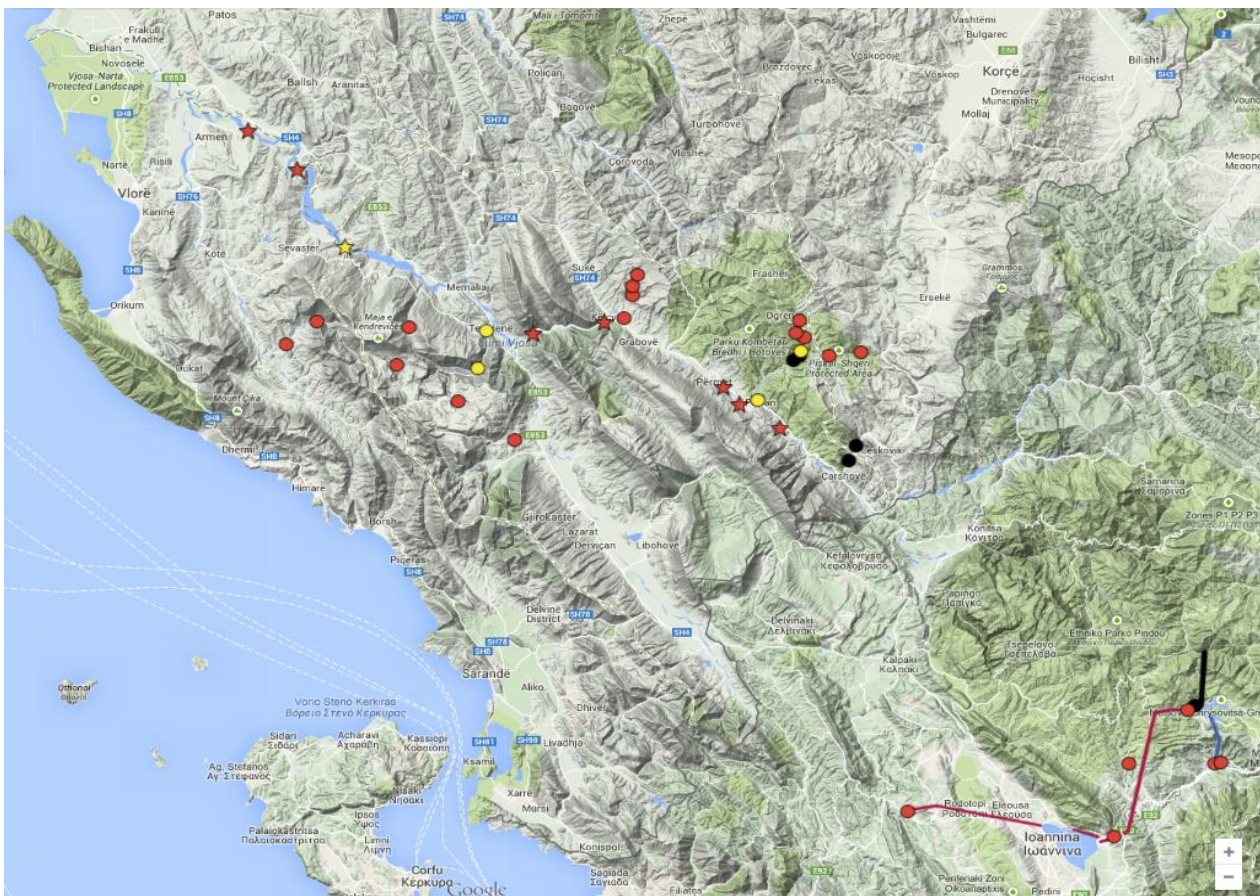


# The Vjosa River

## BEAUTIFUL, UNKNOWN AND THREATENE

### Threats

Dam construction currently constitutes the major detrimental threat of this area. 8 dams are planned along the Vjosa itself while 23 additional HPPs are projected on its tributaries - 4 of which are already finished while another 4 are under construction. Thus, a total of 38 HPPs are foreseen in the Vjosa catchment: 6 new dams are projected on the Greek side of the catchment, while there is only one existing, the Pigai large Dam and 31 on Albanian territory.



*On the map above are presented hydropower plants in the Aos-Vjosa Basin, Source: Ministry of Environment in Albania, PhD study Water Deviation and Research on Aaos-Boidomati River Systems- Dimitris Leontaritis*

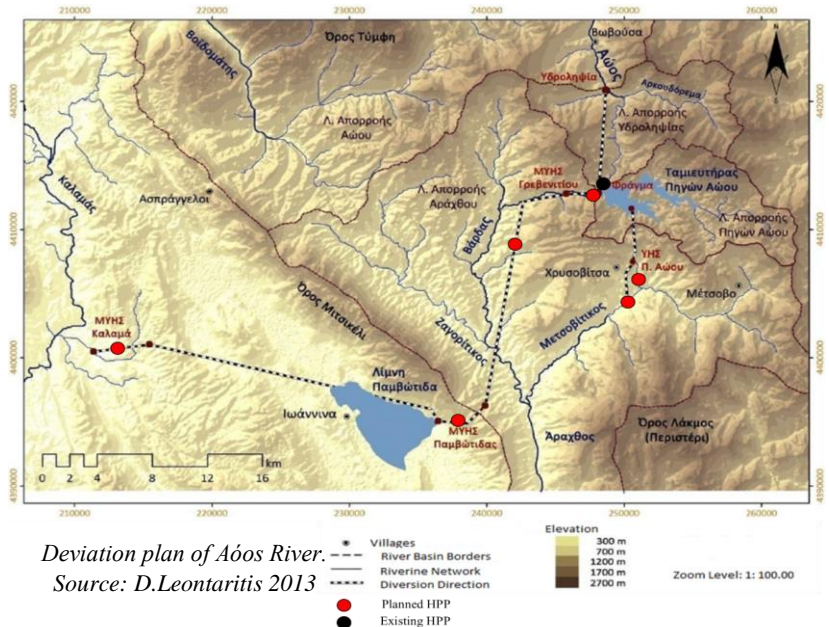
## SAVE THE BLUE HEART OF EUROPE – THE BALKAN RIVERS

### Aoos - Projects in Greece

The first interference with the Aoos river was the construction of the Pigai HPP, very close to the Aoos' main source, in 1984. Approximately 100 million m<sup>3</sup> of water is retained annually and supplies the lake of Aoos' Hydroelectric Station.

There are new plans to deviate another 70 million m<sup>3</sup> annually from Arkudoreuma, the main tributary of the Aoos River. This deviation is twofold: 50 million m<sup>3</sup>/year will be channeled from Pigai reservoir to Ioannina Lake and then released into the Kalamas River and another 20 million m<sup>3</sup>/year will be diverted through the Pigai reservoir into the Metsovitikos River. 4 HPPs are planned along the first diversion and another 2 along the second.

So in total, **6 new HEPPs are planned**, while one is already built: the large HPP of Pigai.



### The Kalivaç project

The first projected hydropower plant that entered the implementation process is the Kalivaç project close to the city of Tepelena. The concession of the Kalivaç dam was given in **1997** but the construction was halted several times. Initially, the main source of funding was the Italian Becchetti Group and the Deutsche Bank.



Currently, construction works are on hold once again (which they have been for the past 4 years), and the level of completion is still only at 30%.

However, according to the plans of the Ministry of Energy, HPP Kalivaç is only one out of 8 large dams (Ministry of Trade and Energy of Albania, 2008) to be built along the Vjosa River.

*Viosa River. Downstream Kalivaci Construction site. Photo: B.Hoxha*

## SAVE THE BLUE HEART OF EUROPE – THE BALKAN RIVERS

### HPPs on Tributaries

In total, 23 HPPs are projected along all of Vjosa's tributaries. Constructions of 4 of them have already started.

6 HPPs are to be built along the Langarica River, two of which have already been finished while one is under construction. Three HPPs are located inside the "Hotova Fir National Park". Contractor is the Austrian company ENSO Hydro.

Along the Bënça River, another tributary to Vjosa, 5 HPPs are projected. Two of them are already under construction. Constructor is the Italian company Ferrar.



Langarica River, Langarica HPP Construction site. Photo: B.Guri

List of the planned hydropower projects along the Vjosa River and its tributaries. (Source: Albanian Ministry of Environment)

No.	Company Name	River Basin	HPP Name	Location	Tributary	Water intake (m <sup>3</sup> /s)
1	"Hasi Energy" sh.p.k	Vjose	Langarice 1	40°15'57.28"N 20°28'37.34"E	Langarice	
2	"Hasi Energy" sh.p.k	Vjose	Langarice 2	40°15'38.80"N 20°28'4.30"E	Langarice	
3	"Ballkan Green Energy"	Vjose	Smokthine	40°18'28.80"N 19°45'28.02"E	Smokthine	
4	"Ballkan Green Energy"	Vjose	Barmash	40°16'16.15"N 20°34'9.74"E	Barmash	0.45
5	"Ballkan Green Energy"	Vjose	Rajan	40°15'59.53"N 20°31'18.07"E	Rajan	0.514
6	"Albania Green Energy"	Vjose	Smokthine	40°16'49.07"N 19°42'44.57"E	Smokthine	1.9
7	"Hasi Energy" sh.p.k	Vjose	Langarice	40°17'18.10"N 20°29'3.27"E	Langarice	
8	"Radici Energie" sh.p.k	Vjose	Progonat-Lekdush	40°12'39.03"N 19°58'8.25"E	Bence	
9	"Radici Energie" sh.p.k	Vjose	Bence (Nivice)	40°15'17.53"N 19°52'38.28"E	Bence	
10	"Radici Energie" sh.p.k	Vjose	Bence (Salari)	40°18'7.03"N 19°53'43.29"E	Bence	
11	"Peshku Picar 1" sh.p.k	Vjose	Picar 1	40° 9'49.39"N 20° 3'6.99"E	Kolonja	0.4
12	"Energia Pulita" sh.p.k	Vjose	Gostivisht	40°18'35.28"N 20°28'37.13"E	Langarice	0.9
13	"Energia Pulita" sh.p.k	Vjose	Langarice	40°16'20.10"N 20°28'46.81"E	Langarice	1.5
14	"Energia Pulita" sh.p.k	Vjose	Ura e Dashit	40°17'42.84"N 20°28'17.65"E	Langarice	8
15	"Tulla T" sh.p.k	Vjose	Radove	40° 9'21.52"N 20°33'40.06"E	Carshove	
16	"Tulla T" sh.p.k	Vjose	Carshove	40° 8'14.24"N 20°33'5.30"E	Carshove	
17	"Ferrar" sh.p.k	Vjose	Bence	40°15'5.22"N 19°59'50.25"E	Bence	
18	"Ferrar" sh.p.k	Vjose	Tepelene	40°17'51.83"N 20° 0'39.53"E	Bence	
19	"Qeramika e Jugut"	Vjose	Shtika 1	40°21'55.99"N 20°14'8.78"E	Shtika	0.7
20	"Qeramika e Jugut"	Vjose	Shtika 2	40°21'4.27"N 20°13'41.70"E	Shtika	0.7
21	"Qeramika e Jugut"	Vjose	Shtika 3	40°20'30.70"N 20°13'42.93"E	Shtika	0.3
23	"Qeramika e Jugut"	Vjose	Shtika 4	40°18'44.15"N 20°12'56.90"E	Shtika	0.5
24	"Kalivaç Energy"	Vjose	Kalivaçi	40°23'58.77"N 19°48'1.43"E	Vjose	
25	License NOT Given	Vjose	Badëlonja	40°12'25.05"N 20°23'16.25"E	Vjose	
26	License NOT Given	Vjose	Kaludhi	40°10'39.34"N 20°26'55.06"E	Vjose	
27	License NOT Given	Vjose	Përmeti	40°13'39.92"N 20°21'51.05"E	Vjose	
28	License NOT Given	Vjose	Këlcyra	40°18'25.88"N 20°11'8.07"E	Vjose	
29	License NOT Given	Vjose	Dragoti	40°17'33.50"N 20° 4'49.10"E	Vjose	
30	License NOT Given	Vjose	Poçemi	40°29'35.76"N 19°43'43.82"E	Vjose	
31	License NOT Given	Vjose	Selenica	40°32'31.06"N 19°39'18.94"E	Vjose	