

## Information package about compensation for over headline (OHL) affected households regarding the acquisition of land

The expropriation process for the project impacted land for OHL is implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Infrastructure in compliance with Law No.03/L-139 on Expropriation of Immovable property. The public hearings regarding this process were organized by the Ministry at the beginning of 2019. In addition SOWI Kosovo, in collaboration with other central and local institutions organized a series of outreach activities in municipality of Mitrovicë, Village of Bajgorë and municipality of Vushtrri. During these meetings, the public and the community were provided with information about the OHL project, environmental and social assessment, project impacts and mitigation measures tailored to minimize the impacts identified through earlier conducted studies.

On 17 December 2019, Kosovo government issued the final decision Nr.05/115 on expropriation representing final phase of land acquisition for the OHL. By the end of 2019, Ministry of Environment and Infrastructure submitted individual land compensation packages to all the OHL project affected landowners. MEI has identified all affected land owners through cadastre lists and distributed compensation packages via mail. If you are an OHL land acquisition affected household and did not receive the evaluation documents, then you may reach out to Expropriation Department at the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, (former Rilindja building) on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor, and obtain your evaluation package. You may also reach Expropriation Department via telephone number: 038 200 32023

In order to honor best practices in land acquisition projects, and in compliance with EBRD Performance Requirements standards, SOWI Kosovo procured certified local experts to conduct further studies and ensure that project affected households are compensated fairly for the loss of assets and farming activities that they may face due to project activities. The evaluation of these assets occurred during January 2020, having previously informed local communities through meaningful engagement with local community leaders. Affected households were reached out via mass media communication means (TV and local radio), and many were contacted individually. The outcomes of these evaluations are described in a specific study called the Land Acquisition and Livelihood Resettlement Plan (LALRP), which was prepared by SOWI and approved by European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in March 2020. This plan explains the approach and the methodology used to ensure fair compensation.

In this envelope you will find pertinent information about your entitlements and benefits. Besides the evaluation act and land compensation value distributed by the MEI, SOWI is providing additional compensations for losses mentioned above, as further described in more detail in the LALRP. Documents enclosed reveal the compensation you are entitled to, as well as other information regarding the energy production benefits. This envelope also contains a brief description of the project and a summary of the LALRP. The full documents with further information can be found on SOWI's website: [www.sowikosovo.com](http://www.sowikosovo.com)

You are encouraged to act promptly upon receiving this compensation package, in order to finalize the land acquisition agreements and obtain your benefits. Signing off the agreement requires for you to submit land ownership documents, authorization from the landowner if necessary, copy of identification card, bank account confirmation and other required documents depending on the specific case, please call us on the number that is revealed below to receive aid on acquiring the needed documents and completing the compensation application.

Construction of foundations and assembling the wind turbines will take about 70 weeks/18 months and connecting them to the grid will take about 2 weeks.

Additionally, duration of the activities for the installation of the OHL and the substation is estimated at 14 months, from March 2020 to April 2021.

Should you have any questions, comments or queries, you may reach out to SOWI project staff, at +383 49 955 533, send email to [info@sowikosovo.com](mailto:info@sowikosovo.com), or visit the SOWI office in person at the address below.

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