

TOURISTIC VALORISATION OF DRAGAS MUNICIPALITY IN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Today, the growing interest of modern tourists is to stay in ecologically clean and untouched areas that will enable them to return to nature in order to meet their tourist needs. Today's tourists are focusing on destinations whose natural resources are the basis of the tourist offer. With its exceptional alpine nature and high mountainous surroundings, the municipality of Dragash and its immediate surroundings, in terms of geographical position and tourist offer, is an adequate place for modern tourists. The aim of the paper is to identify all factors that positively and negatively affect the development of tourism in the municipality of Dragash, and determine the course of action for the full utilization of the existing natural and anthropogenic resources and the promotion of tourist activity in that part of Kosovo. The paper is descriptive, as it will describe the phenomena, processes and relations that characterize Dragash municipality as a tourist destination. Special attention is paid to the tourist geographic position of the municipality of Dragash, assessment of the natural values of tourism development, anthropogenic values, forms of tourist traffic and prospects in tourism development.

Key Words: *Dragash, geographical position, natural potential, cultural heritage, forms of tourist traffic, tourism development perspectives*

JEL classification: Z32

Introduction

The fast rhythm of everyday life increasingly encourage modern tourists to meet their tourist needs by staying in ecologically clean and untouched areas that will enable them to return to nature. In this regard, they are oriented towards destinations whose natural resources are the basis of the tourist offer. Municipality of Dragash is an area rich in natural resources

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that provides the possibility of returning to nature and natural beauties. It is this great wealth of natural resources that represents the primary tourist offer of this part of the Shar-mountain. Tourism in Dragash municipality is in the initial phase and the need for adequate valorisation of natural resources is needed in order to contribute to their protection and conservation. As a municipality of the southern region, with all its natural beauties (geographical position, terrain, climatic conditions, wealth of hydrographic and biodiversity potential, picturesque rural landscape, ethnographic elements, folklore festivals, sacral objects) and insufficiently existing tourist infrastructure and suprastructure (hotels, motels, restaurants), should take a significant position on the tourist map of Kosovo.

Tourist geographical position of Dragash Municipality

Dragash municipality is the southernmost municipality in Kosovo, sharing the border with neighboring countries FYR Macedonia in the east and south and Albania in the west. In the north, the municipality of Dragash is bordering with the municipality of Prizren, which is the center of the southern region of Kosovo, which includes the municipality of Dragash. 'The municipality covers an area of 435,8 km², that is, about 4% of the total territory of Kosovo, which has about 33,997 inhabitants as permanent residents'(ASK, 2012, p. 9). 'The municipality consists of 36 settlements (villages), and the town of Dragash is a municipal center'(Aga, 2014, p. 20-21). The municipality is surrounded by the high Shar-mountain in the south and east, which continues to be extended to the territory of FYR Macedonia and Albania. The territory of the municipality consists of two regions: the Opolja region in the north and the region Gora in the south. The altitude varies between 730 m.a.s.l. in the north to 2.550 m.a.s.l in the south, and the municipality itself, on average, is at 1,620 m. above sea level. 'The hilly and mountainous geographical position influenced the development of small, concentrated, rural populated places that extend along the three main valleys'(Šarplaninske župe, 1997, p. 127). 'The undeveloped mountain range of the Shar-mountain is ideal for an invaluable adventure in nature'(Marcus, 2010, p. 36). At the same time, this is the reason for the isolation of the municipality and its current infrastructure and other problems.

Evaluation of natural values of the tourist development in Dragash municipality

The issue of the relationship between the development of tourism and the natural environment is one of the basic ones, which significantly influences all dimensions of tourism development. Tourism is one of the forms of exploitation of nature. The development of tourism and the protection and enrichment of natural resources are basically complementary. However, tourism is a factor that, on the basis of its effects, transforms space. ‘One of the possible forms of tourism activity on the environment, that is, the environment is valorisation’ (Popesku, 2016, p. 162).

Characteristics of the terrain

‘The municipality of Dragash has mountainous terrain, and in the border regions with Albania and Macedonia there are high mountain peaks, ranging from 750 to 2550 m, with an average value of 1620 m’ (LPDBOD, 2007, p. 10). The specific characteristics of Dragash are spacious pastures that make this area suitable for livestock, agriculture and tourism. In a geographical view, Dragash is located in the center of protected nature zones, such as the Shar-Mountain National Park, Mavrovo and Korab, in Kosovo, Macedonia and Albania. ‘This municipality has an outstanding landscape, with beautiful areas (pastures), healthy climate, very clean air, a very large number of cold springs, a large number of rivers and beautiful valleys, forests, characteristic flora and fauna, lakes, etc’ (RSN, 2010, p. 16). Tourism activities and activities such as skiing, hiking, alpinism, speleotourism, extreme sports as well as other forms of tourism can be developed unimpedibly.

Climate

Climate is one of the main factors that attract people to travel more often. The climate conditions in all geographical latitudes affect man, his activities and psycho-physical health. ‘Temperature and humidity, precipitation, cloudiness, wind, solar radiation play a key role in the development of certain types of tourism’ (Jovanović, 2017, p. 185). For tourism, climatic conditions, or climate change, the phenomenon is the sectoral change of mountain tourism destinations. The climate is one of the most important natural potentials for the development of tourism in

this area. The whole area is exposed to a modified Mediterranean climate thanks to the valley of the Bel Drim River, to which all river flows from this area belong.

Water resources - hydrographic potentials

Due to its geological composition, climatic characteristics and expressed mountain geomorphological forms, the water wealth in the municipality of Dragash is a special potential for the development of tourism, and it is made up of a developed river network, numerous springs and picturesque lakes as well as groundwater. Municipality of Dragash is dotted with a dense network of river mountain streams, and takes the second place in Kosovo by the wealth of water resources. All the water from the municipality goes through the White and the Black Drim to the Adriatic Sea. 'All rivers and their tributaries, as well as numerous lakes, are located mostly under mountain peaks at an altitude of more than 2500 m, so they are clean and in a quality class, with average rainfall of 1,130 mm/m² per year'(PROD, 2013, p. 12).

Evaluation of the anthropogenic value of the tourist development of the municipality of Dragash

Culture as the spiritual and physical value of each nation in the municipality of Dragash has passed through different stages. The complete culture of the municipality of Dragash is based on Islamic culture and civilization, influenced by other related Islamic peoples, and finally for other pagan elements from the ancient past. Dragash municipality belongs to the Prizren region, and the seat of the Regional Center for Cultural Heritage is located in Prizren. In the municipality of Dragash there are many ruins of older settlements, but some of them have lost their mark, and only the names such as "Zinova" have remained, as an ancient city. Near the village of Belograd there are traces of the ancient locality "Gostil" and similar traces are encountered near the village of Brut. 'Of particular significance is the route Tetova-Skadar-Lijes, passing through the Shara mountain and the ancient city built in the Roman era "Zinova" is assumed to have played the role of a regional shopping center'(LEAPD, 2013, p. 27). On the basis of previous superficial investigations, the oldest traces of material culture in this area from the prehistory can not be reliably determined, but it can be assumed that there are traces from the ancient period, which is also referred to by the folk tradition. 'The Regional Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage

Monuments in the territory of the municipality recorded these facilities: 43 mosques, 5 turbets, 7 mills, 11 archaeological sites, 47 buildings of folklore architecture, 2 public buildings and 1 roller' (LEAPD, 2013, p. 28). 'The main festivities that could be used not only to attract tourists but also to help protect the cultural heritage are: sacred objects, folk costumes, wedding customs, festivals (Djurđevdan, Spring Day, etc.), pelivans, horse racing, shar mountain dogs, etc' (Aga, 2013, p. 1218).

Human resources

The latest population data are coming from the 2011 census, showing that in the municipality of Dragash there are about 33,997 persons in the status of permanent residents of the municipality. The population is 78 inhabitants / km², of which only 3.22% live in the city, while 96.78% live in the villages. 'Natural increase in population in the municipality of Dragash municipality is 0.84% and 1.13% at the level of the place, there is a balance between women and men (50.11% of women with 49.89% of men), and coincides with the situation with the national average value of Kosovo (50.3 % of men and 49.7% of women)' (ASK, 2012, p. 11). On average, families in Dragash have 5.5 members, which is close to the national average of Kosovo, which is 5.9 members. Emigration is quite common.

Tabele 1: *Population and villages in the municipality of Dragash 1921-2011. Year.*

Vilages	1921	1948	1953	1961	1971	1981	1991	2008	2011
Bačka	167	222	249	259	311	381	215	44	52
Belograd	232	415	345	385	568	808	998	1780	948
Bljač	360	474	503	594	797	1023	1415	2150	1455
Brezna	590	908	871	946	1410	1971	2465	4103	1990
Brod	1863	2248	2229	1604	1485	1685	1741	1200	1544
Brodosavce	844	1219	1229	1353	1861	2498	2999	4500	2839
Brut	450	596	584	575	798	1097	1319	1800	1164
Buče	269	398	400	437	574	766	913	1005	645
Buzez	74	102	102	127	191	240	366	380	320
Dikance	162	318	320	349	392	282	257	133	124
Dragaš	172	408	480	612	694	1114	1532	1893	1098
Globočica	391	648	683	757	813	1002	968	630	960
Kapra	154	214	255	265	354	496	582	503	452
Kosavce	300	488	486	525	720	912	1033	1200	905
Krstec	299	465	440	475	562	798	837	272	420

Kruševo	126	281	319	377	513	645	738	625	857
Kukovce	433	640	655	669	985	1335	1619	2550	1658
Kukljibeg	234	408	383	409	516	658	916	1100	852
Kukaljane	361	543	551	482	605	777	621	290	235
Leštane	-----	537	493	513	658	758	679	197	783
Ljubovište	211	344	352	384	541	690	799	360	773
Mlike	260	461	428	428	455	506	335	114	92
Orčuša	-----	415	370	396	431	427	221	57	60
Plava	-----	462	449	493	690	972	1125	420	1000
Plajnik	-----	322	321	365	485	549	576	1200	405
Radeša	440	753	794	837	884	1279	1226	953	1224
Rapča	622	889	877	885	1125	1647	1781	863	853
Restelica	745	1397	1471	1772	2576	3476	4274	4200	4698
Rence	127	188	177	202	292	473	685	700	581
Sainovce	440	626	639	705	921	1253	1415	1950	1069
Vranište	-----	757	771	815	884	926	731	297	352
Zrze	90	215	202	205	269	335	373	250	236
Zapluzje	470	667	663	666	967	1275	1504	2250	1273
Zgatar	435	435	401	415	640	818	985	1400	885
Zlipotok	-----	486	488	532	568	625	619	322	610
Zjum	139	197	167	215	315	457	573	480	585
Municipality	11460	20140	20147	21028	26850	35054	39435	42171	33997

Source: (ASK, 2012, p. 11).

Traffic connection and communication

Dragash municipality is connected to the other part of Kosovo via two roads: one is directly connected to the new road between Tirana (Albania) and Pristina, this regional road starts in the village of Zur (Prizren) and ends up with the farthest villages in the municipality of Dragash (Restelica and Brod); and the second road that is asphalted (2018), which goes to Prizren through some villages in Zupa and connects to the village of Zapluzje (Opolje). Dragash municipality is characterized by having one entrance and no exit, and is often described as a blind hose. It has three cross-border crossings, the first with FYR Macedonia which is impassable, on the route Dragash - Restelica - Srezimir-Mavrovo. And two border crossings towards neighboring Republic of Albania, (Šištevec and Borje), which enable easier traffic connections and better communication with neighboring regions. There are about 570 km of roads and trails within the municipality of Dragash accessible for ordinary vehicles, all villages are asphalted. There are seven private bus companies operating on bus lines, there is more communication through Prizren and

the Opolje region than directly from Prizren and Dragash (only one bus line). 'Transportation services in Dragash are provided by taxi vans and cars, and there are very few bus lines that go in a certain order of driving'(Aga, 2014, p. 109). Regions in the municipality (Opolje and Gora) are not connected with bus lines, and there are no bus routes for Prizren – Gora either.

Characteristics of accommodation capacities

'The recent development of international travel, hotel companies in their global orientation have to make constant adjustments to market trends. These adjustments primarily relate to the selection of an adequate type and category of hotels, but also to finding new forms of accommodation. This sets the basis for the quality of services that will be provided in a specific facility and create opportunities for involving other participants outside the enterprise'(Čačić, 2013, p. 107). The reception and absorption possibilities of the tourist offer mostly depend on accommodation capacities. The tourist accommodation offer in the municipality at the current stage of development is inadequate and incomplete. Accommodation capacities are limited, but also underused, and the main reason is the poor content of the touristic stay. Tourist service providers in the municipality of Dragash, which can be competitors in the surrounding area, are: Arxhena Touristic and Recreation Center in Brod and hotel "Meka Shar", as well as accommodation receptive ambient which is under construction at Vidikovac. There are other motels that provide tourist services with traditional food, as well as private facilities that are ready to accommodate tourists. Hotel Meka has a total of 34 rooms, single bed, double and triple bed, all rooms offer a flat-screen TV. Reservations for the hotel can be made via Booking.com. We constantly help hundreds of passengers find the perfect hotel for private and business trips, always with the best discounts and special deals. The Arxhen Tourist and Recreational Center is located 12 km from Dragash, behind the village of Brod, at an altitude of 1384 meters, in an extraordinary rich natural breath-taking ambiance, near the Duška reka, which is fast and clean river. Arxhena hotel offers an à la carte restaurant, gym, sauna and Turkish bath and a free ski lift that climbs on the slopes of the Shar Mountain, at an altitude of more than 2000 meters, is located in the immediate vicinity of the hotel. The aforementioned accommodation capacities are highly positioned regarding the provision of tourist services, in relation to competitors from the surrounding area (Brezovica and Mavrovo). Consequently, the results in the tourist valorization of

natural, ethnographic and other cultural potentials of the municipality began to be achieved, that is, in the development of recreational, cultural, excursion forms of touristic movements. This also applies to the affirmation of tourist motives, despite the effects of numerous limiting factors expressed in inadequate organization of tourist facilities and placement of offers. ‘The municipality of Dragash has the potential to develop and market a unique tourist offer that can be integrated into the already existing regional offer’(Aga, 2014, p. 162).

Forms of tourist traffic (complementary forms)

Winter-sports tourism: Great altitude, high precipitation, and also in terms of quality and length of snow cover at which Dragash municipality is situated (an average of over 1100 meters), grassy mountains provide good potential for alpine skiing and winter activities such as: skiing and cross-country skiing. It is not rare that during the same day you can experience all four seasons, and during July and August, the highest parts of the Shar-mountain are covered with snow, so that visitors can have it all year round. In addition to these, this area also has other natural and anthropogenic potentials that can be valorized efficiently and included in the offer both during the winter and during the summer tourist season. ‘This region has elements of terrain for organizing various memorials, as well as the so-called "extreme skiing", which means mastering steep slopes on specially constructed skis’(Šarplaninske župe 1997, p. 200).

Picture 1: *Potential for NSA - Sports Tourism (Restelica, Brod)*



Source: author

‘In 1968, international experts for winter tourism, Iten and Rey, pointed out the touristic and development significance of these natural values,

which included the northern and northwestern parts of the Šar-planina mountains into the most significant potentials for the development of the winter tourist season in the entire territory of the former Yugoslavia' (Iten - Rey et al., 1968, p. 113).

Eco tourism: Summer, daily and sports-recreational (ecological) tourism is a promising form of tourism in the municipality of Dragash, because there are very suitable natural conditions for this tourism, which are underutilized in the current stage of development. This type of tourism is closely related to natural resources, favorable climate, meadows rich in various flowers, numerous springs and colorful landscapes are suitable for the development of summer tourism in all the above mentioned places. This type of tourism is based on the direct contact of tourists with original or slightly altered nature, which allows pleasant walks and stay in the endless flower pastures. Attractive hydrographic objects, especially ice lakes, which are especially numerous in the southern part, in Brod and Restelica zones, then the lake in Brezne, which is at a lower altitude, and accessible to visitors, is located on the section Dragash – Prizren.

Mountain tourism: There are excellent opportunities for development of hiking activities and establishment of mountain huts at suitable locations. 'The area of this part of Shar-mountain, which has incredible potential for hiking and natural tourist destination, is unfortunately not known to people, because it does not exist in official tourist offers' (Wassel, 2011, p. 64-65). Mountains of this area are part of the southern Kosovo national park "Shar-mountain". On the other hand, right across the border of FYR Macedonia, Mavrovo National Park attracts tens of thousands of tourists every year. 'This area of the Shar-mountain is suitable for excursion hiking strolls, and the wide valley areas and forests, as well as the rounded, always easily accessible peaks, which rise very high above the horizon, are suitable for several forms of hiking' (FSETPŠKD, 2010, p. 18). These are: orientation competitions in the Nordic or other system, then for determining and editing interesting longitudinal and transversal hiking routes, as a modern basis for hiking, which provide a precise system of mountain activities.

Hunting and fishing tourism: For these types of tourism, there are favorable natural conditions (forest and grass complexes as habitats of wild animals, various natural shelters, wealth of running water, etc.). But this type of tourism has not been developed due to a number of limiting factors (lack of hunting service, illegal hunting, harassment of wildlife

due to exploitation of the forest and frequent burning of the forest, etc.). Highly valued habitats of wild goats and bears, as well as lynx, can be independent tourist motives in this area. ‘There is a long tradition of hunting on Shar-mountain and Koritnik, but nowadays there is a strong orientation towards a touristic clientele who is prone to a large consumption, both on domestic and foreign tourist market’(NPPNPŠP, 2009, p. 41). Rivers in the municipality of Dragash are very rich mountain trout. Rivers are mountainous and fast so fishing in these rivers requires a skill. Radika and Čaljanska rivers, located on the borders of Macedonia and Albania, are rich in river trout and are attractive for fishing and daily rest. These rivers are 15 minutes away from the village of Restelica by car. However, the lack of infrastructure and post-war situation have made this part of the Shar-mountain not as visited as the part in the Brezovica region. For the development of this type of tourism it is necessary to promote hunting and fishing resources and improve infrastructure.

Picture 2: *The Radika River near the mountain Korab*



Source: author

Rural tourism: The "tourist capital" of the village in relation to the city consists of a very different ambience, in an environment full of natural beauty, intimacy and local landmarks, as well as the still existing customs and specific gastronomy. Developing this type of tourism would contribute to the economic revival of the village, and its former lackness in this area would turn into a comparative advantage. Of course, it is necessary to ensure that the stay is organized only in houses that represent the official tours, and are able to provide the comfort that a modern tourist

needs. This should be supported by favorable loans that will help in decorating and equipping these receptive capacities. Taking into consideration the traffic connectivity and attractiveness of natural and anthropogenic motifs, as well as the specificity of rural units, rural tourism in this region should begin to be organized in the villages of Buče, Kukovce, Brezne, Mlike, Bačka, Orčuša and Zlipotok. These are villages where old cultural monuments can be seen, such as the mosque in Mlika and Brezna old tombstones, houses from the Ottoman period, favorable geographical location of these villages. These are villages where the number of inhabitants stagnates or decreases gradually and also villages with increased depopulation and demographic emptying. We deliberately named these villages in order to preserve the value of these cultural assets and raise them to a higher level, and also to bring the population back to stop the emigration of the inhabitants in these villages.

Health care tourism: This type of tourism can also be developed and become one of the elements of tourist valorization of the nature in this municipality. Due to the climatic diversity of this area, where the county climate is prevailing, which is very suitable in both winter and summer, and the mountain climate in the zone between 1000 and 1400 m.a.s.l., which is favorable for the development of this type of tourism. A bungallows can be built at the base of Koritnik. There are conditions for the development of health care tourism, because the area is rich in pine forests and pastures, and then on the Kruševo-Restelica route, climatic factors are favorable for climatotherapy, medical rehabilitation and medical focused recreation. This type of tourism requires the construction of health care facilities and the protection of these zones.

Excursion tourism: This type of tourism, especially if the activity is organized with a general and thematic educational character, can be intensively developed and implemented. This especially applies to all kinds of educational excursions (school excursions, student, postgraduate and various professional and scientific excursions) due to the concentration of various, but unique geomorphologic, geological, hydrological, biogeographical and other natural motives, but also because of the anthropogenic, and especially ethnographic and other cultural values of the municipality of Dragash. ‘The cultural and historical-artistic values of preserved sacral objects (mosques, mezarlucs, turbets), proclaimed cultural property, are of exceptional importance for Dragash municipality and Kosovo’(ECTN, 2006, p. 86). They are a special curiosity in the exceptionally beautiful natural and rural ambience and in

the quiet areas of the Shar Mountain, and can be an important motive for study excursion activities.

Picture 3: *Tourist-recreation center,, Arxhena,, Brod*



Source: *hotel website*

Event tourism: Due to the attractiveness of the folklore elements of the events in this area of the Shar-mountain, it can be an independent form of touristic activity. In this area, events are held in which very interesting ethno-cultural and folklore elements come to the fore, fights of pelivans and horse races are organized. Such a specific tradition should be maintained either as an independent event or as a part of wedding customs, where folk costumes of this area are presented. The municipality of Dragash is an ideal opportunity to meet interesting wedding customs, as well as the richness of folk costumes and jewelry.

Perspectives of tourism development

Bearing in mind the numerous development limitations, and in particular the extremely unfavorable economic and political situation, as well as the realistic possible alternative policies and scenarios for the development of all segments of the Kosovo economy, the priorities in the development of tourism in this area (to create more favorable general economic, investment and political conditions) should be the following: Undertaking all available measures with the aim of building new touristic facilities, preserving and maximizing the use of tourist facilities that are already built, in particular: promotion of ownership, managerial, organizational, financial, personnel and marketing transformation of business entities; stopping the deterioration of tourist facilities and equipment through the necessary ongoing maintenance (for example, promotion of facilities that were owned by the social property and privately owned, for example

Hotel "Shar" in Dragash, today Hotel "Meka" Shar, then Sport and Recreation Center Hotel "Arxhena" in Brod, restaurants in the whole area and some resorts on the mountains); maximum animation of potential segments of tourist demand for more efficient use of existing capacities, etc. 'Particular importance should be given to the development of appropriate spatial planning documents, especially those relating to the formation and development of the necessary infrastructure, on the basis of which, after acquiring favorable conditions, capital could be engaged. Kill potentially interested investors to invest in this area'(Aga, 2013, p. 127). Regarding the infrastructure facilities, the priority task is the reconstruction of the new and modernization of the existing roads, especially those connecting potential tourist zones and sites with basic traffic directions in this area. In addition, a very important and urgent task is the construction of adequate water supply, electrical and sewage systems, in all localities in the area and in Dragash, as well as the elimination of existing wild landfill. These interventions would make a significant contribution to improving the tourist accessibility of these high-mountainous areas and increasing the overall ecological and tourist quality, which should stimulate the interest of the wider community for higher investments. In the initial stage of tourism development, until the satisfactory conditions of tourist infrastructure and suprastructure are met, this area should be given priority as a center for event tourism development and logistical support in the spatial expansion of this branch of economy in the municipality of Dragash. At the beginning of the more extensive development of tourism in this area, the priority should be given to those zones, which with their resourceful diversity enable the formation of polyvalent centers with the year-round functioning of the tourist product, which would provide as much rationality as possible for the use of facilities and profitability of operations. Tourists from this region, and especially larger touristic organizations, should permanently work on research and animation of demand, especially those segments that are increasingly interested in the so-called "white" and "green-ecological" destinations. It is necessary to prepare in time for a thoughtful and organized appearance at the demand and capital market. Priority should be given to domestic tourism that will have a definite participation in the long run.

Conclusion

At the end of this research, we can conclude that the main and auxiliary hypotheses that were set at the beginning of this paper are confirmed, that

the Municipality of Dragash really has significant tourist resources and attractions that can be the basis for the development of tourism in this municipality and on such basis Dragash municipality can really play an important role in the tourism market of Kosovo and the region. There is a possibility for a sustainable development of tourism, but not much has not been done so far on this plan. The municipality of Dragash is located on the border of Kosovo, Albania and Macedonia, ie it occupies the southern part of Kosovo. Part of the Shar-mountain belonging to the municipality of Dragash has a low degree of development both in the overall economy and in the tourist industry within it. Unlike the part of the Shar-mountain belonging to Brezovica, this area does not have a material nor traditional basis of tourism development, at least not in the extent that this activity could play a significant role in the overall development of the area. It is a border part of the territory of Kosovo which, considering the estimated natural and anthropogenic resource values, makes a potential tourist destination. Due to numerous limiting factors that influence the development of tourism such as: poor infra and suprastructure, closure of the area, lack of tourist organizations, tradition, marketing, citizens' awareness, the development of this branch of economy is prevented. At the local level, maximum efforts are being made to revitalize tourism as a branch because this area has development conditions. These conditions are: natural beauty, human resources, bio-food, then there are sites and zones where several forms of tourism can be developed (winter-sports, hiking, summer events, hunting and fishing, health care tourism, excursion, transit and rural tourism). Despite the challenges that the Municipality of Dragash faces, this part of Kosovo has enormous tourist potential that stems from natural characteristics, rural life and cultural diversity. Municipality Dragash is an unexplored area filled with opportunities for tourism development.

"It takes some skills to be poor in such a naturally rich environment"(Author)

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