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Research Article

Renewable Energy and its impact in the Economic Development of Kosovo

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Abstract

The population in the world is increasing and with is the need for energy is increasing as well. This increase is mainly as a result of the increase of the luxury among the population, or rather the use of various information, communication and technological appliances, including but not limited to smart phones, tablets and PCs, etc. Though, there is an expectation for the increase in the demand for energy, with the use of efficiency appliances and technology, the slope of the increase in the energy consumption will not be as high. Knowing that most of the generated energy is fossil fuel based and to some extend nuclear, the implication on the environment will have consequences. However, with the increase in the use of renewable as well as alternative energies, the need for carbon based sources of energy will be reduces dramatically. In Kosovo, the generation of energy is mainly based on the use of fossil fuels, either for electricity or heating. Very little energy is generated via renewable energies. In addition, Kosovo is a country with the lowest GDP per capita in the region. According the World Bank Kosovo's GDP is about €2,700 and about one-third of the population living below the poverty line. However, it has potential for growth in particular in the production sector, providing that new investment opportunities are utilized. This paper will focus on two main aspects: first the renewable wind energy and Kosovo's potential for wind energy, and second, potential for economic development is Kosovo was to be a manufacture of the technology itself. The study will show that not that Kosovo has potential for wind energy as the effect of the wind energy in the economic growth of Kosovo. The study was conducted by Evroenergie L.L.C. with the support of GIZ.

Keywords: *Energy, Wind, Population, Economic growth, Renewable*.

1. Introduction

With ever growing population in the world, the need for energy is increasing as well. However, this increase in the energy consumption is not a in a linear correlation with the population growth, but rather exponential.

Numerous studies were done on the effect of the population growths in the energy consumption, in particular in the developing countries. An example from Malaysia (tang, 2009) shows that there is a relationship between population growth and energy consumption. This study also took into account the effect of the foreign direct investment into the increase in the energy consumption. The study concluded that if foreign direct investment and population increase, in order to meet various activities for which energy is needed, there will be a need for more energy.

Another element that could have an effect in the increase in the demand for energy is the increase in the GDP, income as well as the prices. Khanna and Rao (2009), established that electricity demand depends on the increase of the GDP, prices, income, the level and characteristics of economic activity/urbanization, including seasonal factors.

Kosovo, as a small and new country in the Balkans, traditionally relied on carbon based energy sources, be that for the electrical energy through the use of lignite, or the use of fire wood for heating (Pira at all, 2008).

The development of an energy market and in particular renewable energy plays a key role in Kosovo and could lead to further stabilization of the yet fledgling economy. Merely an efficient, modern and sustainable energy supply could ensure the development of new industries more quickly.

In October 2005, the Treaty establishing the "Energy Community of Southeast Europe" was signed by the European Community and by many countries of South East Europe. The EU Single energy market aims to extend to the countries of South-eastern Europe. They committed to implement the common law of the European Union on energy, to develop an appropriate regulatory framework and to liberalize the energy market. Currently, Kosovo is also obliged to implement the 3rd EU single market package, which among other issues, mainly focuses on the following:

- The development of renewable energy sources (i.e. wind and solar energy),
- Market access to all providers free of discrimination,
- The extension of cross-border infrastructure
- The EU-wide synchronization of market rules and network standards
- The strengthening of consumers protection
- The introduction of Smart Metering systems

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The goal of the Energy Community is to create a law - stable and a market environment which triggers investments and thus ensures a reliable and continuous energy supply. The ground for this is the establishment of a single regulated framework and an increased competition in the field of energy trade.

Liberalized energy markets improve and ensure a better level of energy supply and lead to better relations with the neighboring countries. Furthermore, the Energy Community, as a part of the European single market, aims to increase the energy efficiency and promote the development of renewable energy in order to also improve the ecological component.

1.1 Objective

The aim of this study is to present and evaluate the potential of Wind Energy in Kosovo and in the Western Balkans. In addition, the findings of this study should serve the Kosovo institutions, based on the needs for the expansion of the wind energy market, to raise the awareness of the overall economic development of Kosovo. In order to achieve this goal, in addition to this study, a workshop, with representatives of different institutions and companies from the Kosovo energy market, was organized.

The topics and the objectives of the workshop were as following:

- The presentation of the researched results of the wind energy potential in Kosovo and the region,
- The discussion of the 3rd EU single market package,
- The presentation of the legal requirements for extending renewable energy and the official processes for license acquisition on the construction and operation of wind power plants in Kosovo and other selected European countries,
- The review of possible partial production of components of the wind turbines and the opportunity to create new jobs.

Based on the call of the 3rd EU- Single market package, to expand the production of electricity from renewable energy sources, the wind energy becomes increasingly important for Kosovo. Consequently, it is of particular importance to develop among the energy actors, the sense for the implementation of the EU directives and thus create a stable and a legal framework for further investments in Kosovo. In addition, by the establishment of a stable and continuous energy supply environment, further investments also in other sectors will be triggered. The third goal of this study is to present the potential of creating new jobs and also the economic growth of Kosovo due to the expansion of wind power generation. This extension represents also major opportunity for Kosovo to use new added values networks.

Through this expansion, in particular, the sectors of IT, metal and energy could be the winners in Kosovo and could also become the pioneers and the leaders in the region.

Through the development of new areas of expertise, new subject areas for study and also training facilities, Kosovo could expand its service offer in the IT and energy industry sector and provide, in addition to the benefits for their own country, these services also to other neighboring countries.

The research will focus on the possibility of creating new jobs through the use of wind energy potential, as well as possibilities to produce wind turbine components for Kosovo and the region, in order to develop new added value networks.

The researched studies and projects and the following results of wind energy potential are the basis for the presentation of this development of renewable energies and also the consequent macroeconomic effects.

2. Research Methodology

While preparing this study, all the studies and statistics published so far, related to the potential of wind energy, the development of renewable energy and the economic start point, were researched and analyzed and also intensively discussed in a workshop, with various stakeholders of the Kosovo Energy Sector and GIZ. In order to be able to describe the potential of Kosovo in relation to the expansion of renewable energy (especially wind power), in addition to the geographic conditions, all the projects associated to the generation of wind energy, were reviewed. The keystone remains the mandatory requirements of the 3rd EU Single market package. Finally, after considering all the effective researches, conclusions on possible positive economy effects are presented, together with hands-on recommendations.

The focuses of the study, are in particular, the representation of previously written studies and projects on wind energy production in Kosovo.

Analysis of the EU requirements - in this case mainly the 3rd EU Single market package and the requirements which Kosovo has already met, or/ and the current level of implementation of these requirements.

At this point, the major policies of the 3rd EU Single market package were analyzed and displayed. Along with those lines, the requirements of energy sector for renewable energy in Kosovo are set.

3. The Wind Energy Potential in Kosovo

Kosovo does not have a wind atlas or similar sources that could be used for advancing the use of wind energy. Thus, the wind energy potentials shown in this study are based on already conducted studies, respectively probable specific analyzes that have been carried out, as described in the research methodology.

The energy source from wind is still a new field for Kosovo, as the wind was previously used only for mechanical work (e.g. windmills).

3.1 The Analysis of Existing Studies on Wind Power in Kosovo and the Evaluation of the Wind Potential

The following chart presents the basic data for Kosovo. These data provide a first insight into the typical environment conditions such as climate, location, area, population and domestic production.

In this study were analyzed the already carried out studies on wind energy projects and presents the

respective results. The potential of Kosovo for developing renewable energy, especially wind energy will be presented. In this regard, various institutions, that are active in the Kosovo in the energy sector, were contacted.

Table 1 Basic data for Kosovo

The Republic of Kosovo	
Climate:	Influenced by continental air heaps, Kosovo results to face winters with heavy snow, then hot and dry summers and also transitional periods. Mediterranean and alpine influence create regional diversity, and the period of maximum rainfall is from October to December
Position:	Southeast Europe, between Serbia and Macedonia
Area land in km2:	10.887
Population	1.836.529 inhabitants
Gross domestic production:	**Total: $ 13,020,000,000 Per/head: $ 6,500**

Source:*(https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook)*

Among those are the following: KEK (Kosovo Energy Corporation) KOSTT (Transmission System and Market Operator), MZHE, (the Ministry of Economic Development), MMPH (the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning), ZRRE (Energy Regulatory Office) and also different enterprises, which started concrete projects for metering, for potential offers or are related to obtaining licenses in relation to wind energy. As part of an analysis of the current state, all publications were intensively researched and analyzed. In particular, the study of the company NEK *(NEK, 2012)* was the focus.

The feasibility study on wind power in Kosovo, which includes wind measurements of approximately 10 locations, served merely for drafting a regional wind map, which was offered to potential investors and operators of wind farms, only as basic information. Furthermore, the conditions for wind farm development in Kosovo were evaluated. In May 2009, the wind measurement campaign began at 10 different locations. The conducted wind measurements supplied NEK with sufficient data, to create a wind resource card for Kosovo and to follow up with suitable locations for future projects for the construction of wind turbines.

NEK Company convinced by the potentials and conditions in the country, continued to be active in Kosovo. As part of the NEK wind farm development, for a 30-MW wind project, the location Zatric (Rahovec) was chosen for further wind measurement. It has excellent wind conditions and has a well-developed infrastructure. For some time, measurements on already existing GSM-Mast[2], were carried out.

At the same time the company started to build a wind farm there and to obtain all the relevant permits. End of June 2012, NEK submitted the official application for a 30-MW wind farm project in Zatric, at the ZRRE (Energy Regulatory Office), aiming to obtain the permission to start with this project as soon as possible. NEK assumes that the first major wind farm in Kosovo, will be fully granted by respective authorities in the winter of the year 2012/2013. According to recent publications, NEK has decided to start working on a second project in Budakova, near Prizren. A wind farm with a future capacity of approximately 30 - 40 MW is planned for that location. This wind farm is to be built 1200-1600 meters above the sea.

3.1.1 Project Shtime 1 & Shtime 2

Directed by a German company (name shall remain anonymous), measurements were made at the site of Shtime. In the report, KOSTT (Transmission System and Market Operator) provided the application for the network connection. The application was filed already in 2010. The power provided there is 127 MW. The results of the projects were presented at the workshop and were regarded as real.

3.1.2 Projekt Golesh

The first and the only wind power plants in Kosovo were installed in Golesh. In 2010, these facilities were put into operation. The installed capacity is 1.36 MW.

Source: (evroenergie, 2012)

Fig.1 Wind power location Golesh 1

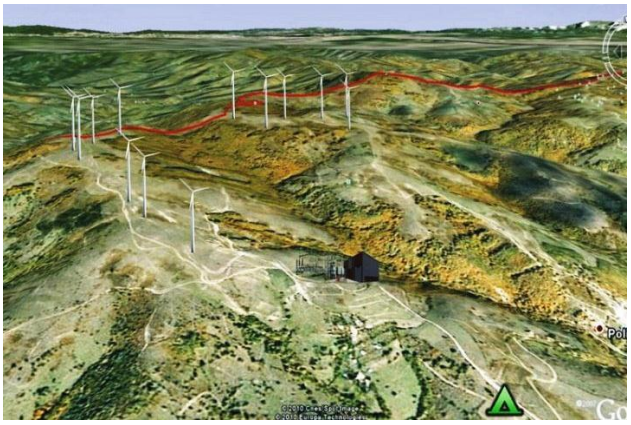
Shortly after they became operational, the power plant shut down. According to official statements of ZRRE these plants were depreciated (outdated) and were therefore not entitled to the full supply intended for the production of renewable energy from wind. In this regard, currently negotiations between the plant operator and KEK are being carried out. The site Golesh is known for its good wind conditions, however, there are no studies or readings found.

Figure 1 illustrates three wind turbines, which were installed in Golesh but due to the shutdown they don't produce electricity.

3.1.3. Project Kitka

The company Air Energy performs now for some time measurements carried out by the German company "Anemos" in Kitka. According to the company, Air Energy, the data proved to be quite suitable

[2]Global System for Mobile Communications



Source: *(Anemos & AirEnergy, 2011)*

Fig.2 Air Energy Location Kitka

The company is collecting the necessary licenses for the construction of a wind farm. Also an application for power supply for an energy output of 30 MW has been submitted to KOSTT. Figure 2 shows the location of Kitka with the planned wind turbines.

3.1.4 Project Bajgora & Skenderaj (Energykos)

Currently in Bajgora and Skenderaj, a Kosovo-Italian cooperation is carrying out measurements. The first results show a potential of a three-digit megawatt range and are extremely promising. In the respective locations 2 anemometers[3] are put, to carry out measurements. Only in Bajgora, in an area of 7 hectares, an average wind speed of 9 to 12 m/s, was measured. During a visit at the site, the above picture was taken and the above measurements were confirmed.

Source: *(evroenergie, 2012)*

Fig.3 Energykos location Bajgora 1

Extension of Wind Energy in the EU and the Creation of New Jobs

4. Extension of Wind Energy in the EU and the Creation of New Jobs

The development of wind energy has for a long time been an engine for the creation of new jobs. The studies carried out in EU Member States *(EWEA, 2012)* show the expansion of wind energy through the expansion of wind power. In addition to new jobs, also other areas of the economy are developed.

The municipalities are in many ways important for the present and the future development of renewable energy: They have extensive control possibilities regarding the approval and the installation of plant conditions. The municipalities increasingly expand their own targets for renewable energy and strive for the establishment of companies related to the renewable energy sector.

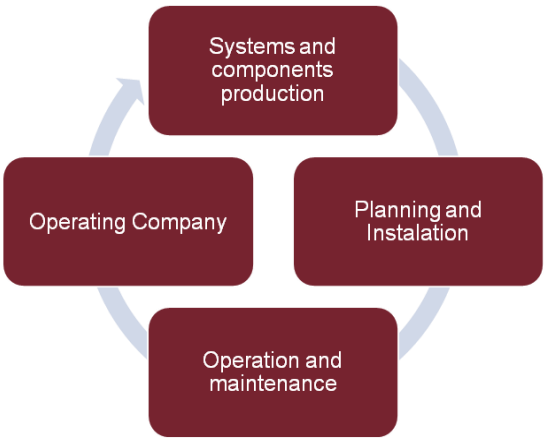
Municipalities benefit from the positive regional economic developments associated with the use of renewable energy:

- Savings in fossil fuel costs,
- Creation of new jobs, or
- Tax and Lease income.

Many cities, towns and regions have set as their goal to strengthen regional economies through renewable energy as their development strategy, whereby the municipal budget situation and the attractiveness of the business location is to be improved. The complex chains of added values of renewable energy are rarely located entirely within the borders of a single country and thus are difficult to be differentiated. This study differentiates the following added value effects:

- Profits and income
- Taxes
- Economic development, employment and education

The local value added in employment includes among others. The following tasks: installation, maintenance and operation of the facilities. This means that most orders such as handicrafts, service technicians or service raw material supplies are carried out by local businesses. The resulting regional output and the economic dynamics offer good regional perspectives.



Source: *(evroenergie, 2012)*

Fig. 4 Value added chain

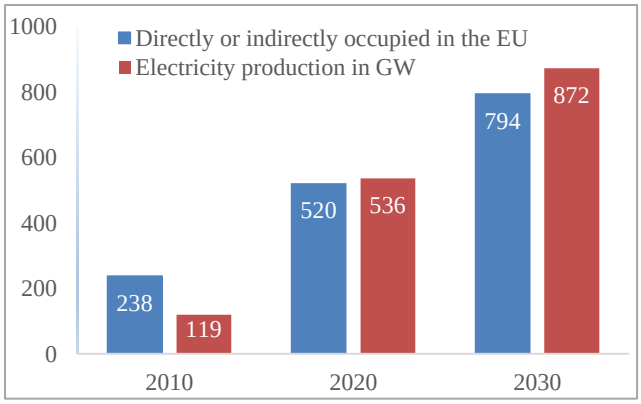
The chart above shows the added value chain, in some areas also create new jobs. At the certain stages of production mainly companies that generate profits, create jobs and pay taxes. The figure table shows the neologism in the above mentioned areas. At the same time, the components and their structure are shown.

[3]Gauge for measuring wind rate

Table 2 Added value in areas

Systems and Components Production		Hub and main shaft
		Gondola
		Generator
		Tower
		Blades
		Transmission gear
		Azimuth System
		Hydraulics
		Wire
		Sensors
Planning and Installation		Fundament
		Development
		Network connection
		Services
		Material production
Operation and Maintenance	**Maintenance and Repair**	Personal
		Production of compensational material
		Electricity
		Insurance
	Lease payments, dismantle	Personal
		Logistics
		Renaturation
		Lodgment
		Revenues from secondary raw material
	Banks	
Operating Company		Entrepreneurship
		Liability charges
		Distribution

The following figure illustrates that the vast expansion of wind energy creates new jobs at the same time. Only during the year 2010, 238.000 people were employed directly or indirectly in the context of wind energy generation. At the same time 119,000 GWh of energy were generated from wind. Associating these trends with the planning of the development of wind energy, by 2030 794,000 people in the EU will be working for the wind energy production. Hence 872,000 GWh of electricity produced by wind are projected.



Source: *(EWEA, 2012)*

Fig. 5 Employment and wind power generation in the EU 2010 – 2030

According to EWEA, the impact of the development of wind energy has various effects on the entire economic chain. The sectors that benefit the most are the following:

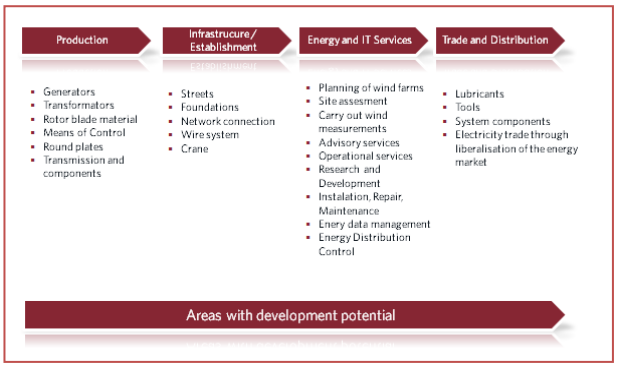
- Base metal
- Electro-technical and electronic equipment
- Transport
- Metal production and processing
- Construction
- Financial Institutions
- Professional services
- Rubber and plastic industry
- Post und Telecommunication
- IT-Services
- Research and Development
- Chemical Products

The effects of the expansion of wind energy can be determined even in the gross domestic product of the EU Member States. The total contribution of the wind energy sector to the gross domestic product of the EU reaches 0.26%, or 32 billion Euros. *(EWEA, 2012)*

4.1 Production and Export of Wind Turbine Components and Services for Energy and IT Sectors of Kosovo Neighbor Countries

The development of new added value chains in Kosovo very much depends on how far the policy, specifically on renewable energy, creates a framework for the promotion of foreign investment. The following illustration will show how the primary and secondary effects for Kosovo will benefit only by strong investment in these sectors.

For the production of individual components, Kosovo offers some advantages, and these would be the following: The excellent location in the Balkans and the modern highway connection to Albania also creates easier transportation possibilities. Two more infrastructure projects in Serbia and Macedonia will follow. Worth mentioning is also the young population, with an average age of 25 years. The average gross wage in Kosovo is around EUR 290 *(Auswertiges Amt, 09.2012)*. Kosovo counts over 40,000 students *(Agjencia e Statistikave te Kosoves - ASK, 2011 / 2012)* in two public and many private universities and also many students studying aboard, who ensure highly skilled potential employees. Since 1999, the General Assembly of Kosovo was based on completely new foundations, thus compatible with EU requirements. Since 2002, the Euro is its official currency.



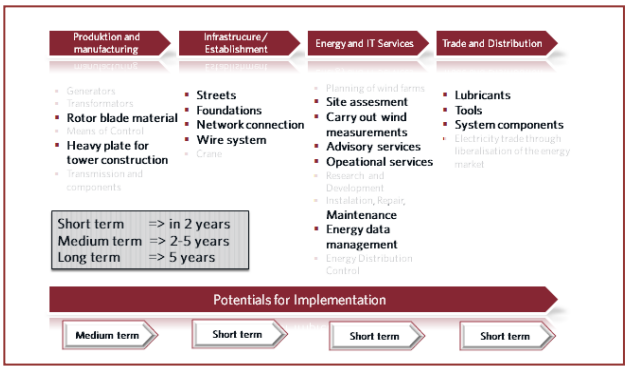
Source: *(evroenergie L.L.C, 2012)*

Fig. 6 Sectors with long term development potential along the added value chain

For Kosovo and the Balkan region, it is hard to imagine producing the components of a wind turbine independently at this time. This study will show the real possibilities that Kosovo would have in short, medium and long term in the sectors along the added value chain (supply of products and services). In this part of the study, sectors that have a potential for expansion through the development of wind energy sector, are analyzed and displayed. The production and manufacturing sector, could position themselves very well with a lot of components in the value chain. In addition, all components that are produced in this sector could be called the primary direct effects. From this, it can be seen that the more of the components described are produced in Kosovo and exported to the region, the greater the economic development and job creation in Kosovo.

With the development and expansion of wind power, the infrastructure and construction sectors would be newly established and could develop further. The expansion of wind energy requires the construction or development of energy industry services and the IT sector. Particularly in those sectors, Kosovo would have a real chance to evolve over its competitors in the region and offer the necessary services. In this study, the focus was on two particular sectors. The first sector is the metal processing industry, which by the production of wind turbines and its components, such as towers or heavy plates for tower plants for the entire region, Kosovo could benefit greatly.

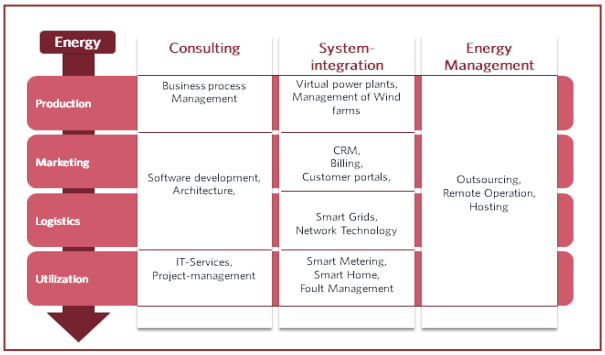
This would be a great challenge; however it would also be a possibility for economic development for Kosovo. Another focus, but which is not less important, is the service in the energy and IT industries. Again, Kosovo should and could position itself in the new and rapidly evolving energy markets and expand the range of services and deliver them to neighboring countries. The chart above shows the sectors along the added value chain, which in the short term, medium term and long term, represent a great potential for development.



Source: *(evroenergie L.L.C, 2012)*

Fig. 7 Short to medium-term implementation in the sectors along the added value chain

Some of the sectors in the figure below were considered as feasible in the short and the medium term. In the medium terms, with the investment from foreign investors, and in consultation and cooperation with the wind turbine producers, towers and blades for a wind turbine could be produced in Kosovo, for the region. After the market analysis in Kosovo was carried out, no companies could be found, that are in possession of a crane to produce wind turbines. However, there are a variety of companies in the construction sector, which could be adapted very quickly and establish themselves in the newly developing market. On the short term, could cement companies, and in Kosovo there is a sufficient number of such companies, focus on the construction of fundaments. The service industry respectively the energy and IT sector that would arise from the construction of wind energy would in the short term, have the opportunity to establish themselves in the new market. What steps should be taken to achieve these objectives are described below. According to the European statistics and many wind energy studies in the wind energy industry, employees are classified as highly qualified personnel.



Source: *(evroenergie L.L.C, 2012)*

Fig. 8 New added value areas in IT sector

The IT industry in the energy industry is gaining more and more on importance. Alone in the IT industry, through the expansion of renewable energy, new areas will be created. The separation of the previous market roles in energy generation, marketing, logistics and usage, is a challenge that can be met only by means of information technology. Existing areas within the IT energy sector must be separated. Accordingly, the changes are represented in Figure 8.

The changes shown in the chart above reach to the Balkans. Kosovo would have a real chance to offer services in the areas of energy management systems and IT services. Opportunities such as outsourcing via remote operation are simple and inexpensive, without compromising the quality. As it can be seen, there are already tasks to be implemented in the IT industry for the Balkan region and the rest of the EU countries.

4.2 Analysis of the Components Production Potential of a Wind Power plant in Kosovo

In the context of the specific research for this study, it was found that Kosovo has no production facilities currently to produce parts of wind turbines. Nevertheless, there is already a large production in the metal processing industry in Kosovo, which would be willing to participate in such projects.

As an example, is the company, NEWCO IMK Pipes FACTORY LLC – which produces pipes and steel profiles in Ferizaj. The company is one of the largest companies in

South East Europe in the manufacturing industry and in welding of steel and profile tubes.

Since its foundation in 1972 until today, more than 12,000 km of pipes for various systems of water supply, gas and oil pipelines, were produced for many different countries. The quality of the products is based on international production and inspection standards.

NEWCO IMK PIPES FACTORY L.L.C. - consists of the following three pre-production areas: spiral welding, longitudinal seam welding technology and outside layers and isolation.

The company is located in an area of about 52,000 square meters on a plot of more than 28 hectares of land in Ferizaj, south-east of Kosovo. The company owns a railway network of 3.7 km and is thus connected to the regional railway network.

After contacting the leaders of NEWCO IMK PIPES FACTORY LLC it could be noted that the company is willing to think about a possible production of components.

Source: *(ww.imk-ks.com)*

Fig. 9 Production Company EWCO IMK PIPES FACTORY L.L.C.

5. Conclusion

The study showed that Kosovo and the other countries of the Western Balkans region possess a significant potential for wind power generation. Especially from the presented planned projects and the carried out research, but also from the numerous interviews and the workshop held with the help of this study, the following findings are acquired.

- It was noted that the development of wind energy depends not only on the geographical conditions but also on the legal and economic conditions, tariff and promotion systems, approval cycles and also network-supply conditions
- The results on the law requirements for renewable energy presented in this study, suggest that the basics (tariffs, priority networks, etc.) are for the development of renewable energy systems in principle available. However the optimization of these is urgently needed
- It was noted that the approval process is complicated, time consuming and not yet fully developed in practice
- The documents for permit application for the construction and operation of new capabilities are very general in nature, and can lead to ambiguity of the relevant institutions as well as of applicants
- Based on the order of the specified points in the entry form, the applicants face enormous expenses, even if the applicant does not receive a license ultimately
- Through the expansion of wind power generation, great opportunities to create new added value chains are available in Kosovo
- Through the services in the energy and IT industry and also metal processing industry, Kosovo could become a leader in the Balkans
- In the medium term, Kosovo could become the export country for wind turbine components in the Balkan region
- By the development of new areas of expertise, new competence areas and training, Kosovo could offer its services not only nationally, but also in the rest of the Balkan region, in the IT and energy industry.

6. Recommendations

The findings from the previously listed below recommendations, for the way forward in the context of wind power generation, are presented. In this case, recommendations for the government on one side and on the other side for institutions and the private sector, as well as for GIZ are presented. The described recommendations arise from the drawn conclusions and also comply with the researches related to the construction procedures of wind energy production in other countries.

6.1 Recommendations for the public sector

- The first and the unavoidable step, is to create a Wind Atlas with the respective wind corridors. This is how the Kosovo government could offer potential investors basic information for the expansion of wind potential. This step would reduce the time consumption for the implementation of a possible project
- During the drafting of a Wind Atlas, as a second step, the plans on land and land use plans should be underlined, in order to make it clear, where wind farms should be built or prohibited for various reasons
- The drafting of a strategy for the promotion of new added value chains in the IT, the energy and metal industries.
- Definition of educational strategies in IT, metal and energy sectors, in cooperation with the private sector
- Implement plans for the new professions
- Abolition of customs tariffs for the import of raw materials for the production of wind turbine components
- Strategy development for the delivery of services in neighboring countries
- Simplify licensing procedures for wind energy production and the establishment of clear procedures for the acquisition of licenses
- For the different types of renewable energy sources, various authorization forms for the construction and

operation should be available, as the specific types of renewable energy must fulfill different requirements
- Establishment of a competence center for information related to the methods and forms for the coordination of the institutions involved in Kosovo; the implementation should be in everyone's interest starting from the permit application and up to real project implementation. Kosovo should develop itself to a pioneer in the region.
- Analysis and review of technical options available in relation to the connection of renewable energy into the electricity network

6.2 Recommendations for the Private Sector

- Establish a joint venture between local and foreign companies to produce wind turbines components
- Partnership development between banks and other financial institutions with the aim to trigger foreign investment
- Develop an investment model in the field of renewable energy

6.3 Recommendations for the Association for International Cooperation – GIZ

- The establishment of a competence centre for information related to wind energy and further pursuit of the potentials in Kosovo
- Assist in the drafting procedure of a Wind Atlas for potential investors
- Establish a support system for the creation of areas of expertise in the field of renewable energy in Kosovo
- Establish trainings, to meet the requirements of the EU and the necessary areas of expertise
- Detailed analysis of the possibility for the production of farms components in Kosovo
  - Establish Business Case
  - Establish an Information Platform
  - Implementation and accompaniment of informational events
- Create a platform for discussions for the establishment of a joint venture between local and foreign companies.

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