



Social and Environment Investment Programme 2017



"We would like to thank TAP for the donation of a vehicle that addresses actual needs and greatly contributes to the realisation of our purpose and activities."

Ioanna Hatzivariti
President of the Kavala charity "Pnoe" (Association for Child and Family)

"I would like to congratulate TAP on this very important initiative, itself being a very important project for Northern Greece and the country in general."

Apostolos Tzitzikostas
Head of the Central Macedonia Prefecture

"TAP brings blessings to the municipalities it traverses."

Anestis Aggelis
Mayor of Kastoria

"I don't believe that there is another company or donor that can be compared to TAP for such social investment meant for the future generations."

Gazmend Toska
Teacher of "7 Dëshmorët" school

"I am grateful to TAP and AADF for their special attention to Çorovoda and their assistance in improving our touristic infrastructure."

Nesim Spahiu
Skrapari of Mayor

"Working with TAP had taught me what a real pipeline project looks like: working with a professional team dedicated to safety, respectful towards the environment, protective of the cultural heritage and constructing a complex project on schedule"

Megys Mustafa
First Round of TAP Professional Internship Programme

"The Master's course has been very useful for me. Today I can use culinary techniques, recipes and products which I never knew before. It has been useful also for 'educating' my customers."

La Bella Vita Restaurant
Carmiano (Lecce)

"I am very happy, I have learnt new things about management and restaurant kitchens. I guard my notes with care."

Lu Oriu Restaurant
Santa Cesarea Terme (Lecce)

"A great experience which helped me meet skilled and wonderful people. I have expanded my professional network and started cooking with more respect for the local products and territory."

Li Curti Manor Farm
Caprarica (Lecce)

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The goal of the TAP Social and Environment Investment (SEI) Programme is to contribute to improved livelihoods and quality of life within local communities in proximity to the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) Project, in a sustainable and inclusive way.

The overall objectives of the TAP SEI Programme are:

- to strengthen livelihoods within local communities;
- to support improved community quality of life along the pipeline route;
- to enable improved skills and abilities through support for education and training initiatives;
- and to enhance environmental management, including support for biodiversity.

These themes have been selected following an analysis of the Environment and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), specifically identifying those areas where SEI can support the management of social risk, as well as generate value for both TAP and its host communities. Nevertheless, each of the host countries has different development priorities and different social risks. These themes are deliberately high-level in order to allow each country to work whilst also responding to their country context.

TAP has committed over €55 million in SEI projects in Greece, Albania and Italy.

Whilst it is expected that some projects will naturally be completed during the initial period of operations, the intent is for the majority of the investment to coincide with construction.



SEI Programme in
GREECE



TAP invests –and will continue to do so– in activities carrying a strong social and environmental impact in Northern Greece, supporting projects implemented in all three Greek Prefectures traversed by the pipeline: Western Macedonia, Central Macedonia and Eastern Macedonia-Thrace.

TAP's voluntary Social and Environmental Investment (SEI) programme in Greece amounts to a total of €32 million, focusing on four pillars:

- Environment
- Education and training
- Socio-economic development, with an emphasis on agriculture and tourism
- Quality of life for local communities, with an emphasis on social support and cohesion

TAP representatives are in continuous open dialogue with local communities and all levels of Government –central, prefectural and municipal– to develop mutually agreed SEI projects that support the communities' own development priorities.

See below key SEI projects implemented in Greece in the context of TAP's SEI programme – an indicative selection of the various initiatives TAP has undertaken, contributing to social, humanitarian and other important causes.



0.1 Funding of Master's Degree Programmes in the Energy field



Trans Adriatic Pipeline | Αγωγός Καλής Ενέργειας
ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΕΚΕ



TAP is helping educate the next generation of energy experts, by funding two Master's degree programmes offered by the University of Western Macedonia and the Technological Educational Institute of Western Macedonia. Over a period of five years, TAP will invest €1 million in the initiative via a respective donation to the Bodossaki Foundation. The amount will be mainly used to subsidise students' tuition fees. Responding to relevant requests, TAP is financially supporting:

- The 4-semester course "Petroleum oil and gas management & transportation," offered by the Department of Business Administration and the Department of Environmental Engineering & Pollution Control at the Technological Educational Institute of Western Macedonia, in collaboration with the Azerbaijan State University of Economics; and
- the 3-semester course "Energy Technologies & Management," taught at the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Western Macedonia.

This SEI project aims at promoting education and scientific research, as well as improving skills and abilities on a constantly developing strategic sector – such as energy. Both courses focus on natural gas, as well as the management of other fossil fuels and renewable energy sources. And by covering at least 50% of each student's tuition fees for both programmes, TAP renders the offered courses more accessible.

Key stakeholders from the area have endorsed these initiatives, including

- the Head of the Western Macedonia Prefecture, Theodore Karypidis
- the Mayors of three significant municipalities in the Prefecture, namely Anestis Aggelis from Kastoria; Panagiotis Kepaptsoglou from Argos Orestiko; and Paschalis Gketsios from Nestorio
- Professor Evangelos Siskos of the Technological Educational Institute of Western Macedonia
- Professor Yannis Bakouros of the University of Western Macedonia

Both programmes will be funded for 5 years. TAP's contribution amounts to €100,000 per year for each postgraduate programme.

These two Master's degree programmes can accommodate max. 90 students on an annual basis

- 50 students at the Technological Educational Institute of Western Macedonia and
- 40 at the University of Western Macedonia.





33 AMBULANCES



23 GARBAGE TRUCKS AND SWEEPERS



14 SNOWPLOUGHS

0.2 Donation of Utility Vehicles for Northern Greece



DESTINATION, SAFETY

Donation of Utility Vehicles

In June 2017, TAP Greece launched a ca. €11 million Social and Environmental Investment (SEI) programme, pertaining to the donation of 93 utility vehicles – including ambulances, snowploughs and garbage trucks. The investment benefits local communities across all three Northern Greek Prefectures traversed by the pipeline: Western Macedonia, Central Macedonia and Eastern Macedonia-Thrace.

The 93 utility vehicles comprise 33 ambulances, 23 garbage trucks and sweepers, 20 forestry vehicles, 14 snowploughs, and 3 civil protection vehicles. The programme focuses on improving communities' quality of life, as well as environmental management.

The project was designed in close collaboration with the Hellenic Government, as well as prefectural and municipal authorities, to serve the needs of local communities in Northern Greece – providing better healthcare, environmental management, cleaning, and safety services for residents.

The initiative was officially launched during a Press Conference held in Thessaloniki and attended by all three Heads of the Northern Greek Prefectures and several mayors, as representatives of the communities benefitting from the initiative. The event also marked the first public broadcast of TAP's campaign for the launch of this specific initiative, with the tagline "TAP. A pipeline of good energy."





0.3 Launching of Thematic “Thriving Land” Agricultural Programme



THRIVING LAND
Supporting Agri-food Education



The agricultural initiative "Thriving Land | Supporting Agri-food Education" will be implemented in all three Northern Greek Prefectures traversed by TAP. It is a ca. €1 million transprefectural investment in educational and biotechnological activities aiming at supporting the cultivation, marketing, and sale of agri-food products or varieties locally produced across the route of the pipeline: honey and bee products, olives and olive oil, medicinal and aromatic plants, beans, fruit, petimezi (sugar cane molasses), peppers, animal products (from goats, sheep and cattle). These products were selected due to their locality in areas traversed by TAP, their distinct and competitive characteristics, and their potential growth and marketability.

The "Thriving Land" initiative is part of TAP's €32 million Social and Environmental Investment (SEI) Programme that the Project is voluntarily implementing in areas along the pipeline route. It will benefit ca. 300 individual producers and 70 production units, while also expected to create multiple benefits for agricultural communities in Northern Greece, as it:

- fosters cooperation between producers and scientists
- features local products
- identifies their unique characteristics, creates their genetic "identity" and thus allows for their authentication, certification and traceability
- makes available all pertinent scientific data to any interested party.

The project will be monitored by the Bodossaki Foundation, and implemented by the American Farm School of Thessaloniki (AFS) and the Institute of Applied Biosciences (INAB) of the Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH). AFS will offer educational seminars to beneficiaries, as well as personalised consultation regarding optimal cultivation methods, fertilisation, machinery, etc. INAB will collect samples of the products, in order to identify their particular characteristics and qualities and subsequently record their "genetic identity", to feature their added value both in Greece and abroad.





0.4 Grants and Donations Exceeding €580,000

TAP aims to be a good neighbour to the communities hosting the pipeline, especially when it comes to people in need and society's most vulnerable members. Over the years, TAP has offered more than €580,000 in grants and donations to various organisations across Northern Greece. Since May 2016, TAP has also partnered with the Network of Social Solidarity (NSS) that specialises in this line of work.

Since 2014, TAP has supported more than 20 institutions and associations located in all three Prefectures traversed by the pipeline. These include – among others:

- the SOS Children's village Aristino (Alexandroupolis, Thrace)
- the Children's village in Filyro (Thessaloniki)
- the NGO "Keletron, Love for Children"
- the mobile Breast Cancer Prevention Mobile Unit, in collaboration with Theagenio hospital in Thessaloniki
- the "Agia Marina" institute in Kavala for children with special needs
- the "Children's refuge" in Thessaloniki
- the Centre for Children's Creative Activities in Serres
- the Institute for the protection of children with autism in Kastoria
- the "Stavros Halioris" Social Centre in Xanthi
- the "Athina and Lazaros Rizos" Nursing Home in Kastoria
- the Association of Parents and Friends of People with Autism in Eordaia
- the "Pnoe" Association in Kavala
- the Social Grocery of the Amyntaio Municipality
- the PwD Association "Agiōi Theodorōi" in Komotini
- the Parents and Friends Association of Persons with Autism "Agios Vasileios" in Alexandroupolis
- the Centre of Welfare and Solidarity of the Komotini Municipality

These donations allowed the purchase of household and office appliances; furniture and electronics; medical and rehabilitation equipment; specialised transport vehicles; building renovations and food supplies.



0.5 Renovation of Dorilaiou Str. at the central square of Serres



WORKS OF INSPIRATION

Development of Local Infrastructure

Aiming to address the community's need for safe, open and accessible public spaces, TAP renovated the (former) Dorilaiou Street at the Central Square of Serres. The €248,000 investment included: paving the street and walkways, creating bike lanes, installing benches, fountains, post lamps, etc. The project is part of TAP's "Works of Inspiration | Development of Local Infrastructure," programme implemented across all three Northern Greek Prefectures traversed by the pipeline.

The renovation project was welcomed by the Municipality and the local community as an opportunity to upgrade the historical and commercial centre of Serres. And thanks to the efforts of all involved parties, the project was concluded in just three months after its launch and was implemented in line with international Health and Safety best practice.

The Central Square is located at the very heart of the city of Serres, extending over 70,000m². The newly renovated street improves the quality of life for residents and visitors, providing them a beautiful recreational area for walking or cycling.

In fact, the renovation of Dorilaiou Street is the first step in a larger project to renovate the city's entire central park – "a significant redevelopment project for the people of Serres and a vision of 100 years for the city that is becoming a reality," as it was described by the Mayor of Serres, Petros Aggelidis.

The renovation of the Dorilaiou street project included:

- paving the street, as well as the walkways leading to an existing pond, with Karystos schist stones and decorative elements
- creating a two-way paved bike road
- creating tactile paving for the visually impaired
- installing a lighting network and lighting posts
- installing outdoor benches and two fountains with potable water, built with natural stone slabs.



0.6 Funding of Forest Management Studies in Nestorio

Announced in June 2017, this is a funding project for the development of five Forest Management Studies in the Nestorio Municipality. It supports the livelihoods of ca. 3,000 people living in the area, as the research will enable them to continue sustainable logging and other forestry practices. The studies also ensure the environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of forests for present and future generations.

The Nestorio Municipality was unable to commission new Forest Management Studies after the previous ones expired in 2016. These studies are necessary for forestry practices, as they specify the forest management models to be applied and the expected timber volume to be cut by place and time.

Consequently, up-to-date Forest Management Studies in Nestorio are essential for locals to continue with sustainable logging. These studies will be valid for at least 10 years. And besides ensuring the livelihoods of locals, they will also contribute to sound environmental management and promote regional development.

The announcement of TAP's donation was welcomed by the local community. The Mayor of Nestorio, Mr. Paschalis Getsios, stressed the project's necessity and importance, as it ensures jobs for loggers, carriers and lorry drivers, while also boosting municipal revenue.



0.7 Facilitating Beach Access for Persons with Disabilities in Avdira and Donating Cleaning Equipment

To enhance the quality of life for the people of Avdira, in the summer of 2017 TAP helped build a special SEATRAC ramp to facilitate beach access for Persons with Disabilities (PWD). In addition, TAP donated equipment to clean the surrounding coastline and improve environmental management in the area. The investment was implemented via TAP's partner, the Network of Social Solidarity, and amounted to a total of more than €100,000.

The SEATRAC mechanism was installed at the "Leukippos" beach in Avdira, close to the local Vocational Education and Training School for Persons with Disabilities; a primary school for PwD; as well as a special school for the blind.

The mechanism is comprised of a seat that moves on a rail, allowing persons with mobility impairments to swim in the sea independently or with the help of a carer. Taking a holistic approach, TAP also helped to build a wooden access passage, changing rooms, and a shower.

These initiatives aim to improve both the quality of life for PwD, as well as environmental management in the wider area. The Mayor of Avdira, Giorgos Tsitiridis, as well as representatives of local PwD associations, thanked TAP for implementing a much needed project for their community; a project promoting social inclusion and integration, as well as the area's natural beauty.



0.8 Sponsorship of Road Safety Seminars in Schools

Between May 2016 and March 2017, TAP sponsored a Road Safety Seminars programme, attended by more than 25,000 elementary and high-school students from all three Northern Greek Prefectures traversed by the pipeline: Western Macedonia, Central Macedonia and Eastern Macedonia-Thrace. Safety is TAP's No1 priority and by supporting this project, TAP promotes the vital practice of road safety from an early age.

The Road Safety Seminars programme was organised and implemented by the Hellenic Institute of Transport (IMET/EKETA), with the participation of students and teachers from more than 142 elementary schools and 60 high-schools. The two-hour seminars were delivered by 36 instructors –transportation engineers and expert educators– using tailored educational material for every age group.

The younger children learned about core safety rules, like using the road network as pedestrians, cyclists or passengers, while the teenagers familiarised themselves with rules and regulations that they should be aware of as future drivers of motor vehicles.

TAP supported the project in the context of its commitment to complying with internationally recognised health and safety standards and best practices.

The merits of the programme for the students attending the seminars and the society at large were highlighted by the IMET/EKETA Research Director, Dr. Georgia Ayfantopoulou, who thanked TAP for its collaboration and support.

In the same context, local stakeholders acknowledged TAP's effort to engage and cooperate with project affected communities; and to raise awareness among school children on optimal and safe day-to-day commuting.



0.9 Support to Greek Emergency and Rescue Services

TAP is a proud supporter of Greek Emergency and Rescue Services. Over the years, TAP has donated almost €100,000 in equipment and other kinds of support for

- **the Civil Protection Service in Evros.** TAP donated emergency gear and personal protective equipment (PPE), as well as a remotely controlled unmanned drone to facilitate searches in inaccessible areas.
- **the Voluntary Disaster Response Team (ETAK) in Kastoria.** TAP donated emergency and rescue material, including tents, radiocommunications equipment, suits, gurneys, defibrillators, generators and ropes.
- **the Fire Service of Central Macedonia.** TAP donated €59,000 for specialised equipment, as well as the maintenance and full restoration to operational capacity of the fire-fighting fleet in the Central Macedonia Prefecture. For its contribution, TAP received an Honorary Award.
- **the Hellenic Rescue Team:** TAP also donated gear and equipment to the Kavala branch of this Thessaloniki-based NGO that has been performing voluntary search-and-rescue missions since 1978.

Modern equipment is key in ensuring the safety of rescue workers as well as people in danger.





SEI Programme in
ALBANIA



TAP will support a wide range of projects across communities traversed by the pipeline.

TAP's Social and Environmental Investment (SEI) Programme in Albania amounts to €14 million.

Projects will focus on four areas:

- Quality of life of local communities, with an emphasis on school rehabilitation
- Capacity building in sectors relevant to the communities crossed by TAP
- Livelihoods, with an emphasis on initiatives in agriculture
- Donations and emergency response

TAP representatives are in continuous dialogue with local communities and all levels of government to develop mutually agreed SEI projects that support the community's own development priorities.

Discover some of the SEI projects implemented in Albania.

0.1 TAP Renovates Fier School Sports Facilities

The sport facilities of the "Andon Profka" school in the Seman village, Fier, were in poor condition. In 2015, TAP decided to offer the 270 students attending this school and the community completely renovated sport facilities. In addition to the school gym, TAP also improved the schoolyard and the school roof.

The rehabilitation of the "Andon Profka" school reinforces TAP's pledge to strengthening training and education facilities. TAP supported the entire renovation process: evaluating the school conditions, preparing the repair plan, appointing a contractor, purchasing new sports equipment for the gym facilities, etc.

The renovation activities lasted four months and were undertaken by Filipi sh.p.k., an Albanian company. Approximately 15 people were employed in the process and the project was commissioned in May 2015.

A small ceremony attended by local authorities, members of the local community and TAP representatives marked the opening of the refurbished sports facilities. Students performed traditional dances and songs and school officials acknowledged TAP's involvement in enhancing training conditions.



0.2 Rehabilitation of the "7 Dëshmoret" School in Roskovec

The "7 Dëshmoret" school is located in the Struma village, part of the Roskovec Municipality. Built in 1997, it had never been renovated. Thanks to TAP's investment in refurbishing this school, 290 students and 14 teachers now benefit from modern study conditions. An additional 50 students are expected to attend the school given its increased capacity.

TAP's rehabilitation works were designed to completely renovate the two-storey building with an internal surface of approximately 2,000 m² and an external area of 2,900 m². Works included installing a new fire alarm system and emergency exit stairs, making this one of the first schools in Albania to have an evacuation system in line with international standards.

Additionally, the building insulation is expected to improve the school's energy efficiency. Existing doors and windows have been replaced, new electrical, water supply and sewerage systems have been installed and the number of toilets has been increased.

The school renovation started in June 2017. The project was implemented by an Albanian company, B-93, engaging over 120 employees. Abkons, TAP's Contractor for Project Management Services related to implementation of SEI Construction Projects, including design, supervision, subcontractors management and commissioning, managed works.

The school was commissioned and handed over to the Roskovec Municipality in September 2017, ready for the start of the new academic year. Prime Minister Edi Rama, the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy Damian Gjiknuri, TAP management and other Albanian officials inaugurated the school in November 2017.







0.3 Rehabilitation of the “Fuat Babani” School in Bilisht

With over 800 students enrolled, the “Fuat Babani” High School is one of the largest schools in Bilisht, the Municipality of Devoll. Throughout the past decades, the school facilities gradually deteriorated. Caring about the needs of local communities, TAP decided to renovate this important school. In September 2017, the renovated high school welcomed students for another academic year.

The school comprised a main building and a gym. The renovation project boosted the school capacity by constructing two additional buildings, which accommodate new toilets and a technical room for the water tanks pumps and heating system.

The renovated facilities now have efficient thermoinsulation, a modern heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system, as well as new furniture for the classrooms. A modern fire safety system, emergency stairs, new windows and doors were also installed, the roof was rebuilt, and completely new electrical and water supply installations were fitted.

The project was implemented by Albanian joint venture AD-Star shpk & Kefa shpk which involved most of the workers from the local community. Abkons, TAP's Contractor for Project Management Services related to implementation of SEI Construction Projects, including design supervision, subcontractors management and commissioning.

The school was commissioned and handed over to the Municipality of Devoll in September 2017, ready for the start of the new academic year.



0.4 Rehabilitation of “Thanas Ikonomi” School in Grecalli, Fier

The “Thanas Ikonomi” school is located in the Grecalli village, the Municipality of Fier. Built in 1975, the school has been gradually deteriorating to the point that some of the students stopped attending it due to safety concerns. TAP decided to rehabilitate all interior and exterior school facilities. More than 210 students now study in much better conditions.

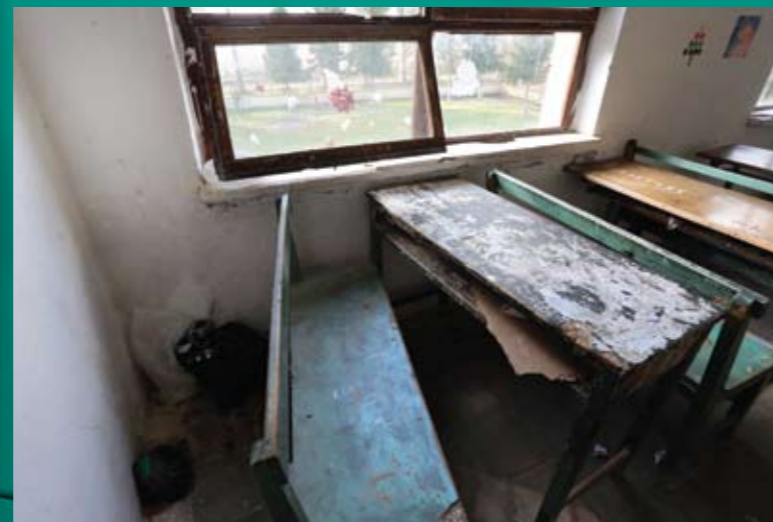
Works included wall plastering and tile laying; replacement of windows and doors; installing electrical and internet lines; bathroom repairs; etc. New furniture has also been purchased.

Special importance was also paid to energy efficiency and temperature control. This was achieved by insulating the twostorey building. In addition, emergency stairs and a fire safety system were installed, making this one of the first schools in the country to benefit from increased safety standards.

The works began in April 2017, and lasted four months. The project created approximately 70 jobs. A ceremony to inaugurate the renovated school took place in October 2017.

Albanian company Agbes shpk managed the renovation works, under the supervision of Abkons, TAP's Contractor for Project Management Services related to implementation of SEI Construction Projects, including design, supervision, subcontractors management and commissioning.





0.5 Road Health & Safety Awareness Programme

Road traffic continues to be one of the main safety issues in Albania. In 2016, 269 people lost their lives in road accidents. In response to this situation, TAP initiated an education and awareness programme focused on the students and communities along the pipeline route.

TAP's efforts to educate and raise awareness about road safety go beyond the mitigation of pipeline related construction risks. TAP aims to improve the safety culture across local communities by sharing experiences and good safety behaviours. By discussing safety in schools, TAP supports the Ministry of Education in changing behaviours and developing good habits from an early age.

The Safety Awareness programme included:

- 5 workshops with teachers from 70 schools
- 1,232 training hours for 154 teachers
- 1,851 students trained by experts
- 5,811 pupils trained by teachers
- 22,986 training hours on road safety to 7,762 pupils in 70 schools along TAP's pipe transportation route
- 1,000 artworks on HSE topics (drawings, essays) prepared by trained students
- 700 members of 18 communities attended road safety trainings
- 82 employees from 8 healthcare centres trained on first aid
- 800 safety brochures distributed in local communities
- 16,000 safety brochures distributed in 70 schools
- 50 safety corners placed in 50 schools.



0.6 Equipment to Fight Wildfires

During the summer of 2017, there were many wildfires across Europe. Albania was one of the worst affected countries, with wildfires reported along the pipeline route, in the Skrapar, Korca and Berat regions.

TAP received an official request to provide support from the Ministry of Energy and Industry and the Ministry of Interior Affairs. TAP responded to the Albanian authorities' call by making available fire extinguishers and uniforms within a short period of time.

TAP delivered the following items:

- 100 personal protective uniforms (including helmet, gloves, boots, balaclava, trousers, jackets)
- 600 backpack fire extinguishers.

This equipment enables firefighters to be more efficient when fighting wildfires, as well as reduce the risks of heat exposure. Emergency services across Albania received this equipment in August and September 2017.

Taking into consideration the high risk of fires during the summer season, in a second stage, TAP, in coordination with the Ministry of Energy and Industry, and the Ministry of Interior, will provide fire engines and ambulances which can access Albania's mountainous areas.



0.7 Construction of Two-lane Bridge in Çorovoda

The main bridge in the Albanian city of Çorovoda was narrow, in poor conditions and only allowed one-way traffic. The bridge facilitates access to the main hospital in Çorovoda and other touristic sights in this part of Albania. TAP constructed a two-lane bridge which now allows safer transport, supporting the local economy and tourism.

Over 15,000 people living in Corovoda and the surrounding villages as well as many tourists use the reinforced bridge every day. Tourism – an important source of income locally – also benefits substantially following this upgrade. Many tourists use this infrastructure over the summer, when visiting nature landmarks in southern Albania, such as the Osuni Canyon. The bridge is the only connection between the southern and northern parts of Corovoda.

The rehabilitation works lasted approximately three months. The bridge required a completely new structure, pile caps as well as installing an additional lane. The bridge was expanded to eight metres, comprising two lanes, three-metre-wide each, and two one-metre sidewalks.

The bridge inauguration ceremony on 1 October 2016 was attended by the Speaker of the Albanian Parliament Ilir Meta, the Mayor of Çorovoda Nesim Spahiu and local authorities.





0.8 Building of Panoramic Platforms, Osumi Canyon

Visiting the Osumi Canyon, one of Albania's most beautiful landmarks, was difficult and unsafe. TAP and the Albanian-American Development Foundation (AADF) partnered to build two modern panoramic platforms, enabling a better and safer access for over 15,000 tourists every year. The total investment amounts to 132.000 € and approximately 100 people were employed in the process.

Works included the construction of two viewing balconies by installing galvanised metal structures. Construction activities were conducted carefully, to avoid impact on the environment, respecting the canyon geologic structure and flora. The new panoramic structures over the Osumi canyon enable visitors to enjoy the magnificent landscape in a safe way.

TAP and AADF inaugurated the panoramic platforms - named "Flag's Panoramic Loop" and "Bride's Hole" - on 1 June 2017. The inauguration ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Skrapari, Nesim Spahiu, AADF co-CEO, Martin Mata, TAP Albania Country Manager, Shkëlqim Bozgo, as well as representatives of several organisations, businesses and local communities.

The two panoramic structures will allow tourists visiting the Skrapar area to have a bird's-eye view over the canyon, and above all, safe access. With the construction of the two panoramic structures, the town of Çorovoda and the surrounding Skrapari area envisage to attract even more tourists throughout the year, further supporting local communities.

PRG*BR Architecture designed the two platforms while Salillari LTD implemented construction works. Both are Albanian companies.



0.9 Launch of Professional Internship Programme

Aiming to ensure young professionals succeed beyond university auditoriums, TAP is running an internship programme in Albania. During a period of six months, a small group of talented students have the opportunity to work in the project's key departments and receive coaching from leading experts in the energy industry. The first round of TAP's Internship Programme was successfully concluded while the second round (July-December 2017) is under way.

The interns work within various TAP departments: finance; pipeline delivery; Health, Safety and Environment (HSE); stakeholder coordination; land easement, acquisition, and management; contracts and procurement; and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Interns are involved in actual project work matching their interests and abilities. Internship programmes are increasingly seen as a stepping stone towards entry-level employment.

TAP aims to identify, attract and possibly retain the best candidates, and help them develop their careers. The programme is part of the company's legacy in Albania. TAP is committed to enhancing the knowledge of young professionals, therefore supporting local human resources in Albania's rapidly developing energy sector.

The programme is endorsed by several leading universities in Albania.



10 Support to Families in Otllak Affected by Floods

In 2016, the area of Otllak, Ura Vajgurore, was impacted by severe floods. Understanding the needs of this community, TAP provided support to approximately 220 families by donating emergency packages.

11 Assistance during Harsh Winter

In light of the harsh 2016/2017 winter, TAP assisted approximately 1,300 families from 100 villages along the pipeline route and beyond. The initiative was implemented in collaboration with the Red Cross in Albania as well as the local authorities.

The initiative aimed to support those most in need following heavy snow falls. For each family, TAP donated emergency packages with five blankets and essential food. In total, approximately 6,000 persons received help in the Municipalities of Fier, Roskovec, Lushnje, Berat, Ura Vajgurore, Çorovoda, Poliçan, Korça, Devoll, and Maliq.

Engjëllushe Barolli, one of the residents in Bilisht said:

“Winter is always harder on poor families in remote villages. We are grateful to TAP for thinking of us in this very difficult situation.”

TAP started working with the Albania Red Cross in 2015, when the two organisations joined forces for supporting families affected by floods in the Berat region.





SEI Programme in
ITALY



In cooperation with local and regional stakeholders, TAP has designed a tailored social and environmental investment (SEI) programme.

TAP is carrying out valuable SEI projects for a sustainable development of Salento and Puglia and for the support to capability building and high excellence education.

Projects will focus on:

- Livelihoods, with an emphasis on the tourism, agriculture and fisheries;
- Environmental management, with an emphasis on issues linked to tourism, agriculture and the marine environment;
- Community quality of life, with an emphasis on services and infrastructure.

Discover some of the SEI projects implemented in Italy.



0.1 TAP Start: Grants for Local Organisations

TAPStart supports the ideas of local communities in the Lecce province. The programme run by TAP, offers several small grants to non-profit organisations implementing projects in the areas of sports, culture, environment and social issues. TAP has invested a total of €200,000 in 2016 for seven local projects, which are now all under implementation and carried out by Melendugno local associations. €400,000 has been made available in 2017 for the TAPStart second edition, enlarging the geographical base for applications to the whole Lecce province.

Stracultour, one of the projects financed under the 2016 investment programme, ran three educational tours for two schools in Lecce in March 2017. The association introduced nearly 250 students and teachers to local landmarks, including the Acaya village, with its fortified walls and castle; the archaeological area of 'Roca vecchia (cfr. Old Roca); and the Poesia cave (a marine cave representing a worship place to the Messapians, an ancient local tribe). TAP endorsed the project as it raised awareness around cultural itineraries not known to local people. Additionally, the initiative enhanced the skills and knowledge of the local community, especially those of the younger generations.

As part of another project, a three-day workshop with international tour operators was organised in Melendugno. The event aimed to boost the number of tourists coming to the region and attract foreign visitors.

The call for submitting projects for the second TAPStart edition was open between 1 June to 31 August 2017. All relevant information and submission documentation is available at: www.tapstart.it

Following the submission stage, TAP and a panel of independent experts in the different sectors of the programme evaluate and shortlist the winning projects.

With this call, TAP supports the best ideas coming from organisations which are rooted in the local community. Using a bottom-up approach, TAP aims to contribute in a tangible way to the social and economic growth of the area.

0.2 MENA: Training in Restaurant Management

Through the MENA programme, 15 restaurant owners and managers in the Lecce area received high-level training in restaurant management, cooking techniques and the transformation of food products for their staff. Implemented between January and April 2017, the project, brought together top-rated chefs and local restaurant owners and managers, ultimately supporting the local economy and tourism.

As part of this SEI Programme, TAP is supporting the food & beverage sector – a key element of the touristic offer in Italy. Tourism is a major contributor to the local economy. TAP wants to have a positive impact on the local economy by strengthening the livelihoods of local communities in a way that is sustainable, leverages local assets and emphasises local heritage.

MENA (or “Master of Excellence in New Food”) was designed to enhance the service quality in the tourism and hospitality sectors. 15 restaurant owners and managers from the Lecce Province, including Melendugno and other municipalities of the project area, attended 136 hours of course modules including: the management and administration of a catering business, wine and oil tasting, service and reception, food intolerances, etc. The course also comprised visits to top-rated restaurants, traditional taverns and vineyards, to collect on-the-field experience of successful business.

Additionally, the top three course participants received individual counselling in revamping their restaurant concepts, including advice on beefing up the menu and retraining staff.

MENA was designed together with RP Consulting, an Apulian communications and marketing agency specialised in food and beverage services, and in collaboration with important partners, including the Italian Foundation of Sommelier, the Association of Donne del vino Puglia (winemaker women association), Bar Project Academy and H.Q.F. Quality Food.

TAP launched a call for applicants in October 2016. The call for applications was supported by an advertising campaign focused on the Lecce area, featuring a launching event, adverts in newspapers, online, social media and a dedicated website. www.mena-mastertap.it

A second edition of MENA vocational training has been launched in December 2017. TAP will organise a 140-hour excellence course dedicated to restaurant owners, managers and local professionals working in the food/industry sector. The new training will start in January 2018. For further details please visit www.mena-mastertap.it



mena!

MASTER d'ECCELLENZA per la NUOVA ALIMENTAZIONE



0.3 Reducing Marine Litter – Libera il Mare

Through a range of scientific, operational and awareness activities, TAP's marine litter program aims to study and remove marine litter on an approximately 20km stretch of the Adriatic coast (municipalities of Vernole, Lecce and Melendugno). The project is developed with CoNISMa (the National Interuniversity Consortium for Marine Sciences) via its Research unit based in the Marine Biology and Zoology department of the University of Salento. The preliminary study phase, which TAP supported with a €50.000 investment, was conducted between February and July 2017. The multi-year programme, which envisages a wide range of activities, such as collection and disposal of marine litter, awareness campaigns and scientific research to contrast the spread of plastic waste over beaches and seabed, is currently under development.

The programme's overarching goal is to reduce marine litter as well as mitigate the threats to marine ecosystems.

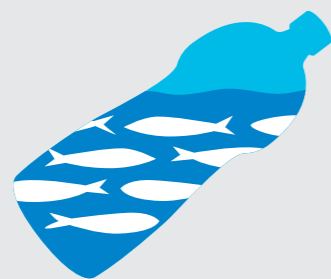
Local fishermen, tourism entrepreneurs, members of the Melendugno community and tourists who choose Melendugno as their holiday destination will benefit most from the Marine Litter programme.

The general focus is to:

- Build knowledge of marine debris patterns through targeted research.
- Increase marine debris awareness through environmental management awareness campaigns and stakeholder involvement.
- Survey and - at a later stage - remove marine litter from beaches, rocky coast and seafloor.
- Support long-term marine litter management by preparing guidelines for local authorities and relevant stakeholders.

TAP and its partner carried out the programme's preliminary phase over the first half of 2017. This first step aimed to assess marine litter present in the project area. The results of the qualitative and quantitative surveys provided an estimate of the amount of marine litter, and its approximate weight. This pilot study acts as the starting point for planning appropriate marine debris monitoring programmes in the upcoming years.

The preliminary phase also included an awareness campaign in local schools. During interactive classes, 320 children received information about the marine environment and threats caused by marine pollution. Students also learned about the importance of preventing marine litter. Special gadgets and information materials were also delivered to the classes.



Libera il Mare

Pulizia delle spiagge e cultura ambientale



0.4 TAP Academy: free courses for local communities

To boost sought-after business skills, TAP supports free courses for the local communities in Lecce. By enrolling in the TAP Academy, approximately 50 participants can enhance their knowledge of English, computer science or social media marketing, competences constantly required on the local job market. The TAP Academy is a capacity building programme and is already at its second edition.

Following the success of the first round of free courses in English and ICT (information and communication technology) / computer science, organised in April 2017, TAP broadened the scope to include social media marketing, a key element in helping local businesses elevate their audience and customer base.

The ICT / computer science courses comprise basic and advanced modules and prepare participants for the European Computer Driving License (ECDL) exams.

The English courses are split into basic English as well as English for the tourism industry (intermediate level).

The courses are provided by well-known local companies and training institutions.



The graphic is a promotional flyer for TAP Academy. It features a blue and green gradient background. On the left, it lists 'corsi GRATUITI di INFORMATICA' and 'INGLESE' with their respective course topics. On the right, it displays the TAP ACADEMY logo, the slogan 'Adesso imparare è più facile.', and key details: registration until September 11th, open to all citizens of Lecce, contact numbers 0832 834981 and 0832 249721, and the Trans Adriatic Pipeline logo and website.

corsi GRATUITI di
INFORMATICA

- preparazione ECDL European Computer Driving Licence
- social media marketing

INGLESE

- corso base
- inglese per il turismo

TAP ACADEMY
Adesso imparare è più facile.

iscrizioni fino a esaurimento posti
dall'11 settembre

aperti a tutti
i cittadini della Provincia di Lecce

per informazioni
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