

Roadmap for Biomass-Based District Heating PPPs in Kosovo

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Purpose

Structured guide for municipalities

Institutional roles

Compliance with PPP Law

Promote sustainable heating

Why Biomass District Heating?

Reduces pollution

Uses local biomass

Improves reliability

Supports renewable goals

PPP Framework in Kosovo

Legal base:

- Law No. 04/L-045 on PPP
- Law No. 05/L-052 on Thermal Energy
- Law No. 05/L-084 on The Energy Regulator
- Law No. 03/L-040 on Local Self-government
- Law No. 08/L-258 on the Promotion of the Use of Renewable Energy Sources

Key actors:

- Municipality
- PPP Unit
- PPPC (PPP Committee)

Key criteria:

- Transparency
- Value for money
- Affordability

PPP Legal & Institutional Framework

- PPP Law No. 04/L-045 allows PPPs in energy infrastructure
- PPPC approval required for value-for-money & affordability
- PPP Unit provides technical support and oversight
- Municipalities & public utilities may serve as Contracting Authorities

Energy & Renewable Energy Legislation

Law on Thermal Energy regulate district heating

ERO licenses generation/distribution & sets tariffs

 Renewable Energy Law (2024) aligns with EU green objectives & WB Green Agenda

Introduces sustainability criteria for biomass fuels

Municipal Responsibilities & Local Procedures

- Municipalities have exclusive authority over heating services
- PPPs require Municipal Assembly approval & multiyear budgeting
- Public utilities (POEs) play key roles in service delivery
- Asset leases and restructuring require local oversight

Overview of the PPP Roadmap

- Project identification
- Feasibility study
- Approvals
- Tender preparation
- Procurement
- Monitoring

Project Identification

- Identify needs
- Assess demand & biomass
- Pre-feasibility screening
- Consult PPP Dept
- Engage donors / IFIs
- Secure political buy-in

Feasibility Study Purpose & Compontnets

- Mandatory under law
- Technical, financial, legal, environmental & social analysis
- Demand & technical aspects
- Legal & institutional
- Financial model
- Risk & PPP structure
- VfM analysis

PPP Unit Review and PPPC Approval

- PPP Unit
 - Compliance check
 - Recommend improvements
 - Competency check
- PPPC
 - Affordability
 - Risk allocation

Tender Preparation

Transaction advisors

• RFQ, RFP, Draft PPP Agreement

- Two-stage procurement
 - RFQ: shortlist bidders
 - RFP: detailed proposals

Bid Evaluation & Contracting

- Technical & financial scoring
- Select preferred bidder
- Refine terms
- Ensure bankability
- Financial close

Construction & Commissioning

Design approvals

 Review and validation of final engineering designs to ensure compliance with technical standards, regulatory requirements, and project specifications.

Supervision

 On-site oversight of construction activities to ensure adherence to approved designs, timelines, and quality benchmarks.

Performance testing

 Execution of functional and operational tests to verify that systems, and infrastructure perform according to design requirements

Operation & Monitoring

- Contract Management Team
- KPIs & reporting
- Environmental compliance

- Contract adjustments:
 - Variations
 - PPPC approval for major changes

Key Success Factors

Strong feasibility

Transparent tender

Clear risk-sharing

Skilled monitoring team

Barriers & Enabling Factors

- Barriers: tariff affordability, procurement complexity, supply risks
- Institution Coordination challenges
- Enablers: strong PPP law, donor support, EUaligned reforms
- Successful pilots (e.g. Gjakova biomass plant) show feasibility

Concluding remarks

- The PPP framework is clear and investment-conducive
- PPP model remain significantly underutilized
- There is strong potential to apply PPP model in Kosovo's district heating sector
- Investments in biomass district heating supports renewable goals
- Limited local capacities for managing PPP processes