



Country: Albania
UNDP Earthquake Social Protection Response

Project Title:	Strengthening the social protection response after the earthquake in Albania
Initiation Plan Start/End Dates:	15 February 2021
Initiation Plan Start/End Dates:	30 August 2022
Implementing Partner:	UNDP Albania

Brief Description: “Strengthening the social protection response after the earthquake in Albania” project addresses social inclusion, protection and the needs of the most vulnerable groups impacted by the November 2019 earthquake. The project will increase social and economic resilience of earthquake affected communities. Social protection services will integrate measures that aim for community resilience and increased transparency and voices. The project will support the government and local authorities to develop strategies and action plans to respond to social issues in emergencies; and will empower and support through integrated social and employment services and transparency mechanisms, people and families impacted by the earthquake, living in poverty, people with disabilities, children, women, elderly, youth, ethnic minorities, people in rural areas and other vulnerable categories. It excludes cash based schemes, thus focusing mainly on integrated social care services with linkages to employment, livelihood and income generation, support for farmers and inclusive education.

Programme Period:	2021-2022	SDG Acceleration Fund:	965,909 USD
Atlas Project Number:	00123357	Government of United Kingdom & Government of Netherlands etc.	
Atlas Output ID:	00129800	Total Contributions:	965,909 USD

<p>United Nations Development Programme Ms. Limya Eltayeb, Resident Representative 15-Feb-2021</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>Signature: <u> <i>Limya Eltayeb</i> </u></p>
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1. SITUATION ANALYSIS

The November 2019 devastating earthquake which hit Albania, according to Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) report, affected more than 200,000 people across 11 municipalities, with 51 fatal cases and 913 people injured, with an estimated material damage of EUR 955 million. Social protection losses, mainly referring to governance, coordination, and disaster management as well as referrals, psycho-social counselling and social care services, are estimated at 623.5 thousand EUR (76.7 million ALL) in the Albanian Post Disaster Needs Assessment Report. The total needs of the sector are estimated at 2.83 million EUR (348.2 million ALL).¹ Shocks and risks have important implications for people's well-being. Not only do they lead to immediate losses in income and increases in poverty rates, but they also have longer-term effects that can be irreversible. As households struggle, they engage in coping behaviors such as selling of productive assets, skipping meals or eating less nutritious food, postponing medical care, and taking children out of school. By preventing people from falling below a critical threshold of well-being, and reducing households' perception of risk, social protection can prevent transitory shocks from having permanent consequences. The project will support the Albanian Government and three earthquake impacted municipalities, in designing and translating the policy intent into proper local actions to ensure that men, women, girls and boys living in poverty, or vulnerable situations, intersecting with post-earthquake conditions, have access to integrated, quality social services. **To achieve this goal, the project focuses on the following outcome: all women, men, girls and boys, especially those from marginalized and vulnerable groups impacted by the earthquake, are exercising their entitlements to equitable quality services, in line with human rights and there is increased social and economic resilience of earthquake affected communities.** The project will contribute to address any of the multidimensional impacts of the COVID-19 and to protect the needs and rights of people living under the duress of the pandemic, with focus on the most vulnerable groups, and people who risk being left behind.

2. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The project will be implemented through a direct implementation modality (DIM), namely the funding will therefore be fully managed by UNDP Albania. The UNDP Deputy Resident Representative will be responsible for assuring qualitative management and results of the project while UNDP programme and project management policies and procedures in the Programme and Project Management Section of the Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures are complied with, and that the approved resources are used in accordance with UNDP financial rules and regulations as set out in the Financial Resources Management Section of the Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures. The activities will be implemented in close coordination with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MoHSP).

MONITORING

The activities are subject to review and reporting in accordance with UNDP monitoring and evaluation procedures. The activities will be managed and monitored based on qualitative and quantitative progress indicators, set out in the work plan and will indicate the extent of progress towards the completion of activities. UNDP Albania will be responsible for preparing the progress reports (substantive and financial) as needed.

3. COMMUNICATION

By using a plethora of communication channels and tools, the project will seek to underline the assistance and investment provided by all to address the efforts in strengthening social and economic resilience, transparency and voices and the social protection system response to disasters and ensure that no one is left behind in the areas affected by the November 2019 earthquake in Albania. The communication plan will seek to highlight the impact of the intervention on human lives.

The communications will ensure that it reflects that this project is a complement to the MoHSP and municipalities efforts in translating the policy intent into proper local actions to ensure that men, women,

¹ Council of Ministers, EU, UN, WB. *Albanian Post Disaster Needs Assessment Report, Volume A.* 2019

girls and boys living in poverty, or vulnerable situations, intersecting with post-earthquake conditions, have access to integrated quality social services.

4. PROJECT OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

The partners have identified the following areas to support the Government's efforts in responding to earthquake damages by social protection measures:

Output 1. Increased social and economic resilience of earthquake effected communities.

Activity 1.1. Support the government develop and strengthen central and local social strategies to respond to social issues in emergencies (develop protocols of work for social care providers to respond to different groups, needs and vulnerabilities in disaster situation).

Activity 1.2. Support volunteering mechanisms and self-help initiatives to contribute to community resilience and recovery efforts.

Activity 1.3. Develop an Integrated employment/livelihood and social services model for affected vulnerable citizens to recover and start life in post-earthquake setting.

Activity 1.4. Support at least 200 households through Integrated employment/ livelihood and social services model.

Output 2. Strengthened transparency and voices.

Activity 2.1. Develop Community Platforms to promote transparency on emergency response and gender responsive recovery effort, and participatory decision-making in planning, prioritization and recovery activities.

Activity 2.2. Generate evidence by local communities through Community Platforms of the gaps in services as a particularly powerful tool for more inclusive and sustainable social protection interventions, by provision of small grants to activists and NGOs and engaged leadership of women and women's organizations in crisis and recovery.

Activity 2.3 Support recovery and resilience through call for proposals and grants provided to NGOs in partnership with municipalities in urban/semi-urban/rural areas - reaching at least 50% of the vulnerable HH impacted by the earthquake (while linking social care to: Inclusive education services; Psychosocial services; Rehabilitation Services for Persons with Disability in the affected areas; Community based social services for the most vulnerable; Family based social services).



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5. WORKPLAN & BUDGET

Output	Activity	Timeframe					PLANNED BUDGET		
		Quarters 2021-2023					Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
<p>Output 1. Increased social and economic resilience of earthquake effected communities.</p> <p>Indicators: -Improved wellbeing of vulnerable HH. -Protocols of work for social care developed. -No of voluntarism and self-help activities organized by local NGOs and communities on reconstruction and recovery the local level.</p> <p>Targets: -At least 200 HH reached through integrated social care and employment services. -At least four voluntarism and self-help activities. -At least one model of Integrated social care and livelihood- and income-</p>	Activity 1.1. Support the government develop and strengthen central and local social strategies to respond to social issues in emergencies (develop protocols of work for social care providers to respond to different groups, needs and vulnerabilities in disaster situation).						UN SDG ACCELERATION FUND	Contractual services, ICs, expertise	69,000
	Activity 1.2. Support volunteering mechanisms and self-help initiatives to contribute to community resilience and recovery efforts.						UN SDG ACCELERATION FUND	LVGAs	40,000
	Activity 1.3. Develop an Integrated employment/livelihood and social services model for affected vulnerable citizens to recover and start life in new post-earthquake setting. (mediators' involvement)						UN SDG ACCELERATION FUND	Contractual services	85,600
	Activity 1.4. Support at least 200 households through Integrated employment/ livelihood and social services model.						UN SDG ACCELERATION FUND	LVGAs	300,000

<p>generating programme designed and supported with protocols. 30 municipal employees trained and coached to implement the model.</p>	<p>Sub-Total for Output 1 494,600</p>									
<p>Output 2. Strengthened transparency and voices.</p> <p>Indicators: -Enhanced organization of local communities (including vulnerable groups) to articulate their needs and fully benefit from the socio-economic opportunities for reconstruction and recovery. -No of small projects (grants provided) to activists and NGOs on social care services.</p> <p>Target: -At least 10% of issues/concerns addressed in the reconstruction planning and budgeting are raised by vulnerable populations. -Community needs articulated and addressed through 6 small projects (grants provided) by activists and NGOs.</p>	<p>Activity 2.1. Develop Community Platforms to promote transparency on emergency response and gender responsive recovery effort, and participatory decision-making in planning, prioritization and recovery activities.</p>							<p>UN SDG ACCELERATION FUND</p>	<p>Contractual services</p>	<p>58,000</p>
	<p>Activity 2.2. Generate evidence by local communities through Community Platforms of the gaps in services as a particularly powerful tool for more inclusive and sustainable social protection interventions, by provision of small grants to activists and NGOs and engaged leadership of women and women’s organizations in crisis and recovery.</p>							<p>UN SDG ACCELERATION FUND</p>	<p>LVGAs, 3 NGOs</p>	<p>65,000</p>
	<p>Activity 2.3 Support recovery and resilience through call for proposals and grants provided to NGOs in partnership with municipalities in urban/semiurban/rural areas - reaching at least 50% of the vulnerable HH impacted by the earthquake (while linking social care to: inclusive education services; psychosocial services; rehabilitation services for Persons with Disability in the affected areas; community based social services for the most vulnerable; family based social services).</p>							<p>UN SDG ACCELERATION FUND</p>	<p>2 NGOs per each of the 3 municipalities provided with small grants</p>	<p>160,000</p>
	<p>Sub-Total for Output 2 283,000</p>									

Project Management and Operations				116,760
General Management Support	8%			71,549
	TOTAL			965,909