

Analysis of selected aspects of underground coal mining in Albania and Serbia

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The goal of the study is to provide a theoretical background for actions allowing to reclaim the coal mined land and mitigate mining and post-mining hazards in Albania and Serbia.

The study will analyse the following aspects of mine closure:

- management and remediation of ground water and surface water drainage systems;
- prevention of air pollution;
- extinguishing and preventing underground coal fires or those that occur in waste dumps;
- monitoring of subsidence of mined lands and prevention of other ground surface movement;
- monitoring and remediation of chemical pollutants that may leach from mine waste dumps.





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Final study structure:

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Statement of the problem
- Importance of proper mine closure and hazard identification
- 3. Current situation of coal mines in Albania and Serbia
- Scale of coal extraction
- Number of active mines and types of extraction methods employed
- Number, types of inactive mines, and their closure status
- Number and types of mines set for closure
- The existing Governmental strategies on mine closure
- 4. General analysis of the local geological and mining conditions in Albania and Serbia

5. Identification of the problems related to mine closure

- Ground water and surface water
- Fugitive gases (e.g., methane, carbon dioxide)
- Underground coal fires and fires in waste dumps
- Monitoring of subsidence of mined lands and prevention of other ground surface movement
- Monitoring and remediation of chemical pollutants that may leach from mine waste dumps



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6. Recommendations on addressing the identified problems

- Management and remediation of ground water and surface water drainage systems
- Prevention of air pollution from fugitive gases (e.g., methane, carbon dioxide)
- Extinguishing and preventing underground coal fires and fires in waste dumps
- Mined lands subsidence
- Chemical pollutants from mine waste dumps

7. Analysis of a potential for repurposing mined land for future use

- Potential uses of the reclaimed mined land by local communities and businesses
- Costs and benefits of various options
- 8. Technical, principle-based guidelines for designing and implementing national programmes for an efficient, safe, and environmentally conscious mine closure
- The proposed scope, structure, content, and objectives
- Data and knowledge management
- 9. Conclusions

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THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION

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