

Annex 3: Framework for reporting identified practices

	Section	Indication of Content
1	Title of the practice	Designing a natural gas pipeline. Advocacy to final decision makers
2	Precise theme/ issue tackled by the practice	The way that public organizations and local societies can put pressure on political decision makers on national level.
3	Objectives of the practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the actors involved in the procedure of designing a natural gas pipeline • Identify the ways of communication among the involved parts • Identify instruments of advocacy which were used in the specific case
4	Location	Greece Region of Epirus
5	Detailed description of the practice	<p>-The increasing need of the E.U. for natural gas has given ground to the idea for the creation of a "Southern Corridor" for natural gas supply from the countries of the Caspian Sea. The creation of a pipeline from Turkey to Italy through Greece is one of the alternatives examined.</p> <p>-The on shore pipeline will be constructed by the Greek National Natural Gas System Operator. The off shore section of the project, including its supporting facilities (metering station, compression unit) will be constructed by "IGI Poseidon S.A.". The Italian company Edison and the Greek DEPA hold a 50% stake each in "IGI Poseidon". Other stake holders involved are the Ministry of Environment, that should approve the designs, the Parliament that should vote for new relevant legislation, the Municipalities that should give their official opinion and people who can take part in public consultation.</p> <p>-The original designs for the pipeline were given for consultation and caused serious objections from the local society at Thesprotia. The basic reasons were the construction of the compression unit very close to a village and the danger for the destruction of a beach of natural beauty. The area around that beach is touristic and the inhabitants have already invested on activities concerning tourism.</p> <p>-The society in Epirus was also having considerations because it wasn't clear if the pipeline would also be used for</p>

		<p>supplying Epirus with natural gas or if it would just transfer gas through Epirus.</p> <p>-The Region of Epirus, and the Municipality of Igoumenitsa share many of the considerations of the local society.</p> <p>-When the Municipality of Igoumenitsa was officially asked by the company their opinion about the pipeline, they proposed an other place for the construction of the compression unit and alternative places from which the pipeline could pass. That opinion was also expressed in meetings in the Ministry of Environment</p> <p>-The President of the Region of Epirus was present at a meeting of the Parliament Committee for Production and Commerce about the pipeline and supported the ideas of constructing the compression unit to an other place, use the pipeline to supply the Region of Epirus with natural gas and protect the interests of local people and the environment.</p> <p>-Residents of the villages where the pipeline was proposed to reach the sea and the compression unit to be built, organized protests and informed about their opinion the local Parliament representatives. Moreover, they expressed their considerations during a meeting they had in the Ministry of Environment</p> <p>-Local representatives in the Parliament are aware of the issue and have participated in meetings about it at the Ministry of Environment, the Parliament etc.</p>
6	Evaluation/results	<p>The pressure on the final decision makers was partly successful since we had the following results</p> <p>-The Ministry of Environment has announced that the compression unit will finally be created at the alternative place which was proposed.</p> <p>-It has been made clear that the pipeline will not be used just to transfer natural gas through Epirus, but also for the distribution of natural gas in Epirus.</p> <p>-The exact places from which the pipeline will pass to reach the compression unit have been finalized.</p>

		-However, the pipeline from the compression unit to the coast line hasn't been mapped out yet.
7	Lessons learnt from the practice	<p>-We can have positive results if a "group of allies" tries for the same purpose.</p> <p>-It is important that each one uses its own ways/instruments to influence the decision makers.</p> <p>-The coordination of the actions of all the "allies" is very important, but sometimes difficult to be achieved.</p> <p>-It is important to realize if all the "allies" are trying for exactly the same thing or for slightly different things. The difference in the goals might come to the surface later and cause serious problems.</p>
8	Contact information	<p>Batzias Nikolaos Region of Epirus Regional Unit of Thesprotia e-mail:nimpatzi@thesprotia.gr tel:+3026650-99863</p>
9	Other possible interesting information	<p>http://www.igi-poseidon.com/greece/project.asp</p>