draft-Report from the Visioning Workshop for Malishevë/Mališevo 2025+

Prevallë/Prevalac, Prizren 2012
Joint vision declaration

Malishevë/Mališevo, with opportunities for all, proud with its heritage, developed with healthy natural resources
Group mottos:

- Malishevë/Mališevo, for its citizens.
- Malishevë/Mališevo, the spirit of development (through its young generation, touristic attractions and fertile agricultural land! The image of generosity and hospitality!
- All roads bring you to Malishevë/Mališevo
- Malishevë/Mališevo, nightingale of Kosovo!
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1.1 Introduction

The participation and practical involvement of the citizens in the municipal and urban planning and decision making process plays a crucial role of the scope of UN-HABITAT Municipal Spatial Planning Support Programme (MuSPP) whose Motto is “Making better Cities together”. Planning For Real has been used in many countries in Europe over the years as a means for giving local people a ‘voice’ and professionals a clear idea of local people’s needs in order to bring about an improvement to their own neighborhood or community. To facilitate this and integrate the aspirations and opinions of the civil society and municipal staff in the planning process a visioning workshop was organized in Prevalle, Prizren from 21st May to 24th May 2012 to develop jointly and in a participatory approach a Vision for the future development of the municipality.

Participants of the workshop were divided into four working groups based on four thematic areas. The groups carried out SWOT analysis, main objectives and motto in each field including visioning maps and vision statements. At the end a joint vision statement was declared by the participants.

This visioning document is an elaboration and explanations of the methods, process of how the participants came up with the joint vision declaration. This document shall assure that the implementation of the Municipal and Urban Development Plan (MDP) will be carried out in a participatory way. The aim is to provide a guideline in the process of preparing implementation roadmap of the MDP and to turn these visions into reality.

Furthermore, the propose of this document is to facilitate decision-making process and ensure consistency of the results from the Visioning activities with the emerging Municipal Development Plan (MDP) that will be drafted in the near future. The results of the workshop and recommendations for planning and development in the Municipality of Malishevë/Mališevo have been discussed and drafted in close co-operation and exchange with the representatives of the civil society, the Municipal Planning Team (MPT) and the board of experts of Malishevë/ Malisevo Municipality.
draft -Report from “Visioning Workshop for Malishevë/Malisevo”
2. BACKGROUND
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2.1 Malishevë/Mališevo in Kosovo

Kosovo is a small and landlocked territory in the center of the Balkan Peninsula. Kosovo borders Macedonia (FYROM), Albania, Serbia and Montenegro. Its area is 10,877 sq. km. The capital of Kosovo is Pristina. It is divided into 7 statistical regions and 37 administrative units (municipalities). These statistical regions are Ferizaj, Gjakova, Gjilan, Mitrovica, Peja, Prishtina, and Prizren.

(Source: www.kosovo.org).

Malishevë/Mališevo is located in the central Kosovo. According to the latest population census carried out in April of 2011, Malishevë/Mališevo has 54,656 inhabitants (resident), while temporarily outside the country are about 15,000 inhabitants. With this, it is estimated that Malishevë/Mališevo population is 69,656. Of these 48.9% are men and 51.1% are women.

With the territory of 304 square km, it is a rural area comprising 44 settlements. The youths make up 60-65% of the population. Malishevë/Mališevo was firstly established as a municipality in 1960 and then abolished in 1965. In 1986 the municipality was re-established only to be again abolished in 1991, and its territory divided among the neighboring municipalities.

During the 1990s, it remained an entity within the Kosovo Albanian parallel system. During
the conflict in Kosovo in 1998/1999, the town was a stronghold for the Kosovo Liberation Army. The municipality was formally re-established in July 2000.

Malishevë/Mališevo municipality is one of the poorest in Kosovo. Its economy relies on small businesses and agriculture, in particular the growing of wheat and corn. In the past, the socially owned agricultural enterprise “Mirusha” was the only major company based in the municipality and employed 1,400 long-term and seasonal workers. Now, 820 private businesses registered in the municipality employ some 3,000 people.

The majority of these businesses provide services such as transport and commerce. Many are coffee shops. Having said this, the unemployment rate in Malishevë/Mališevo is very high. The municipal employment office has registered 7,099 unemployed residents but it is to be assumed that the number is much higher as many residents do not register.

Malishevë/Mališevo is located eastern part of Dukagjini plain. Bordered to the north with the Municipality of Drenas and Klina, in the east with the Municipality of Suhareka and Lipljan, on the south by Suhareka and Rahovec and in the west with the Rrahovec and Klina.

With its prime location in the center of the Republic of Kosovo and with the convenient terrain configuration, it allows Malishevë/Mališevo to have good communication links with the whole country, with approximately of an equal distance between the major centers (cities) of Kosovo.

### 2.2 Natural and Topographic Characteristics of Malishevë/Mališevo

The municipal territory is hilly and mountainous. The most common forms encountered in the landscape are ponds and caves. It crosses the river Mirusha, with flat and fertile lands in both of its river banks. Municipality is surrounded by Dreanica Mountains, the highest point of its altitude of 1.057 m to the top of Kosmaqi and 1.006 m to the mounting top of Kozniku.

### 2.3 Economy

Malishevë/Mališevo is primarily a rural municipality therefore its economy is highly dependent on agricultural production. There is no industry inherited from the prewar period. The main sources of income are: manufacturing, agriculture and trade.

Currently, majority of businesses within the municipality are small and mainly focus on producing goods for low-level trade, with no medium or large enterprises in operation at present. Highest numbers of employees are from the public sector; education department, followed by the health sector and the municipal administration sector.

Recently, some private initiatives have begun the first elements of the development of industry, but that is not in the ranks of the industry’s advancement with solid production capacity and employment. Apart from processing material for construction industry, namely the exploitation of gravel and furniture manufacturing, a private enterprise “Team Kosovo” with its activity as downstream production facilities, currently operates with 30 employees.
2.4 Education
The education system in Malishevë/Mališevo has 36 primary schools and 3 High School, (two of which are professional Schools, one (in Malishevë/Mališevo and one in Kijev). All these education institutions are organized within the public education framework, while there are no private schools at present.

The average distance for travel from and to school is 1.5 km; this distance is for over 80% of pupils. Local authority provides transportation for those who live further distance from school (3 km), and for those with disabilities. The total number is 16,913 students.

2.5 Health
Provision of public health services is done at three levels: primary service, secondary and tertiary service. There is one main Medical Center in Malishevë/Mališevo town and 6 (six) family health centers and 7 (seven) health clinics in villages.

The Municipal health sector employs 126 members of staff (20 doctors, 75 nurses and 31 administrative personnel).

The number of doctors per person it is very small compared with rest of the county. There is only one doctor for 2,770 inhabitants (estimate) which is three to four times lower than the state standards.

2.6 History and culture
Malishevë/Mališevo its known recently for its antiquity. This is evidenced by the presence settlement of Illyrian tombs in the center of Malishev / Malisevo, testimony that suggests that Malisheva was an Illyrian settlement with other settlements in the municipality that are stretched along the river Mirusha. Historically, the administrative political center has changed in terms of name and the headquarters. At the time of Turkish occupation of these territories, the “Bajraku Astrapubit” (administrative territory) was stretched up to the railway line from Mures in the north up to the Mrasor in the west. Later we have the name of Rahovac Circle, which capture the same territory.
3. THE VISIONING WORKSHOP
**3.1 Process**

The process of Visioning Workshop includes involvement and engagement of key stakeholders within the Municipality by bringing them together in a suitable environment and providing necessary analytical tools and information, in other words building capacity to enable the stakeholders to come up with a broad ideas, principles and goals alongside strategic priorities for future development of their municipality.

The rational behind the above concept is acknowledging that the stakeholder are in the best position to envisage what are the key priorities because they fully understand the issues concerning themselves in the neighborhood which they live and work. This would act as a starting point for brainstorming and identifying and selecting the main topics for discussion, followed by SWOT analysis exercise. The aim of this exercise is to enable the stakeholders to start thinking in more strategic way and come up with the vision statement for development of their neighborhoods and than identify main goals and objectives and strategic priorities for intervention.

In the following sessions those objectives would be spatially located and enabling stakeholder to express their spatial wishes and desires for the municipality of Malishevë/Mališevo. In addition, the workshop aimed at engaging and empowering civil society, business community, public sector, citizens and others in working together on setting up goals and priorities develop together a vision and build up consensus for the approval and elaboration of formal spatial plans. By using the method of Multi Visioning all possible ideas can be explored in a very creative way. Nevertheless, this approach allows different visions from stakeholders and the aim is to discuss openly the common and conflicting elements of the elaborated visions and ideas.
3.2 Methodology

Methodology used in the Visioning Workshop consisted of: Story telling session, training sessions, parallel working groups, plenary discussions, experience sharing sessions, socializing activities and presentations. The sessions of the workshop also included presentations and interactive discussion on gender, the role of gender in planning and the importance of gender mainstreaming and inclusion in planning process.

Workshop was undertaken through different phases such as: visualising memory map, group SWOT analysis, group objective analysis, integrated visioning municipal and urban zone maps and finally a joint vision statement (with a joint logo and motto) was approved.

3.3 Objectives

Objectives of the Visioning Workshop aimed at:

- Empowering civil society, business community, and others in inclusive spatial and community planning to improve quality of life.
- Strengthen the dialogue and cooperation between civil societies, business community with local authority.
- Increase the sense of ownership to MDP/UDP of civil society, business community, citizens and others.
Selecting topics:
The topics for working groups for the workshop were selected through a discussion among the participants and workshop facilitators. The topics reflect the major spatial planning issues of the municipality and town. The structure of the document has been adapted to the main structure of the analyses carried out by the municipal working groups divided in four groups:

**Group 1: Housing and Public Services**

**Group 2: Economic Development**

**Group 3: Infrastructure and Mobility**

**Group 4: Environment and Cultural Heritage**

For each sector the general objective that should be achieved are described as well as the identified areas of actions (Measures and Projects). As a reference to the priorities that have been set in the discussions strategic priorities are outlined separately to emphasize those activities that should be tackled first.

Outputs of the Workshop:

Each group carried out SWOT analysis about their chosen topic areas. The task of every group was to identify and analyze in-depth strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of present situation. Following from this the process of selecting objectives and priorities has been driven by the SWOT analysis. Furthermore, the participants worked closely together on finding out weather their objectives are achievable and then further analysis has been undertaken by each group with the aim to identify the internal and external factors that are favorable and unfavorable to achieve the objectives and identified strategic priority projects and strategies.

As a next step each group transformed their development objectives and priority projects into vision maps. Finally, the participants agreed on a common motto and a common vision declaration statement.
3.4 Malishevë/Mališevo Memory Map

Introduction to the workshop was made with visualizing memory map of the municipality. In this exercise all participants introduced themselves and gave a short story (some of the good memories) about their neighborhood and then stuck a label on the map the favorite place/event of their own, with a description why this place/event/experience was chosen. As a result, different public spaces, streets, neighborhoods, natural resources, green areas, and especially the monastery were mentioned. The objective of this session was to generate as much input as possible so that the group can hear each others stories.

Some of the memory places mentioned are: Mirusha River, Mirusha waterfall, bridge of “Arabaxhive” the Mill of Pagarusha, the Cave of ‘Fladit” Karvasari Church, the castle etc.

After story telling session 5 participants were selected from the group and sketch their memories into the visual map.
3.5 Malishevë/Mališevo SWOT Analysis

This step is often undertaken by making a study, for example of a sector or a region etc, and/or by making a SWOT analysis (SWOT analysis is used as a method of identifies strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats). It is particularly helpful in identifying areas for development. It involves specifying the objective of the project and identifying the internal and external factors that are favorable and unfavorable to achieve those identified objectives. Making a SWOT analysis of, for example, an urban and municipal development plan would preferably be done in an initial stage of a participatory project planning workshop. The result would give a broad idea of where the municipality stands.

The results from each working group with reference to Malishevë/Mališevo SWOT Analysis are shown on tables below;
### Results from the exercise: Group 1, Housing and Public Services

**Strengths:**
- Concentrated settlements
- Rational use of land,
- Short distances between the settlements,
- Urban and rural zones,
- Centre of competence (professional school),
- The business centre

**Weaknesses:**
- Poor quality of health services in rural areas
- Inadequate housing units
- Lack of strategies for residential developments
- 50% of rural zones have no water supply and no sewerage system
- Lack of kindergartens and old people’s homes

**Opportunities:**
- Adaptation of existing residential/retail units
- Operationalisation of the medical centres,
- Development of human resources capacities,
- Adequate spatial development

**Threats:**
- Loss of fertile land
- Informal construction expansion,
- Uncontrolled waste disposal
- Unaffordable housing

### Results from the exercise: Group 2, Economic Development

**Strengths:**
- Vital young population
- Central geographical position
- Good road/traffic connection
- Fertile land
- Natural resources

**Weaknesses:**
- Insufficient local economic development
- Lack of strategies for local economic development
- Low level of employment opportunities
- Lack of expertise and professionalism in business, low level of local revenue

**Opportunities:**
- Subsidies for agriculture
- Mineral resources
- Highway construction
- Opportunities for inter-municipal cooperation for joint projects
- Private-public partnerships

**Threats:**
- Low level of development
- Unfair competitiveness
- Informal economy
- Dependence on exports for raw materials
- Ownership
Results from the exercise: Group 3, Infrastructure and Mobility

**Strengths:**
- Good geographical location
- Access to national and regional roads,
- Villages are well connected with roads, access to national parks
- Public internal transport

**Weaknesses:**
- Poor traffic signaling and markings
- Sidewalks not accessible for disabled,
- Lack of trails, lack of transit route
- Traffic congestion (center)

**Opportunities:**
- Sufficient terrain for infrastructure expansion
- The opportunity for transport development
- Alternative energy
- Public-private partnership

**Threats:**
- New highways harming the rich archaeological area
- Environmental pollution from vehicles,
- Noise pollution
- Limited budget

Results from the exercise: Group 4, Environment and Cultural Heritage

**Përparësitë:**
- Mirusha waterfalls,
- Thermal-source in Banja,
- Mountain Range of Gurëbardhi,
- Illyrian tombs
- Foundations of the castle in Lldraviqë,
- Arabaxhie Bridge

**Mundësitë:**
- Archaeological studies
- Tourism Development
- Increasing the number of public parks
- Forest regeneration

**Dobësitë:**
- Lack of infrastructure
- Polluted rivers
- Degradation of forest
- Conversion of agricultural land into construction
- Lack of promotional materials for Cultural Heritage

**Kërcënimet:**
- Degradation of agricultural land
- Forest degradation/ cutting
3.6 Malishevë/Mališevo Objectives and Strategies Analysis

Based on the SWOT analyses of the municipality, the workshop participants set out the objectives for municipal developments in each thematic area. The objectives mostly are explanations of what the municipality, in the terms of urban and municipal development plan is going to achieve in the next 5 years. After setting out the objectives, we went a step further, therefore, each group were asked to come up with strategies on delivering the already set objectives.

The results from working groups are shown below but are not listed in any particular order or preference or priority.
Group 1 – Housing and Public Services

Motto: Malishevë/Mališevo, for its citizens.

Objectives (2012-2017)

1. Adequate management and waste treatment (2012-2016, 4 years)
2. Exploration of water sources, expansion of sewerage and water supply network
3. Improving the quality of public services in rural areas
4. Development of Housing Policies
5. Protection of the Agriculture land

Strategies

1. Improving the quality of public services in rural areas
2. Development of Housing Policies
3. Creating sub-centres in rural areas
4. Waste management Policy
5. Protection of Agricultural land from construction
Groupi 2 – Economic Development

**Motto:** Malishevë/Mališevo, the spirit of development (through its young generation, touristic attractions and fertile agricultural land! The image of generosity and hospitality!

**Objectives (2012-2017)**

1. Partnership between municipality and businesses to attract human resources
2. Stimulation of agricultural and livestock production
3. Market research for the needs of the agricultural and livestock production
4. Branding of local products
5. Development and promotion of tourist capacities

**Strategies**

1. Improvement of human resources according to the labor market requirements
2. Development of economical-agricultural initiatives/activities
3. Development of processing and manufacturing enterprises
4. Development of Environmental and Cultural Tourism
5. Inter-municipal cooperation in exploitation of common resources.
Group 3 – Mobility and Infrastructure

Motto: All roads bring you to Malishevë/Mališevo

Objectives (2012-2017)

1. Street naming and road marking
2. Improvement of sidewalks and cycling tracks and construction of road crossings
3. Development of public lighting
4. Improving the quality of transport service
5. Use of bio-fuels

Strategies

1. Raise awareness for the use of public transport: increase quality of service (cost, itinerary, schedule, etc.), special lanes for buses, and the use of bio-fuels
2. Facilitate better access and movement for citizens: street lighting, pavements, construction of walkways, road maintenance and public spaces, road markings and street naming
3. Extension of water supply for all citizens
4. Extension of sewerage system for all
Group 4 – Environment and Cultural heritage

**Motto:** Malishevë/Mališevo, nightingale of Kosovo!

**Objectives (2012-2017)**

1. Define areas for urgent protection of agricultural lands (Creating green buffer zones around the highway, strict definitions of agricultural land & building)
2. Reduction of environmental pollution
3. Development of biodiversity study
4. Restoration & Revitalization of cultural heritage buildings
5. Promotion of Spiritual heritage,
6. Establishment of information centre for tourism

**Strategies**

1. Protection of Agricultural Land
2. Protecting the Environment
3. Protection of cultural heritage
4. Development of cultural tourism
3.7 Joint Vision Statement

Malishevë/Mališevo, with opportunities for all, proud with its heritage, developed with healthy natural resources
4. CONCLUSION
Conclusion

This visioning document is an elaboration and explanation of the methods, process of how the participants came up with the joint vision declaration. This document is just a first step towards the drafting of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP). The aim is to provide a guideline in the process of preparing implementation roadmap of the MDP and to turn these visions into reality.

The outcome of this workshop will be presented to the public and to the municipal administration in coming months. A multi-media presentation is planned to take place, where a summary of the outcomes of the visioning workshop in the form of ‘Vision Declaration’ will be presented to the wider audience. The next step will be to combine the results of the workshop in other words the results from the four thematic working groups.
CONCLUSION
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MALISHEVË 2025+

Prevallë, Prizren 2012