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2017 UBT International Conference

Oct 27th, 4:45 PM - 6:15 PM

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Recommended Citation

Veseli, Besa; Gashi, Sami; and Shala, Shkumbin, "Monitoring of air quality in the urban and industrial areas in Kosovo" (2017). *UBT International Conference*. 133.

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Monitoring of air quality in the urban and industrial areas in Kosovo

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Abstract: Environmental pollution has a direct or indirect effect, and is mainly caused by human activity or environmental processes that have harmful effects in the environment and human life. In Kosovo the air pollution in Kosovo is quite evident in the industrial areas. The power plant of KEK (TCA and TCB), from the Cement Factory and ferronickel etc. In the vast majority of cases, the pollution is caused by the emission of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), azotes (NO_x), ozone, lead and other heavy metals, such as carbon monoxide (CO), dust, PM₁₀, PM_{2,5} and steamy organic components. The aim of this inquiry is to study the air pollution in urban and industrial areas and to take further measures for estimation of air emissions. This scientific paper will with analyze the effect of ferronickel in environment and the facilities in Kosovo Energetic Corporation as the main cause air pollution in urban areas. Based on the arguments provided from this study it is concluded that the main pollutants in urban and industrial areas are the power plants (Kosova A and Kosova B), industrial complex of Mitrovica, the circulation of cars in urban areas, Ferronickel in Drenas, the Cement Factory Sharcem of Han i Elezit. The process of monitoring the air quality it is conducted by the Hydro-Meteorological Institute and some of the economic operators such as Ferronickel and KEK.

Key words: monitoring air quality, air pollution, urban and industrial areas

Introduction

In Kosovo, the quality of air is damaged in developed urban areas and especially in industrial areas. In Kosovo, the greatest impact on the environment is caused by KEK power plants (TCA and TCB), Feronikeli, Sharcemi, other plants with small capacity and heating system. A great concern for environmental pollution is also inherited industrial waste and urban waste dump, etc. The most influential areas in the environment are the areas where the thermo-energy and metallurgical as well; Obiliq, Drenas, Mitrovica, Pristina, Hani i Elezit

Today, the industry in the country is mostly polluted by sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions, nitrogen oxides (NO_x), ozone (O₃), lead (Pb), carbon dioxide (CO₂), dust, smoke, particles PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and dioxins.

In fossil fuel facilities, mainly fossil fuels are used, such as coal and high sulfur compound oil derivatives. The transport sector is characterized by a large number of outdated vehicles and the use of low quality fuels (in most cases). In addition, the industry sector in most cases uses old equipment. The agriculture sector contributes to air pollution mainly through the burning of biomass. Areas where their waste and uncontrolled burns are thrown out represents a serious source of air pollution.

In addition, the sources of pollutant emissions in the air comes from all industrial and commercial categories, other activities, motor vehicles and also sources from biogenic vegetation emissions. In Kosovo, the quality of air is damaged in the developed urban areas, especially in industrial areas. The greatest impact on the environment is caused by KEK's thermal power plants (TCA

and TCB), industries (metallurgy, mines, cement factories, etc.) and small ones, but pollution is also caused by individual heating facilities. Mitrovica is also counted among the major sources of pollution basen on the consequences of industrial waste left over from the Trepça complex..

Material and methods

The measurements were made at the automatic air quality monitoring station located at the IHMK site, which is equipped with automatic analyzers of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O₃), suspended particulate analyzer PM₁₀ / PM_{2.5} (with fractionator for PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, depending on which faction is placed to be monitored). While the data for the city of Drenas were taken from the air monitoring station in Drenas.

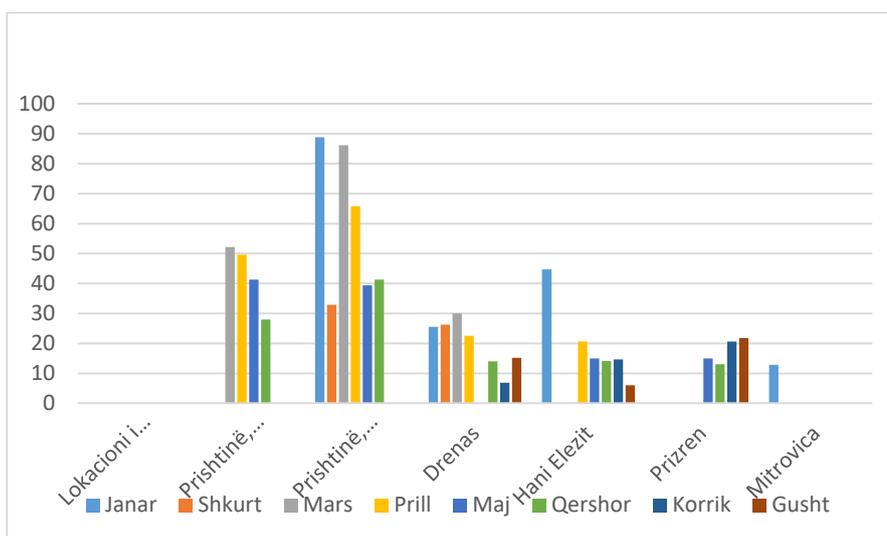
The purpose of this study is to present the data on atmospheric pollution in the cities of Pristina and Drenas and the factors that influence the environmental pollution. These parameters have been measured: sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO).

Results and discussions

Assessment of NO₂ pollution Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) as well as Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) are an integral part of smog and causes of acid rain. They are generated by combustion of coal, oil and its derivatives. Each of them penetrates very easily into the human body and can cause lung disease, and increase the likelihood of viruses, as well as irritation of eyes or skin. The presence of NO₂ in urban areas is mainly due to the increase in road and rail transport.

The table below shows the average annual NO₂ concentration values against the allowed average annual value.

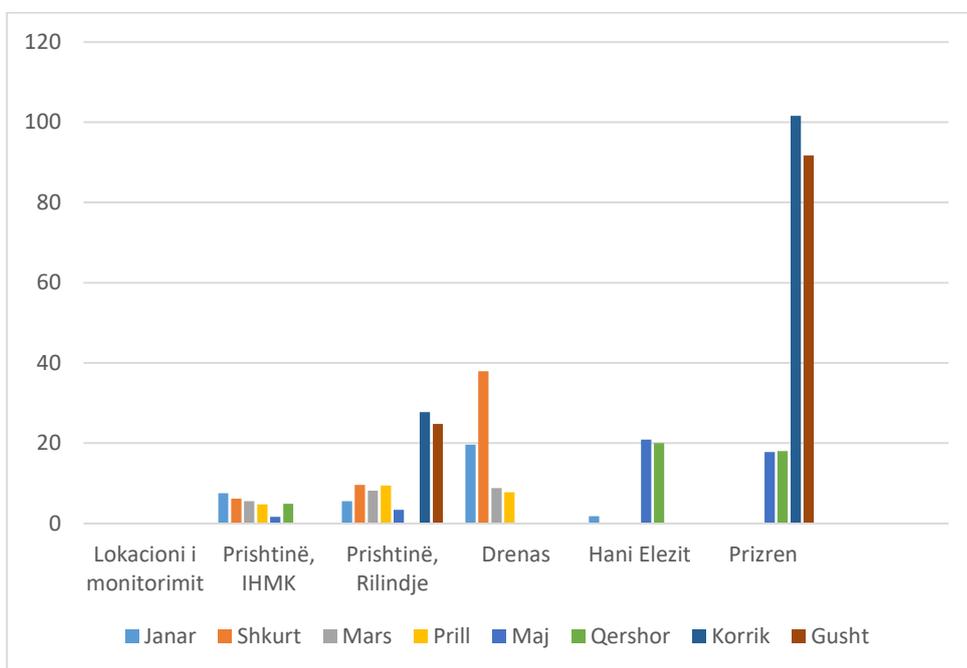
Colum	Muaji	Janar	Shkurt	Mars	Prill	Maj	Qershor	Korrik	Gusht
Lokacioni i monitorimit	Mes.mujore								
Pristinë, IHMK				52.2	49.6	41.3	28		
Pristinë, Rilindje	88.9	32.9	86.2	65.8	39.4	41.3			
Drenas		25.5	26.3	30	22.5		14	6.88	15.22
Hani Elezit		44.7			20.6	15	14.1	14.6	6
Prizren						15	13	20.6	21.8
Mitrovica		12.8							



Assessment of air pollution by sulfur dioxide (SO₂)

Sulfur dioxide is released from burning fossil fuels (industry, households, transport). Sulfur dioxide causes acidification of soils, streams and lakes and affects damage to construction materials, including cultural heritage.

Column	Muaji	Janar	Shkurt	Mars	Prill	Maj	Qersho	Korrik	Gusht
Lokacioni i monitorimit	Mes.mujore								
Prishtinë, IHMK		7.5	6.2	5.50	4.7	1.6	4.9		
Prishtinë, Rilindje		5.5	9.6	8.12	9.4	3.4		27.7	24.8
Drenas		19.6	37.9	8.8	7.8				
Hani Elezit		1.8				20.9	20		
Prizren						17.8	18	101.6	91.7

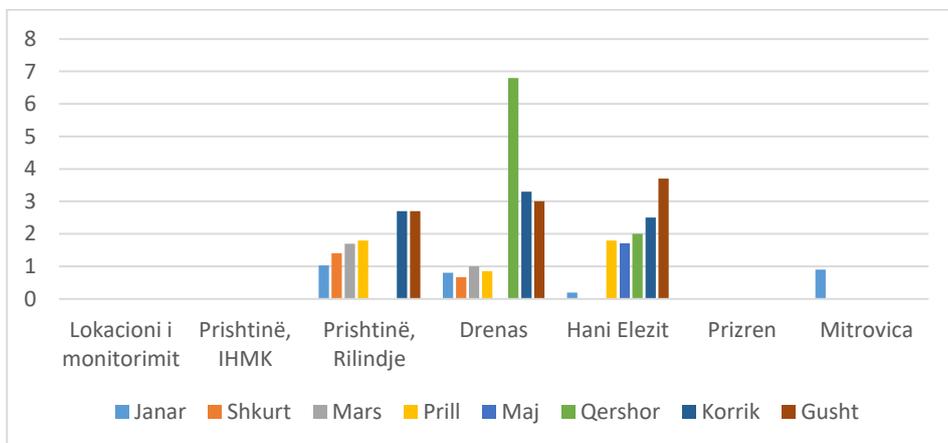


Air Pollution Assessment by Carbon Monoxide CO

The main sources of CO air pollution are: Vehicles (as the largest CO emission), fuel burning (coal burning, liquid fuels, natural gas and wood) Industrial processes (refineries, furnaces, paper factories and facilities for the production of construction materials).

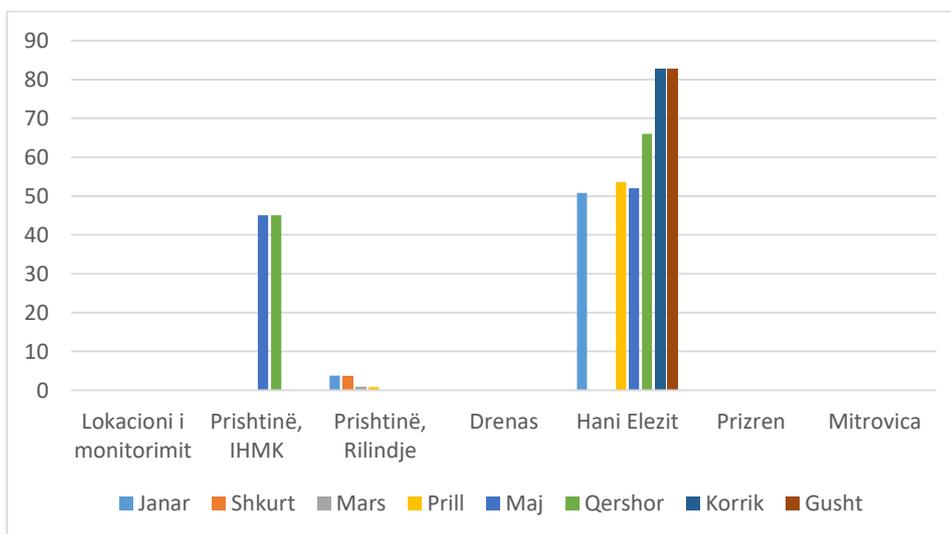
The high concentration of CO can provoke many pathological changes in people (in the blood, nerves, sight, etc.) and can cause death. Data have shown that CO concentration in the air between 7.8 ppm- 13.9ppm increases the number of deaths by heart attack.

Colum	Muaji	Janar	Shkurt	Mars	Prill	Maj	Qershor	Korrik	Gusht
Lokacioni i monitori	Mes.mujore								
Prishtinë, IHMK									
Prishtinë, Rilindje		1.03	1.4	1.7	1.8			2.7	2.7
Drenas		0.8	0.67	1.0	0.85		6.8	3.3	3.0
Hani Elezit		0.19			1.8	1.7	2	2.5	3.7
Prizren									
Mitrovica		0.9							



Ozon O3 (ug/m3)

Colum	Muaji	Janar	Shkurt	Mars	Prill	Maj	Qershor	Korrik	Gusht
Lokacioni i monitorimit	Mes.mujore								
Prishtinë, IHMK						45	45		
Prishtinë, Rilindje		3.8	3.8	0.9	0.8				
Drenas									
Hani Elezit		50.8			53.6	52	66	82.8	82.8
Prizren									
Mitrovica									

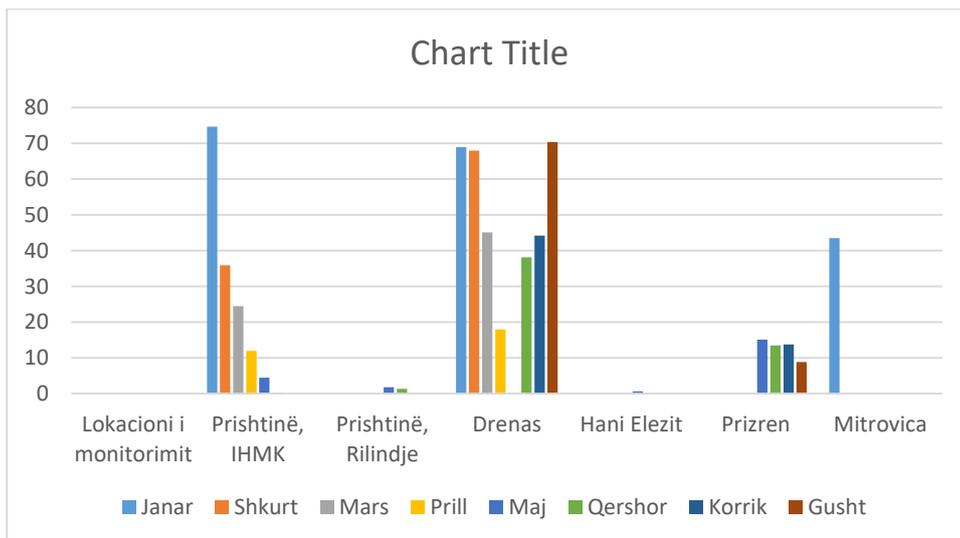


Suspended PM 10 particles ($\mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$)

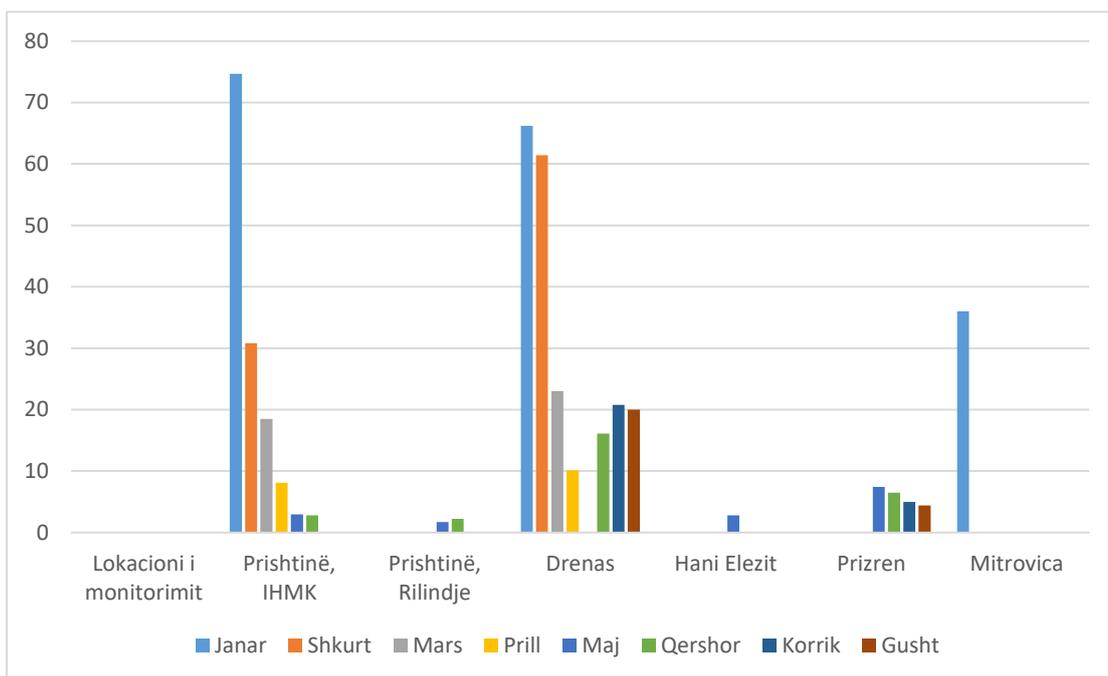
PM particles are particles found in the air that include dust, soot, smoke, and liquid droplets. Particles can stick to the air for long periods of time. Some particles are large that can be seen through the eyes like soot, dust or smoke. Others are so small that can only be detected with an electronic microscope.

Many artificial sources (operator, industry, transportation, etc.) and natural emits PM directly to the environment or emit other pollutants that react to the atmosphere to form PM. These solid and liquid particles come in a wide range of sizes

Colum	Muaji	Janar	Shkurt	Mars	Prill	Maj	Qershor	Korrik	Gusht
Lokacioni i monitorimit	Mes.mujore								
Prishtinë, IHMK		74.6	35.9	24.5	12.0	4.5	0.23		
Prishtinë, Rilindje						1.81	1.4		
Drenas		68.9	67.9	45.1	18.0		38.1	44.2	70.3
Hani Elezit						0.62			
Prizren						15.1	13.5	13.8	8.9
Mitrovica		43.5							



Colum	Muaji	Janar	Shkurt	Mars	Prill	Maj	Qershor	Korrik	Gusht
Lokacioni i monitorimit	Mes.mujore								
Prishtinë, IHMK	74.7	30.8	18.5	8.1	2.97	2.8			
Prishtinë, Rilindje					1.7	2.2			
Drenas	66.2	61.4	23	10.1		16.1	20.8	20	
Hani Elezit						2.8			
Prizren						7.4	6.48	5.0	4.4
Mitrovica	36								



Conclusions

The rapid economic and social changes in our country after the 1990s were accompanied by significant changes in the structure of air pollution and pollution sources. In most cases, pollution occurs in the form of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions, nitrogen oxides (NO_x), ozone (O₃), lead (Pb) and other heavy metals, carbon monoxide (CO), dust, smoke, particulate matter PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, volatile organic compounds (KOA / VOCs), dioxins, etc.

The annual average (µg / m³) of NO₂ in both cities, both in urban and suburban communities, is below the annual limit value (40µg / m³).

The concentration of SO₂ in the air in both the ports of Drenas and Pristina is within given standards by the Directive 2008/50 / EC on air quality. At the monitoring station in Drenas in the monitoring period during 2011, the concentration of SO₂ is higher compared to the SO₂ concentration at the monitoring station in Pristina during the same year.

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