CHAPTER FOUR

SETTLEMENT AND DEMOGRAPHY

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SETTLEMENT POLICY AND DEMOGRAPHY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains three parts. Firstly, it describes the general policy on future population growth for each settlement. This is based on the 'Concept Plan' presented in Chapter 3. Secondly, this Chapter presents and analyses the population data for 1990, 2001 and 2004 paper leading to simple population projections (to 2010, 2015 and 2020,) on the basis of continuing trends. Thirdly, we describe our population scenario, which is based on the application of policy to the projections. The point here is that the plan does not assume that growth trends in one particular commune should be constructed in future in the same place. There may be policy justifications for locating growth somewhere else, (i.e. the urban growth areas.)

4.2 GENERAL POLICY ON FUTURE POPULATION LOCATION

The general policy objective of this plan is to assemble buildings and urban activities into 'settlements' (such as cities, towns and villages,) which should be coherently planned, serviced and managed. This means that (a) a 'settlement' should be built at a certain development density; (b) this density should be consistent with affordable infrastructure; and (c) that a settlement should have an edge or a boundary beyond which such development would be prevented from occurring.

This has not normally happened in Albania, and quite profound reforms in politics and public administration will be needed. We return to this topic in later chapters. But here we only note that the plan contains proposals to define future 'settlements' in terms of their location, their size or population and their linkages (by transportation and infrastructure.) Such things as 'settlements' will require the ability to create planned development in some places and equally to stop development happening in other places. (If this cannot be done, then so-called 'planning' is quite pointless, of course.)

The policy posture in this plan has several features.

- Two relatively large cities, (Shkoder and Lezhe,) should grow more. Here the majority of the growth population would be concentrated.
- These cities would grow by densification in the centre but mainly expansion at the periphery.
- In addition, Shkoder would expand (in a mainly suburban sense,) along a planned 'corridor', which we refer to as the 'Shkoder-Koplik Corridor'.
- In other places, the plan identifies several much smaller towns which are based on existing places, and we could call them 'Expanded Towns'. These locations have been chosen for their 'development potential'. They are Bushat, Shengjin, Velipoje, and Vau i Dejes. We have also allowed a notional growth for holiday residences in Velipoje and Shengjin.
- Vau i Dejes is seen as a 'gateway' to Kosovo at the interface of the mountains and the coastal plain, whilst Bushat is seen as the intersection of the Tirana-Lezhe-Shkoder-Podgorica route and the Kosovo-Bar Port route, (a potential "Inland Port' where links to Bar and Durres meet.)
- Both Velipoje and Shengjin are seen as potentially tourism driven, as an extension of the Ulcinj Riviera once a Buna bridge is built on the Kosova-Bar route.
- In the 'urban region', the population growth projections apportion 10% to villages in support of agriculture. However, the details of locations are beyond the scope of a Regional Plan.
- We have proposed that the various towns of Kurbin, Miredita and Puka districts remain stable in population terms. We discussed the reasons for this in Chapter 3, (but essentially we believe that the economic growth opportunities for the next decade are lower than elsewhere, so that a stable population is the best guarantee of improving quality of life.)
- Finally, the declining population in the 'remote mountainous areas' will be helped to relocate to the 'urban region'. Development land will be provided for this purpose. The pattern of villages in the remote area will be changed so that accessibility to jobs and services is improved. Some villages with poor access will be allowed to decline.

We envisage the growth of Shkoder city as about 30,000; Lezhe city as 60,000; the Shkoder corridor as

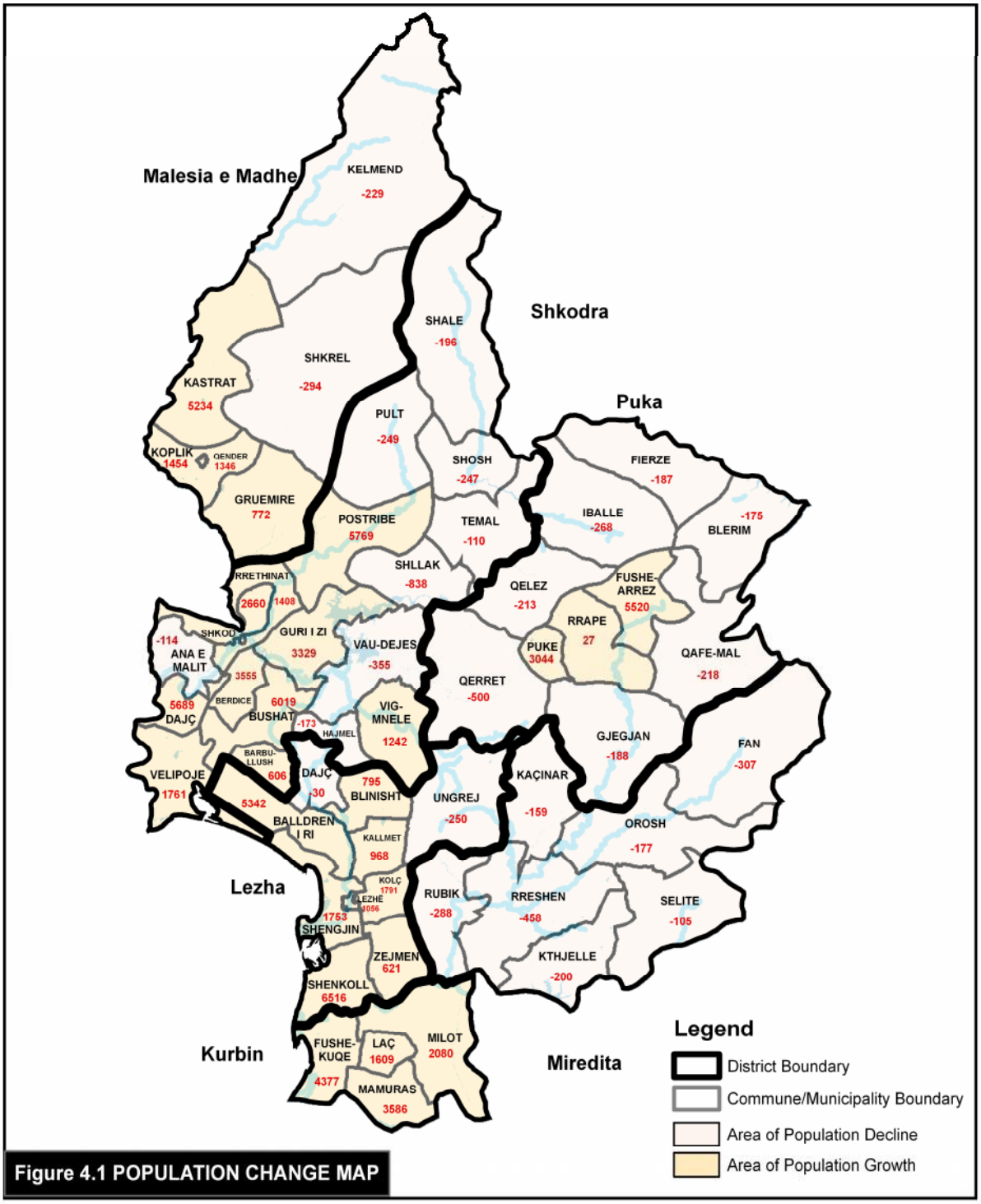

Figure 4.1 POPULATION CHANGE MAP

TABLE 4.1 SHKODER - LEZHE REGIONS

PROJECTION OF THE POPULATION FROM 2004 TO 2020 (Assuming historic migration rate continuous)

AUTO_ID	KOMUNA	RRETHI	QARKU	POPULLSIA 1990 (DISTRICT)	POP 90 (MAP)	POPULATION 2001 (CENSUS)	POP KOMUNE DHJETOR 2004	DIF 01 90	DIF 04 01	DIF 04 90	DIF (04 90) /14 (1 YEAR)	DIF 5 YEAR	POPULATION 2005 (OURS) (FACT + DIF 1 YEAR)	POPULATION 2005 (INSTAT) DISTRICT	POP KOMUNE 2010	POP KOMUNE 2015	POP KOMUNE 2020
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	FUSHE-KUQE	KURBIN	LEZHE	51041	4056	6129	7552	2073	1423	3496	250	1249	7802	66099	9050	10499	12179
26	LAC	KURBIN	LEZHE		17430	19424	30433	1994	11009	13003	929	4644	31362		36006	41337	47458
28	MAMURAS	KURBIN	LEZHE		18630	17676	21810	-954	4134	3180	227	1136	22037		23173	24367	25623
29	MILOT	KURBIN	LEZHE		10946	11163	12792	217	1629	1846	132	659	12924		13583	14276	15004
		TOTAL			51062	54392	72587	3330	18195	21525	1538	7688	74125	66099	81812	90479	100264
2	BALLDREN I RI	LEZHE	LEZHE	63505	5577	7203	9881	1626	2678	4304	307	1537	10188	70606	11726	13495	15531
6	BLINISHT	LEZHE	LEZHE		4521	4238	5229	-283	991	708	51	253	5280		5532	5797	6075
8	DAJC	LEZHE	LEZHE		7120	5183	7092	-1937	1909	-28	-2	-10	7090		7080	7070	7060
19	KALLMET	LEZHE	LEZHE		5785	5493	6648	-292	1155	863	62	308	6710		7018	7340	7677
23	KOLC	LEZHE	LEZHE		4589	4943	6122	354	1179	1533	110	548	6232		6779	7375	8023
27	LEZHE	LEZHE	LEZHE		10600	14420	24179	3820	9759	13579	970	4850	25149		29999	35783	42684
44	SHENGJIN	LEZHE	LEZHE		2522	6807	10240	4285	3433	7718	551	2756	10791		13548	17008	21353
45	SHENKOLL	LEZHE	LEZHE		7865	8894	13170	1029	4276	5305	379	1895	13549		15444	17603	20065
51	UNGREJ	LEZHE	LEZHE		7033	3840	3568	-3193	-272	-3465	-248	-1238	3321		2083	1307	820
55	ZEJMEN	LEZHE	LEZHE		7995	6713	8561	-1282	1848	566	40	202	8601		8804	9010	9222
		TOTAL			63607	67734	94690	4127	26956	31083	2220	11101	96910	70606	108011	121789	138509
10	FAN	MIRDITE	LEZHE	51701	8652	5702	4065	-2950	-1637	-4587	-328	-1638	3737	38031	2099	1179	662
21	KACINAR	MIRDITE	LEZHE		4512	2916	2031	-1596	-885	-2481	-177	-886	1854		968	505	264
25	KTHJELLE	MIRDITE	LEZHE		5785	3653	2470	-2132	-1183	-3315	-237	-1184	2233		1049	493	232
30	OROSH	MIRDITE	LEZHE		5353	3966	3198	-1387	-768	-2155	-154	-770	3044		2274	1699	1270
39	RRESHEN	MIRDITE	LEZHE		14855	11447	9552	-3408	-1895	-5303	-379	-1894	9173		7279	5776	4584
41	RUBIK	MIRDITE	LEZHE		9030	6842	5628	-2188	-1214	-3402	-243	-1215	5385		4170	3229	2501
42	SELITE	MIRDITE	LEZHE		3328	2530	2088	-798	-442	-1240	-89	-443	1999		1557	1212	943
		TOTAL			51515	37056	29032	-14459	-8024	-22483	-1606	-8030	27426	38031	19396	14094	10455
		TOTAL QARK LEZHE			166184	159182	196309	-7002	37127	30125	2152	10759	198461	174736	209220	226362	249228
15	GRUEMIRE	M E MADHE	SHKODER	40467	11820	9796	12526	-2024	2730	706	50	252	12576	38682	12829	13086	13348
20	KASTRAT	M E MADHE	SHKODER		7336	8460	11643	1124	3183	4307	308	1538	11951		13489	15225	17185
22	KELMEND	M E MADHE	SHKODER		9120	4739	6666	-4381	1927	-2454	-175	-876	6491		5614	4856	4200
24	KOPLIK	M E MADHE	SHKODER		2220	3126	12635	906	9509	10415	744	3720	13379		17099	21852	27928
36	QENDER	M E MADHE	SHKODER		3708	5551	4865	1843	-686	1157	83	413	4948		5361	5809	6294
47	SHKREL	M E MADHE	SHKODER		6321	5020	6042	-1301	1022	-279	-20	-100	6022		5922	5824	5728
		TOTAL			40525	36692	54377	-3833	17685	13852	989	4947	55366	38682	60314	66652	74683
5	BLERIM	PUKE	SHKODER	50286	5068	1866	2807	-3202	941	-2261	-162	-808	2646	42200	1838	1277	887
11	FIERZE	PUKE	SHKODER		5418	2544	3006	-2874	462	-2412	-172	-861	2834		1972	1373	955
12	FUSHE-ARREZ	PUKE	SHKODER		1185	4090	5197	2905	1107	4012	287	1433	5484		6916	8724	11003
14	GJEGJAN	PUKE	SHKODER		7462	5814	5436	-1648	-378	-2026	-145	-724	5291		4568	3943	3404
18	IBALLE	PUKE	SHKODER		7784	2689	3295	-5095	606	-4489	-321	-1603	2974		1371	632	291
32	PUKE	PUKE	SHKODER		3100	4579	5548	1479	969	2448	175	874	5723		6597	7605	8767
34	QAFE-MAL	PUKE	SHKODER		6160	3762	2842	-2398	-920	-3318	-237	-1185	2605		1420	774	422
35	QELEZ	PUKE	SHKODER		6006	2810	3080	-3196	270	-2926	-209	-1045	2871		1826	1161	739
37	QERRET	PUKE	SHKODER		4970	3851	4485	-1119	634	-485	-35	-173	4450		4277	4111	3951
38	RRAPE	PUKE	SHKODER		2968	2381	2993	-587	612	25	2	9	2995		3004	3013	3022
		TOTAL			50121	34386	38689	-15735	4303	-11432	-817	-4083	37872	42200	33790	32612	33441
1	ANA E MALIT	SHKODER	SHKODER	201082	6357	4815	6250	-1542	1435	-107	-8	-38	6242	200886	6204	6166	6128
3	BARBULLUSH	SHKODER	SHKODER		5681	3816	6229	-1865	2413	548	39	196	6268		6464	6666	6874
4	BERDICE	SHKODER	SHKODER		6175	7428	9144	1253	1716	2969	212	1060	9356		10416	11597	12911
7	BUSHAT	SHKODER	SHKODER		17095	13369	22278	-3726	8909	5183	370	1851	22648		24499	26502	28668
9	DAJC	SHKODER	SHKODER		4095	5603	8556	1508	2953	4461	319	1593	8875		10468	12347	14564
16	GURI I ZI	SHKODER	SHKODER		8814	9597	11669	783	2072	2855	204	1020	11873		12893	14000	15202
17	HAJMEL	SHKODER	SHKODER		7930	5418	6122	-2512	704	-1808	-129	-646	5993		5347	4771	4257
31	POSTRIBE	SHKODER	SHKODER		7332	8922	12046	1590	3124	4714	337	1684	12383		14066	15979	18151
33	PULT	SHKODER	SHKODER		7046	2422	3684	-4624	1262	-3362	-240	-1201	3444		2243	1461	952
40	RRETHINAT	SHKODER	SHKODER		7729	15337	18565	7608	3228	10836	774	3870	19339		23209	27853	33427
43	SHALE	SHKODER	SHKODER		7917	3214	5820	-4703	2606	-2097	-150	-749	5670		4921	4271	3707
46	SHKODER	SHKODER	SHKODER		87095	83274	110181	-3821	26907	23086	1649	8245	111830		120075	128928	138433
48	SHLLAK	SHKODER	SHKODER		2782	1213	1826	-1569	613	-956	-68	-341	1758		1416	1141	920
49	SHOSH	SHKODER	SHKODER		2119	1151	1877	-968	726	-242	-17	-86	1860		1773	1691	1612
50	TEMAL	SHKODER	SHKODER		3653	1703	2396	-1950	693	-1257	-90	-449	2306		1857	1496	1205
52	VAU-DEJES	SHKODER	SHKODER		10530	9430	6127	-1100	-3303	-4403	-315	-1573	5813		4240	3093	2256
53	VELIPOJE	SHKODER	SHKODER		6721	5537	8261	-1184	2724	1540	110	550	8371		8921	9507	10132
54	VIG-MNELE	SHKODER	SHKODER		2210	3146	3249	936	103	1039	74	371	3323		3694	4107	4565
		TOTAL			201281	185395	244280	-15886	58885	42999	3071	15357	247351	200886	262708	281575	303964
		TOTAL QARK SHKODER			291927	256473	337346	-35454	80873	45419	3244	16221	340590	281768	356811	380840	412088
(TOTAL SHKODER+ LEZHE)				458082	458111	415655	533655	-42456	118000	75544	5396	26980	539051	456504	566031	607202	661316

30,000; the Expanded Towns as 20,000, 18,000, 16,000, and 4,000; and the various villages of the urban region totaling 15.000.

4.3 ANALYSIS OF POPULATION DATA

4.3.1 Summary

The total regional population in 1990 is estimated to have been 458,000. The 2001 census gave it as 415,000 but that is believed to have been an underestimate. The INSTAT figures for 2004 were 533,000 persons, which is probably reliable. If so, the 1990-04 growth was 118.000 or 26% over 14 years.

For 2025, our crude projection was a *rise* in growing communes of 169,384 and a *fall* in declining communes of 47,119. We assume that the rise in growth communes is fed by the fall in declining communes and we have not accounted for the two separately. This would be net growth of 122,265 over 15 years. The estimate for 2005 was 539,000, and the 2020 projection was 651,319, a net growth of 21%.

This is not implausible, but it is largely dependent on the speed and scale of the region's changing prosperity (relative to that of Albania as a whole) and to that topic we return in Chapter 8.

4.3.2 Statistical Analysis

In Table 4.1, we set out population figures for each commune for 1990, 2001 and 2004, and we perform simple calculations on them. However the reliability of these base figures could be questionable, (as noted below,) and it is necessary to proceed with caution when drawing conclusions.

Furthermore, we believe that regional demographic work (and work on settlement policy) should be done as part of a National Plan, and then subdivided by region. Ideally, it should not be done first by region and then totalled up to the national level. But we are not in a position to follow this approach.

Columns 1 and 2: ***Population by Commune in 1990***

In the 90 census, Kurbin district was included in the Kruje district, which was part of the Durres region. Also in 1990, Malesia e Madhe was part of Shkoder district. Between 1990 and 2001 the boundaries were changed. Kurbin district and MM district were separated.

We split the 1990 census figures for the combined districts in the same ratios as those reflected by the 2001 figures, so that we had a basis of comparing the two sets of district populations.

To estimate the 90 figures for commune populations, we used the INSTAT information for population of districts and major cities. The district population minus the city populations yielded the total village population. We apportioned this between villages in ratio to the numbers of dwellings and summed this up by commune. The dwelling figures we obtained from the 1:25.000 scale topographic survey prepared mostly between 1980 and 1990, which we supposed to have been fairly constant until 1990.

Column 1 contains the 90 INSTAT District totals, which were used to accomplish the apportionment to Communes. The apportionment is shown in Column 2.

Column 3: ***Population by Commune in 2001***

These were obtained from the census of 2001 as published by INSTAT.

Column 4: ***Population by Commune in 2004 (December)***

This data was obtained by the consultants from local offices of INSTAT in Lezhe and Shkoder. We note that the reported 2004 populations are so much greater than the 2001 populations, that we feel the need for further investigation of both sets of data before they can be accepted with confidence.

Columns 5, 6 and 7: ***Subtraction to Indicate Population Growth***

These columns indicate the growth of commune or municipal populations between 1990 and 2001 (column 5,) between 2001 and 2004, (column 6,) and between 1990 and 2004, (column 7.)

Column 8 and 9: ***Calculation of Absolute Figures for Annual and 5-year change in Communes and Municipalities***

Next, in column 8 we divided the fourteen year change (column 7) by fourteen to give annual change (on a linear basis.) In column 9, we multiplied this by five to give a five-year change.

Column 10: ***Population for 2005***

We then added the 2004 figures (column 4) to the annual change (column 8) to give population for 2005.

Column 11: ***Projection from 2001 census to 2005 using the INSTAT Logic***

As a 'check', we then utilized INSTAT's published coefficients (for births, deaths, and emigration) in order to estimate the 2005 population based on the 2001 survey data. It is clear that columns 10 and 11 are very different indeed, (539,053 and 456,504 respectively.)

Column 12, 13, 14: ***Projections to 2010, 2015 and 2020 by adding 5-yearly Growth Figures to 2005 population***

We next added the 5-year growth figure (column 9) to the 2005 estimate, to project a figure for 2010 (column 12,) and repeated this for 2015 and 2020, (columns 13 and 14.)

Commenting on the statistical time-series data, we note that the change between 2001 and 2004 is strangely high. The local authorities have said that the 2001 figures were, in their view, inaccurately low. If the 2004 data are reliable, then this would create a falsely high rate of change between 2001 and 2004. Therefore, we have taken the 1990-2004 (fourteen year) change as the base for projection.

We have mapped the projection of the growing and declining commune (or municipality) areas by colour in Figure 4.1, and shown the names of each with the respective absolute figures. There is a clear spatial pattern.

- There is a western strip of growth areas, which lie along the Montenegro border and the sea coast, (but not Kelmend.)
- East of this is a wider strip of declining areas
- However, there are two 'anomalies'. There is a small 'island' of growth in Fushe-Arrez and Puke, and a small corridor of decline comprising Shllak, Vau-Dejes, Hajmel and Dajc. This looks like a 'trough' between the two city-regions. The commune of Ana e Malit has also declined marginally. This is unexpected, and the data should be considered again.

4.4 POPULATION SCENARIO

We have *not* assumed that projected growth always occurs in the named commune. To actually build and accomodate the projection of recent historic population trends in that same locality, may not be a correct policy. For example, it could lead to adverse ecological impacts; it could waste land of other economic (e.g. agricultural) value; it could be subject to flooding or it could be impossible to provide the land with infrastructure or access; and so on.

Consequently, *it may be necessary to cease following the historic trend, and assert a prescriptive policy.* We therefore suppose that the growth projected for some communes is actually built in other places, following several propositions shown in Table 4.2.

In this table, we first name both the location of the cities, (including the associated suburban corridors,) and the four expanded towns. In the second column, we state the growth figures which our statistical projection associated with certain communes and we now take them to be accommodated in the cities, corridors and towns, (named in the first column.) The third column states the population growth figures. These are divided between the urban zone and the rural hinterland in a 90/10 ratio. The rural element is regarded an allowance to expand villages, but no further details on village names are given.

4.5 CONCLUSIONS

This demographic exercise should be treated with caution. It is difficult (or, in reality, impossible) to make a projection in the expectation that it will probably come true. Events will depend on uncertain factors, particularly (a) how the economy performs, (because the population will follow the jobs;) and (b) whether policy goals are successful (or even attempted.) Specifically, population change depends upon the availability of attractive land, which may or may not be delivered at the time in question.

For this reason, planners have stopped talking about 'predict and provide' tactics, and prefer the more real world approach of 'monitor and revise'. This means that a data-base needs ceaseless updating, and a 'Policy Review Process' should be systematically undertaken. We return to this matter in Chapter 11 on "Implementation".

GROWTH ZONE	TREND LOCATIONS	CURRENT POPULATION 2005	POPULATION GROWTH	URBAN	RURAL
Shkoder Corridor	Koplik	13.375	14.549		
	Kastrat	11.951	5.234		
	Postribe	12.383	5.769		
	Rrethinat (50%)	9.669	7.044		
	Gruemire	12.576	722		
	Qender	4.948	1.346		
		64.906	34.644	31.180	3.465
Shkoder City	Shkoder	111.830	26.603		
	Rrethinat (50%)	9.669	7.044	30.283	3.364
		121.499	33.647		
Shkoder Subtotal			68.291	61.463	6.829
Bushat	Bushat	22.646	6.019		
	Berdica	9.536	3.555		
	Gur i Zi	11.873	3.329		
	Barbullush	8.268	5.342		
		52.143	18.250	16.425	1.825
Velipoje	Velipoje	5.813	1.751		
	Dajc	8.875	5.689		
	Holiday	14.688	12.000		
	residents		19.440	19.440	0
Vau Dejes	Puke	5.723	3.044		
	Fushe Arrez	5.464	5.520		
	Vig Mnele	3.323	1.242		
	Vau Dejes	5.813	0	4.355	483
		20.323	4.835		
Shengjin	Shengjin	10.791	10.561		
	Holiday		8.000		
	Residents		18.561	18.561	0
Lezhe City	Balldren	10.188	5.342		
	Kolc	6.232	1.791		
	Kallmet	6.710	968		
	Blinisht	5.280	759		
	Shenkoll	13.549	6.516		
	Zejmen	8.601	621		
	Lac	31.362	16.097		
	Milot	19.924	2.028		
	Mamurras	22.037	3.588		
	Fushe Kuqe	7.802	4.377		
	Lezhe	25.149	17.535		
		137,004	60,360	54,329	6,036

Table 4.2 Location of Population Growth: Scenario for Year 2020