

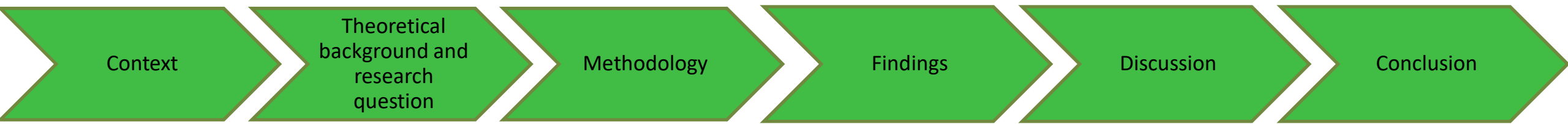
**Decentralization policies of natural resources  
management in Albania. What impacts on the local  
farming systems?**

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I. Context

II. Theoretical background and research question

III. Methodology

IV. Findings

V. Discussion

VI. Conclusion



- Albanian diversity of landscapes and biodiversity has a high heritage and identity value.
- This richness of natural and environmental heritage is an asset for national economic development.
- As a former communist country, historical dynamics of the management of the natural re-sources were characterized by important reforms (like collectivisation and de-collectivisation), which constitute discontinuities in their management.



- Land market and other issues such as lack of development of products with comparative advantages in the European markets, structural improvement of agriculture linked to land ownership and inappropriate agricultural practices are identified by recent research.
- Currently, environmental challenges are the conservation of natural resources and sustainable economic development.



- Landscapes and biodiversity are closely linked across habitats and ecosystems, and the role of agriculture in their dynamics is of major importance (Angeon et al., 2007).
- Recent research shows that regulation of public natural resources becomes untenable when economic, political and social contexts change (Huband et al., 2010).



## **Research Question**

What are the consequences that the decentralization policies have brought to the sectors of development and environmental protection at a very local level in Central Albania?



Administrative Unit	Divjaka	Terbuf	Gradisht	Rremas	Grabjan
Nb of farmer	17	9	21	19	4

Stage 1

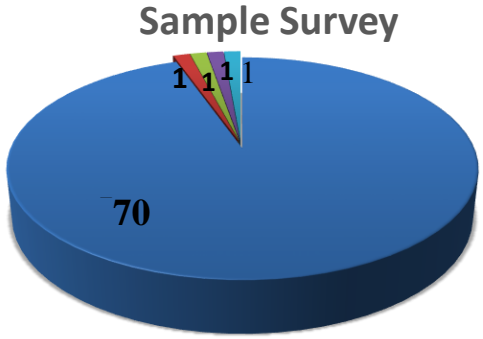
- Literature research and landscape analysis

Stage 2

- Analysis of local production systems
- Identification of the characteristics of each farming system

Stage 3

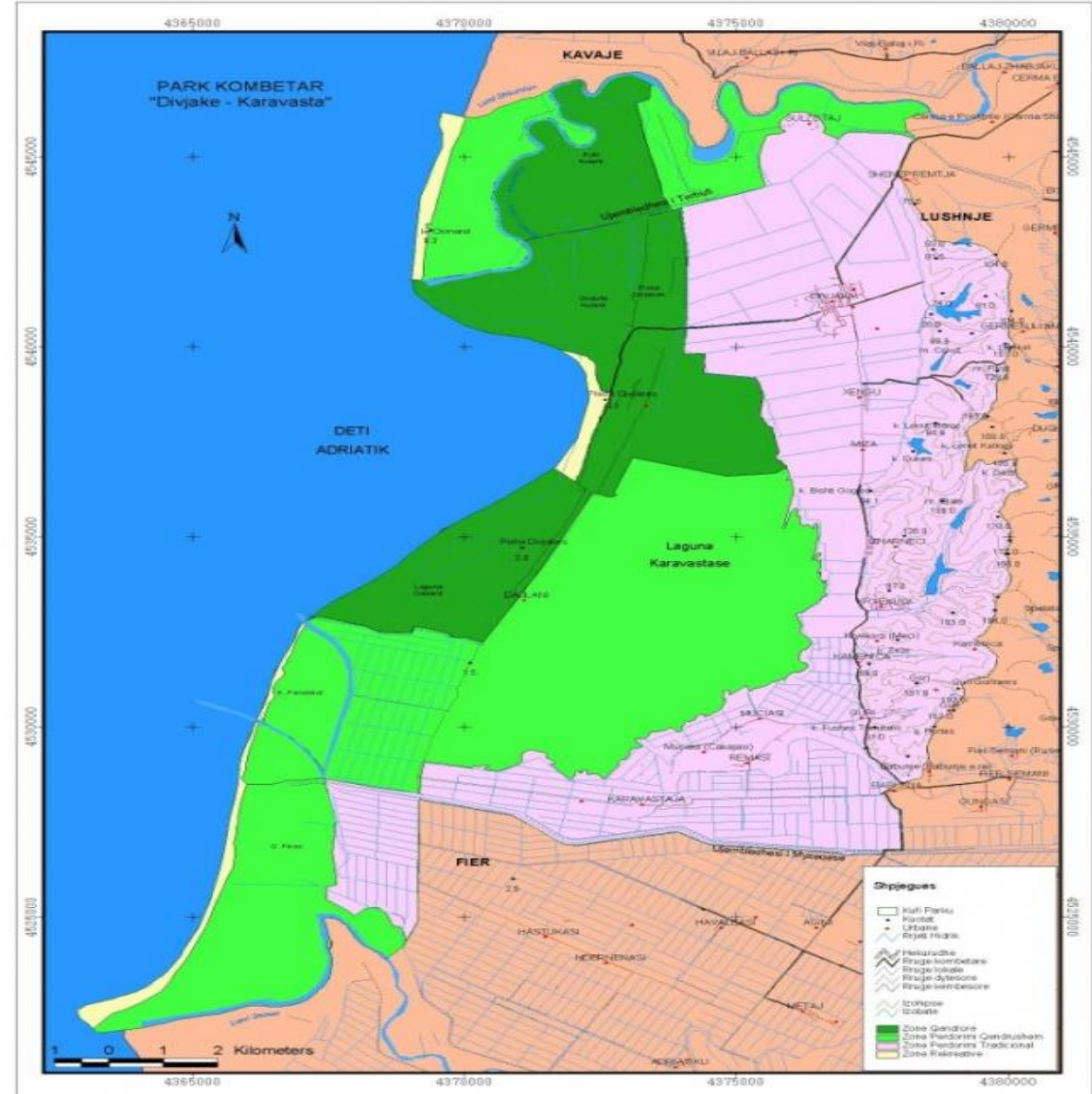
- Analysis of the results and discussion



- Farmers
- Tourism and Environment Ministry
- Divjaka Municipality
- Lushnja Municipality
- Divjaka National Park



# Study area



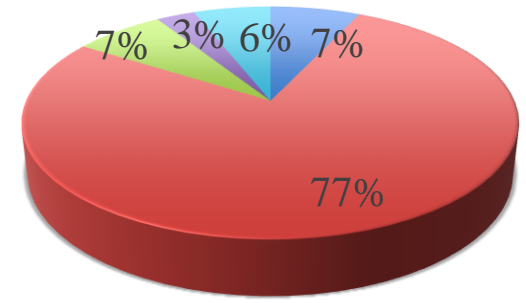


# Study area



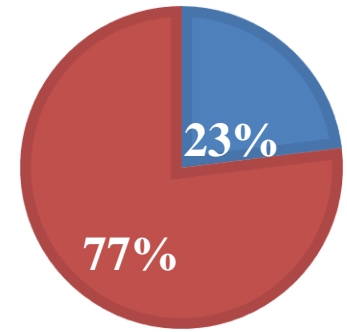


### Location of land according to administrative unit

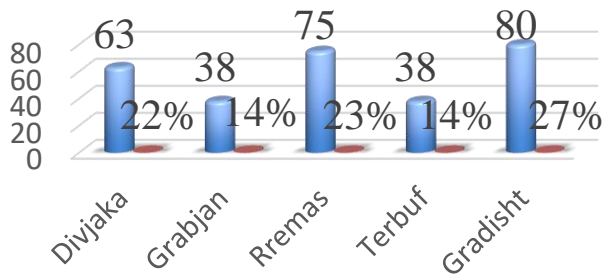


### SURFACE HA

■ Owned ■ Renting



■ Divjaka ■ Grabjan ■ Gradisht ■ Terbuf ■ Rremas

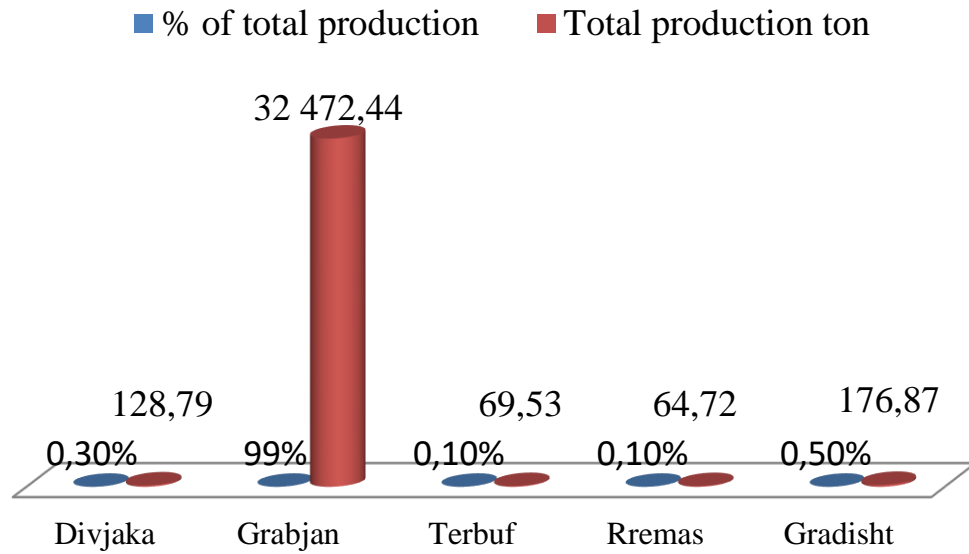


■ Number of parcels ■ % of total parcels

Administrative unit	Divjaka	Grabjan	Rremas	Terbuf	Gradisht
Owned surface Ha	21.7	25	24.8	9.9	24.8
Rented surface Ha	10.5	336	5.6	2.9	6



### Total agricultural production of study zone

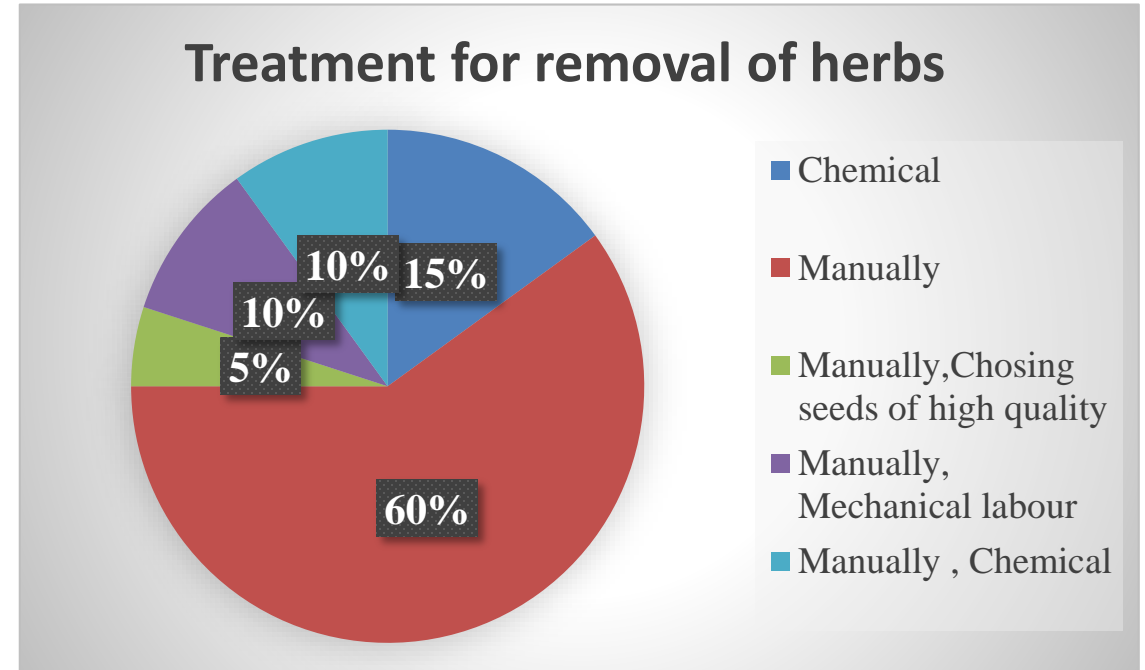
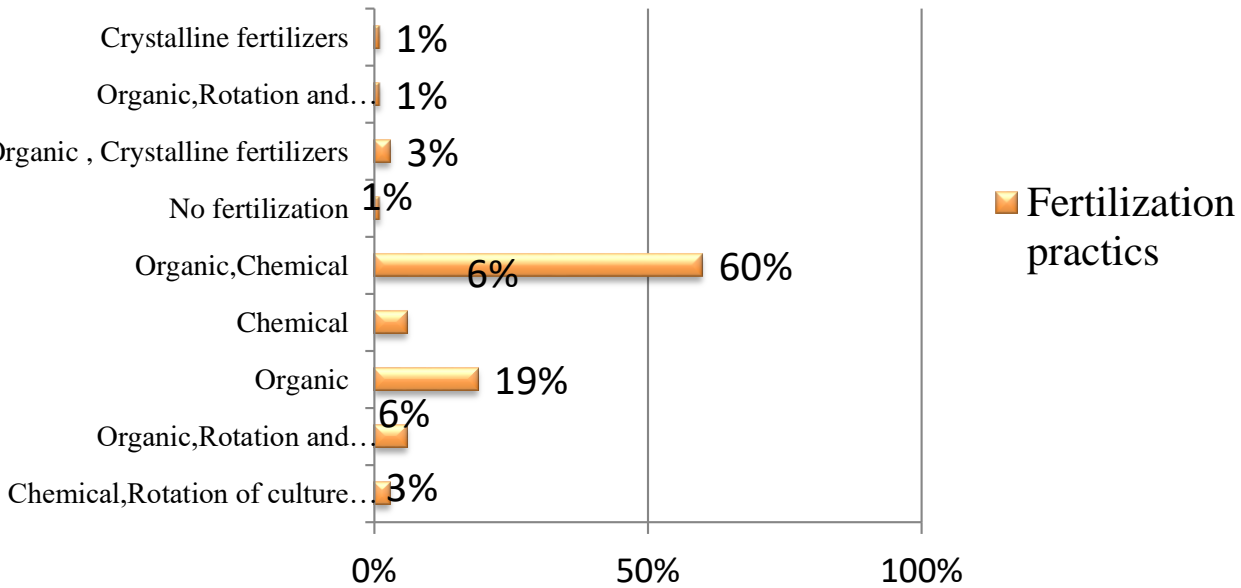


- There are two markets where agricultural products are traded.
- 30% of the farmers have the market of 7 to 14 km, 29% of them of 20 to 20 km, 22% or 16 farmers have a market of 22 to 28 km.
- Agriculture is the main activity and most of the population is involved in this activity. 66% of the surveyed farmers have no other source of income other than agriculture, 21% are retired, 9% have income from migration and there are a small number of farmers employed in public institutions.

Administrative unit	Divjaka	Grabjan	Terbuf	Rremas	Gradisht
Production of Fruit Ton	7.5	26000	1	3.5	
Production of Vegetables Ton	117.56	2.1	63.72	58.55	51.45
Production of Fodder Ton	2	7200	1.43		106.25
Production of Cereals Ton	1.73	3270.3	3.38	2.67	19.17

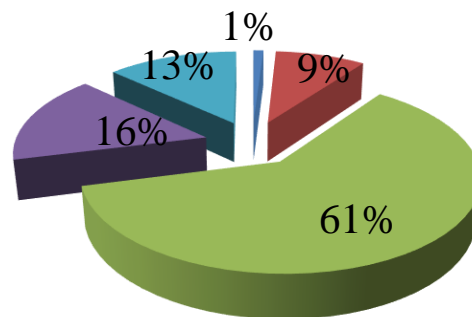


### Fertilization practices



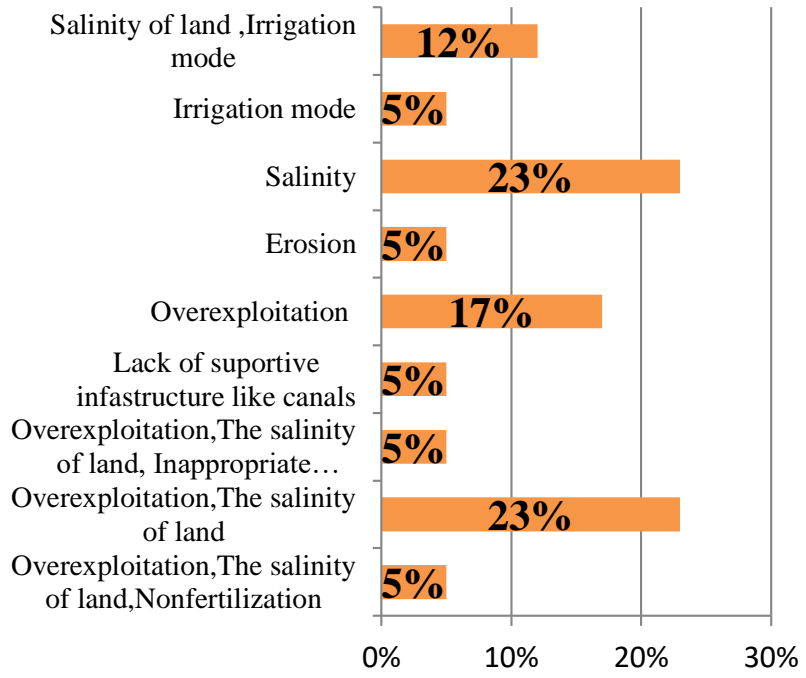
### Quality of chemical

■ No Chemical 
 ■ Very 
 ■ Enough 
 ■ Less 
 ■ Not at all



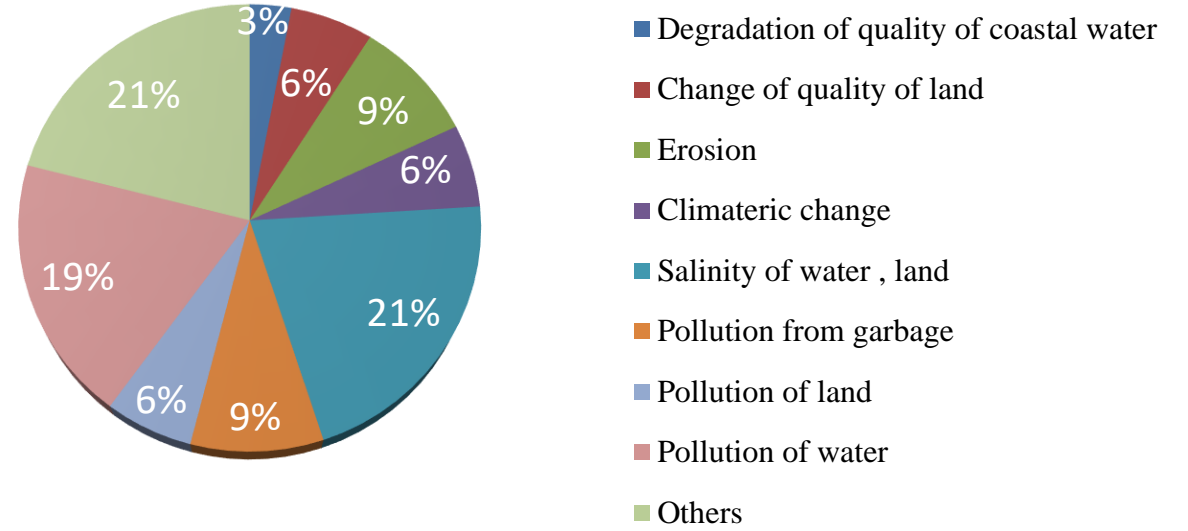


### Reasons of degradation

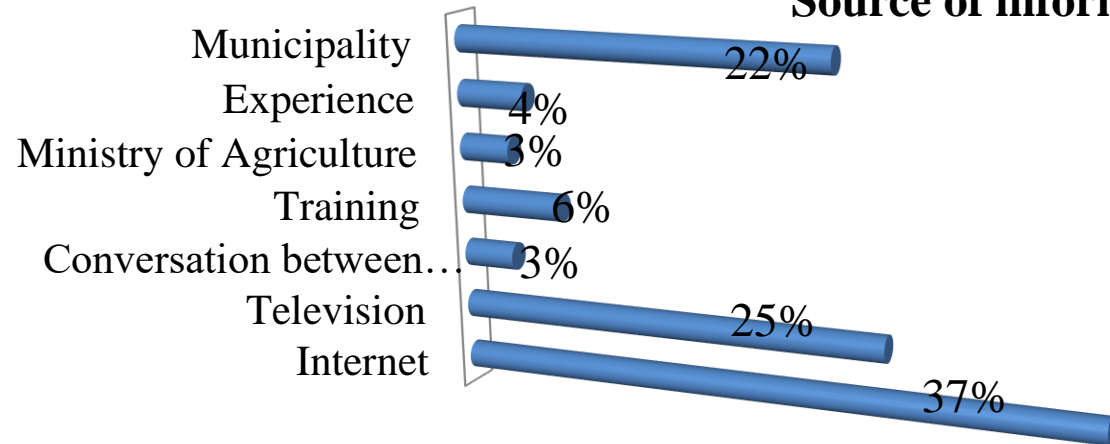


Reasons of degradation

### Characteristics of pollution



### Source of information







- There is a potential labour force but only 44 % of them are employed in agriculture.
- Even if this region is one of the most productive areas, the farmers do not participate in association or cooperatives.
- The productivity of this area is composed in two pillars: agriculture and livestock.
- The principal productions are vegetables and greenhouses, fodder, cereals and fruit corps.
- The incomes from agriculture and livestock are measured only with the amount of product traded in market.



- The results show that the perspective of natural resource management has changed over time and has been in line with EU legislation while the focus has been on the adaptation of directives and decentralization of natural resources.
- By analysing the legal framework changes at the national and local level we can conclude that frequent institutional changes of the natural resources management may create instabilities leading to a non-efficient management of the resource.



**THANK YOU**

