work of the municipal assembly and its constituent bodies. In Junik / Junik and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša the elected chairpersons are women. The rules of procedures were approved in addition to seven municipal regulations²⁸ in Junik / Junik, four in Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša²⁹ and seven in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković.³⁰

The debates that take place in a municipal assembly can provide a strong indication of a legislative body that operates independently of the executive branch. This is the case for instance in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković where the opposition³¹ regularly challenges the municipal leadership regarding their compliance with applied legislation. On one particular instance the opposition requested a central level review of the election for the assembly chairperson, which resulted in a re-run of the vote and the annulment of all decisions taken under the disputed chairperson's leadership.³² Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's opposition³³ rarely challenges its municipal leadership and the mayor, due to the domination of the Turkish Democratic Party of Kosovo (KDTP) and its success³⁴ in the area. The municipal assembly in Junik / Junik is plagued by non-participation of opposition parties.³⁵

²⁷ Article 1 of the Law on Internal Audit promulgated by UNMIK Regulation 2007/19. Article 4.1 of the Law requires every public sector entity to be subjected to – at least once a year – a comprehensive internal audit conducted by either a) an internal audit unit, or b) an internal auditor (in the event that an internal audit unit has not been established).

²⁸ Rules of Procedures and Regulations on Transparency; Use of Languages; Inspection Expenditures and Fees; Taxes and Municipal Fees; Use of Public Space for Commercial Purposes; Business Licenses; and Building Construction.

²⁹ Rule of Procedures and Regulations on Property Taxes for 2009; Use of Languages; Transparency; and three draft regulations on the procedures for licensing workplaces and on taxes on immovable property.

³⁰ Rules of Procedures and Regulations on Property Tax; Taxes Tariffs and Charges; Secondary School; Primary School; Transparency; Road Transport; Working Hours of Business Operations.

³¹ Prior to the 2009 elections, PDK held 7 seats, LDK 6 seats, AAK 1 seat and 1 independent.

³² The LDK caucus leader submitted a request to the Ministry of Local Government Administration to review the validity of the chairperson's election, when the municipal assembly president (now mayor) participated in the vote. After two months, the ministry responded requesting to re-run the elections, and annulling any decision made in the two sessions under the disputed chairperson.

³³ The opposition is formed by an independent (Roma) and a vacant PDK seat. The position has been vacant since the former PDK assembly member was appointed as the deputy mayor for communities. The PDK sub-branch president made a request on 14 October 2008 to the Minister of Local Government Administration for the replacement, but the municipal assembly has yet to receive any response.

³⁴ Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's continued growth and infrastructural developments in town, aided by the mayor's close ties with Turkish institutions.

³⁵ After a three-year boycott, a Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK) member took an oath to join the municipal assembly in December 2008. His decision was influenced by the municipality's upgrade in status and the general sense that participation in the assembly of a fully-fledged municipality, as opposed to a provisional assembly,

Another indication of an independent legislative branch is the division of municipal assembly committees in functioning permanent committees³⁶ and non-mandatory³⁷ ones. The performance of committees in Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša is poor: the policy and finance committee meets irregularly and informally, while the communities committee has met only twice since the beginning of 2008. In Junik / Junik, aside from the municipal community safety council, only the communities committee that met once during the one year review period has been established. In Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, on the other hand, the policy and finance and the communities committees have been established and convene at regular intervals³⁸. In addition, the municipal assembly has already taken steps to establish three consultative committees.³⁹

4.4 The executive branch

Under UNMIK Regulation 2000/45, the chief executive officer served as the assembly's secretary, the chair of the board of directors, and the municipal chief of staff. As previously mentioned, the pilot municipal units did not apply UNMIK Regulation 2007/30 amending UNMIK Regulation 2000/45. With the newly applied law on Local Self Government, a directly elected mayor heads the government and its administration and he/she is responsible for the financial administration of the municipality and the implementation of municipal assembly decisions. The applied law on Local Self Government gives the mayor more responsibility, giving him/her oversight of the administrative, financial and operational functions of the municipality, while still creating a clear division between the executive and legislative branches of the municipality.

According to the guidance provided by the Kosovo government (in the aforementioned letter issued by the Ministry for Local Government Administration dated 18 September 2008), the president of the provisional municipal assembly shall act as mayor until the next elections and has no right to be, at the same time, a member of the municipal assembly. In Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, the president of the provisional municipal assembly hesitated to take responsibility of the mayoral post after the pilot municipal unit was converted into a municipality until he received an official instruction from central level. His uncertainty arose primarily from fears that the opposition would view this as an attempt on his side to expand his institutional powers. This could potentially have adverse effects on the perception that the legislative and executive branches act independently of each other. In Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša and Junik / Junik the backing from the central level was not needed, given the absence of any challenges to the mayor's authority.⁴⁰

would be more rewarding. AAK's six members are holding their own boycott of the municipal assembly and all municipal meetings, contesting the number of seats given to them by the SRSG. The party claims that it had a right to stronger representation after the November 2007 elections due to the party's dominance in the mother municipality of Dečan / Dečane. (LDK holds eight seats, AAK six seats, and PDK one seat.)

³⁶ According to the applied law on Local Self Government, the two permanent committees are the policy and finance committee and the communities committee.

³⁷ In accordance with article 51 of the applied law on Local Self Government which calls for the establishment of permanent committees to contribute the work of the municipal assembly.

³⁸ The policy and finance committee meets before every municipal assembly meeting and the communities committee drafted a work plan and met four times during reporting period, despite only a small presence of the non-majority Kosovo Bosniak community, which has long since fully integrated with the majority Kosovo Albanian community.

³⁹ At the municipal assembly session held on 27 August 2009, the members approved the composition of the selection panel for the 15 members of three planned consultative committees. The municipality in July and August 2009 made two calls for residents' expression of interest to participate in the committees.

⁴⁰ According to the Junik / Junik and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša OSCE Municipal field teams, the letter only added further support to the mayors, while the Field Team in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković reported that the mayor would not make a move without the support of the central level in fear of harsh reaction by the opposition.

As a former media professional, the mayor of Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa⁴¹ invests considerable efforts in increasing the profile of the municipality, regularly reiterating his intention to develop Mamushë / Mamuşa / Mamuşa into not only an agricultural hub but also into a Kosovo tourist attraction. His most notable achievements in the predominantly Kosovo Turkish municipality are linked with improvements in municipal infrastructure and access to municipal services. He has enthusiastically focussed his efforts on attracting project-specific funding from sources both within Kosovo and elsewhere, and to-date he has succeeded in signing twinning agreements with five municipalities outside of Kosovo, mainly in Turkey.

4.4.1 Executive branch: Human resource management

During the pilot phase, the mother municipalities were responsible for the majority of services delivered to residents until their transfer to the pilot municipalities were gradually phased in. Now operating as full-fledged municipalities, the former pilot municipalities hold increased responsibilities vis-à-vis their residents. Although, the civil service has expanded in the three young municipalities during the one year review period in order for the municipalities to administer improved services to residents, they are allegedly still short staffed.

The Ministry of Economy and Finance has exempted the young municipalities from limits to increases in wages and salaries for 2010 imposed upon other municipalities;⁴² municipal officials are hopeful that the exemption reflects a willingness by central level to reconsider the municipal staff ceilings, which have not yet been determined for the young municipalities. After increasing its municipal staff from 22 to 43 staff (nine women) in 2009, Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa proposed an increase of 15 positions for next year, pending approval of its 2010 budget proposal by the ministry. Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković expanded its municipal staff from 20 in 2008 (one woman) to 40 in 2009 (four women) with plans to increase by another 15-20 in 2010. Junik / Junik increased from 18 (two women) in 2008 to 47 (eight women) in 2009, with their 2010 plans for municipal staff yet to be decided as of October 2009.

Despite their civil services' recent increase, these municipalities make the similar claim as other Kosovo municipalities that the central level has imposed low and relatively unrealistic staff ceilings, forcing some civil servants to hold multiple positions in order for all municipal services to be delivered. In Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa, one civil servant holds the posts of human rights unit officer, municipal officer for gender equality and European integration officer, but does not appear to adequately perform in any of the functions.⁴³ On the other hand, staff ceilings can be used as a justification for not filling mandatory key positions which, once filled, could serve as a counterweight to the authority of some municipal officials. For example, in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, no head of personnel has been hired. Instead, the mayor-appointed director of administration acts as a head of personnel, a position which is foreseen to be held by the highest civil servant of the municipality. The mayor cites staffing and budget restrictions as reasons for not remedying the situation.⁴⁴ The OSCE Municipal field teams assesses that this is rather a manner in which the mayor can take influence personnel issues.

Recruitment of technical or specialized staff, particularly in the areas of health, information technology, urban planning, and finance, poses a challenge to the young municipalities and influences the quality of services delivered. For example, Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković struggled to replace two former doctors in the health centre after their departure as no qualified applicants in the municipality could be

⁴¹ The former mayor was one of the founders of the Turkish language magazine "Yarin" and Prishtinë/Priştina Radio Television.

⁴² The Ministry of Finance and Economy's Budget Circular 2010/01.

⁴³ As stipulated in Administrative Instruction 2005/08 on Determination of Competences and Description of Duties of Officers for Gender Equality in Municipalities and Administrative Instruction 2008/02 on the Amendment of Administrative Instruction 2007/08 For Establishment of Human Rights Units in Municipalities.

⁴⁴ The mid-year budget review submitted to central level on 27 May 2009.

identified. Qualified individuals from larger cities are discouraged by the price of the commute to these more isolated municipalities, and the municipalities are restricted from compensating such travel costs by the central level. For other specialised positions such as in the department of cadastre, urbanism and environment protection, the municipalities were forced to re-advertise vacancy announcements several times in order to identify candidates who met the minimum qualifications.

4.5 Institutional relations

The relationship which the municipalities held with their various stakeholders over the past year has influenced the transition process from pilot municipal unit to full-fledged municipality. This section examines how each of these relationships affected the progress of the municipalities.

4.5.1 Young municipalities – Mother municipality

As previously assessed by the OSCE in its last pilot municipal unit report, the political composition of the assemblies reportedly plays a central role in shaping relations between the pilot municipal units and the mother municipalities, determining how smoothly competences can be phased in. Both Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa and Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković were run by the same party as their mother municipality,⁴⁵ making the transition process much smoother than for their fellow pilot municipal unit, Junik / Junik. For example, the common PDK-rule in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković and Kačanik / Kačanik (mother municipality) gave 20 new staff in the former the opportunity to shadow their counterparts in latter. Close links between the two municipalities' staff allow for the lesser experienced to seek assistance from their more experienced counterparts.

The only unresolved cases between young and mother municipalities relate to disputes arising from the transfer of staff to the young municipalities. In both Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa and Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, there have been delays in the transfer of education staff from the payrolls of the mother municipality to the payrolls of the young municipality. Requests to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and to the Ministry of Finance and Economy to rectify this situation have not yet been addressed,⁴⁶ which indicates a backlog of issues with the ministries rather than serious dispute between the municipalities.

The poor relations between Dečan / Dečane and Junik / Junik translated into delays in the transfer of competences. Lack of popular support in the villages of Voksh / Vokša, Sllup / Slup and Rastavicë / Rastavica over the cadastral delineation in Junik / Junik prompted villagers to petition the government. Only in June 2008, with the entry into force of the applied law on Administrative Municipal Boundaries were the villages returned to the cadastral zones of Dečan / Dečane. Finally,

⁴⁵ Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa is led by the Kosovo Democratic Turkish Party (KDTP), which along with PDK make up the majority coalition in Prizren / Prizren, and Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković by Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK) which also holds the majority in Kačanik / Kačanik .

⁴⁶ Although Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa's November 2008 request to the Ministry of Finance and Economy to transfer the "Gjon Buzuku" secondary school staff and monetary funds from Prizren / Prizren to Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa was received, Prizren / Prizren is responsible to send the request to have its budget and staffing table. To date, no action has been taken by Prizren / Prizren, which resulted in delays for payment of the salaries to school teachers. The director of education in Mamuşa / Mamushë / Mamuşa is planning to meet his Prizren / Prizren counterpart to solve the issue prior to the new school year opening. Kačanik / Kačanik and Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 2 September 2008 to the transfer of two Laq / Ljaç teachers from one municipal budget to that of the other to take place as of 1 September with copies being sent to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and Ministry of Finance and Economy. A second request was sent by the directors of education and finance departments in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković to the relevant ministries on 12 February 2009 for the transfer to take place, nothing officially have been done yet. The Ministry has still not officially made the transfer and the teachers were being paid through the budget line of the municipal assembly.

the 2007 election results, which sparked AAK's boycott of the municipal assembly led to a weaker legislation in Junik / Junik.

4.5.2 Young municipalities – Central government

For the most part,⁴⁷ over the course of the past year, the Kosovo government has treated the young municipalities the same as other municipalities – it holds them accountable for compliance with applied legislation as with any other municipality. Municipal officials in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković and Junik / Junik report that their relations with the central level have been cooperative and sufficiently close. In Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša, the mayor's personal skills and close contacts in at the central level have led to an equally strong relationship for the municipality with the government.⁴⁸ While other municipalities are awarded grants or funds for projects based on a strong proposal or municipal compliance with the law, the mayor's relationship likely plays a role in the municipality's ability to win project proposals from the Ministry of Local Government Administration.⁴⁹

These municipalities, not unlike others in Kosovo, lag in their compliance with applicable language legislation. They often claim that low presence of non-majority and their overworked municipal staff discourage them from staying in compliance with the law.⁵⁰ Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković municipality rarely provides translations of documents, announcements or meetings in Serbian, treating it as more like a language in official use⁵¹ rather than an official language. Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković's residents have expressed dissatisfaction with the Serbian name of the municipality, Đeneral Janković, for years; however, rather than petitioning the government for an official name change, the municipality simply applied for its civil registration stamps with the name Hani i Elezit / 'Hani i Elezit',⁵² which were issued by the Ministry of Public Administration. Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's single Roma municipal assembly member often does not receive any translation from Turkish into Albanian.⁵³ Some of the signs in Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša and Junik / Junik are not compliant with the municipal regulations on use of languages, passed by their own municipal assemblies. Allegedly, Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša mayor received a warning from the Ministry of Local Government Administration regarding the signs without any follow-up.

⁴⁷ With the exception of the Budget Circular 2010/01 which excludes the young municipalities from limiting the budget funds for wages and salaries.

⁴⁸ The OSCE report on municipal acts concludes that although co-operation exists between the local and central level throughout the review process of municipal acts there is no established system or practice of communication and the way the municipal officials communicate with the central level throughout the process varies from one municipality to another. Relationship between Central and Local Government – Municipal Acts, OSCE Mission in Kosovo, October 2009.

⁴⁹ The project for drainage of a riverbed and expansion of a city park in June 2009 cost approximately € 200,000. The mayor announced two projects foreseen for 2010 to construct a new electricity line (€ 1.2 million) and to establish a waste water purification plant (€ 50,000) that are expected to be funded by the Ministry of Local Government Administration.

⁵⁰ In the Law on Use of Languages, promulgated by UNMIK Regulation No. 2006/51, Albanian and Serbian are defined as official languages with equal status in Kosovo, and with equal rights as to their use in all Kosovo institutions.

⁵¹ As defined by the Law on Use of Languages: "*In municipalities inhabited by a community whose mother tongue is not an official language, and which constitutes at least five (5) percent of the total population of the municipality, the language of the community shall have the status of an official language in the municipality and shall be in equal use with the official languages...*".

⁵² The name Hani i Elezit / 'Hani i Elezit' violates the applied law on Administrative Municipal Boundaries as well as UNMIK Regulation 2000/43 on the Number, Names, and Boundaries of Municipalities as amended by UNMIK Regulation 2004/36.

⁵³ If a representative from the Ministry of Local Government Administration is present, the municipal translator interprets for the central level official, rather than for the Roma member of the municipal assembly.

4.5.3 Young municipalities – External relations/assistance

International organizations also provide support to the young municipalities. The OSCE had had a municipal team assigned to each pilot municipal unit since 2006; upon their conversion to fully-fledged municipalities, these teams continued to monitor and advise on compliance with the human rights principles and good governance standards. In addition, the young municipalities have been supported by KFOR, UN Habitat, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the European Commission.

Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša were each awarded incentive grants of \$ 45,000⁵⁴ for surpassing property tax collection targets. The European Commission's two-year project titled "Support to Local Government/EULOG" strives to tackle the functionality and transparency of the municipal departments, inter-municipal cooperation, inspectorate, municipal development plans, and effective implementation of the applied law on Local Self Government, and the financial management of the municipalities. UN Habitat is working to build the capacities of the municipalities in the area of urban and spatial planning.

Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković⁵⁵ and Junik / Junik⁵⁶ each attracted the assistance of foreign non-governmental organisations, but not to the extent that Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša has. Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's close relations with institutions and organizations in Turkey have fostered sizeable investments in the small municipality, aided by the mayor's promotion of the municipality during his visits to Turkey. In this way the municipality has secured funding for a number of projects.⁵⁷ Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša has also 'twinned' with five other foreign municipalities, including four in Turkey. An indicator of the municipality's reliance on external aid is reflected in the 2010 budget proposal, which allots for an additional € 9.8 million for capital projects. However, funding for these projects is foreseen to come from external donors to whom the municipality has or will submit 18 different project proposals, rather than from own source revenue.⁵⁸ While an achievement in itself, in practice this leaves the municipality in a relatively rare situation. Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša is able to avoid any economic depression felt by the central level and continue its speedy process of infrastructural development.

4.6 2009 Local elections in young municipalities

For the November 2009 local elections, the three municipalities of Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, Junik / Junik, and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša voted, for the first time, in their own voting districts. These elections will serve as a litmus test for the three municipalities. Their leadership was held accountable to their constituents, and the municipalities were responsible to successfully carry out the operations of planning and conducting the elections.

Logistically, election organisation in the young municipalities were co-ordinated, for the first time by their municipal election officers. To ensure that all preparations have been made, and to facilitate a smoothly run election day, the municipal election officers from the mother municipalities provided some assistance the process in the young municipalities, given their former administration of these territories

⁵⁴ U.S. dollars.

⁵⁵ The Northern Irish Non-Governmental Organisation "Kosova Support Group" donated € 15,000 of technical equipment to the Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković's young Fire and Rescue Brigade.

⁵⁶ The Swedish Non-Governmental Organisation "Cultural Heritage without Borders" donated € 37,000 for the restoration of the seventeenth century "Ali Hoxha" *kula* in the centre of Junik / Junik; the owner of the *kula* agreed to make it available for public use for a period of ten years after the restoration.

⁵⁷ These include the construction of the new municipal building and the new primary school, furnishing the health centre with medical equipment, and a large donation for the newly-opened library.

⁵⁸ These funds are expected, but not yet guaranteed.

in previous elections. The municipalities respected all election deadlines⁵⁹ and no major problems were foreseen particularly due to the fact that they cover smaller territories with fewer polling centres as compared to other Kosovo municipalities

As in the other municipalities, voters' lists have been extracted from the Central Civil Registry, which implies that changes in the civil registry were reflected in the voters' lists. This also means that if voters forgot to update the civil registry in the event of a change of address as they are supposed to do,⁶⁰ they have been assigned to a polling centre that doesn't correspond with their residence. To correct these possible misallocation and other inaccuracies in the voter's list, the Central Election Commission encouraged voters during the Voters' Service Period that was organised between 1 and 15 September 2009, to update their addresses at the Municipal Registry Centres and confirm or change their Polling Centre Locations with the municipal election commission.

In accordance with article 36 of the applied law on Local Self Government, the municipal assemblies in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, Junik / Junik, and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša remain with 15 members since their populations remain under 10,000 residents. The assemblies in Kačanik/Kaçanik and Dečan/Dečane were adjusted from 31 members to 27 members taking into account the reduction in population upon establishment of the new municipalities; whereas Prizren's municipal assembly will remain with 41 members.

The stakes were high for the 15 November elections – for the first time, the leadership of the three young municipalities were put to a test in front of their electorate and the voters responded with a significantly higher turnout than the Kosovo average of 44.7 per cent.⁶¹ The Central Election Commission reported a turnout of 65.1 per cent in Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša, the highest across Kosovo, 56.7 per cent in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković's and 45.7 per cent in Junik / Junik. These numbers show that residents in the young municipalities responded to this phase of Kosovo's local government reform process to implement the values of the European Charter of Local Self Government for increased participation in the decision making process at the local level.

5. CONCLUSIONS

As the municipalities continue to gain experience in passing their own municipal regulations, improving infrastructure and providing services to residents they will further develop their capacity to take on bigger challenges. The OSCE Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, Junik / Junik and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša field teams assess the overall performance of the young municipalities as satisfactory: they have made considerable progress in a short period of time, but there is still the need for improvement. Specifically, progress has been observed in the following areas: transfer of competences from mother municipalities, financial management, and executive branches. Improvement in the application of applicable legislation, strengthening of the legislative branches, the involvement of public in decision-making and in human resource management is welcome.

Young municipalities have fared rather well with regard to transfer of competences. The municipalities have been fully capable to take on the challenges of the additional responsibilities and continue their professional development through capacity building and training opportunities offered by the Kosovo agencies, line ministries and international organisations. Even in cases where adequate staff, equipment or other assets have yet to be transferred, the municipalities had no problems to find workable solutions to maintain that municipal services could be administered for residents.

⁵⁹ Municipal election commissions were established in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković and Junik / Junik on 6 July 2009 and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša on 30 July 2009.

⁶⁰ As per Art. 5 of the Law on Dwelling and Emplacements promulgated by UNMIK Regulation No. 2008/14.

⁶¹ According to the official results made public by the Central Election Commission.

In the area of financial management, young municipalities have performed to standard. Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković and Junik / Junik have carried out operations with a small budget surplus in 2008 and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša's ability to attract donors helped the small municipality further build its infrastructure. However, the municipalities should be reminded and guided, by the Ministries of Local Government Administration and Finance and Economy to respect fiscal transparency and accountability, by respecting procedural laws.

In Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša, the executive with its relationships in and out of Kosovo assists in attracting donors for municipal projects; however, this strength must be counter-balanced with a healthy, active municipal assembly. Although its most notable achievements are linked to infrastructural development of the municipality, if the capacity of the municipal administration is not equally developed any future change in leadership could jeopardise the performance and therefore the quality of municipal services to residents.

Only in Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković does such a balance exist, since the effective municipal assembly has managed to encourage its administration to comply with applicable legislation, while passing its legislation in an inclusive and transparent manner. The lack of political diversity in Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša and Junik / Junik's troubled relations with mother municipality Dečan / Dečane, however, hindered the development of their own legislative branches.

The municipalities claim that the current staff ceilings allegedly force the municipal leadership to pile a number of positions onto an already overburdened and inexperienced civil service. Irrespective of municipalities' willingness to seek resolutions to staffing limitations, the quality of services may suffer, if the municipalities continue to struggle to recruit technically skilled staff in education, cadastre and the health sectors.

Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša is being promoted as a model of local government reform, when it comes to non-majority communities being given equal opportunities for participation in local government administration. However, the three young municipalities each have their own strengths which should be used as best practices to future projects of local government reform. The Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković, Junik / Junik and Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša field teams have assessed Junik / Junik as exhibiting the best practice for residents' participation related to the creation of a new municipality,⁶² Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša with regards to donor attraction and Hani i Elezit / Đeneral Janković for transparency and a professionally-functioning municipal assembly.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

Local level:

- a. Adhere to applied legislation especially procedural framework, including the full protection and promotion of human rights (including language compliance).
- b. Encourage inter-municipal co-operation especially due to the limited civil service and budget in the new municipalities (example fire-fighting, cadastre, education etc)
- c. Municipal assemblies should function in a transparent and participatory manner- with the embrace of permanent and consultative committees. In particular after the November 2009 elections, new assemblies should be proactive to:

⁶² Using the three villages of Voksh / Vokša, Sllup / Slup and Rastavicë / Rastavica who petitioned the government over the cadastral delineation as an example.

- organise public meetings and budget hearings,
- establish mandatory and non-mandatory committees with clear terms of references.
- exercise their oversight function over the executive.

Central level:

Increase the capacity of the local governments before continuing the full transfer of competences (European Charter on Local Self Government).

- a. Provide guidance to the new municipalities in creation of policies in the areas of competence.
- b. Place particular priority on responding to requests and queries from former pilot municipal units.
- c. Supervise the recruitment process of municipal civil service and facilitate the attraction of qualified applicants in the areas of cadastre/urbanism, education, finance and health for instance, by permitting travel costs to be compensated by municipalities.
- d. Promote the best practices of the whole pilot municipal unit project: in addition to promoting Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša as the model of decentralisation, highlight the successes of the other two young municipalities, and make mention of their shortcomings.

International community:

- a. Continue to provide technical assistance to municipalities in order to comply with applied legislation .
- b. Continue to encourage participatory and responsive municipal assemblies by supporting consultative committees and the strengthening of local civil society.

7. ANNEXES

7.1 2009 Local elections results

7.1.1 Hani Elezit / Đeneral Janković Municipality

Mayoral election

First round

	Votes	Percentage
Rufki Suma (independent)	1,886	44.29 %
Mehmet Ballashi (PDK)	1,553	36.47 %
Musafer Dernjani (LDK)	598	14.04 %
Menduh Vlashi (AAK)	221	5.19 %
Total valid votes	4,258	
Electorat	7,683	
Turnout	4,357 (56.71 %)	

Second round

	Votes	Percentage
Rufki Suma (independent)	2,417	53.13 %
Mehmet Ballashi (PDK)	2,132	46.87 %
Total valid votes	4,549	
Electorat	7,683	
Turnout	4,592 (59.77 %)	

Municipal assembly election

	Votes	Percentage	nb. of seats
LDK – Lidhja Demokratike e Kosovës	1,498	38.77 %	6
PKD – Partia Demokratike e Kosovës	1,459	37.76 %	6
AAK – Aleance për Ardhmërinë e Kosovës	907	23.47 %	3
Total valid votes	3,864		
Electorat	7,683		
Turnout	4,248 (56.71 %)		

7.1.2 Junik / Junik Municipality

Mayoral election

First round

	Votes	Percentage
Agron Kuçi (AAK)	1,109	49.64 %
Tahir Isufaj (LDK)	730	32.68 %
Shpejtim Gacaferi (LDD)	239	10.70 %
Niman Tofaj (PDK)	133	5.95 %
Ali Kasumi (AKR)	23	1.03 %
Total valid votes	2,234	
Electorat	4,962	
Turnout	2,269 (45.73 %)	

Second round

	Votes	Percentage
Agron Kuçi (AAK)	1,268	56.76 %
Tahir Isufaj (LDK)	966	43.24 %
Total valid votes	2,234	
Electorat	4,962	
Turnout	2,249 (45.32 %)	

Municipal Assembly election

	Votes	Percentage	nb. of seats
AAK – Aleance për Ardhmërinë e Kosovës	892	43.49 %	7
LDK – Lidhja Demokratike e Kosovës	708	34.52 %	5
LDD – Lidhja Demokratike e Dardanisë	242	11.80 %	2
PKD – Partia Demokratike e Kosovës	170	8.29 %	1
AKR – Aleanca Kosova e Re	39	1.90 %	0
Total valid votes	2,051		
Electorat	4,962		
Turnout	2,219 (45.72 %)		

7.1.3 Mamuša / Mamushë / Mamuša Municipality

Mayoral election

First round

	Votes	Percentage
Arif Bütüç (KDTP)	1,441	80.10 %
Mehmet Mazrek (AKR)	217	12.06 %
Berzat Morina (PDK)	141	7.84 %
Total valid votes	1,799	
Electorat	2,835	
Turnout	1,848 (65.19 %)	

Municipal Assembly election

	Votes	Percentage	nb. of seats
KDTP – Kosova Demokratik Türk Partisi	1,134	68.85 %	11
AKR – Aleanca Kosova e Re	254	15.42 %	2
PKD – Partia Demokratike e Kosovës	151	9.17 %	1
Sami Taç	108	6.56 %	1
Total valid votes	1,647		
Electorat	2,835		
Turnout	1,846 (65.11 %)		